



DATE: April 27, 2017

AGENDA ITEM # 5

TO: Public Arts Commission

FROM: Jon Maginot, Staff Liaison

SUBJECT: Call for art

RECOMMENDATION: Review submissions and determine next steps in selection process

BACKGROUND

The Public Arts Commission (PAC) recently conducted a call for submissions of sculptures to be a part of the Outdoor Sculpture Loan Program. Submissions were due to the City on March 15, 2017.

DISCUSSION

Eight artists submitted a total of 15 pieces to be considered by the PAC. At its March 30, 2017 meeting, the PAC reviewed the entries and determined to continue consideration of five pieces.

It is recommended that the PAC review these pieces and determine the next steps to be taken in the selection process. Potential next steps could include one or more of the following: Review of the pieces by the full Commission; Establishing a subcommittee to make recommendations on the various pieces, establishing a jury to select pieces; Extending the submission deadline in the hopes of recruiting more pieces.

Attachments:

1. Sculpture Loan Program entry forms for those pieces still under consideration by the PAC

Annual Public Sculpture Search City of Los Altos, California



Entry Form

Each entry requires a separate Entry Form. **Return by March 15, 2017.**

\$1,000 Artist Stipend provided if accepted into the program.

Please submit:

- Completed Entry Form
- Three color photos (different perspectives) either by e-mail or hard copy. Minimum hard copy size: 5" x 7" (prefer 8" x 10"). Each photo should include name of the sculptor, title of sculpture, brief description of the sculpture and inspiration for the piece. At least one photo must be a close-up showing a detailed look of the artwork.
- Supplemental statement of additional installation guidelines, if any.
- Short biography of the artist

E-mail, mail or deliver to: City of Los Altos, Public Arts Commission
1 N San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California 94022
E-mail: administration@losaltosca.gov
Phone: (650) 947-2720

Artist Name ADRIAN LITMAN

Title of Piece ALEGRIA - KINETIC Value \$ 18,000

Medium (including finishes) PAINTED STEEL + WOOD BENCH

Artwork Measurements (h"x w" x d") 14'4" x 4'0" x 4'0" Total Weight _____

Type of base recommended BOLTED IN CONCRETE PAD OR STAND ALONE

Your Street Address 4284 DEER TRAIL Rd. WITH BENCH FILLED

City, State, Zip SANTA ROSA, CA 95404 WITH CONCRETE BLOCKS

Home Phone/Cell Phone 510.386.7859

E-mail Address ADRIAN.ARTISTIC@GMAIL.COM

Brief description highlighting your inspiration for the piece A MARY-GO-ROUND
INSPIRED KINETIC SCULPTURE, ACTIVATED BY WIND,
CREATING A JOYFUL & HAPPY VISUAL ACTION

Where did you hear about the Los Altos Sculpture Search? _____

I WAS NOTIFIED BY THE LOS ALTOS
ARTS COMMISSION

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
2017 MAR 14 AM 9 15
CITY OF LOS ALTOS
CALIFORNIA



Adrian Litman ALEGRIA Kinetic sculpture

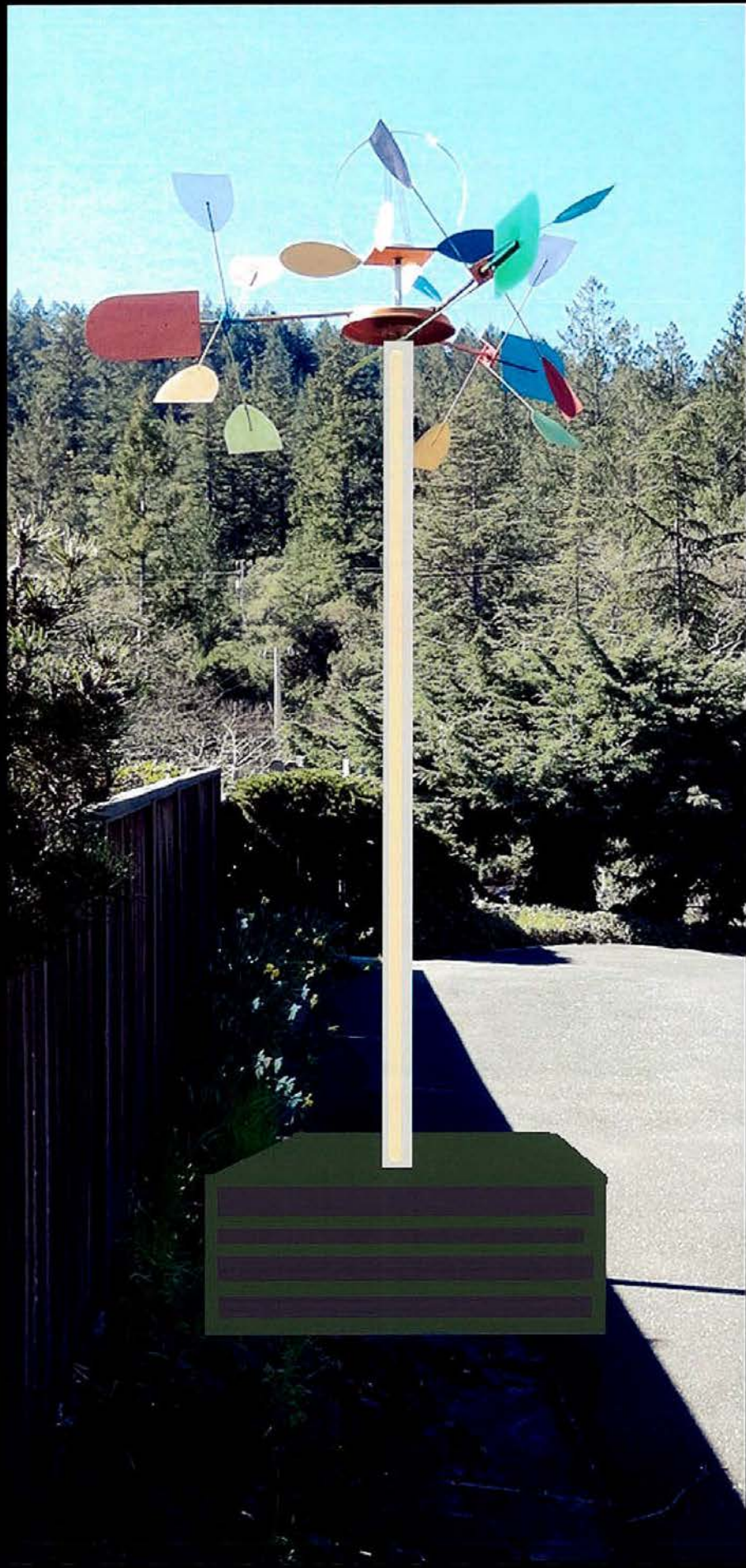
Painted steel kinetic sculpture expressing joy and happiness in motion.

14'H x 4'W x 4'D. Install with bolts on a concrete surface or place on site with a bench base incorporating concrete blocks for stability.



Adrian Litman

ALEGRIA



Adrian Litman ALEGRIA

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Artist Name ADRIAN LITMAN

Title of Piece CAROUSEL - KINETIC Value \$ 22,000

Medium (including finishes) STAINLESS STEEL - GALVANIZED STEEL

Artwork Measurements (h"x w" x d") 15'x10'x10' Total Weight 250lb.

Type of base recommended 3'x3' CONCRETE PAD

Your Street Address 4284 DEER TRAIL Rd.

City, State, Zip SANTA ROSA, CA 95404

Home Phone/Cell Phone 510.386.7859

E-mail Address ADRIAN.ARTISTIC@GMAIL.COM

Brief description highlighting your inspiration for the piece WHIMSICAL KINETIC SCULPTURE REMINISCENT OF A ROTATING CAROUSEL ACTIVATED BY WIND AND CREATING A JOYFUL VISUAL EXPERIENCE

Where did you hear about the Los Altos Sculpture Search? I WAS NOTIFIED BY THE LOS ALTOS PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION.

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
2017 MAR 14 AM 9 12
CITY OF LOS ALTOS
CALIFORNIA



Adrian Litman CAROUSEL

Kinetic sculpture activated by wind in a circular carousel like motion. 16'Hx10'Wx10'D



Adrian Litman Carousel - detail



Adrian Littman

CAROUSEL

Location-1



Adrian Litman CAROUSEL Location 1



Adrian Litman CAROUSEL Location-2

Wendy Meisner

From: Jimmy Descant <jimmydescant@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:11 PM
To: Administration; Jimmy Descant
Subject: Descant, Reverse Prometheus
Attachments: LosAltosDescant2.pdf; reverse1.jpg; reverse2.jpg; reverse3.jpg; reverse4.jpg; reverse5.jpg; reverse6.jpg

This displayed sculpture, "Reverse Prometheus" started with an old hot water tank that I covered in aluminum diamond plate, and added all my artistic touches. I don't do any welding in my constructions, but in this case had to have some fabrication done for the final mounting of the rocket body. The parts I find and bolt together have never seen each other before being installed in this project. I generally find parts and objects in flea markets, garage sales, junkyards, and even in the trash. Mostly previously manufactured parts from the golden era of American craftsmanship and mechanical production. A time when we were the producers as well as the consumers of high quality durable goods and tools of human existence made by anonymous every day artisans who touched our lives. I see in these parts the future craved for and ushered in, given up for a while, and now rising again in technology, space travel, and quality of workmanship in the tools of human existence.

As a sculptor, I give back to the gods that which Prometheus stole and bestowed upon us lowly humans... the fire which over thousands of years we have deliberately used for destruction and sins against our own, our world, and even the heavens. But ah, the rub, the yin to yang of an artist's soul, I also send out and present to the gods that which is good in Mankind. That fire that warmed our neighbor, that light that shone on cave paintings, that electrical spark harnessed for communication and connection, that radio call sent into deep space and waiting for an answer. That possible future.

Sculpture price \$25,000

In Greek mythology, Prometheus is a Titan, the son of Iapetus and Themis, and brother to Atlas, Epimetheus and Menoetius. He was a champion of human-kind known for his wily intelligence, who stole fire from Zeus and gave it to mortals Zeus then punished him for his crime by having him bound to a rock while a great eagle ate his liver every day only to have it grow back to be eaten again the next day. His myth has been treated by a number of ancient sources, in which Prometheus is credited with – or blamed for – playing a pivotal role in the early history of humankind.

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Jimmy Descant
Severe ReConstructivist
www.deluxewest.com

Annual Public Sculpture Search City of Los Altos, California



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Artist Name **Jimmy Descant**
Title of Piece **"Reverse Prometheus"** Value \$ **25,000**
Medium (including finishes) **Found object assemblage**
Artwork Measurements (h"x w" x d") **12'x6'x3'** Total Weight **1500**
Type of base recommended **Sculpture is metal base, bolted to concrete base**
Your Street Address **221 Palmer St.**
City, State, Zip **Salida, CO. 81201**
Home Phone/Cell Phone **719-244-3440**
E-mail Address **jimmydescant@gmail.com**
Brief description highlighting your inspiration for the piece **Deluxe rocketship, giving back to the gods.**

Where did you hear about the Los Altos Sculpture Search? **Online**













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Artist Name Eileen Fitz-faulkner
Title of Piece Mutha Hen Value \$ 7,000^{est}
Medium (including finishes) concrete, steel, fiber glass, ceramic tile
Artwork Measurements (h"x w" x d") 48" x 24" x 36" Total Weight _____
Type of base recommended 6x6 (or 4' by 4' if possible)
Your Street Address 516 Camino Del Diablo
City, State, Zip Orinda CA 94563
Home Phone/Cell Phone 925-253-1916 HM 510 919-3489 cell
E-mail Address effaulkner@gmail.com
Brief description highlighting your inspiration for the piece I see birds as messengers and this one was a friendly barnyard hen who ~~was~~ ~~at~~ ~~cross~~ knows whose boss.

Where did you hear about the Los Altos Sculpture Search? _____
info sent to my email







Wendy Meisner

From: efontani@gmail.com on behalf of Edrex Fontanilla <edrex@edrex.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 10:08 AM
To: Administration
Subject: "Rope & Wood" | Entry for Annual Public Sculpture Search, City of Los Altos
Attachments: LosAltosPublicArt_Fontanilla2017.pdf; Fontanilla_entry_form_2017.pdf

Dear Members of the Los Altos Public Sculpture Search Committee:

Enclosed please find my entry materials for a proposed interactive sculpture, "Rope & Wood," that would be designed and built specifically to reflect the history of industry in the City of Los Altos. The attached supplemental documentation offers a successfully exhibited iteration of the proposed sculpture, as well as detail shots that depict aesthetic approaches to sculptural finishes.

The sculpture installed throughout the City of Los Altos has spawned many an interesting conversation in my family about the city's history and influence. My spouse and I, along with our two closest friends who call Los Altos home, are invested and enamored by Los Altos. The prospect of engaging the city through artwork would be a thrilling opportunity.

With my thanks and deep appreciation for your consideration and time --
Sincerely,
Edrex Fontanilla, MFA

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Phone: (650) 947-2720

Artist Name Edrex Fontanilla

Title of Piece Rope & ~~Wood~~ Value \$ _____

Medium (including finishes) wood, rope, found objects, custom-written software

Artwork Measurements (h"x w" x d") 8' x 6' x 6' Total Weight 300 lbs

Type of base recommended While a hard, flat surface is preferred, the sculpture design is adaptable.

Your Street Address 3001 Henry Hudson Parkway Apt. 2G

City, State, Zip Bronx, NY 10463

Home Phone/Cell Phone 401-338-5921

E-mail Address edrex@edrex.com

Brief description highlighting your inspiration for the piece The interactive sculpture's rope and pulley system, along with the resultant sound that it generates, metaphorically connect the physically strenuous industries of yesteryear to the technological heavy-lifting of today's knowledge worker.

Where did you hear about the Los Altos Sculpture Search? Two of my closest friends I visit call Los Altos their home, and I've been enamored by the sculpture installed throughout the city. This year's call for work that speaks to the city's past and technological orientation resonate deeply with my art practice.

Edrex Fontanilla would like to propose **Rope & Wood**, an interactive installation which employs a rope and pulley system and spatialized sound. Locally-captured sound — a mix of pre-captured as well as real-time recordings of sound — auralize the relationship between local business activities in the immediate vicinity, cultural referents and sounds related to Los Altos' agricultural past, and the actions of visitors. The audio samples will be manipulated using custom-written software, and broadcast to change the perceived size and shape of the internal cavities. At certain moments the sound transports participants to chambers in distant locales, and at other times the aural vignettes depict the professional practices of the local community and Los Altos writ large. As such, these augmented interactions become a form of urban intervention that employ small-gauge storytelling¹ about which I have written² for the Mediapolis Journal.

The build will be robust and designed to withstand outdoor weather and rough interactions. The shape and configurations will conform to the attributes of the installation site recommended by the selection committee. Availability of electricity and exposure to sunlight during the day will determine design of the sculpture electronics (such as integration of solar panels and battery packs).

Edrex Fontanilla is a NYC-based artist and professor of digital media at Marymount Manhattan College. Informed by research interests in psychology and cognitive science, he employs technology to augment and to fracture perception, and towards the manifestation of unique, experiential moments. Over the past decade, his work has been exhibited in venues that fuse technology and the arts, such as Boston CyberArts, SIGGRAPH, and most recently at TechFest in India.

¹ <http://www.mediapolisjournal.com/roundtables/small-gauge-scholarship/>

² <http://www.mediapolisjournal.com/2016/09/empathy-for-place/>

Project Specifications:

Every component of the proposed installation with working title, “Rope & Wood,” will be designed and fabricated from scratch, after I have had the opportunity to carefully examine the installation site in Los Altos. For instance, the accessibility of the sculpture’s rope interface would be adapted differently if it were to be installed at the Veterans Community Plaza versus another site. The embedded images below offer the selection committee an example of the aesthetics and mechanics of the interactivity.

The previous incarnation of Rope & Wood, which exhibited previously at Boston CyberArts, serves as a proof-of-concept of a rope and pulley interface. The sculpture stands over 8 feet tall and has a footprint of 6 x 6 feet. Designed to allude to a medieval contraption, it invites the participant to explore the various methods that they can manipulate the rope in order to generate mechanical and — unbeknownst to the viewer — digitally generated sound.



Aesthetics

The finish and shape of Rope & Wood will be influenced in large part by the attributes of the architecture surrounding the installation, such that the sculpture will appear to be part of the history of the installation environment.

One example of one such strategy is a Virtual Reality viewer, *Hidden Vistas*, shown recently at the Queens Museum. The VR interactive documentary depicted liminal spaces — urban detritus along NYC waterfronts. The viewer head and base were constructed to appear as if weathered wood might have sat along the Flushing River for several years.

