

PUBLIC ART UPDATES



See page 2

Published by the Port of San Diego's Public Art Department



Dedication Event Photo, November 2007

OCEAN RIDERS

Reinstallation & Rededication
Imperial Beach, CA

Ocean Riders by **Wyland** was recently removed for restoration treatments and reinstalled during a fun-filled public dedication ceremony on November 17, 2007. **Commissioner Michael Bixler**, former Mayor of Imperial Beach and the current Chair of the Board of Port Commissioners, was the keynote speaker and placed a coin underneath the base of the sculpture for good luck before it was officially set into place. Commissioner Bixler has supported the installation of 6 public artworks on the Imperial Beach tidelands, transforming the waterfront experience.

This year, Chairman Bixler asked the Board of Port Commissioners to take a leadership role in the lighting of the San Diego-Coronado Bay Bridge as an iconic public art project.

VOLUME 13

THIS ISSUE: FEB 08

Featured Projects	1
New Projects & Updates	2
Coming Up	3
From the Director's Desk	3
Call for Artists	4
Contact Information	4

Special Insert:
Cannery Workers Tribute

PARTNERSHIP FOR TEMPORARY ART

2 New Artwork Installations

In November 2007, *Engagement*, by world-renowned artist **Dennis Oppenheim**, was installed at the Laurel Street Traffic Triangle as part of "The Partnership for Temporary Art" between the Port of San Diego and the City of San Diego. The Partnership brings artworks to the San Diego tidelands on a rotating schedule. (continued page 2)



Engagement by Dennis Oppenheim

PHOTO CREDITS: DALE FROST

Vol. 13/ Issue Feb 08

NEW PROJECTS & UPDATES

PARTNERSHIP FOR TEMPORARY ART

(continued from cover)

Previously installed under the Partnership were Mark di Suvero's *Isis* and eight paintings at the San Diego Convention Center by Lynn Schuette.

Engagement is comprised of two steel and glass "diamond rings" and stands 29 feet high at its highest point. The artwork is intended to remind viewers of the dynamics of marriage and the balance required therein. The glass diamond shapes are illuminated from within for a beautiful nighttime effect.

The installation took place over several weeks and has not only enhanced the waterfront aesthetically, but created job opportunities for local trades including landscapers, heavy equipment operators, art handlers, electricians, welders, engineers, and concrete contractors.

WALKING FIGURES

Walking Figures, by internationally-acclaimed Polish artist **Magdalena Abakanowicz**, was also installed under the "Partnership" at the intersection of Harbor Drive and 8th Avenue



in downtown San Diego. The installation features 18 individual cast iron figures, each weighing over 1400 lbs. The surface of each shell-like sculpture is unique and is meant to resemble both a tree trunk and a human trunk. The figures are staggered in 2 rows of 9 and stride forward, both unified and separate. The artwork evokes the nature of people traveling in groups.

Engagement and **Walking Figures** are both on loan to the Port of San Diego for one year, courtesy of the Vancouver Sculpture Biennale in Canada, and will be on display through December 2008.

INSTALLATION SNAPSHOT



Assembling "Engagement," November 2007

ON DISPLAY UNTIL AUGUST 2008

UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER

Unconditional Surrender, by artist **J. Seward Johnson**, was unveiled in February 2007 amidst much fanfare. Located at the G Street Mole near the USS Midway, the artwork draws a constant stream of daily visitors. The sculpture was scheduled for removal in February 2008, but we are pleased to announce that the sculpture will remain on display until August 2008.

The 25-ft-high sculpture is on loan to the Port of San Diego from The Sculpture Foundation.



COMING UP

TENANT PROJECTS



EICHENLAUB MARINE

Shelter Island
Artist Selected

Local artist **Bill Clark** has been selected to create a unique functional gate for the Eichenlaub Marine located on Shelter Island. The gate will depict a sailboat race using a variety of metals and will be approximately 50 ft in length.



HILTON HOTEL 3 Artists Selected

Artists **Ned Kahn**, **Nori Sato** and **Nance O'Banion** have been selected for the new Hilton Hotel located on the Bay at the corner of 8th Avenue and

Harbor Drive. The upcoming installations promise to create an animated and welcoming environment, where people will want to spend time and enjoy their surroundings.

2006 SCULPTURE SHOW PURCHASE AWARD

Artist **Michael Stutz** has been awarded the 2006 Sculpture Show Purchase Award by the Port of San Diego. Stutz will be fabricating a 6-ft-high sculpture made from overlapping bronze strips. The artwork is titled **Penelope**, after Ulysses' heroic wife in the Odyssey. Penelope's unswerving belief in the return of her husband, who wandered for decades at sea before his long-awaited homecoming, is in keeping with San Diego's harborside role as a place where ships come and go, sometimes bearing people away for long periods of time.



Sea Passage by James Hubbell



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

As the Port of San Diego's Public Art Program enters its 12th year, the community will be seeing some exciting art projects realized through the joint effort of the Port and its tenants. At this time, there are at least six hotels that are proposing public artworks. These range from large-scale sculptures to functional works like artist-designed benches. All of these projects are visible and accessible to the public, providing enhancement to areas where people walk and drive.

The **Board of Port Commissioners** held a workshop in November 2007 focused on its Public Art Program. A review of the achievements and funding of the program resulted in several recommendations to enhance its future contributions to the community.

On November 30, 2007 **Sea Passage** by artist **James Hubbell** was awarded "The Orchid Award for Excellence in Public Art." The artwork, which also functions as a fountain, is located at Glorietta Bay Civic Center Promenade in Coronado.



I am also pleased to introduce **Yvonne Wise**, **Public Art Manager**, the newest member of the Public Art team. Formerly the Public Art Director for the City of Philadelphia, she brings 10 years of public art experience and has just completed facilitating the installation of both on-loan artworks, *Engagement* and *Walking Figures*.

This year we look forward to bringing another grove of **Urban Trees** to the Embarcadero and partnering with Caltrans to secure design proposals for artistic lighting of the **San Diego-Coronado Bay Bridge**. I invite you to continue sharing your thoughts on the program and experiences with the artworks it provides, as this is how we grow the program into the best "fit" for the community.

Catherine Sass, Public Art Director

PORT OF SAN DIEGO'S PUBLIC ART PROGRAM
GETTING INVOLVED

CALL FOR ARTISTS



URBAN TREES

Deadline: March 5, 2008

The Port of San Diego is gearing up for its 5th installation of Urban Trees. We are currently seeking artists to participate in the Urban Trees 5 exhibit. Detailed information can be found at our website: www.portofsandiego.org.

Stop by the Embarcadero to see the current exhibition of Urban Trees 4 before it ends this summer.



ART PICNIC TABLES

Deadline: March 10, 2008

The Port of San Diego's Public Art Program, in conjunction with the Port's Land Use Planning Department, is currently seeking artists to transform the existing concrete picnic tables and seats at the North Embarcadero Marina Park. Detailed information can be found at our website: www.portofsandiego.org.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are pleased to announce the addition of Public Art Committee member, **Courtney Ann Coyle**, who represents the City of San Diego. **Coyle** is an attorney in private practice who specializes in environmental litigation, land use policy and planning consulting for various tribes, citizen groups, local and national conservation and historic preservation organizations and non-profits. **Coyle** is an avid art collector and contributed to the Commission's 2004 campaign to adopt the City's *Public Art Master Plan* along with new public art legislation which was unanimously approved by the Mayor and City Council.

PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Anthony Block, At-Large
- Courtney Coyle, San Diego
- Gaidi Finnie, Imperial Beach
- R. Brad Lewis (Chair), At-Large
- Caroline J. Murray, Coronado
- George Palermo, Port Tenants Assoc.
- Susanna Peredo (Vice Chair), National City
- Dency Souval, Chula Vista

PUBLIC ART DEPARTMENT

- Catherine Sass
Public Art Director
- Allan Tait
Public Art Project Manager
- Jocelyn de Piolenc
Executive Assistant
- Yvonne Wise
Public Art Project Manager

Port of San Diego Public Art Department • (619) 686-7246 phone • (619) 686-6436 fax • www.portofsandiego.org



CANNERY WORKERS TRIBUTE

The Port of San Diego's Public Art Department

Newsletter Special Insert • Vol. 13/ Issue Feb 08

CANNERY WORKERS TRIBUTE

San Diego was once known as "The Tuna Capital of the World" with up to ten canneries in business at one time. From the 1900's to the 1980's, tuna canneries employed thousands of San Diegans and produced millions of cans of tuna. In the early days, almost every family in San Diego was somehow connected to the canneries. The industry brought \$65 million annually into San Diego's economy.

Continental Maritime, located at 1445 Cesar E. Chavez Parkway, was the site of the last operating cannery in San Diego. The last cannery ceased operations in 1984, and the building was ultimately torn down in 2004.



To honor the region's rich history, the *Cannery Workers Tribute* was designed by Nancy Moran and Valerie Salantino, the artist team of **Nature Works, Inc.** of Escondido, CA, in collaboration with **Daedalus Design Group**. Nature Works, Inc. specializes in creating realistic nature sculptures for zoos, museums, public parks and private residences. They produce interpretive life-sized sculpture in a variety of materials. You may have seen their work at the San Diego Zoo or "Vinehenge" Sculpture Park in the City of Escondido, CA. Daedalus Design Group specializes in landscape architecture, planning and urban design.

The tribute site is located on the Continental Maritime leasehold adjacent to **Cesar Chavez Park**. It will feature a small landscaped plaza with colored concrete walkways, a large inlaid mosaic tile sun design, bronze sculptures, an arch comprised of stainless steel tuna fish, embedded cannery artifacts, seating and lighting. Four large bronze plaques, mounted on pieces of salvaged cannery machinery, will provide historical perspective on the cannery industry and its workers.



PROJECT SNEAK PEEK

inside the artist's studio



COMING UP
ARTWORK
DEDICATION

On **Saturday, June 14, 2008 at 11:00 a.m.** the Port of San Diego will be hosting an artwork dedication and public event in celebration of the completion of the *Cannery Workers Tribute*. The event will include an official ribbon cutting. It is hoped that the *Cannery Workers Tribute* will remind and inform all San Diegans and visitors of the inestimable contributions made by the cannery workers to the economy and history of our region.

Check our website for information regarding this upcoming event.



Port Tenant Profile

CONTINENTAL MARITIME

A Leader in Large Ship Building

CANNERY WORKERS TRIBUTE

A Creative Partnership

The Cannery Workers Tribute is jointly sponsored by the Port of San Diego and Continental Maritime, a Port tenant since 1985.

Part of the Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding sector on the working waterfront, Continental Maritime is a certified master ship repair contractor for the U.S. Navy. The facility performs repairs, alterations and overhauls for all types of Navy and Military Sealift Command surface ships including aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, frigates, and amphibious and auxiliary ships.

The Continental Maritime site was originally used for tuna cannery operations as early as 1912. The last cannery ceased operations in 1984 and the building was torn down in 2004 to make way for a much needed parking lot. As part of the Port's percent-for-art policy, Continental Maritime devoted 1% of its redevelopment budget to memorialize

the huge influence this industry and its people have had on the life and the economy of San Diego. Lee Wilson, Vice President of Administration, has noted that Continental Maritime still has one employee, Teresa Silva, who once worked at the cannery.

The tribute is located on the Continental Maritime leasehold on a parcel dedicated in 1978 as "Parque del Sol" by cannery employees. Both a coral tree and a plaque were placed in the area that had served as an outdoor break and lunch area for employees of the Bumblebee Seafood's cannery. The new plaza preserves the original tribute in an artistic design with landscaping, a mosaic sun, figurative sculptures, seating and lighting.

Continental Maritime's new parking lot also provides expanded weekend parking for visitors to the nearby Cesar Chavez Park. Groundbreaking for the project occurred in September 2007. Construction is well advanced and is on-track for a dedication on June 14, 2008.



Lee Wilson,
Vice-President of Administration
Continental Maritime

You could hear the bells ring from as far away as Point Loma and Ocean Beach...

