



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: General Purposes Committee

Date: December 9, 2009

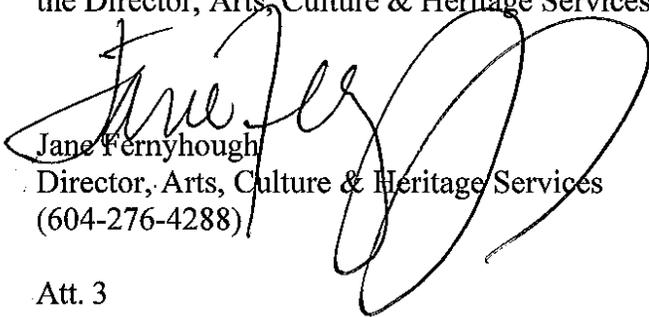
From: Jane Fernyhough
Director, Arts, Culture & Heritage Services

File: 11-7000-09-20-099/Vol
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Re: Update on the City of Richmond Public Art Program Participation in the Vancouver International Sculpture Biennale, 2009-2011

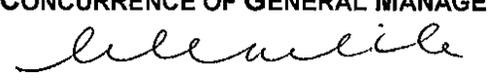
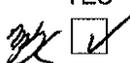
Staff Recommendation

That the addition of the four artworks, *Cabezas*, *Dinosaur*, *Mao Jacket*, and *Homage to my Dad*, for temporary exhibition in Richmond by the Vancouver International Sculpture Biennale, 2009-2011, to replace the previously endorsed artworks *Angels & Demons* and *Made in China*, and for new opportunities with InTransit BC, as outlined in the staff report dated December 9, 2009 from the Director, Arts, Culture & Heritage Services, be endorsed.



Jane Fernyhough
Director, Arts, Culture & Heritage Services
(604-276-4288)

Att. 3

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY			
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE		CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Parks Planning, Design & Construction	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	REVIEWED BY CAO (Deputy) YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			

Staff Report

Origin

On July 28, 2009, Council endorsed the City of Richmond's participation in the Vancouver International Sculpture Biennale 2009-2011, as outlined in the staff report entitled 'City of Richmond Public Art Program Participation in the Vancouver International Sculpture Biennale, 2009-2011'. Five artworks were endorsed for temporary exhibition in Richmond.

On October 26, 2009, Council endorsed two additional art works for inclusion in the Vancouver International Sculpture Biennale temporary outdoor public art exhibition.

Participation in this well-respected festival of international art contributes to the Council Term Goals for 2008-2011, to advance the City's destination status and ensure our continued development as a vibrant cultural city.

Analysis

The Vancouver International Sculpture Biennale is a non-profit organization with the mandate to mount a biannual temporary major outdoor sculpture exhibition featuring world-class international artists. The status of the works previously endorsed by Council is as follows:

Status of Biennale sculpture installations

- ***Olas de Viento (Wind Waves)* by Yvonne Domenge (Mexico)** - Installed November 25th
The first Biennale public art sculpture in Richmond, *Olas de Viento (Wind Waves)*, has now been installed at Garry Point Park. This bright red circular form of rhythmic and undulating curves reflects the movements of the ocean waves (**Attachment 1**).
- ***Miss Mao trying to poise herself at the top of Lenin's Head* by The Gao Brothers (China)**
December 2009
Planning is underway to install this art work in mid-December in the City-owned vacant lot at the corner of Alderbridge Way and Elmbridge Way.
- ***Water #10* by Ren Jun (China)** –January 2010
The foundation for the art work at Cambie Plaza has been completed in conjunction with construction of the Middle Arm Greenway Park and upgraded Cambie pump station. The work is scheduled for installation in January.
- ***Chandeliers in Series* by Hema Upadhyay (India)** – Spring 2010
This work will be created and installed at Aberdeen Centre in May 2010. The artist will also create a work for the Richmond Art Gallery as part of an exhibit of five contemporary Indian artists in April, and give a talk as part of the Lulu Series: Art in the City on May 20, 2010.
- ***Doors of Knowledge* by Patrick Hughes (UK)** –On hold
Until legal issues between the artist's UK and Canadian representatives are resolved, installation of this work, proposed for Minoru Park, is on hold.
- ***Angels & Demons* by AES+F (Russia)** - CANCELLED
This large artwork, proposed for the public realm along No 3 Road at the Lansdowne Station, cannot be installed as the Biennale's shipping costs have been estimated at a much higher

cost than was originally anticipated and budgeted. The artist team, though, will have a video/photography exhibit at the Richmond Art Gallery in early 2011.

- ***Made in China* by Sui Jianguo (China) - CANCELLED**

This work was scheduled for installation at Aberdeen Centre mid-2010. However, due to logistical problems and expenses over the anticipated budget, it has been cancelled. The owner of Aberdeen Centre, who is covering all expenses for the work to be placed on his property, is considering a replacement work by the same artist, a large *Mao Jacket* (**Attachment 2**).

Proposed replacement sculpture installations

To replace *Made in China* and *Angels & Demons* the Biennale has presented additional works for our consideration:

- ***Mao Jacket* by Sui Jianguo (China) - Approx. May 2010 – June 2011**

This work by one of the most important contemporary Chinese sculptors working today, is proposed for installation at the Aberdeen Centre, which will cover all expenses. The 4-ton, 3-meter high metal jacket was recently displayed on Park Avenue by the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation (**Attachment 2**).

In place of *Angels & Demons* at the Canada Line Lansdowne Station, the Biennale has proposed two works for phased exhibition, with one for immediate installation and the following to be installed in the Spring 2010:

- ***Heads (Cabezas)* by Javier Marin (Mexico) - December 2009 – May 2010**

This three-piece installation of over-size baroque heads by Mexican artist Javier Marin speaks of the fragile nature of human existence. In May 2010, these works will move to the Central Branch of the Vancouver Public Library. As this is a very short installation, the Vancouver Biennale will cover all costs associated with the installation (**Attachment 3**).

- ***Windy City Dinosaur* by Sui Jianguo (China) - Approx. June 2010 – June 2011**

Sui Jianguo's Dinosaur, currently on display in Chicago, is one of the most celebrated icons of today's Chinese Pop movement. (**Attachment 4**).

New Canada Line public art opportunities

As a major component of 2009-2011 Vancouver Biennale theme "Transit-ion", art will be installed along the new Canada Line in Vancouver and Richmond, including the recently installed *Arriving Home*, by American artist Dennis Oppenheim, at the International Arrivals Terminal at the Vancouver International Airport. Mr. Oppenheim will be speaking this Spring at the City of Richmond's *Lulu: Art in the City* lecture series.

InTransit BC has generously proposed locations and funding for installing artworks at the new Richmond Canada Line Stations. In Spring 2010 the Vancouver Biennale will expand to include new media installations displayed publicly for 4-6 weeks duration. Works include artworks created with new media technologies, computer graphics and animation, the Internet, interactive technologies, robotics, and projections done by 22 commissioned young artists from 6 continents. The new media work will be installed in Vancouver and Richmond city centres on transit shelters, billboards, construction hoardings, buildings, and public transit.

The first artwork as part of the Biennale New Media Festival is proposed for immediate installation at Brighthouse Station:

- ***Homage to my Dad, Toni Latour (Vancouver)*** January 2010 - November 2010

Vancouver based artist Toni Latour proposes a rainbow coloured text based work for the street side of the six advertising displays at Brighthouse Station. The panels are at a prominent location adjacent to the bus bays and bicycle parking areas on No 3 Road, visible by pedestrians as well as vehicles along No 3 Road. This work is sponsored by InTransit BC and will be included in the Vancouver Biennale "In-TRANSIT-ion" exhibition of works along the Canada Line (**Attachment 5**).

Consistent with the approvals process for the currently endorsed works, a staff team will review the technical requirements for each work and the suitability of the proposed locations. All sites will include informational signage identifying the work and artist along with a description of the piece.

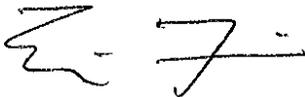
Financial Impact

Funding from the Public Art Reserve for the City's participation in the Biennale temporary exhibitions has previously been endorsed by Council on July 28 and October 26, 2009. No additional funds are required for these replacement art works and new art opportunities.

Conclusion

Participation in the Biennale temporary exhibition of international art works contributes to the City's destination status and ensures our continued development as a vibrant cultural city through enhanced public art in the City Centre.

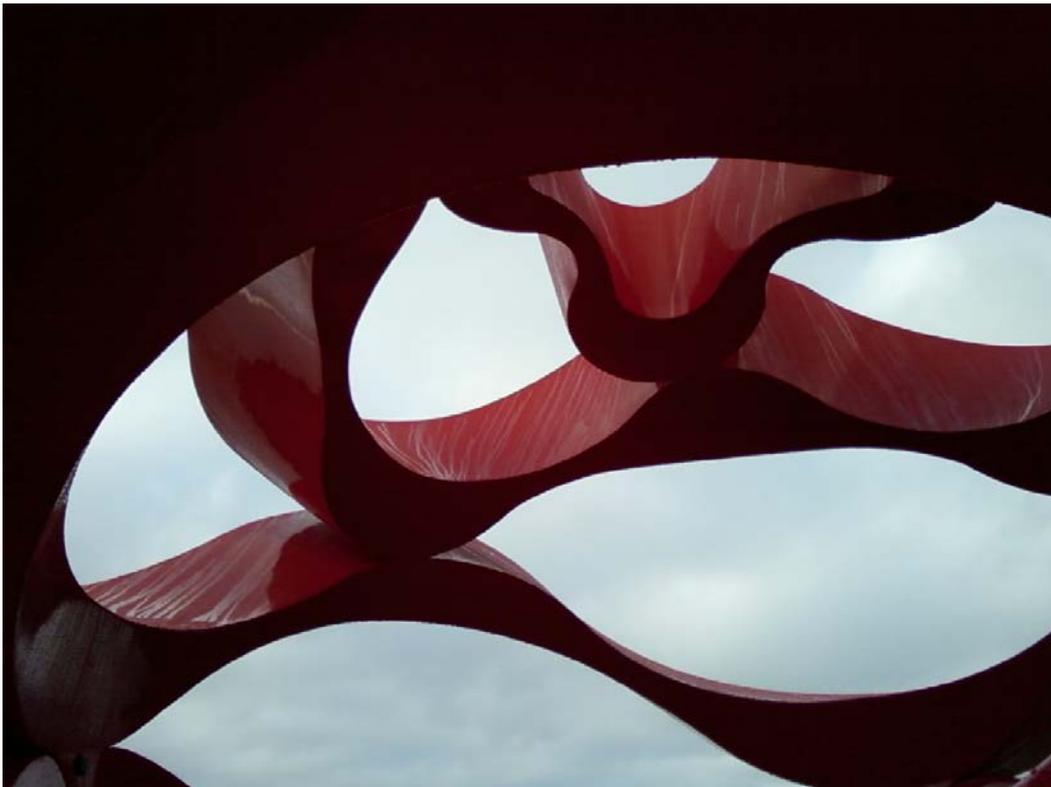
The Biennale will offer many opportunities to enrich the City's cultural fabric, promote tourism, and provide a legacy of community engagement.



Eric Fiss, MAIBC, MCIP
Public Art Planner
(604-247-4612)

EF:ef

Olas de Viento (Wind Waves)
Yvonne Domenge (Mexico)
Garry Point Park





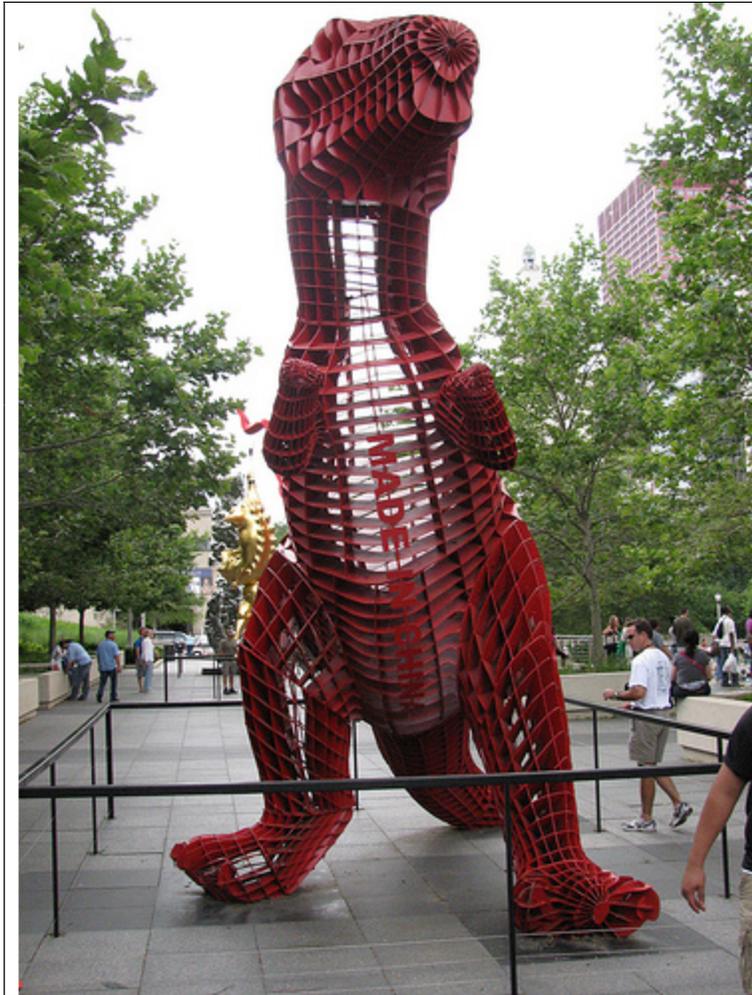
Artist: Sui Jianguo (China)

Many of Sui's early works reflect his personal experiences and explore, to a lesser or greater extent, his anxieties and feelings of imprisonment. He began his 'Mao Suit' series in 1997. This series can however be regarded as the conclusion of an important stage in his self-exploration. He draws on the powerful image of the Mao suit, not as an element of revolutionary attire but as a symbol of restriction and limitation. Sui suggests that none of the Chinese has truly taken off their Mao suits even though the revolutionary era is over. Sometimes Sui makes the Mao suits resemble Buddhas and at other times he turns them into hard shells. Recently, Sui has made fairly humorous, soft and almost transparent Mao suits. The Mao suit is perhaps coming to represent to the artist an object of fun. Over all, Sui's work has well represented the views and expressions of his generation, the generation that survived Mao's Cultural Revolution.

<http://www.artzinechina.com/display.php?a=89>

Title:	Mao Jacket
Curator:	Sheng Tian Zheng
Dimensions	Can be made in various sizes, depending on site.
Weight	tbd
Material	
Retail (replacement) value	
Installation site & Requirements	Can be installed indoors and outdoors. Must be installed on an even surface.
Partnership	<p>The Biennale will pay for artist's accommodation, flight, engineering certificate, shipping costs, cataloguing, marketing and promoting the work and the community that it will be located in, and will oversee the installation</p> <p>The City of Richmond will oversee the site preparation and site approvals.</p>
Proposed Installation Date	Phase 2. Spring 2010

	<p>Artist: Javier Marin Mexico Born in Michoacán in 1962, Javier Marín has lived and worked in Mexico City since the 1970s. He studied at the National School of Visual Arts (Academy of San Carlos) of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. In his work, Marín has developed historically universal aspects of art. Employing the human figure as the basis for his formal language, he deals with multiple themes, ranging from the fragile nature of human existence to the condition of man capable of transforming the world.</p>
	<p>Title: Cabeza Vainilla Cabeza Córdoba Cabeza Chiapas</p>
<p>Dimensions</p>	<p>Obra Vainilla: 330 x 530 x 345cm Obra Cordoba: 500x 330 x 320cm Obra Chiapas: 455 x 360 x 435 cm</p>
<p>Weight</p>	<p>500 kg each</p>
<p>Material</p>	<p>Polyester resin and iron</p>
<p>Retail (replacement) value</p>	<p>\$650,000 US\$</p>
<p>Installation & Requirements</p>	<p>No.3 Road under Canada Line at Lansdowne station West end of the mall parking lot, Richmond.</p> <p>Even surface, enough space for the three heads to be spread out. The heads do not need to be dug into the ground and can be secured safely under the supervision of the artist's assistant, who will be present at the installation.</p> <p>The Mexican government is paying for the shipment of the work.</p>
<p>Partnership</p>	<p>The Biennale will provide artist's assistants airfare, accommodation for one month, all installation costs, and artistic support – cataloguing and promoting the art work and the community it will be located in.</p> <p>The City of Richmond will provide a coordinator who can oversee site preparation requirements.</p>
<p>Proposed Installation Date</p>	<p>January 2010</p>



Artist
Sui Jianguo (China)

Sui Jianguo is a professor and head of the Department of Sculpture in Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing and one of the leading contemporary Chinese artists in China today. Sui had numerous solo shows in China, Australia, Hong Kong, India, Taiwan, and most recently in the United States, in addition to many high-profile joint exhibitions worldwide.

<http://www.artzinechina.com/display.php?a=89>

Title
 Currently installed in Chicago and named:
‘Windy City Dinosaur’

Curator	Sheng Tian Zheng
Dimensions	To be confirmed.
Duration of Installation	Spring 2010
Installation site & Requirements	Can be installed indoors and outdoors. Must be installed on an even surface.
Partnership	<p>The Biennale will pay for artist’s accommodation, flight, engineering certificate, shipping costs, installation, cataloguing, marketing and promoting the work and the community that it will be located in.</p> <p>The City of Richmond will oversee the site preparation and site approvals.</p>
Proposed Installation Date	Phase 2. Spring 2010

<p style="text-align: center;"> Life is a bowl of cherries. Nobody's perfect. If it ain't broke, don't fix it. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. What doesn't kill you makes you stronger. Don't shoot the messenger. Always look on the bright side of life. Patience is a virtue. The more things change, the more they stay the same. Put your game face on. Don't cry over spilled milk. Every dog has his day. If at first you don't succeed, try, try again. It's not the end of the world. Live and learn. Good things come to those who wait. Stop and smell the roses. It's the first day of the rest of your life. Turn over a new leaf. Seize the day. Don't put all your eggs in one basket. Wait for the dust to settle. Only time will tell. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Every rose has its thorn. </p> <p style="text-align: center;">copyright Toni Latour 2009</p>	<p>Artist</p> <p>Toni LaTour (Canada)</p> <p>Toni Latour is a multidisciplinary artist based in Vancouver, Canada. She works in video, sound, photography, installation and performance art. She received her BFA from the University of Windsor in 1998 and her MFA from the University of Western Ontario in 2000. She has exhibited her work nationally and internationally since 1994 and has been awarded numerous grants and awards in support of her practice.</p> <p>Latour's work is held in both public and private collections, including the Portrait Gallery of Canada and the Surrey Art Gallery.</p> <p>Latour teaches Media Art at Capilano University in British Columbia.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Dimensions</p>	<p>Title:</p> <p>Homage to my Dad</p> <p>6 Panels: 3.5 ft x 6 ft Panels are cut by a mullion approximately one foot down from the top.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Installation site & Requirements</p>	<p>Six advertising displays at Brighthouse Station. The panels are behind glass and front the bus bays and bicycle parking areas on No 3 Road, visible by pedestrians as well as vehicles along No 3 Road.</p> <p>This work is sponsored by InTransit BC and will be included in the Vancouver Biennale In-TRANSIT-ion exhibition of works along the Canada Line.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Proposed Installation Date</p>	<p>January 2010</p>