



CITY OF
**PALO
ALTO**

City of Palo Alto Staff Report to Public Art Commission

April 12, 2018

RE: Agenda Item 1

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Public Art Commission accept the donation of artwork titled *Architect* by Cubberley Artist Studio Program (CASP) artist Marianne Lettieri into the City collection.

Discussion:

This generous gift is being offered by CASP artist Marianne Lettieri. This is a second and voluntary donation of artwork by Lettieri. According to the CASP Guidelines, all CASP artists are expected to donate one of their artworks in their first (4-year) residency term to the City's Public Art Program. Preferably the artworks offered have been developed during the residency at Cubberley. Lettieri previously donated an artwork titled *The Waters* in 2013.

The artwork titled *Architect* currently offered for donation is a mixed media embellished collage is mounted in a buff colored shadow box. The background is an illustration from *The Works in Architecture of Robert and James Adam*, Tirantis Edition, Vol. III, London, John Tiranti and Co., Architectural Publishers, 1931. The illustration is "Plan of the Principal Story of Sion House." A bird image (acquired in Certaldo, Italy), rusted tin can lid (found near Chloride, AZ), and an industrial spool of blue thread (acquired in Monterey, CA) are mounted over the floor plan.

Lettieri will be leaving the Cubberley Artist Studio Program in September, 2018 at the conclusion of her second four-year term with CASP.

Maintenance and care considerations:

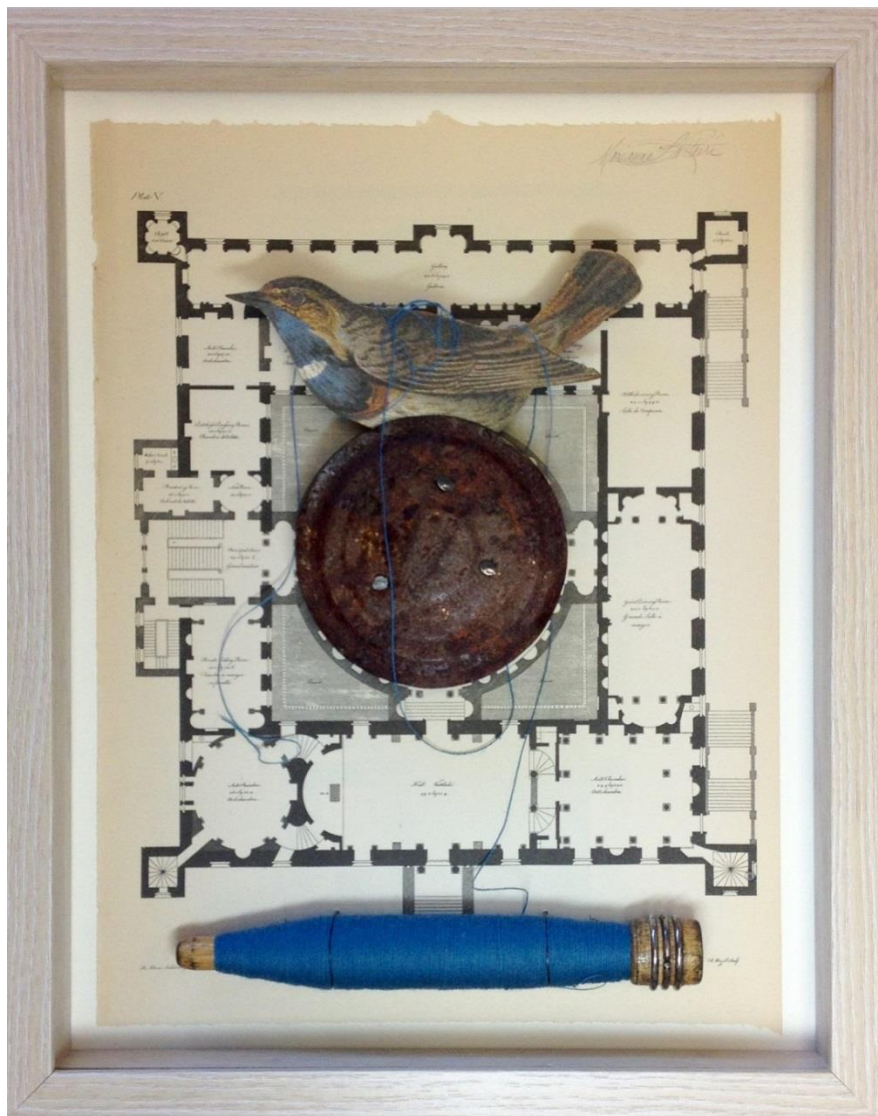
As a framed piece behind glass, staff is confident we can adequately store and display the artwork with minimal risk of damage.

Marianne Lettieri Artist Statement:

I create art with found objects and everyday items that embody, preserve, and challenge social systems and individual identity. I want my work to elicit reflection and conversation around how people move through the world and mark time. As physicality becomes increasingly

irrelevant to human activities in the digital age, artifacts once central to daily rituals and work routines become imbued with a sense of humanity that forms bridges to imagination. I present these castoff materials in new configurations, reinforcing the interconnectedness of people and communities through time and the shared human desire to remember.

The art process behind many of my mixed media constructions begins at estate sales, antique markets, and salvage yards. I comb through the offered contents of people's belongings, considering the personal history, instrumentality, and aesthetic qualities of each object. I look for symbols that reveal shifts in culturally shared values and practices. Through alteration, recontextualization, and unexpected modes of presentation, the objects come to be known in the present with a physical marker of their past.



The Architect, 2017
by Marianne Lettieri
15(h) x 12(w) inches
Mixed media construction
for wall display
Value: \$400

Marianne Lettieri

• www.mariannelettieri.com • mariannelettieri@yahoo.com

ARTIST STATEMENT

I am interested in how objects and people move through time. Obsolescence, temporality, visual allegory, and memory – these ideas motivate and challenge my art making.

AWARDS and RECOGNITION

- SVLaureates Award from Silicon Valley Creates in the Off the Wall category (2017)
- Invited to contribute a book from my personal library to Archive of Creative Culture (2017)
- Resident Artist of CASP, juried residency sponsored by City of Palo Alto, CA (2010-2018)

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- Museum of Quilts and Textiles - San Jose, CA
- Oracle Corporate Art Collection - multiple sites worldwide
- City of Palo Alto, California
- International Museum of Collage, Assemblage and Construction - Santa Fe, New Mexico

EDUCATION

MFA Spatial Arts, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA (2013)

BFA Drawing and Printmaking, University of Florida - Gainesville, FL (1971)

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2017	Museum of Craft and Design	San Francisco, CA	<i>Marianne Lettieri: Reflections</i>	5 month
2016	Monterey Peninsula College	Monterey, CA	<i>Marianne Lettieri: Strings Attached</i>	1 month
2015	Peninsula Museum of Art	Burlingame, CA	<i>House Work</i>	3 month
	Telegraph Hill Gallery	San Francisco, CA	<i>Relics and Ruins (2-person show)</i>	1 month
	Mohr Gallery at Finn Center	Mountain View, CA	<i>Metaphor and Memories (2-person show)</i>	6 week
2014	Doug Adams Gallery	Berkeley, CA	<i>Mining the Collection: Evidence of Life</i>	3 month
2013	San Jose State University	San Jose, CA	<i>Death and Life of an Object</i>	1 week
2012	Oshman Family JCC	Palo Alto, CA	<i>Dressing Up</i>	1 month
2011	Azusa Pacific University	Azusa, CA	<i>Changing Context</i>	1 month
	Pacific Grove Art Center	Pacific Grove, CA	<i>Memory Palace</i>	1 month
2009	Center for Performing Arts	Mountain View, CA	<i>The Sum of Parts</i>	1 month
2008	The Main Gallery	Redwood City, CA	<i>Outside Inside</i>	1 month
2007	The Main Gallery	Redwood City, CA	<i>This Place Called Home</i>	1 month

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2018	LUZ Art Space	Los Angeles, CA	<i>Heaven On Earth</i>	2 month
2017	Telegraph Hill Gallery	San Francisco, CA	<i>Retrofit 1.0</i>	1 month
	Singularity University	Mountain View, CA	<i>Demo Faire 2017</i>	1 night
2016	Asbury University Art Gallery	Wilmore, KY	<i>Making Goods (7 artists)</i>	1 month
	Santa Clara Convention Cntr.	San Jose, CA	<i>Anne & Mark's Art Party</i>	1 week
	Art Ark Gallery	San Jose, CA	<i>Home is Where the Heart Is</i>	1 month
2015	Los Altos History Museum	Los Altos, CA	<i>Reflect+Create</i>	5 month
2014	Art Ark Gallery	San Jose, CA	<i>Cubberley Diaspora</i>	1 month
	CIVA Touring Exhibit	18 U.S venues	<i>Picturing the Parables</i>	4 year
2013	Meridian Gallery	San Francisco, CA	<i>By Mainly Unexpected Means</i>	2 month
	Los Altos History Museum	Los Altos, CA	<i>Moving Art Forward</i>	5 month
	White Stone Gallery	Philadelphia, PA	<i>Summer Group Exhibit</i>	2 week
	New Coast Studios	Palo Alto, CA	<i>Line and Color</i>	1 month
	IMCAC-Cecil Touchon	Pagosa Springs, CO	<i>Collage/Assemblage Centennial</i>	1 month

	Pro Arts Gallery	Oakland, CA	<i>Transport</i>	1 month
2012	Triton Museum of Art	Santa Clara, CA	<i>Poetics of Disposability</i>	1 month
	Hartnell College	Salina, CA	<i>ReModified</i>	1 month
	Caldwell Gallery	Redwood City, CA	<i>Mixed Media</i>	2 month
2011	Museum of Quilts & Textiles	San Jose, CA	<i>Scrap ART</i>	1 month
	Biola University Library	La Mirada, CA	<i>Matter and Spirit</i>	2 month
2010	Palos Verdes Art Center	Palos Verdes, CA	<i>Dark Inheritance: Purposeful Dislocation</i>	1 month
	Art Ark Gallery	San Jose, CA	<i>Modified</i>	1 month
	Rengstorff House	Mountain View, CA	<i>Genealogy, Family & Memory</i>	1 month
	Pacific Art League	Palo Alto, CA	<i>Art Outside the Box</i>	1 month
	Climate Gallery	Long Island, NY	<i>Putting It All Together</i>	1 month
2009	A&E Ministries	Los Angeles, CA	<i>An Evening of Arts & Entertainment</i>	1 day
	University of Texas	Arlington, TX	<i>Thinking Inside the Box</i>	1 month
	Sebastopol Center for Arts	Sebastopol, CA	<i>Bibliophilia</i>	1 month
	Galleria Tonantzin	San Juan Bautista, CA	<i>Passion for Trees—Women Coast to Coast</i>	1 month
	Fine Arts Museum	Longview, TX	<i>Under the Influence</i>	1 month
	Sanchez Art Center	Pacifica, CA	<i>Angels: Artists Imagine the Invisible</i>	1 month
2008	The Crystal Cathedral	Garden Grove, CA	<i>Succor</i>	6 week
	Artisans Gallery	San Rafael, CA	<i>Americana</i>	1 month
	Beauchamp's Gallery	Topeka, KS	<i>Small (but wondrous!) Works</i>	1 month

SOCIAL PRACTICE ART PROJECTS

Emptied and Consumed With a commission from NYC-based Spark & Echo Arts, I created an art installation in the Woodside Village Chapel, which was photographed for an Internet archive. (2014)

Artist in the House! I transformed a 3,000 sq. ft. courtyard into an 8-room house during a community-sponsored open studios event, which examined notions of home ownership. (2013)

Extreme Poverty I designed and worked with a team of artists to build large sculptural works in four San Francisco Peninsula venues to raise awareness of global extreme poverty. (2013)

SELECTED BOOKS, CATALOGS, ARTICLES

Placemaking and the Arts by Jennifer Allen Craft, InterVarsity Press, 2018

“Tech workers embrace aesthetics for whole-brain life,” *Climate Magazine*, Issue 13: May 2016

Seeing the Unseen by Sandra Bowden and Marianne Lettieri, published by CIVA Publications, 2015

“Marianne Lettieri: Desire to remember,” (cover story) *Ruminant Magazine*, Issue 37: Winter 2015

The Sand Hill Review, Vol. XV, published by Martin F. Sorensen – cover image and 10 art reproductions, 2014

“100 Years of Excellence,” artist profile in *Content Magazine* (Issue 5.1–Sight and Sound), Spring 2013

“Assembling Art,” artist profile in *Palo Alto Weekly*, 4/27/12

Dark Inheritance, catalog published by Seeds Fine Arts with funding by Los Angeles County Cultural Affairs, 2010

“Her art is the sum of parts,” by Jane Knoerle, lifestyles editor, *The Almanac*, 7/15/10

Under the Influence, exhibition catalog by Cecil Touchon, 2009

Art Making, Collections and Obsessions: An Intimate Exploration of the Work of 35 Artists by Lynne Perrella, 2008

SELECTED PUBLIC LECTURES

2018 BIOLA University Arts Symposium, La Mirada, CA – “Universal Travail: Gestures of Longing”

2017 Museum of Craft and Design, San Francisco, CA – “Mesmerizing and Metaphoric Artifacts”

2016 Cascadia Worship and Arts Convergence, Bellevue, WA – “Creating a Church Gallery”

2015 Mountain View Public Library/Los Altos History Museum, CA – “Death and Life of an Object”

CIVA Biennial Conference at Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI – “Contemporary Art in the Local Church”

Art NXT Level, podcast interview by Sergio Gomez – “Defining Success and Goals for an Art Practice”

2014 Art League of Menlo Park, CA – “Found Object Art”

2012 Hartnell College, Salinas, CA – “Object as Visual Metaphor”

2010 Palo Alto Art Center, CA – “Transformed: Turning Found Objects into Fine Art”

Los Altos Art Club, CA – “The Art of Assemblage”

2009 Little House Activity Center, Menlo Park, CA – “Shimmering Fragments”

MARIANNE LETTIERI

DOCUMENTATION

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Title: The Architect
Inventory #: 483
Dimensions: 15(h) x 12(w) x 2(d) inches
Medium: mixed media construction for wall display
Date: 2017
Value: \$400

Description: An embellished collage is mounted in a buff colored shadow box. The background is an illustration from *The Works in Architecture of Robert and James Adam*, Tirantis Edition, Vol. III, London, John Tiranti and Co., Architectural Publishers, 1931. The illustration is "Plan of the Principal Story of Sion House." A bird image (acquired in Certaldo, Italy), rusted tin can lid (found near Chloride, AZ), and an industrial spool of blue thread (acquired in Monterey, CA) are mounted over the floor plan. Papers are treated with matte UV varnish. Bird is mounted onto foam core. The tin and bird image rest on wood supports attached through acid-free illustration board to masonite and cloth-covered foam core.

Note: Keep the artwork upright or laid face-up so thread does not move.

Exhibition: Facebook Pop Up Store, Menlo Park, CA - October 2017