

CITY OF HOUSTON'S CIVIC ART PROGRAM

SIX INTERNATIONAL TERMINAL GATES

For the Mickey Leland International Terminal (MLIT) at Bush Intercontinental Airport, MOCA requested the submission of proposals from Houston-area artists to design, fabricate, and install a series of six commissioned artworks: each a 3-part installation addressing the upper and lower landings of six new international gates at the forthcoming airport facility.

The panelists making recommendations for these commission opportunities included **Alison de Lima Greene**, Isabel Brown Wilson Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; **Naiomy Guerrero**, Graduate Center Teaching Fellow, The City College at The City University of New York; **Nicole Mullen**, Curator of Exhibitions at SFO Museum at the San Francisco International Airport; Houston Airport System representative, **Melanie Brown**, Division Manager Customer Service Terminal A at George Bush Intercontinental Airport and community representative, **Felicia Kizzie**, Secretary of the Heather Ridge Village Homeowners Association.

The process began with review of 163 eligible applications and ultimately recommended that the City of Houston commission artworks based on concepts from artists **Leslie Gaworecki, Marlo Saucedo, and Outspoken Bean, Reginald Adams, Emilie Duval, Nick Vaughn & Jake Margolin, Gerardo Rosales and Lovie Olivia**. The artworks commissioned from these artists will provide a glimpse of Houston's diverse culture, landscape, and ideas.

MORE ARTWORKS FOR MLIT

Artworks for the **New Passenger Hold Room** in the **Mickey Leland International Terminal Ceiling, Floor, and Wall Feature Gateway to the New D West Pier** locations were selected through a Nominating Committee led by 4 arts experts: **Christian Wurst**, Assistant Curator of Exhibitions at the Sheldon Museum of Art, **Marcela Guerrero**, Jennifer Rubio Associate Curator at the Whitney Museum of American Art, **Mari Carmen Ramirez**, Wortham Curator of Latin American Art at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston and **Rita Gonzalez**, Terri and Michael Smooke Curator and Department Head of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Each of the four Nominators was requested to select up to three artists to submit a *Request for Proposal* for this project. The Committee then selected three artists to proceed with submitting a final Request for Proposals.

The work selected for the New Passenger Hold Room, is ***Cosmotarrayas*** by **Carolina Caycedo** (b. 1978) a Colombian, London-born, multidisciplinary artist known for her multidisciplinary work that examines environmental and social issues. **The ceiling feature in the newly expanded Terminal D will be suspended above the hold room next to Gates D5 and D6.** At this location, the art piece floats against the backdrop of the sky.

The Mickey Leland International Terminal at Gateway Entry to the New D West Pier will feature ***Paradise***, a visual trilogy by artist **Regina Silveira**. ***Paradise*** is a visual trilogy formed by graphic images appropriated from catalogs of insects, giving priority to the fauna of butterflies, moths, bees, and other winged insects in the Texas Region. ***Paradise (Flight)*** is a suspended ceiling structure, ***Paradise (Wind)*** is a terrazzo applied to the floor and ***Paradise (Mix)*** is a panel affixed to the wall. Renowned for her parodic explorations of space through geometric constructs, Silveira's work is celebrated for both its conceptual rigor and formal impact.

NEW ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SPACES

Horizons Spectrum by **Vargas-Suarez Universal** will be found in the **Departures Level Garage Wall** at in the new Internatioanl Central Processor (ICP), also a part of the redevelopment program at Bush Intercontinental Airport. Traveling passengers will experience the artwork as they enter the departing passengers' drop-off area for international travel. With views from the exterior drop-off area as well as from the Departures Hall. This opportunity sought a large wall installation that reflects the inspiration and innovation of Houston. Due to the prominence of its location at the International Terminal, the artwork will celebrate and reflect the rich and diverse local fabric that makes Houston a unique place.

The new **Arrivals Lobby (Elevator Bank)** at **George Bush Intercontinental Airport** will see new artwork from **Miguel Arzabe's *Todos Bienvenidos***. This artwork will reflects the welcoming nature of Houston as a city with a unique culture and sense of place, celebrating and evoking the rich and diverse local fabric that makes Houston inspiring for residents and visitors alike. The artist searched through the entire permanent collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston for colorful, welcoming paintings. The paintings were then used as source material to create a woven acrylic on canvas mural inspired by weaving traditions around the world including that which exists in Arzabe's own Bolivian heritage.

Orbit Shift by **Marta Chilindron** in the **Departures Hall Façade** will be a three-dimensional triptych. The artist's focus is on perception and how subjective our experience of the physical world is. The circle on the central façade mirrors the circular opening in the mezzanine, with its shape of the earth, orbits, comets, and other celestial bodies. The square and the triangle on the South and North façades reminds us of other architectural features, spatial projected trajectories, and technical designs.

At the **Arrivals Level Garage Wall** traveling passengers will experience artwork by artist **Graciela Hasper** as they exit the terminal and await their transportation. As one of the first artworks arriving passengers will encounter, this piece will contain a fine paradox: it will have the scale of an advertising billboard and yet it will offer the visitor an intimate experience of color. As a continuation of Hasper's ongoing work, the mural will transform the space and stimulate the eye, inviting the viewer to engage with the urban environment from the moment they step out of the airport door.

The selection panel that selected Vargas-Suarez and Miguel Arzabe, Marta Chilindron and Graciela Hasper includes **Ionit Behar**, Associate Curator at DePaul Art Museum (DPAM), Chicago; **Hesse McGraw**, Executive Director of Contemporary Arts Museum Houston; **Susanna Temkin**, Curator at El Museo del Barrio, New York, **Department Representative**; **Andrew Czobor**, Assistant Director at the George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH), Terminal D & Federal Inspection Services (FIS) TM; and **Community Representative Shunte Deckard**, Chapter Member of The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.

All of the art features selected reflect the welcoming nature of Houston as a city with a unique culture and sense of place, celebrating and evoking the rich and diverse local fabric that makes Houston inspiring for residents and visitors alike.