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NOMA, LEED AP
Michael Rashid

June 30, 2021

Ms. Beige Berryman
The Philadelphia Art Commission
1515 Arch Street, 13th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

RE: Request for Review
Proposed Art Installation at Maplewood Mall

Dear Beige:

On behalf of the Maplewood Mall Percent For Art selection panel, the following project is hereby submitted for placement on the July 14, 2021 Art Commission agenda.

In collaboration with multiple City agencies, elected officials, and Germantown residents and business owners, the City Planning Commission led a multi-year effort to renovate Maplewood Mall, an important civic space in central Germantown. This project has been supported by the Philadelphia Commerce Department's Neighborhood Commercial Corridors Program.

Reconstruction of the Mall's roadways, sidewalks, and plazas began in November 2019. The City's goal has been to rebuild the Mall as a great neighborhood public space and shopping street. These improvements will help residents and visitors alike while strengthening the Central Germantown business district. New design features including new lighting, seating, trees and plants, bicycle racks, and trash cans.

In the wake of the COVID-19 global pandemic and recent social unrest in Philadelphia and the nation, this reconstruction project presents an opportunity to address the need for a safe and enjoyable outdoor space for all residents of Germantown and surrounding neighborhoods. Public art within the Mall, as required by the City's Percent for Art ordinance, will contribute to this goal.

The Office of Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy convened an artist selection panel, including Germantown residents and 3-4 experts in the field, supported by an advisory board made up of an independent art conservator, City employees, and a Landscape Architect who worked on the Plaza's design.

A community input period was held throughout April and May of 2021. Over 270 people offered thoughts on four preliminary proposals, and the selection panel shared this feedback with the artists. The artists used the input to improve their proposals before making final

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presentations to the selection panel in early June. After hearing presentations from the Artists, the panel selected the finalist team—led by artist Kate Kaman—which we kindly request to present at the July 14 Art Commission meeting.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Hegarty', with a stylized, flowing script.

Ian Hegarty
Upper Northwest District Planner

cc: Stephanie Fuentes, Office of Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy

Maplewood Mall Percent for Art: *Hive* by Kate Kaman

Target Date: Fabrication in Fall 2021; completion by Spring 2022

Budget: \$49,500

Location: The artwork will be located on the capstones of the seat walls located in the Greene Street plaza at the Maplewood Mall in Germantown. The artwork will be an integral part of this pedestrian plaza which is intended for informal gathering and formal events such as performances, outdoor festivals, and block parties.

About: An artist was previously selected for this project. They received Art Commission approval to install a tile mosaic on the seat wall caps within the two Maplewood Mall plazas. Ultimately, the artist withdrew in 2020 prior to implementing the work. The RFQ was distributed again in the Fall of 2020 and from 53 applications, 6 artists were selected to move forward with proposals. Two artists joined forces to become an artist team and in the end 4 proposals were submitted.

The themes for this project gathered from initial community engagement sessions were on the topics of neighborhood history, change, gentrification, and inclusivity. Artist Kate Kaman was selected as the finalist by the Maplewood Mall Committee.

Design: Kaman's design is inspired by the interdependence of the beehive, and how bees are connected as a beautiful metaphor for the community in Germantown and builds on the history of beekeeping in the neighborhood. The imagery of beehives, helping hands, and local flora and fauna will cover the benches. This imagery will be driven by community input. Kaman will ask people what their favorite types of plants are and then incorporate those ideas into the design.

Kaman is an American Artist who resides in Germantown with a Studio on Germantown Avenue for the past 10 years. Kaman has spent the last decade of her career focused on creating architecturally oriented, site-specific works of art across the country working alongside engineers, architects, and community members. Her background in Landscape Architecture and Fine Art make her uniquely qualified to both design and build large works of art. Kaman's specialties include: permanent exterior artworks, suspended atrium sculpture, and decorative surfaces of public spaces, as well as kinetic sculpture and LED light projects incorporating new media. Kaman's sculpture is created using the newest digital fabrication techniques, but is also rooted in the academy tradition of careful observation from nature with a passion for personal craftsmanship.

Maplewood Mall Committee:

Candace	Smith	<i>Community Member - Asayah Locs</i>
Emaleigh	Doley	<i>Germantown United CDC</i>
Erica	Johnson	<i>Community Member - Collective Artistry</i>
Francesco	Cerrai	<i>Parks and Recreation</i>
Ian	Hegarty	<i>Planning and Development</i>
Julie	Bush	<i>Ground Reconsidered</i>
Kacie	Liss	<i>Planning and Development</i>
Margot	Berg (through March 2021)	<i>Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy</i>

Mark	Paronish	<i>Parks and Recreation</i>
Matt	Wysong	<i>Planning and Development</i>
Melissa	Meighan	<i>Philadelphia Museum of Art</i>
Miles	Butler	<i>Community Member - Germantown Espresso Bar</i>
Rocio	Cabello	<i>Community Member - Imperfect Gallery</i>
Stephanie	Craighead	<i>Parks and Recreation</i>
Stephanie	Fuentes	<i>Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy</i>
Trapeta	Mayson	<i>Community Member - Poet Laureatte/Germantown Resident</i>
Yinka	Orafidya	<i>Community Member Artist/Germantown - Mt Airy</i>



Kate Kaman Studio
6350 Germantown Ave
Philadelphia, PA 19144
www.ekart.com

Maplewood Mall Artwork

Hive

I have lived and worked in the Germantown neighborhood of Philadelphia for more than a decade. My studio is on Germantown Avenue and over the last 10 years I have come to know the beauty and unique friendliness of my neighbors. Often, when I'm working on projects outside in my parking lot, neighbors stop by to chat. They share stories about their lives, ask questions about what I am doing, or ask what the history of my building is. We help each other out, whether in the form of returning a lost chicken, lending a tool or organizing a block party. There is grit, heart, and true community in Germantown. The design for the benches in Maplewood Mall is inspired by the people of 19144. The imagery of bee hives, helping hands, and local flora & fauna will cover the benches. This imagery will be driven by community input. I will ask people what their favorite types of plants are and then incorporate those ideas into the design.

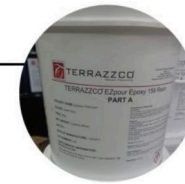
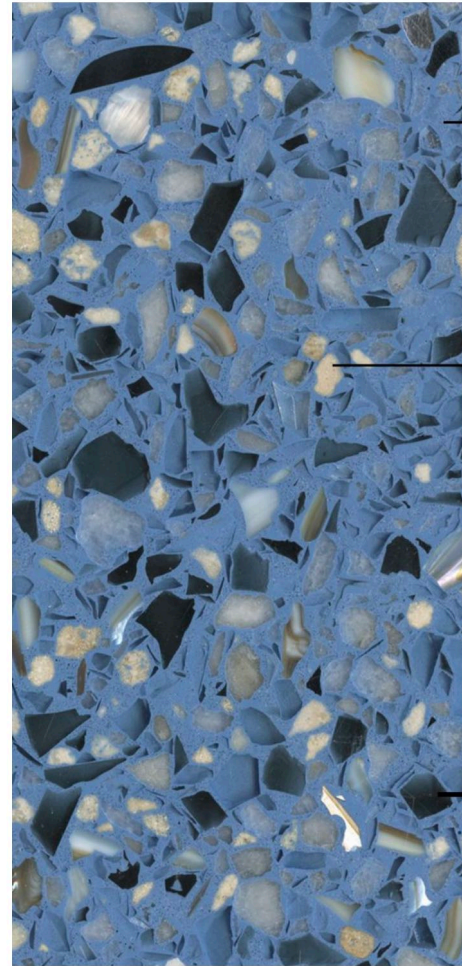


The interdependence of the hive, and how bees are connected is a beautiful metaphor for the community in Germantown. There is also a rich history of beekeepers in the area. Every year there is a Honey Festival at Wick, where beekeepers come from all over Philadelphia to celebrate and educate about bees.

Brass inlay into terrazzo will be scattered throughout the bench tops. This is an image of part of a series of tabletops I recently fabricated.

One interesting aspect of this material is that the brass color changes dramatically from light to dark and in between, depending on the angle and time of day, so the hand imagery will represent a rainbow of skin tones and the diversity of our Germantown Community.





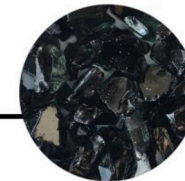
EPOXY RESIN
Combined with terrazzo aggregates, the epoxy resin can be tinted to match any color.



MARBLE CHIPS
Terrazzo surfaces can include a mixture of marble or granite chips. Shown here is Coral.



SHELL CHIPS
Regional seashells can be included in a terrazzo design, with Mother of Pearl reflecting off lighting.



GLASS CHIPS
Terrazzo can use recycled glass chips which are often vibrant in many different colors, making the chips stand out.

DISSECTING A TERRAZZO SAMPLE

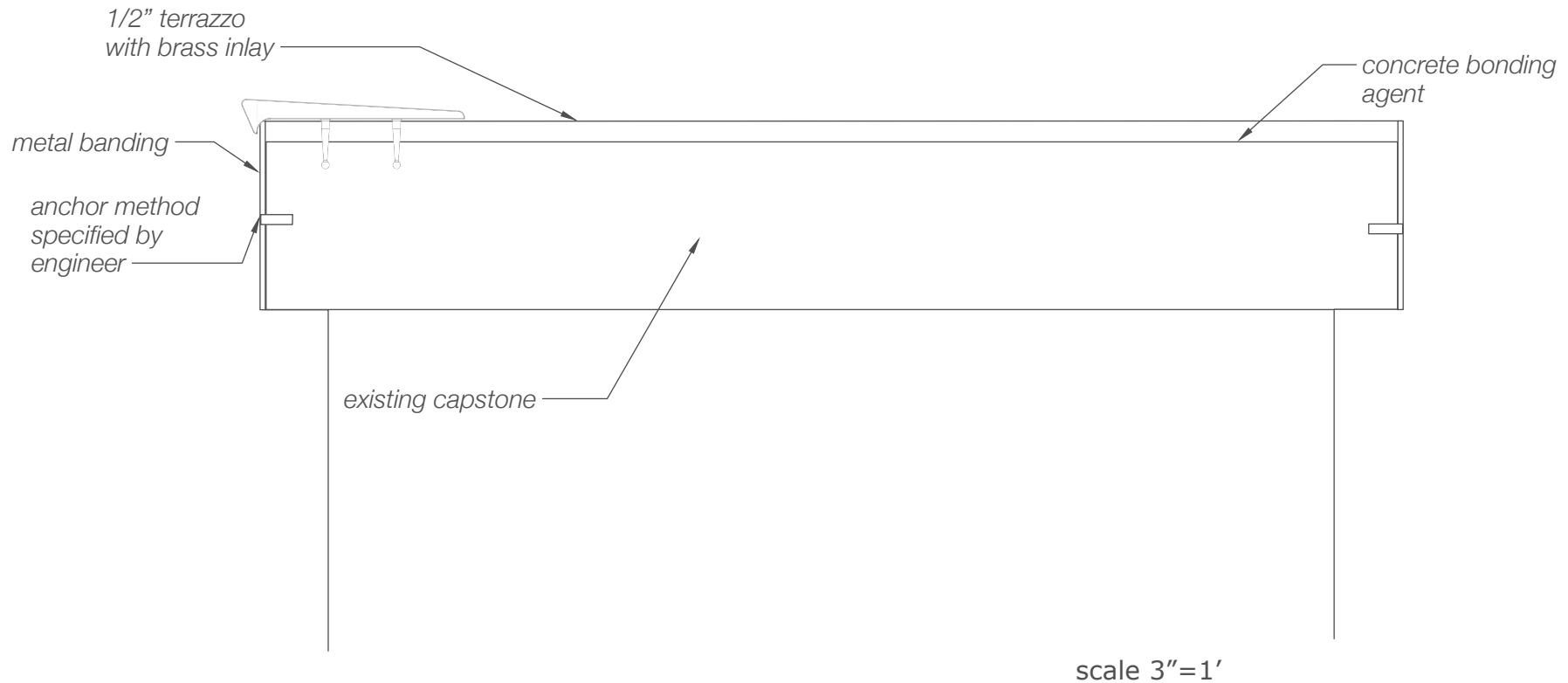
Terrazzo or polished concrete is an ancient and durable material. It is often used as a flooring in public spaces. Terrazzo allows for metal inlay as well as a huge array of colors and aggregates. The capstones will be a rainbow of different colored concrete that is polished to expose a brass inlay.

The imagery will reflect ideas of neighbors lifting each other up, community organization and our native plants and trees. The benches will also include several chessboards inlaid in brass where folks can come together to play a game of chess or checkers.

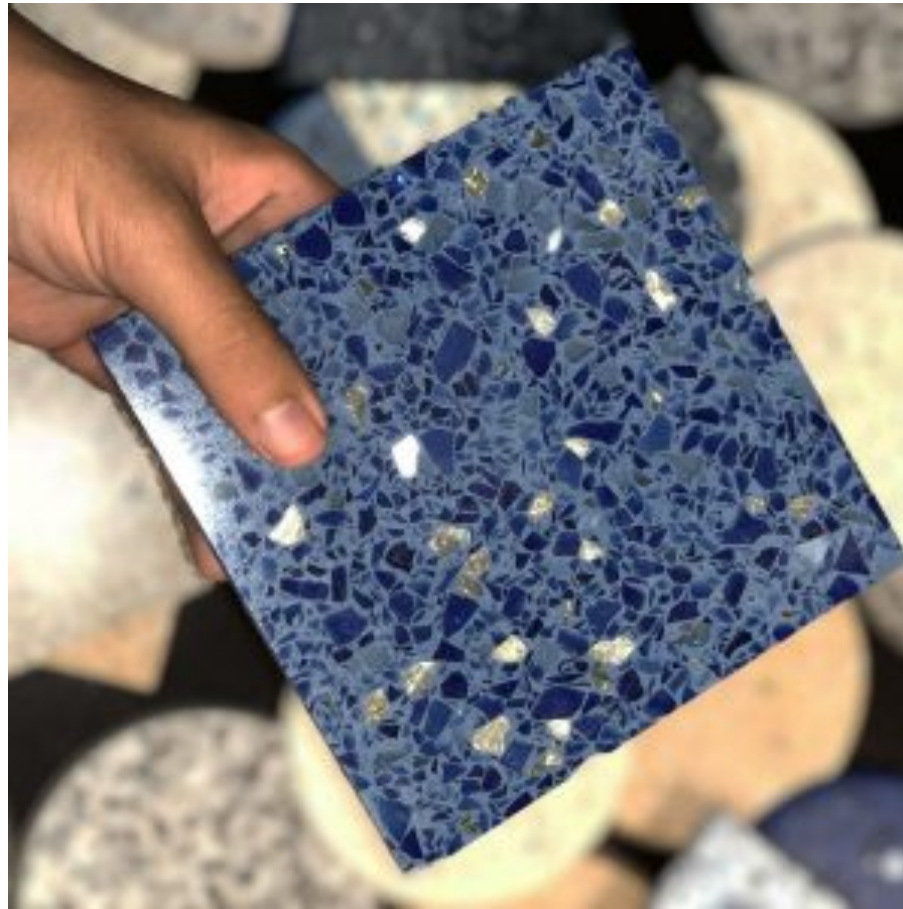




The installation method is contingent on a PA engineer design and review. .125" x 4.5" metal banding will be attached to the edge of all the capstones. Brass metal cutouts will be inlaid into a bed of concrete. The concrete and brass inlay will then be polished. The existing skate board deterrents will be removed to make the installation of the artwork easier and cleaner. New, matching deterrents will be installed after the artwork is created.



Terrazzo is one of the most durable materials available. It will be strengthened with additives such as fiberglass and epoxy. Once sealed with epoxy, it is impervious to water and stains. The brass will be sealed with an epoxy coating as well. The terrazzo and metal surfaces will hold up to both environmental and human induced stresses. The PA engineer will oversee the design so that they will not break under large loads. The benches will be able to be power washed in the event of vandalism and can be cleaned with soap and water.



Artist Fee_____ \$7,425

For all services of the artist, including, but not limited, to the following:
research and design development, drawings and construction documents, attendance to all required
meetings and site visits, construction and installation supervision, hiring and coordinating sub-contractors

Fabrication Costs_____ \$12,375

Materials (brass, concrete, additives, aggregate)
Fabrication (laser cutting brass inlay, labor)

Installation Cost_____ \$14,850

Labor, packing and delivery, on-site installation, concrete casting & polishing, special equipment,
skate deterrents

3rd Party Professional Fees_____ \$4,950

Engineering, photo documentation, computer modeling

Miscellaneous Costs_____ \$4,950

Insurance, utilities, rentals

Contingency_____ \$4,950

TOTAL _____ \$49,500

Commission Timeline:

May 2021 - presentation

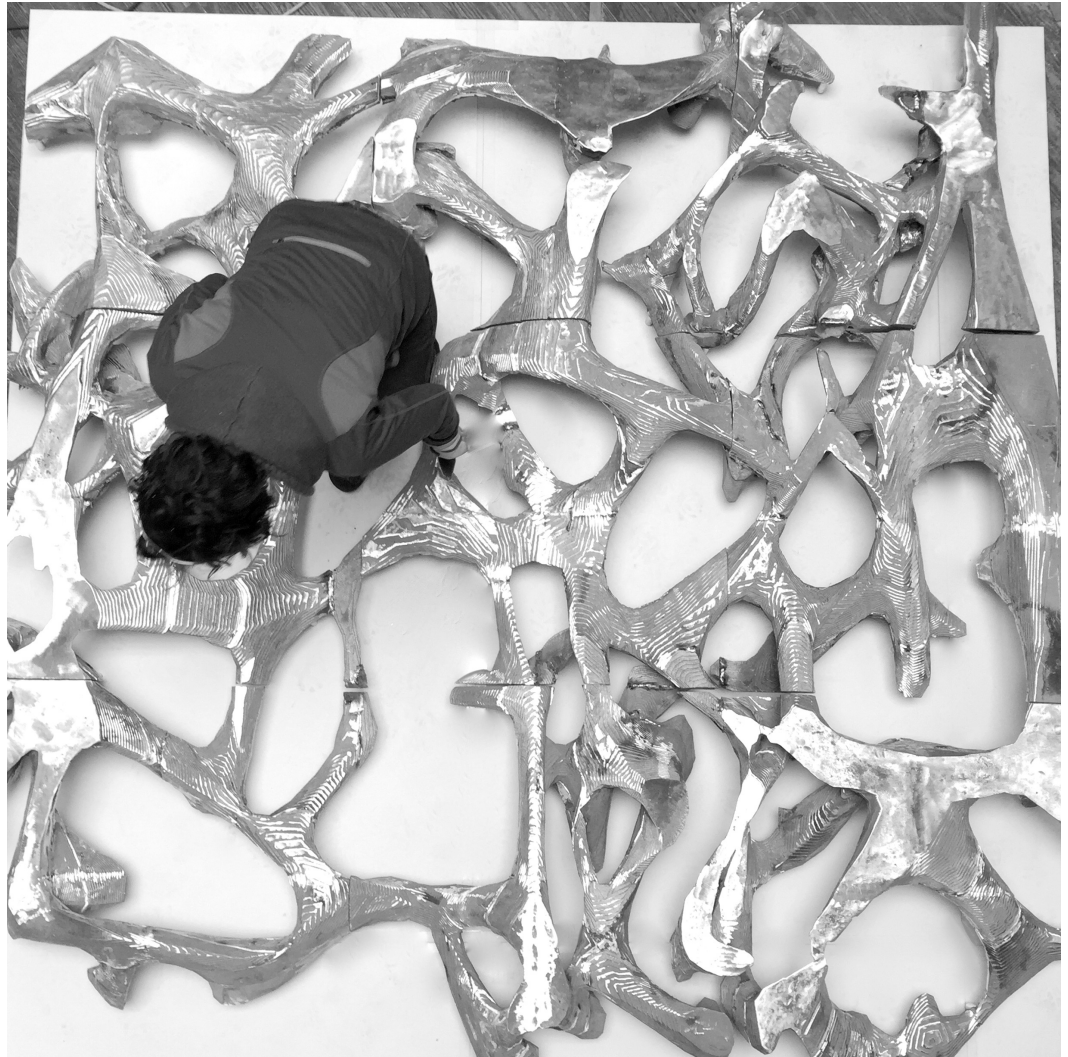
Summer 2021 - Contract Signing

Fall 2021- Spring 2022 - Fabrication & Installation



Kate Kaman, American artist, born 1981, Cleveland, Ohio. Kaman has spent the last decade of her career focused on creating architecturally oriented, site-specific works of art across the country working alongside engineers, architects, and community members. Her background in Landscape Architecture and Fine Art make her uniquely qualified to both design and build large works of art. Kaman's specialties include: permanent exterior artworks, suspended atrium sculpture, and decorative surfaces of public spaces, as well as kinetic sculpture and LED light projects incorporating new media.

Kaman's sculpture is created using the newest digital fabrication techniques, but is also rooted in the academy tradition of careful observation from nature with a passion for personal craftsmanship. Kaman prides herself on this hands on approach to designing and building large scale artwork in various materials, and giving each client the customer service and attention to detail required to see the project through. Her civic and corporate clients are primarily universities, municipalities, developers, and transportation hubs. She has worked with public art budgets ranging from \$15,000 to upwards of \$600,000. Kaman also exhibits artwork in museums and galleries, nationally and internationally. She welcomes visitors by appointment to her 8,000 square foot studio in the Germantown neighborhood of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.





Solarion, The College of New Jersey, Trenton, NJ



Honey Locust, Park Towne Place, Philadelphia, PA



Natural Progression, PAFA, Philadelphia, PA



Triple Crown, Bowie City Hall, Bowie, MD



Sun Moon, The College of New Jersey, Trenton, NJ



Jubilee, Temple Beth Elohim, Wellesley, MA



Samara, Hela High School, Vancouver, WA



The Unseen World, Temple School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA



Cat's Eye, Philadelphia Family Court, Philadelphia, PA