

ARTWORK PROPOSAL

By Marisol Rendón
& Ingram Ober



Commission for
Arts and Culture



Artist rendering of the artwork.

Artists Ingram Ober and Marisol Rendón have been developing an artwork proposal for Beyer Park. The artists propose to plant a singular tree and grow that tree within a sculptural “Wireframe” enclosure that relates visually to the growth of the tree, to the volume of air processed by that tree over a set period of time, to decorative vessels in the way that they create a preciousness of contained space, and structurally to the process of systematic paper folding and engineering. The size of this project at 25 feet tall, 12’ in diameter at the base and 30’ in diameter at the canopy emanating from a 4’ tall cast concrete planter/plinth is in direct relation to the Catalina Ironwood tree selected for this artwork and native to California.

They choose to plant one tree, as opposed to many, for the reason that art must create a relationship with its viewer or participant. Knowing a tree, watching it grow, witnessing the seasonal changes of a singular identifiable entity, creates empathy and connection.



Through this work, the artists hope for the possibility of inspiring future climate activism and an awareness of environmental concerns in terms of air quality.

An average of 48 pounds per year of CO₂ can be sequestered by a mature tree (figure provided by the Arbor Day Foundation). Using a fog of atomized water released around the tree from the perimeter of the structure at intervals relating to the amount of time it takes a tree to respire will act to intuitively illustrate the “breath” of a tree. The atomized water will also have the added effect of attaching to and precipitating out some of the heavier air pollutants.

In the case of this project, art has the ability to make concrete, palpable, intuitive, and/or emotive those ideas which are often too abstract to grasp. What does a tree’s impact look like? When it takes in CO₂ and other pollutants and releases O₂ how big is that “breath?” Can we visualize this process? Can we crystallize the idea of atmosphere? Can a singular tree in this environment be precious to us? How does that change the way we see all of the other flora onsite and in our lives? These are questions at the core of the artwork proposal.

25’

