



City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture

PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

AGENDA

City Administration Building 12th floor Committee Room

202 W C Street, San Diego, CA 92101

Hyperlink to attend the meeting at its scheduled time available [here](#)

Friday, December 13, 2024

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

8:30 a.m.	I.	Call to Order	Keith Opstad, Chair
8:35 a.m.	II.	Non-agenda Public Comment	
8:40 a.m.	III.	Chair's Reports	
		A. Commission Business	
		B. ACTION – October 11, 2024 Minutes	
		C. Other Reports	
8:45 a.m.	IV.	ACTION - Intersection Mural Proposal from Downtown San Diego Partnership: <i>Abalone Journey</i> by Janelle Louie and Thao Huynh French	Charles G. Miller, Senior Public Art Manager
9:15 a.m.	V.	Reports	Christine E. Jones, Chief of Civic Art Strategies
		A. Staff Reports	
		B. Committee Member Reports	
9:30 a.m.	VI.	Adjourn	

Meetings will be recorded. PUBLIC COMMENT: Any member of the public may address the Committee on any agenda item during agenda item public comment, or on any matter not presently pending or previously discussed at the Committee that is within the Committee's area of responsibility during non-agenda public comment. Each public comment speaker is limited to three (3) minutes. In addition to in-person attendance, members of the public may submit their comments via a public comment [webform, or they may join the meeting as a "webinar attendee" at the link provided in the Commission or Committee meeting website](#). For members of the public wishing to address the Committee under Public Comment via the [webform](#) prior to the meeting, instructions for word limitations and deadlines will be noted on the [webform](#). As required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), requests for agenda information to be made available in alternative formats, and any requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations required to facilitate meeting participation, including requests for alternatives to observing meetings and offering public comment as noted above, may be made by contacting the City Clerk at (619) 533-4000 or <mailto:cityclerk@sandiego.gov>. The City is committed to resolving accessibility requests swiftly in order to maximize accessibility.



City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture
PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE (PAC)

MINUTES

Friday, October 11, 2024

Members Present

Keith Opstad, Chair
Andrew Alcasid
Dennis Doan
Francisco Eme
Wayne Holtan
Rachel Jans
Imani Robinson
Denise Rogers
Amy Sanchez Arteaga

Members Absent

Fritz Friedman, Vice Chair
Abe Hughes
Alessandra Moctezuma
Ann Bossler, Ex Officio

Staff Present

Lara Bullock
Christine E. Jones
Charles G. Miller

I. Call to Order | [View Here](#) – Commissioner Keith Opstad called the City of San Diego (City) Commission for Arts and Culture’s Public Art Committee (PAC) to order at 8:32 a.m. at the City Council Committee Room – 12th Floor, City Administration Building, 202 C Street, San Diego, California 92101.

II. Non-agenda Public Comment – None

III. Chair’s Reports

A. Commission Business – [View Here](#)

B. **ACTION** – August 9, 2024, Minutes | [View Here](#) – Commissioner Keith Opstad introduced the item. **Wayne Holtan made a motion to approve the PAC minutes of August 9, 2024. Francisco Eme seconded the motion. The vote was 8-0-0; the motion passed.**

Yea: Alcasid, Doan, Eme, Holtan, Jans, Opstad, Rogers, and Sanchez Arteaga (8)

Nay: (0)

Abstention: (0)

Recusal: (0)

C. Other Reports – None

Francisco Eme arrived at 8:34 a.m.

IV. **ACTIONS**

A. Final Artwork Proposal for San Carlos Branch Library by RE:Site | [View Here](#) – Commissioner Keith Opstad introduced the item. **Commissioner Imani Robinson made a motion to recommend to the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture that the Director of the**

Department of Cultural Affairs accept the Final Artwork Proposal by RE:site in fulfillment of the City of San Diego's (City) collecting mission, collection scope and accession criteria as established in Section 5 – Collecting Mission, Section 6 – Scope of the Collection and Section 8.2 – Accession Criteria of the Department Instruction 1.00 – Collection Management Policy for the Civic Art Collection. Commissioner Dennis Doan seconded the motion. The vote was 8-1-0; the motion passed.

Yea: Alcasid, Doan, Eme, Jans, Opstad, Robinson, Rogers, and Sanchez Arteaga (8)

Nay: (0)

Abstention: Holtan (1)

Recusal: (0)

Commissioner Imani Robinson arrived at 8:39 a.m.

- B. Acquisition of artworks by John Raymond Mireles for Civic Art Collection through the Exposure photo fellowship | [View Here](#) – Commissioner Keith Opstad introduced the item. Commissioner Dennis Doan made a motion to Advise the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture to recommend to the City of San Diego the acquisition of five artworks through the Exposure photo fellowship (Fellowship) for inclusion in the Civic Art Collection, per the requirements of the Fellowship. Francisco Eme seconded the motion. The vote was 8-1-0; the motion passed.**

Yea: Doan, Eme, Holtan, Jans, Opstad, Robinson, Rogers, and Sanchez Arteaga (8)

Nay: (0)

Abstention: Alcasid (1)

Recusal: (0)

Public Comment: John Raymond Mireles, Artist | [View Here](#)

- C. Artist Selection Panelists for the Fire Station 48 Black Mountain Ranch Public Art Project | [View Here](#) – Commissioner Keith Opstad introduced the item. Commissioner Imani Robinson made a motion to advise the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture to recommend the following panelists for the Fire Station 48 Black Mountain Ranch Public Art Project: 1) Wayne Holtan, for the seat of the Public Art Committee member, with Francisco Eme as an alternate; 2) Jessica McCambly for the seat of the Visual Art/Design Professional with recommended alternates, in no particular order, to serve as two of the five ad hoc artist selection panelists. Commissioner Dennis Doan seconded the motion. The vote was 9-0-0; the motion passed.**

Yea: Alcasid, Doan, Eme, Holtan, Jans, Opstad, Robinson, Rogers, and Sanchez Arteaga (9)

Nay: (0)

Abstention: (0)

Recusal: (0)

- V. Reports
 - A. Staff Reports – [View Here](#)
 - B. Committee Member Reports – [View Here](#)

- VI. Adjourn – Commissioner Keith Opstad adjourned the meeting at 9:29 a.m.

DRAFT



Commission for Arts and Culture

STAFF REPORT

DATE ISSUED: December 11, 2024

ATTENTION: Public Art Committee

SUBJECT: Intersection Mural Proposal from Downtown San Diego Partnership:
Abalone Journey by Janelle Louis and Thao Huynh French

REFERENCES: 1) Mural Application from Downtown San Diego Partnership
2) [San Diego Municipal Code Section 26.0722 – Control of Artworks](#)
3) [Administrative Regulation 95.00 – Management of the Civic Art Collection](#)
4) [Commission for Arts and Culture Department Instruction 1.00 – Collection Management Policy for the Civic Art Collection](#)

STAFF CONTACT: Charles G. Miller, Senior Public Art Manager

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend to the City of San Diego (City) Commission for Arts and Culture (Commission) that the Director of the Department of Cultural Affairs approve the intersection mural titled *Abalone Journey* consisting of a mural by artists Janelle Louie and Thao Huynh French for temporary exhibition within the traffic intersection of Third Avenue and J Street, Downtown San Diego, for up to a five-year period.

SUMMARY:

Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) staff has received a mural application for an intersection mural from the Downtown San Diego Partnership (Applicant). The Applicant is proposing an intersection mural by San Diego-based artists Janelle Louie and Thao Huynh French. The mural is proposed for installation within the intersection of Third Avenue and J Street in Downtown San Diego, adjacent to the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum, and would be 48' x 40'. DCA staff evaluated the application utilizing criteria contained in the *City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture Department Instruction – Collection Management Policy for the Civic Art Collection*. The results of DCA staff's analysis include:

RE: ARTWORK CRITERIA

Public Safety: If the mural is painted and installed properly within the proposed location of the traffic intersection (i.e. City approved methods and materials safe for the public) it is unlikely to pose hazards or threats to public safety or public health and/or are unlikely to pose a potential liability for the City in any other way.

Cost: The Applicant would be solely responsible for funding the intersection mural. This includes, but is not limited to, insurance, permitting, site preparation, transportation, installation, maintenance, repair, restoration, conservation, deinstallation, removal, site restoration and clean-up.

Availability of Resources: City staff is available to provide administrative services to the Applicant to process the application and execute a temporary artwork maintenance and removal agreement.

Relevance: The mural would provide an aesthetic and cultural experience for residents and visitors to Downtown, near the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum and Convention Center, and activate and enhance the area surrounding the intersection of Third Avenue and J Street. Due to the placement of the mural at a busy intersection that is active with vehicles and pedestrians, the mural will serve to balance urbanization and development with humanizing elements. The mural may stimulate discussion and the exchange of ideas about art and the neighborhood due to the highly visible location.

Excellence: The proposed mural exemplifies an acceptable level of artistic merit and quality of workmanship.

Significance: Not applicable.

Condition: Not applicable.

Maintenance: The Applicant will be responsible for maintenance, conservation, restoration, and repair of the mural for the duration of the exhibit period.

Security: Not applicable.

Relationship to Site: The mural is to be sited on the pavement within the intersection of Third Avenue and J Street. The site is adjacent to the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum, and the mural design was developed with the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association. The mural would serve to activate this busy intersection.

Legal and Ethical Considerations: If the mural is authorized, it will be formalized in a temporary artwork maintenance and removal agreement between the Applicant and the City. The artists have provided a royalty-free license to reproduce images of the artwork for non-commercial purposes and waiver of rights conferred under the Visual Artists Rights Act and California Art Preservation Act.

Timing: If the mural is authorized, the Applicant will be responsible for proposing a date for mural installation and commencing work in compliance with the agreement between the Applicant and the City.

Selection Process for the Artist: The artists were chosen for the project by the Applicant. The artists are being compensated by the Applicant for their participation in the project.

Community Feedback: The Applicant collected letters of support for the project from the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum and the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association.

Restrictions: Not applicable.

Commemorative Significance: Not applicable.

Fair Exchange: Not applicable.

Fair Purchase Price: Not applicable.

RE: SITE SELECTION CRITERIA

Ownership: The proposed site of the mural is in the City's public right-of-way. The Applicant provided signed consent forms from all adjacent property owners.

Public Safety: If the mural is painted and installed properly within the proposed location of the traffic intersection (i.e., City approved methods and materials safe for the public) it is unlikely to pose hazards or threats to public safety or public health and/or are unlikely to pose a potential liability for the City in any other way. The Applicant would be required to submit plans to the City's Development Services Department for review and approval and obtain all permits to close the intersection and install and maintain the private encroachment in the public-right-of-way.

Security: Not applicable.

Maintenance: Traffic intersections are managed by the Street Division of the City's Transportation Department. However, the Street Division only maintains standard public right-of-way elements.

Accessibility: Not Applicable.

Context: The mural is to be sited on the intersection of Third Avenue and J Street. The mural will serve to further activate this busy intersection and the surrounding neighborhood.

Support of City Departments: DCA staff consulted with relevant City departments to confirm eligibility for the proposed site and will route the mural proposal with the analysis and recommendation from the Commission to relevant City departments for any additional feedback and recommendations about the proposal.

Community Support: The Applicant collected letters of support for the project from the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum and the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association.

Adherence to Relevant Plans: The City adheres to existing community plans and land use plans, such as the City's General Plan.

Evaluation criteria the Public Art Committee (PAC) will use to decide whether to recommend to the Commission authorization of the proposed mural may include all or some of those given in the *City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture Department Instruction - Collection Management Policy for the Civic Art Collection*.

The Director of the DCA will consider the recommendation from DCA staff, other relevant City staff, the Public Art Committee, the Commission, and any other pertinent stakeholders before making the final decision on whether to authorize the proposed mural.

FISCAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Should this mural be authorized for temporary installation, the Applicant will be responsible for all costs.

APPLICANT



MURAL APPLICATION

ORGANIZATION CONTACT INFORMATION

Name :	Downtown San Diego Partnership			
Address :	STREET	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	UNIT
	CITY	[REDACTED]	STATE	ZIP
Website :	downtownsandiego.org			
PRIMARY CONTACT				
Name :	Ernesto Romo		TITLE	Director of Maintenance Services Clean and Safe
Contact Info :	PHONE	[REDACTED]	EMAIL	[REDACTED]
SECONDARY CONTACT (For approval process only)				
Name :	Kristin Cervantes		TITLE	Owner, Elevated Paintworks
Contact Info :	PHONE	[REDACTED]	EMAIL	[REDACTED]

ARTIST

Name :	Janelle Louie			
Contact Info :	PHONE	[REDACTED]	EMAIL	[REDACTED]
Address :	STREET	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	UNIT
	CITY	[REDACTED]	STATE	ZIP
Website :	departmentofcoastcreepng.com			

PROPERTY OWNER

Name :	City of San Diego, It is Public Right of Way			
Contact Info :	PHONE	Ernesto Romo, see above	EMAIL	[REDACTED]
Address :	STREET	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	UNIT
	CITY	[REDACTED]	STATE	ZIP

PROPERTY OWNER (if applicable)

Name :				
Contact Info :	PHONE	[REDACTED]	EMAIL	[REDACTED]
Address :	STREET	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	UNIT
	CITY	[REDACTED]	STATE	ZIP

APPLICANT

MURAL APPLICATION

PROPERTY OWNER (if applicable)

Name :			
Contact Info :	PHONE	EMAIL	
Address :	STREET	UNIT	
	CITY	STATE	ZIP

PROPERTY OWNER (if applicable)

Name :			
Contact Info :	PHONE	EMAIL	
Address :	STREET	UNIT	
	CITY	STATE	ZIP

OTHER PARTNERS / COLLABORATORS

Name : Thao Huynh French			
Contact Info :	PHONE	EMAIL	
Address :	STREET	UNIT	
	CITY	STATE	ZIP
Title : Artist website: mindfulmurals.com			
Relationship to proposed project : Collaborated with Janelle Louie, who is the lead artist			

OTHER PARTNERS / COLLABORATORS (if applicable)

Name : Kathleen Dang			
Contact Info :	PHONE	EMAIL	
Address :	STREET	UNIT	
	CITY	STATE	ZIP
Title : Leader for Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association			
Relationship to proposed project : Community Member Collaboration/community impact			

MURAL DETAILS

MURAL APPLICATION


MURAL LOCATION

Location:	Intersection of 3rd Avenue and J Street		
Proposed Mural Address:	STREET		
CROSS STREET			CITY San Diego
STATE	CA	ZIP	92101
Council District:	3		
Community Planning Area:	Downtown		
Neighborhood:	Marina District		
Zoning:	CCPD-RE		

BUDGET

Funding for Project:	SOURCE	Downtown San Diego Partnership	AMOUNT	\$ 110,000	
	SOURCE		AMOUNT	\$	
	SOURCE		AMOUNT	\$	
	SOURCE		AMOUNT	\$	
Total Budget:	\$ 110,000				
Breakdown of Cost:	MATERIAL COST	\$ 70,000	EQUIPMENT COST	\$ 40,000	DESIGN, LABOR, PERMITS, TRAFFIC CONTROL
	OTHER COST	\$	Specify:		

MURAL PROPOSAL

Mural Title:	Abalone Journey	
Mural Description:		
	<p>This mural highlights a piece of San Diego history and contributions of early Asian immigrants to the city that may not be well known.</p>	

MURAL DETAILS

MURAL APPLICATION

MURAL PROPOSAL (continued)

Mural Dimensions :

40' Wide x 33'-6" High

Medium : **Thermoplastic**

Summary of Project :

Early Chinese immigrants in the 1800s included fishermen who worked out of San Diego Bay, built sailing ships (junks), and had fishing villages along the bay (there were two by 1869, one of which was located where the convention center is today). An anchorage for the junks was just south of 3rd and J, which was part of San Diego's Chinatown. The Chinese developed the commercial abalone fishery in San Diego at a time when Americans had not yet acquired a taste for abalone, but they also fished for other species like rock cod. At its peak, 18 junks sailed out of San Diego Bay. By 1893, only one junk sailing out of San Diego remained in Chinese hands.

Project goals / visions :

What happened to these Chinese fishermen? How have others from across the Pacific Ocean contributed to fishing, fisheries and related cuisine in San Diego? Their story we hope to preserve and tell is about dangerous journey across the Pacific Ocean to escape poverty and war, as an act of defiance to find prosperity and to persevere through many hardships including legal discrimination from The Chinese Exclusion Act Laws that ultimately led to their diminishing industry. We hope this art pays homage to some of the many past Chinese fishermen, San Diego's history as a fishing town, and inspires curiosity and connectivity across communities.

Audience : **Neighbors, people who work downtown, visitors, tourists, local schoolchildren**

Discuss the project outreach efforts and anyone else involved in the project :

The artists worked closely with Kathleen Dang of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association and other community members.

D O W N T O W N
SAN DIEGO
PARTNERSHIP

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

INTERSECTION MURAL

MARINA – 3rd Ave. and J St. (Page 2)

CREATIVE CROSSWALKS

CORTEZ – Beech St. and 2nd Ave. (Page 5)

CORTEZ – Beech St. and 3rd Ave. (Page 5)

COLUMBIA – Columbia St. and B St. (Page 8)

Downtown Community Planning Council Review
April 17, 2024

MARINA DISTRICT Intersection Mural

Location: 3rd Avenue and J Street
DSD PRJ-1114045

Contact: Ernesto Romo, Director of Maintenance Services Clean & Safe, DSDP
619-855-3870, eromo@improvedtsd.org



Current View – Northbound on 3rd

Close to:

San Diego Chinese Historical Museum
Convention Center

Existing Traffic Markings and Conditions:

12' Wide Continental Crosswalks
Bike Lane
4 way stop, 2 lane collector streets
25 mph speed limit



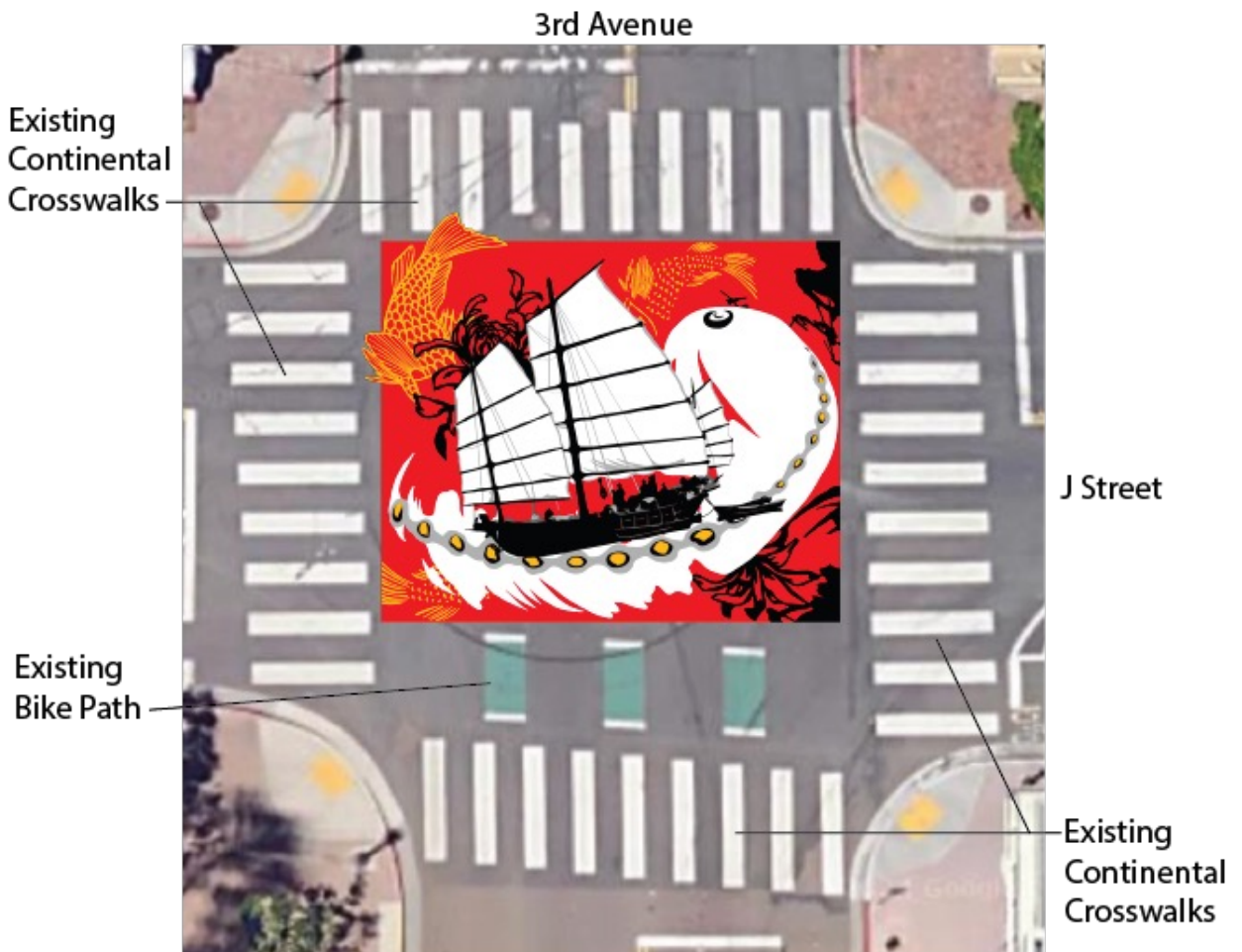
PROPOSED ARTWORK "ABALONE JOURNEY"

Artists: Janelle Louie (Lead) & Thao Huynh French

In Collaboration: Kathleen Dang, Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA)

Mockup

Marina District Intersection Mural at 3rd Avenue and J Street



Project is currently in review at DSD with the following required design changes:

- Change white color.
- Ensure mural does not come within 3 feet of existing crosswalk markings.

Status: Artists and Installer are working on updates.

Proposed Improvement:

The project would add artwork to the middle of the intersection.

Background:

Artwork reflects the history of the neighborhood. Colorful crosswalk would enhance pedestrian mobility and safety, and add beauty to the neighborhood.

Material:

Ennis-Flint Decomark preformed thermoplastic is engineered for heavy vehicular traffic.

Maintenance:

Responsibility of Downtown San Diego Partnership Clean & Safe Team.

Artist Statement

About the Artwork - "Abalone Journey"

This mural highlights a piece of San Diego history and contributions of early Asian immigrants to the city that may not be well known. Early Chinese immigrants in the 1800s included fishermen who worked out of San Diego Bay, built sailing ships (junks), and had fishing villages along the bay (there were two by 1869, one of which was located where the convention center is today). An anchorage for the junks was just south of 3rd and J, which was part of San Diego's Chinatown. The Chinese developed the commercial abalone fishery in San Diego at a time when Americans had not yet acquired a taste for abalone, but they also fished for other species like rock cod. At its peak, 18 junks sailed out of San Diego Bay. By 1893, only one junk sailing out of San Diego remained in Chinese hands.

What happened to these Chinese fishermen? How have others from across the Pacific Ocean contributed to fishing, fisheries and related cuisine in San Diego? Their story we hope to preserve and tell is about dangerous journey across the Pacific Ocean to escape poverty and war, as an act of defiance to find prosperity and to persevere through many hardships including legal discrimination from The Chinese Exclusion Act Laws that ultimately led to their diminishing industry. We hope this art pays homage to some of the many past Chinese fishermen, San Diego's history as a fishing town, and inspires curiosity and connectivity across communities.

Reference: "In Search of Gold Mountain: A History of the Chinese in San Diego, California" by Murray Lee.

More about the piece:

This artwork features the Sun Yun Lee, a 52' sea-going fishing junk built in 1884 at Roseville, San Diego, near the present day San Diego Yacht Club. The Chinese would fish abalone as far north as Santa Barbara and also hundreds of miles down the Baja coast. The Chinese primarily harvested black abalone, the shallowest dwelling species, and the only species to have up to nine open respiratory holes, a symbolically lucky number.

Fish: The piece also depicts fish - some of our local rock cod.

Details of the chrysanthemums: Chrysanthemums used here to show harvest in the journey to find opportunities and gold. Gold Chrysanthemums also used times of celebrations like the Chinese New Year, Tet (Vietnamese New Year), and the commonly celebrated, Lunar New Year. Flowers here represent abundance and harvest as the journey of the ship unfolds.

Details of Chinese Ink: To highlight the art of Chinese Ink dated back to 3000 years. The paint markings are supposed to be ambiguous but still capture the essence of the ink brush strokes often used in beautiful paintings and letters written to loved ones back home.