



## ARTS DISTRICT

LIBERTY STATION

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### THREE NEW PUBLIC ART PROJECTS CHOSEN FOR *INSTALLATIONS AT THE STATION* AT ARTS DISTRICT LIBERTY STATION

April 19, 2019 — San Diego — The NTC Foundation, which oversees the development and operation of 26 buildings at ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station, has selected three new temporary art projects as part of a rotating public art program titled *Installations at the Station*. Featured San Diego artists will be **Miki Iwasaki**, **Jason Xavier Lane** and **Michelle Montjoy**.

These widely diverse, site-specific outdoor art installations will add to the character of the historic 100-acre former Naval Training Center site as a thriving arts and culture destination for the community. “This new round of *Installations at the Station* brings opportunities to commission area artists to further transform the former Navy campus with unique and creative artworks infused with elements of the Navy’s rich history. Each project will have a community engagement element, and we invite the public to get involved with these outdoor works of art by participating in special related programming and activities or by simply wandering past to take a photo,” explained Alan Ziter, NTC Foundation Executive Director.

The 36 submitted proposals were reviewed by the Art in Public Places Committee, who considered whether the project incorporated innovation and community engagement, showcased the history of San Diego, enhanced the dignity of the site, and added to the creative hub of the ARTS DISTRICT. In addition, the panel looked at authenticity, creativity, budget and the artist’s experience.

“I was impressed by the caliber of artists who responded to our request for submissions. I applaud the committee for their thoughtful discussion and hard work. Each work reflects the artist’s strong artistic skill and hints at San Diego’s history,” explained Vicki Reed, Chair of the Art in Public Places Committee. Installations will be on display for at least one year.

The NTC Foundation is excited to commission these three projects, two of which (by Jason Lane and Miki Iwasaki) will be created in collaboration with the **Mingei International Museum**, which has a temporary home at the ARTS DISTRICT while their Balboa Park location is being renovated.

## 2019 INSTALLATIONS AT THE STATION SELECTIONS

ARTIST: **Miki Iwasaki, San Diego, CA**

INSTALLATION NAME: ***Facetime***

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: This installation will contain three sculptures incorporating steel and wooden bench elements, representing the universal, primal need for shelter and spaces for face-to-face conversation. An artist reception, open to the public, will showcase the connection between small-scale model making and large-scale architecture and construction.

LOCATION: Sybil Stockdale Rose Garden outside Dick Laub NTC Command Center, between Building 200 and Building 201, near Shop Mingei and Café Mingei

UNVEILING: August 10, 2019

**Miki Iwasaki's** childhood obsession with making and building objects eventually led him to pursue a career in architecture. His experience includes work in New York, Los Angeles and San Diego, and spans a variety of project types, including residential, office, restaurant, retail and gallery work. Throughout his academic and early professional years, Miki remained dedicated to his own art projects and furniture designs. Miki's interests and skills constantly expand in the fields of architecture, art and design as he pushes himself to explore new materials, methods and projects. Miki is currently adjunct faculty at Woodbury University San Diego, School of Architecture, and he runs a design and fabrication studio in Barrio Logan. He has completed numerous permanent national public art installations, and his work has been featured in local, national and international press publications.

*"The opportunities for congregation and socialization around the installation will activate the surrounding space, furthering the ARTS DISTRICT as a connection point which forges creative interaction among locals and visitors."* — Miki Iwasaki

ARTIST: **Jason Xavier Lane, San Diego, CA**

INSTALLATION NAME: ***Tessellation #1***

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: This sculpture is influenced by craft and design in the San Diego region, past and present. A sculptural monolith clad in three-dimensional, hand-cast concrete tiles will be set beneath two existing magnolia trees. A bench of hand-hewn timber will be inset within the sculpture to reflect Liberty Station's original 1920s grand post-and-beam roof construction and the legacy of naval shipbuilding. An artist reception highlighting *Tessellation #1* will be open to the public.

LOCATION: Sybil Stockdale Rose Garden outside Dick Laub NTC Command Center, between Building 200 and Building 201, near Shop Mingei and Café Mingei

UNVEILING: September 6, 2019

**Jason Xavier Lane** is a designer, craftsman, partner in the award-winning design team Bells & Whistles, and principal of JXL Studio. The son of two artist/draftspersons, Jason was studying philosophy when he left school to become a founding member of the experimental-aktionist group ADRV. He transitioned from being a touring performer and began to immerse himself in the world of design and the craft of woodworking. He went on to produce custom furniture, architectural elements and stage props for a select clientele, most notably Dita von Tesse. This led to the development of a fruitful collaboration producing many award-winning and published hand-made interiors. In his most recent venture, JXL studio, he has created a hands-on atelier dedicated to designing and building sculptural objects and interiors in the applied art tradition, inspired by subtle forms of modern architecture and the cinematic visuals of masters like Kubrick and Fellini.

*“I look forward to the opportunity to create something that has never existed for the public to discover, contemplate, and hopefully enjoy — and also to experience the ways in which it will patina from time, use, and nature.” — Jason Xavier Lane*

**ARTIST: Michelle Montjoy, Oceanside, CA**

**INSTALLATION NAME: *A Dime to Call Home***

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** A collection of sea bags cast in cement, revealing bits of soft clothing and “arms” knitted from nautical rope reaching up from each bag, this installation represents the transformations new recruits experience upon entering the military and its contrasts to home life. The artist would like to add a public engagement element to the installation by knitting on tabletop looms or casting a small time capsule of sea bags with school groups.

**LOCATION:** Archways along the North Promenade

**UNVEILING:** October 4, 2019

As an artist and art teacher in San Diego County for more than 20 years, Montjoy has had solo shows at the Oceanside Museum of Art and Athenaeum Arts and Music Library, and she was an artist-in-residence at Art Produce Gallery. A recent Creative Catalyst Grant recipient, she will also have work on display at MCASD Downtown beginning this June. At a recent installation at the San Diego Airport, she created intricately knitted sculptural environments from graphic t-shirts, using large tabletop looms reminiscent of those used for traditional knitting projects.

*“I see my installation at Liberty Station as a conversation about the shifts of identity, location, and routine a recruit encounters when they enter the military, and the connection they have to their family, home, and previous life.” — Michelle Montjoy*

The program is overseen by the NTC Foundation's Art in Public Places Committee, dedicated to placing and commissioning significant and engaging visual art in ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station to attract visitors, engage artists, create a sense of place and provide insight into the historical and cultural essence of the site.

**The Art in Public Places Committee** consists of NTC Foundation board members Vicki Reed, Chair, Community Volunteer; Victoria Hamilton, Arts and Culture Advocate, Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation; and Judy McDonald, Community Volunteer. Other committee members are Richard Opper, former NTCF Board Chair; Lael Corbin, Artist and Professor, Point Loma Nazarene University; Perry Vazquez, Artist, Arts Faculty and Exhibition Coordinator at Southwestern College; Lynda Forsha, Independent Curator and Principal, Art Advisory Services; and Mary Keough Lyman, Community Volunteer. In addition, past NTCF Chair Phil Blair, Executive Officer/Owner, Manpower, participated on the review panel.

**Funding is provided by the NTC Foundation with additional support from the City of San Diego's Commission for Arts and Culture.** To learn more about the Foundation's *Installations at the Station* program, visit <https://ntcfoundation.org/art-in-public-places/>

#### **About the NTC Foundation & ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station**



*The NTC Foundation was established in 2000 as a 501(c)3 nonprofit foundation to enrich the lives of San Diegans by renovating 26 historic buildings at the former Naval Training Center to create, facilitate and operate a broad-based complex focused on experiencing the arts, culture, and creativity that are the hallmark of the San Diego region. The NTC Foundation has oversight of 26 buildings in the ARTS DISTRICT.*

[www.ntcfoundation.org](http://www.ntcfoundation.org)



**ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station** is San Diego's largest Arts & Cultural District located in historic buildings at the former Naval Training Center at Liberty Station near Downtown on San Diego Bay. With 100 park-like acres, the ARTS DISTRICT is home to nearly 1450 organizations and businesses, including museums and galleries, artist studios, dance companies, educational and multidisciplinary arts groups, fine restaurants, and creative retail, that showcase San Diego's creative community and provide innovative experiences for the public. [www.artsdistrictlibertystation.com](http://www.artsdistrictlibertystation.com)