

VAC Meeting May 17, 2023 - Explanatory Report for Kehinde Wiley/Treasure Island Motion

The Treasure Island Art Steering Committee wishes to engage artist Kehinde Wiley to create a site-specific proposal for a sculpture to be placed on Waterfront Plaza on Treasure Island. In accordance with the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Treasure Island Development Authority (TIDA) and the Arts Commission, the Arts Commission is managing the art program on TIDA's behalf. The artwork commissioned through the Treasure Island Art Program will belong to TIDA and will not be part of the Civic Art Collection.

Kehinde Wiley is perhaps best known for his portrait of President Barack Obama, however over the recent past, he has started to work in sculpture as well. His work is currently on view at the de Young Museum. Kehinde also attended the San Francisco Art Institute where he earned a BA. He will be paid an honorarium of \$10,000 for the proposal, a site visit, a preliminary interview with the Steering Committee and the subsequent presentation of his proposal.

Motion:

Motion to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Kehinde Wiley to develop a site specific proposal for a sculpture for Waterfront Plaza on Treasure Island for a total amount not to exceed \$10,000 which will cover all costs associated with the proposal, a site visit, a preliminary interview with the Treasure Island Art Steering Committee and the presentation of the proposal.

KEHINDE WILEY

Kehinde Wiley (b. 1977, Los Angeles US)

In 1999, Kehinde Wiley earned a BFA from the San Francisco Art Institute and an MFA from Yale University in 2001.

He is best known for creating heroic portraits of young African American men whom he encountered on the streets. In recent years, Wiley has begun to incorporate bronze sculpture into his practice. He has recently shown these sculpture at the Musee d'Orsay in Paris and de Young Museum in San Francisco in a duet with his paintings. His sculpture have also been publicly displayed in Times Square and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

In 2017, the National Portrait Gallery announced that Wiley and fellow visual artist Amy Sherald had been chosen to paint official portraits of former President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama. Wiley's portrait of President Barack Obama was unveiled in February 2018.

Wiley currently resides in New York and Beijing, China. In 2014, he founded Black Rock Senegal, a multi-disciplinary residency program for visual artists, writers, and filmmakers.

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