

Brandon Gustinell
1850 morton ave Los Angeles 90026

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1/27/23

Planning Department
City of Sebastopol
7120 Bodega Avenue
Sebastopol, CA 95472

Hello Members of the Public Arts Committee,

Letter of Interest - "Reflecting Sebastopol" Public Art Proposal

I am writing to express my keen interest in contributing to Sebastopol's vibrant cultural landscape with my proposed sculpture, "Reflecting Sebastopol." As a Los Angeles-based artist with a rich history of large-scale public installations, my work celebrates community identity and environmental consciousness.

My experience with the City of Sacramento—designing and installing permanent park installations, and conceptualizing a monumental 25-foot-tall by 50-foot-wide vinyl wrap mural—stands as a testament to my ability to lead specialized teams to fruition on groundbreaking public art projects. Notably, one of my creations holds the distinction of being the most extensive vinyl wrap installation in Northern California.

With "Reflecting Sebastopol," I aim to encapsulate the essence of local heritage and the collective ethos of environmental stewardship. This sculpture, featuring the lupine flower—Sebastopol's botanical treasure—encased in resilient polycarbonate, speaks to the need for preservation amidst our changing climate. It offers a lens into the fragile beauty of nature and a speculative glimpse into a future where such barriers may be necessary to safeguard our vanishing natural landscapes.

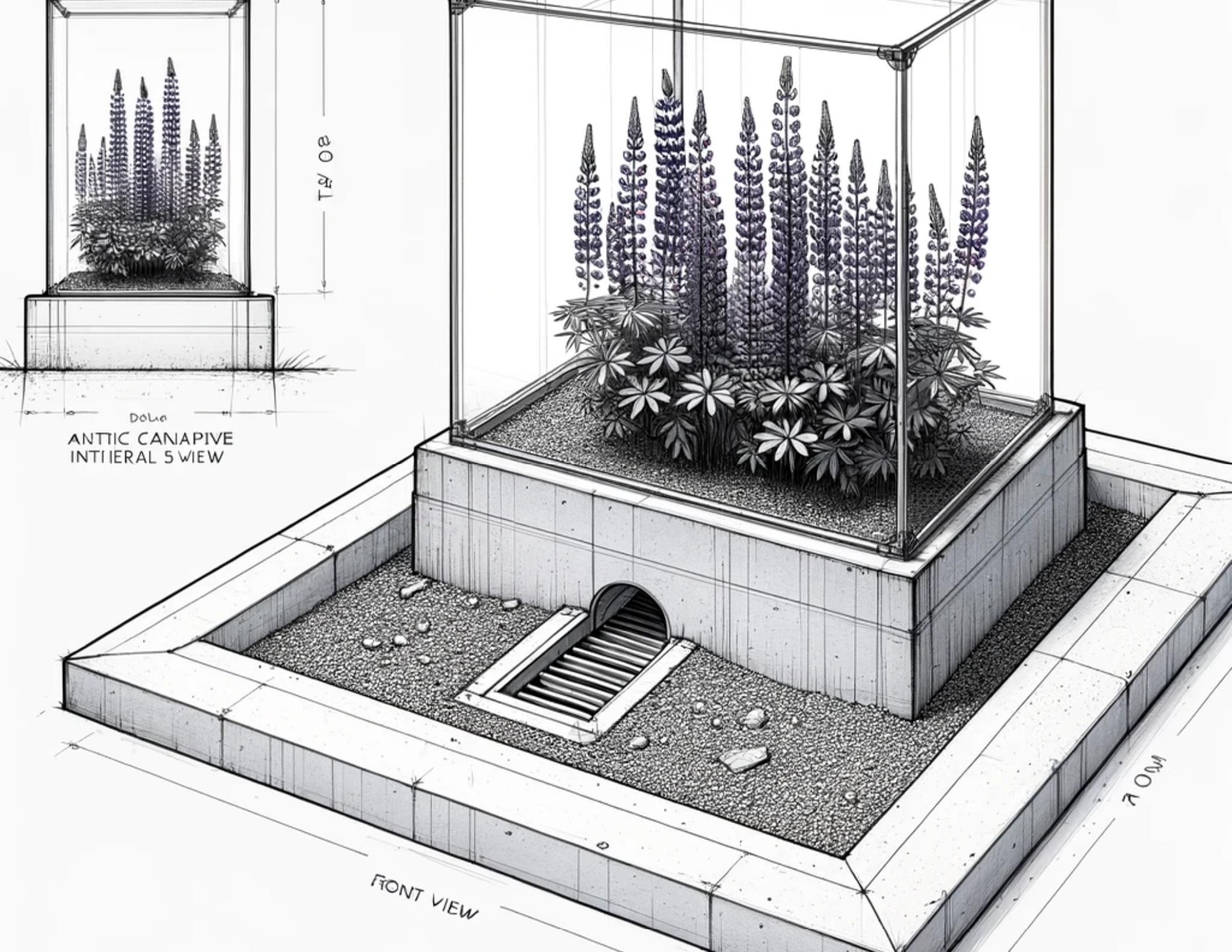
This new sculpture series dovetails with my ongoing exploration of climate change and its impact on our natural ecosystems. The work aims to underscore the delicate balance between conservation and the somber reality of a dystopian future, prompting a dialogue on the importance of proactive preservation.

I am drawn to the Joe Rodota Trail's rich history and the opportunity to create a site-specific design that honors Sebastopol's commitment to public art, beautification, and cultural engagement. My proposal aligns with the City's aspirations for durability, safety, and low maintenance, ensuring the artwork's longevity and relevance.

Thank you for considering my application. I am excited about the possibility of contributing to Sebastopol's cultural heritage and look forward to the opportunity to further discuss my proposal.

Warm regards,

Brandon Gustinell



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7.00

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FRONT VIEW

Art Description/Depiction (250 words):

"Reflecting Sebastopol," an 8-foot-tall public sculpture, harmonizes with the city's spirit through its use of polycarbonate—a material embodying resilience and clarity. Inside, artificial lupine flowers, Sebastopol's floral emblem, reach upward, encapsulating the community's growth and natural splendor. This robust material is chosen for its high impact resistance and UV stability, ensuring the artwork's longevity and safety. The sculpture is set upon a concrete base engineered with a subtle incline towards a central point for drainage, demonstrating our commitment to sustainability and public safety. This design adheres to ADA standards, preventing any trip hazards while maintaining an attractive visual presence in the public space.

Timeline for Fabrication and Installation:

- Design Finalization: 2 weeks
- Material Procurement: 4 weeks
- Fabrication of Components: 6 weeks
- Base Construction and Drainage: 3 weeks
- Assembly and Finishing: 2 weeks
- Transportation and Installation: 1 week
- Final Inspection: 1 week
- Total: 19 weeks

Detailed Budget:

- Polycarbonate Material: \$5,000
- Artificial Lupine Flowers: \$2,000
- Concrete for Base: \$1,500
- Drainage System: \$500
- Fabrication Labor: \$3,000
- Design and Engineering: \$2,000
- Transportation and Installation: \$3,000
- Waterproofing and Sealant: \$500
- Contingency (10%): \$1,800
- Total Estimated Cost: \$19,300

Mathematical Size Breakdown:

- Polycarbonate Enclosure: 8 ft (height) x 4 ft (width) x 4 ft (depth)
- Concrete Base: 1 ft (height) x 4.5 ft (width) x 4.5 ft (depth)
- Drainage Grate: 1 ft x 2 ft
- PVC Pipe: 4 in (diameter)

BRANDON GASTINELL

| Email: [REDACTED] | Portfolio: Brandongastinell.com |



[View my complete portfolio at Brandongastinell.com](http://Brandongastinell.com)

Artist Biography

Brandon Gastinell is a Los Angeles-based artist specializing in large-scale oil pastel works on canvas and paper. Inspired by the vibrant colors and bold strokes of impressionism, his art explores the beauty and power of the human form through a unique lens. Brandon's passion for large-scale, colorful works is evident in his dynamic compositions, which showcase his extraordinary talent for capturing movement and emotion.

Originally a digital artist, Brandon transitioned to oil pastels and drawing, finding that this medium allowed him to better express his artistic vision. His current collection, centered around the captivating world of ballet, pays homage to the grace and athleticism of black male ballerinas—an underrepresented group in the ballet community. By portraying these dancers in striking, impressionistic-inspired pieces, Brandon challenges conventional notions of beauty and celebrates the resilience and talent of his subjects.

Brandon's work has gained significant recognition, and his ballet collection is currently set for auction at the prestigious Crocker Art Museum. He lives and works in Los Angeles, where he maintains a dedicated studio space in the thriving Arts District. The city's rich cultural landscape serves as a constant source of inspiration for the artist, informing his creative process and fueling his passion for large-scale, colorful art.

Through his extraordinary oil pastel creations, Brandon Gastinell continues to push the boundaries of contemporary art, inviting viewers to engage with his work on a deeper, more personal level. As he breaks new ground in the art world, his vivid and captivating pieces are sure to leave a lasting impression on all who encounter them.

Artist Statement

My name is Brandon Gastinell, a passionate and dedicated artist living and working in Los Angeles. From my vibrant art studio, I create large-scale, evocative oil pastel works that explore the world of ballet, with an emphasis on black male ballerinas and a unique fusion of impressionist and contemporary influences.

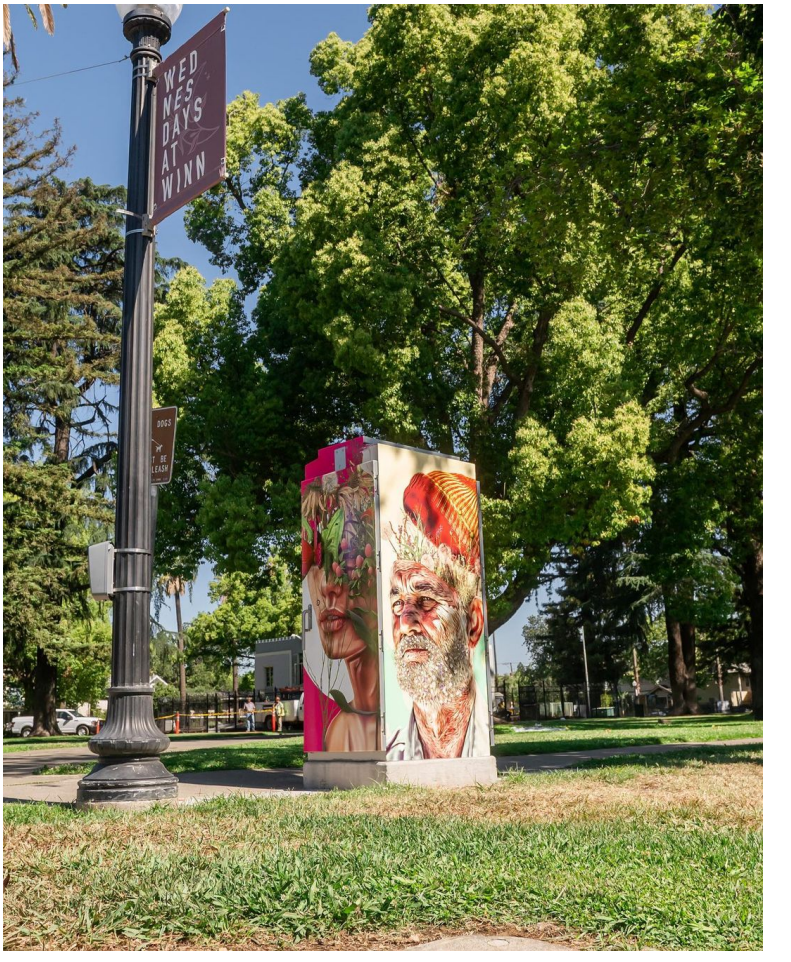
In my latest collection, I focus on the beauty of imperfection and the human form's nuances through the lens of ballet. By portraying black male ballerinas—an underrepresented group in the ballet world—I aim to challenge conventional notions of beauty and grace, while also highlighting the resilience and talent of these dancers. My ballerinas are depicted with a raw, unapologetic energy, celebrating their individuality and the authenticity of their movement.

Drawing inspiration from the early impressionist artists, I use a rich and dynamic color palette that reflects the vibrancy of the human spirit. My technique incorporates bold, expressive strokes, which allow me to capture the essence of the dancers' movement and emotions. The result is a collection that is both visually stunning and deeply personal, with each piece telling a unique story of strength, passion, and dedication.

In addition to the influence of impressionism, my work is also informed by the artistic vision of George Condo. Condo's exploration of the human psyche and his ability to challenge societal norms resonate with my own aspirations as an artist. This shared desire to push boundaries has inspired the overarching theme of my collection, as I delve into the world of ballet from a fresh and unconventional perspective.

My intention with this collection is not only to create visually captivating art but also to spark important conversations about representation, diversity, and the power of challenging traditional norms. I am eager to collaborate with galleries, shows, and representatives who share my vision and are excited about presenting groundbreaking work that resonates with a diverse audience.

In conclusion, my art is an expression of my passion for the human spirit and my commitment to amplifying underrepresented voices. By showcasing the elegance and strength of black male ballerinas, I aim to inspire a new generation of artists and dancers who will continue to break down barriers and redefine the art world's boundaries. I invite you to join me on this journey as we celebrate the transformative power of art and the resilience of the human spirit.



The City

Wide Open Walls gets set to paint the town in 2020

August 6, 2020 / BY LEILANI MARIE LABONG



Mural rendering by Brandon Gastinell

A mural depicting Andy Warhol, Frida Kahlo and Jean-Michel Basquiat by first-time Wide Open Walls artist Brandon Gastinell

