

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 17, 2008

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER *J*

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF THE ALEXANDRIA COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS RECOMMENDATION ON A SCULPTURE BY JOHN VAN ALSTINE PRESENTED AS A GIFT TO THE CITY BY THE ALEXANDRIA SCULPTURE FESTIVAL

ISSUE: Consideration of the Alexandria Commission for the Arts recommendation on a sculpture by John Van Alstine presented as a gift to the City by the Alexandria Sculpture Festival.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council approve the recommendation of the Alexandria Commission of the Arts on a sculpture by John Van Alstine presented as a gift to the City by the Alexandria Sculpture Festival. If necessary approvals are obtained, the work would be displayed in the plaza at the southwest corner of South Fayette and King Streets in a manner that meets the conditions set forth by the donor. (The Commission's report will be presented to Council on January 22. They meet to discuss this proposal on January 21.)

BACKGROUND: In the mid 1980s the Alexandria Sculpture Festival Committee (composed of citizen and arts representatives) sponsored two sculpture festivals. The first year there was an indoor festival at the former Vosbeck building in North Old Town. The second year there was an outdoor sculpture festival in City waterfront parks. The Alexandria Sculpture Festival, which is a nonprofit organization which is being phased out, has offered to donate a piece of sculpture by artist John Van Alstine entitled "Sacandaga Totem" to the City of Alexandria. The sculpture "Sacandaga Totem" is a rough cut granite obelisk with four heavy steel fins bolted at the base and welded to a steel plate (Attachment 1). The sculpture measurements are 113" height x 66" width x 43" diameter and weighs between 2,000 and 5,000 pounds.

The Alexandria Sculpture Festival has placed the following conditions for the gift: that City Council accept the sculpture by January 31, 2008; that the sculpture be placed on a three-foot pedestal with appropriate up-lighting; and that the sculpture be placed in the plaza at the southwest corner of King and Fayette Streets (Attachment 2).

The acceptance of art as a donation to the City of Alexandria falls under the City's existing "Policy on Acquired Art." The Policy requires the Alexandria Commission for the Arts through its Public Art Committee, to study any materials presented by the donor; assess the design; consider installation and maintenance issues associated with the proposed gift; and make a

recommendation to City Council. Upon receipt of the Alexandria Sculpture Festival's letter of interest, the Commission referred the application and supporting documents to their Public Art Committee for review.

The Policy also requires the Commission to solicit comments from the public by displaying information of the prospective gift for a minimum of two weeks. Photographs of the sculpture along with the artist's resume were put on display at the in the Durant Center Gallery, 1605 Cameron Street from January 7 through January 20, 2008; a press release posted about the sculpture has been posted on the City's website with a link to images of the sculpture posted on the artist's website: http://johnvanalstine.com/docs/garden/grounds_01/lg_img_gar_sacTotm.htm The public comments which have been received are included in Attachment 3.

The Alexandria Commission for the Arts will consider the application, supporting documents, and public comments on January 21, 2008 and present its findings and a recommendation for Council to consider at the legislative meeting on January 22, 2008.

DISCUSSION: The gift of the Van Alstine sculpture is offered to the City with several conditions; first and foremost, a deadline of January 31, 2008, to decide whether or not to accept this gift from the Alexandria Sculpture Festival. In order to provide adequate time for public comment, in accordance with City's "Policy on Acquired Art" the Alexandria Commission for the Arts must present its recommendation to City Council at the January 22, 2008, Council Meeting and ask the Council to approve the recommendation at that time.

If Council accepts the sculpture the City must agree that it will be sited and displayed in accordance with the conditions set forth by the Alexandria Sculpture Festival. The Department of Transportation and Environmental Services has indicated that the final location of the sculpture at the proposed site must take into consideration existing underground utilities. The conditions also require that the City design and construct a suitable pedestal on which to place the sculpture and to install appropriate lighting to illuminate the sculpture. Furthermore, the City would pay for the relocation of the sculpture from its present location in New York to the site in Alexandria. Plans for the pedestal and lighting also must be sent to the Old and Historic District Board of Architectural Review for approval.

The City would also assume the cost for on going maintenance and the annual cost for electricity to light the sculpture.

"Sacandaga Totem" would be a valuable addition of a sculpture by a prominent artist to the City's arts inventory. While all of the details have not been worked out, we want Council to have the opportunity to consider this generous offer. Another Van Alstine sculpture is located on Wisconsin Avenue near Old Georgetown Road, and the artist has been commissioned to design and fabricate a piece for the Beijing Olympics (Attachment 4).

FISCAL IMPACT: The estimated value of a typical John Van Alstine sculpture of this type ranges from \$60,000 to \$90,000. Estimated costs for the design and construction of the pedestal and installation of the lighting are between \$10,000 and \$12,000. The preliminary estimated cost to relocate the sculpture to Alexandria from New York is \$4,000. Electricity and maintenance costs are estimated to be approximately \$1,500 per year. Sources for these funds have not been

identified yet, and will be discussed by the Alexandria Commission for the Arts and staff. We will need to work on a fundraising effort to help offset these costs.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1. Photographs of images of “Sacandaga Totem” sculpture by John Van Alstine

Attachment 2. Proposed location for placement of John Van Alstine sculpture

Attachment 3. Comments received from Citizens during public review period (as of January 16, 2008)

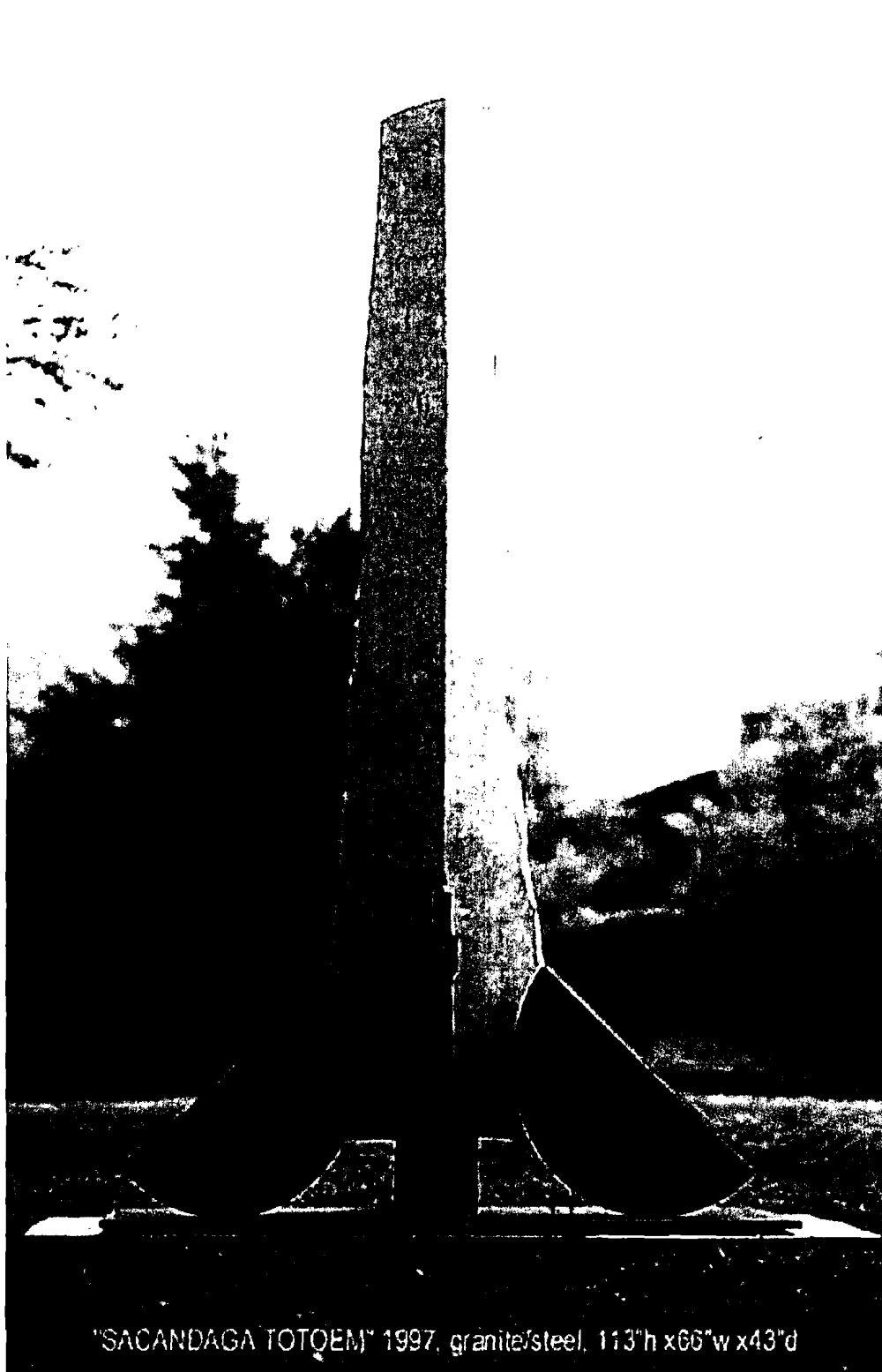
Attachment 4. John Van Altine resume

STAFF:

Kirk Kincannon, Director, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

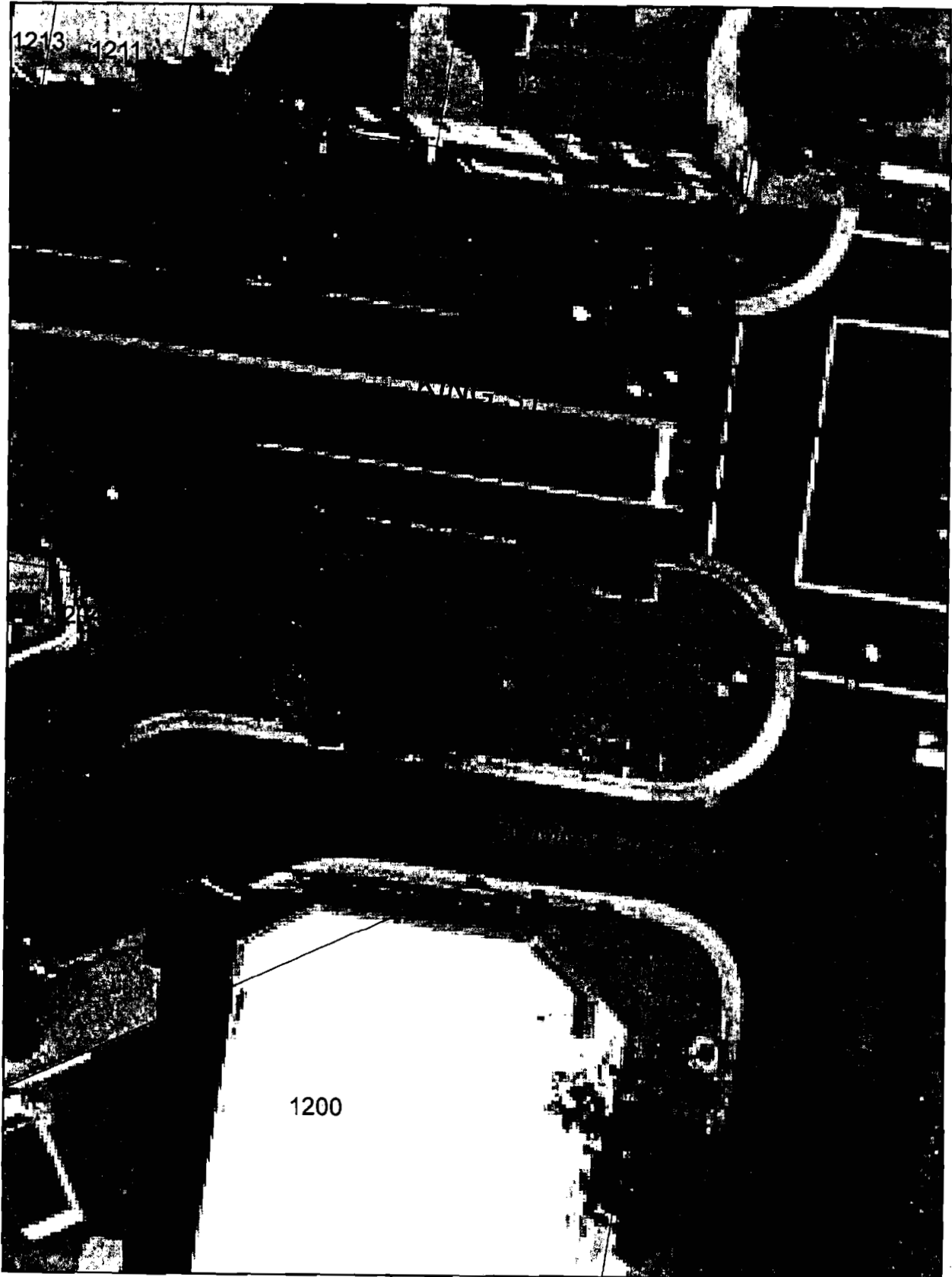
Cheryl Anne Colton, Cultural Arts Administrator, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

Michele Evans, Deputy City Manager



"SACANDAGA TOTEM" 1997, granite/steel, 113"h x66"w x43"d

PROPOSED SITE





"Homa Azarani"
<hazarani@gmail.com>
01/16/2008 06:27 PM

To <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>
cc
bcc

Subject Comment On Van Alstine Sculpture Donation

Ms. Colton,

I am emailing regarding the Van Alstine Sculpture that is being donated. I think it is a beautiful piece that evokes thought and emotion. It would be a great addition to the City of Alexandria and I fully support it.

Sincerely,
Homa Azarani



<FERDON@aol.com>

01/12/2008 05:16 PM

To <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>

cc

bcc

Subject SCULPTURE

I must have missed something Where is this sculpture intended to be displayed? It is certainly impressive. Will it be part of a permanent project? How will it be funded?

Doris Mela


Start the year off right. Easy ways to stay in shape in the new year. .



"Pollak, Cary (OAG)"
<cary.pollak@dc.gov>
01/16/2008 12:56 AM

To <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>
cc
bcc

Subject FW: sculpture donation

History:  This message has been forwarded.

From: Pollak, Cary (OAG)
Sent: Tue 1/15/2008 3:18 PM
To: 'cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov'
Subject: sculpture donation

I am writing to encourage City Council approval for accepting the gift from the Alexandria Sculpture Festival of the Van Alstine sculpture. I have been a home owner in the historic district for over 20 years, and fervently believe in preserving the traditional character of Old Town and the rest of Alexandria. At the same time, as is the case in much of the U.S. and Europe, it is fitting that modern artifacts be part of the visible mix in cities that are rich in history. The "Sacandaga Totem" is an impressive piece from a fine sculptor and would be a good addition to the city's art.

Years ago, I made a presentation to the City Council on behalf of a friend who was a merchant on King Street in Old Town. He had displayed African totems in front of his store, that were typical of the exotic imports inside. The sidewalk display was challenged as not being in keeping with the colonial ambiance of Old Town. Our position lost by one vote, but one member made the point that even in colonial times, Alexandria was a port city where goods and art of all types from around the world were on display. Acceptance of this modern, striking "totem" would help to keep that tradition alive.


Cary Pollak



"Bob, Sharon"
<Sharon.Bob@ppsv.com>
01/15/2008 11:31 PM

To <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>
cc
bcc

Subject Van Alstine Sculpture

History:  This message has been forwarded.

We the public have been asked to comment on the proposed Alexandria Sculpture Festival's donation of a sculpture by John Van Alstine. My initial comment is fantastic. I moved to Old Town from Montgomery County where public art and contemporary art are intricate components of any new development in the county. I have seen are all contemporary pieces. Interestingly enough, John Van Alstine's sculpture is found prominently located on Wisconsin Avenue near Old Georgetown Road. I was surprised to find nothing in the way of contemporary art on display in Alexandria.

I have seen many of Van Alstine's pieces and they are extraordinary. I understand that he has been commissioned to design and fabricate a work for the Beijing Olympics. Alexandria would be very fortunate to have one of his sculptures displayed in Old Town.

I applaud the wisdom of the current administration's acceptance of this beautiful work and I hope that this work will be prominently located for all residents and tourists to view.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.


Sharon Bob



rhodacg@cgsinc.com
01/15/2008 04:45 PM

To cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov
cc
bcc

Subject Email from the www.AlexandriaCommissionForTheArts.org
website

History:  This message has been forwarded.

I saw the Van Alstine sculpture on the website and was thrilled to see that Alexandria has the opportunity to accept a dynamic contemporary sculpture by such a highly regarded sculptor.

Rhoda Cahan



Kathryn Huettner
<thehuettners@comcast.net>


To <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>

cc

01/12/2008 03:29 PM

bcc

Subject sculpture

History:  This message has been replied to.

Dear Ms. Colton,

I support city acceptance of John Van Alstine's sculpture. Good public spaces and the art that is contained in them bring out the best in people. If you make a place beautiful and interesting people 's lives are enhanced. Chicago has many pieces of sculpture along the waterfront and it is a walk that is always new with discovery and thought.

Thank you,


Kathryn Huettner
218 South Fayette Street



"CLIFFORD MARTIN"
<clpmartin@cox.net>
01/12/2008 01:26 PM

To <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>
cc
bcc

Subject Email from the www.AlexandriaCommissionForTheArts.org
website

History:  This message has been replied to.

I am delighted see that you are considering and should urge the city to
accept the Van Alstine sculpture.


Cliff Martin



"Kathlin Argiro"
<kat@kathlinargiro.com>
01/12/2008 12:11 PM

To <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>
cc
bcc

Subject Comments on the Van Alstine Sculpture Donation

History:  This message has been replied to.

I noticed the John Van Alstine sculpture on your website and encourage the city of Alexandria to accept this contemporary sculpture. Contemporary sculpture in Alexandria is sadly lacking and perhaps this will be the beginning of new era.

Kathlin Argiro


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Kathlin Argiro
265 W. 37th St., Suite 703
New York, NY 10018
P) 212 268 8774
F) 222 947 9188
www.KATHLINARGIRO.COM



<ARLHEWITT@aol.com>
01/11/2008 09:09 PM

To <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject sculpture

History:  This message has been replied to.

Hi Cherylanne,
Not seeing the actual sculpture or the display at the Durant Center I am at a disadvantage. From the pictures on the internet I have to say that I do not care for this piece of art. There is a lack of warmth and beauty and grace to it.
Arlene

Start the year off right. [Easy ways to stay in shape](#) in the new year.



cbwoodrow@comcast.net
01/11/2008 03:29 PM

To cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov
cc
bcc

Subject Van Alstine sculpture

History:  This message has been forwarded.

I vote no on accepting this gift. It looks like someone's bad interpretation of the Washington Monument. It makes no sense to have it in Alexandria, especially with the spectacular original just across the river. If, however, I am missing something and the Arts Commission recommends accepting the gift, and for political reasons City Council agrees, then the City needs to be careful where it is put - preferably a large park in one of the new developments. The Hat provides enough jokes for all of Old Town.

Sincerely,


Cicely Woodrow
904 West Braddock Road



Vincent Argiro
<vincarg@comcast.net>
01/10/2008 07:27 PM

To <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>
cc
bcc

Subject John Van Alstine Sculpture

History:  This message has been forwarded.

For the City of Alexandria to have a Sculpture of such a renowned artist as John Van Alstine placed in our city is quite a coup. In reality, as along time (thirty-five years) property owner here it is refreshing to see that the Alexandria will finally have a spectacular sculptor within our environs. I enthusiastically support this effort by the Alexandria Commission for the Arts for bringing this breath of fresh air to our community. We will be ever grateful to them for this. It will make us proud for along time.
Thank you for this outstanding decision.


Vincent Argiro
Captain, US Navy (retired)
801- North Pitt Street
Alexandria, VA 22314



"Flo Frey"
<ffrey@freysheer.com>
01/10/2008 05:17 PM

To <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>
cc
bcc

Subject Comments on the Van Alstine Sculpture Donation

History:  This message has been forwarded.

We think it is a great idea and certainly adds to the beauty of the city.

*Flo and Alan Frey
411 South Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-684-6847*



"Douglass, David"
<david.douglass@etrade.com
>


01/10/2008 04:28 PM

To <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>

cc

bcc

Subject Comments on the Van Alstine Sculpture Donation

History:  This message has been forwarded.

Dear Cherylanne Colton,

I am writing in support of the proposed Alexandria Sculpture Festival donation of the steel and granite sculpture by John Van Alstine.

I think it is a great play on the obelisk form. And if DC can have one (Washington Monument), then we should have one, too.

The Sacandaga Totem would be a bold, wonderful addition to the public art in Alexandria.

David Douglass
114 W. Monroe Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22301

David Douglass

Email: ddouglas_1997@yahoo.com

703-836-6120 (H)

703-236-8826 (O)

703-395-4101 (C)



<donnalewisclothier@verizon
.net>


01/09/2008 05:09 PM

To <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>

cc

bcc

Subject Email from the www.AlexandriaCommissionForTheArts.org
website

History:  This message has been forwarded.

I love the contemporary sculpture that is strong and dynamic. At last the 21st century has arrived in Old Town.

Chris Lewis
Donna Lewis L. C.



Carrie Severino
<ancilla_domini@hotmail.com>

01/08/2008 06:42 PM


To <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>

cc

bcc

Subject Van Alstine Sculpture

History:

 This message has been replied to.

Ms. Colton,

I am an Alexandria resident writing to offer comments on the Van Alstine sculpture donation. I have viewed a photo of the sculpture and find it to be profoundly ugly. I do not think it would be a positive addition to the City art/architecture. While some of Van Alstine's sculptures at least hint at concepts of beauty, this one to me is quite brutal and harsh and not in keeping with the image I believe Alexandria wants to portray of its city: a historical, cultured, and lovely place to live and visit. The rusty metal of the sculpture and large metal bolt in particular seem more fitting for an industrial complex than Alexandria. I hope that you will not choose to display the sculpture in Alexandria.

Sincerely,

Carrie Severino

Watch "Cause Effect," a show about real people making a real difference. [Learn more](#)



"Trey Hanbury"
<trey.hanbury@gmail.com>
01/07/2008 07:24 PM

To <upperkingstreet@yahoogroups.com>
cc <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>
bcc
Subject Fwd: Fw: News Release - City of Alexandria to Hold an
Exhibition to Receive Public Comment on Van Alstine
Sculpture Donation

History: This message has been forwarded.

The city is seeking comments on a sculpture that an artist would donate for an Alexandria sculpture festival. Comments can be written in guest book at the Durant Center or by emailing the city staff person copied here. The city not-so-helpfully excludes any photos of the work and says you have to troop over to the Durant Center to look at the thing or even to read the guy's resume. Maybe there were copyright issues?) Anyhow, I found a few pictures of the sculpture and a bio of the artist on the web, which makes it easier. Here are the pictures:
http://www.johnvanalstine.com/docs/garden/grounds_01/lg_img_gar_sacTotm.htm. The artist also has a long and impressive resume, available here:
<http://www.johnvanalstine.com/docs/book/bookessay.html>.

Even though the sculpture does nothing for me personally, I'm broadly supportive of a sculpture festival that would come and go, as long as there are no huge capital outlays required from the city. What do you all think? The city doesn't say so, but given that they are taking comments in a guest book at the Durant Center, my guess is that they would have the sculpture festival at this end of King Street. Feel free to chime in to the chain or write the city directly. Thanks.

Trey

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <Jack.Browand@alexandriava.gov>
Date: Jan 7, 2008 6:41 PM
Subject: Fw: News Release - City of Alexandria to Hold an Exhibition to Receive Public Comment on Van Alstine Sculpture Donation
To: undisclosed-recipients

Jack Browand, Division Chief - Arts, Marketing & Special Services
City of Alexandria - Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities
1108 Jefferson Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703.838.5095, ext. 273
jack.browand@alexandriava.gov



"Porter-Gruel, Beatrice A. D."
<BEATRICE.A.D.PORTER-G
RUEL@saic.com>

01/08/2008 08:59 AM

To <upperkingstreet@yahoogroups.com>,
<upperkingstreet@yahoogroups.com>
cc <cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov>

bcc

Subject RE: [upperkingstreet] Fwd: Fw: News Release - City of
Alexandria to Hold an Exhibition to Receive Public Comment
on Van Alstine Sculpture Donation

History: This message has been forwarded.

Thank you for sharing the pictures, that thing is atrocious. No wonder the guy wants to donate it, I would not want it in my backyard either! I don't mind a sculpture festival, but please don't leave anything that looks like that here. Its enough we have the "hat." Bea Porter

From:

sentto-14324933-1058-1199751889-BEATRICE.A.D.PORTER-GRUEL=saic.com@returns.groups.yahoo.com
on behalf of Trey Hanbury

Sent: Mon 1/7/2008 7:24 PM

To: upperkingstreet@yahoogroups.com

Cc: cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov

Subject: [upperkingstreet] Fwd: Fw: News Release - City of Alexandria to Hold an Exhibition to Receive
Public Comment on Van Alstine Sculpture Donation

The city is seeking comments on a sculpture that an artist would donate for an Alexandria sculpture festival. Comments can be written in guest book at the Durant Center or by emailing the city staff person copied here. The city not-so-helpfully excludes any photos of the work and says you have to troop over to the Durant Center to look at the thing or even to read the guy's resume. Maybe there were copyright issues?) Anyhow, I found a few pictures of the sculpture and a bio of the artist on the web, which makes it easier. Here are the pictures:

http://www.johnvanalstine.com/docs/garden/grounds_01/lg_img_gar_sacTotm.htm. The artist also has a long and impressive resume, available here:

<http://www.johnvanalstine.com/docs/book/bookessay.html>.

Even though the sculpture does nothing for me personally, I'm broadly supportive of a sculpture festival that would come and go, as long as there are no huge capital outlays required from the city. What do you all think? The city doesn't say so, but given that they are taking comments in a guest book at the Durant Center, my guess is that they would have the sculpture festival at this end of King Street. Feel free to chime in to the chain or write the city directly. Thanks.

Trey

----- Forwarded message -----

JOHN VAN ALSTINE

P.O. Box 526
Wells, New York 12190

john@johnvanalstine.com
Tel & Fax: 518-924-9204

www.johnvanalstine.com
cell: 518-774-6641

EDUCATION

CORNELL UNIVERSITY, Ithaca, New York; Cornell Graduate Fellowship in Sculpture; M.F.A. August 1976
KENT STATE UNIVERSITY, Kent, Ohio; graduated cum laude, 1974, with B.F.A. degree in Sculpture, Ceramics and Glass
BLOSSOM FESTIVAL SCHOOL, Cleveland-Kent, Ohio, 1973; full scholarship in sculpture; worked with Richard Stankiewicz and Richard Hunt
ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY, Canton, New York; attended 1970-71

AWARDS, GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS

2005 GOTTLIEB FOUNDATION, Individual Artist Grant
2002 POLLOCK-KRASNER Foundation Grant
1996 RESIDENT FELLOWSHIP, Casting Institute, Art Department, SUNY at Buffalo, NY
1994 DEVELOPMENT GRANT - New York State Artists, Empire State Artists Alliance
1988 NEW JERSEY COUNCIL ON THE ARTS, Individual Artist Fellowship,
1986 NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS, Individual Artist fellowship SCULPTURE
1985 YADDO FELLOWSHIP, Saratoga Springs, New York, July/August
1984 NEW JERSEY COUNCIL ON THE ARTS, Individual Artists Fellowship
1983 CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS AWARD, University of Maryland
1981 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COMMISSION ON THE ARTS -- Individual Artist Fellowship
CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS AWARD, University of Maryland
1980 LOUIS C. TIFFANY FOUNDATION INDIVIDUAL ARTIST FELLOWSHIP -- Jurors: Suzanne Delehanty, Dimitri Hadzi, Lee Hall, and Marcia Tucker
INDIVIDUAL ARTIST FELLOWSHIP (photography), Wyoming Council on the Arts
1979 Grants-in-aid, University of Wyoming, for work and study at Italy (Pietrasanta) Summer 1979
1978 Finalist for 1978-79 ROME PRIZE FELLOWSHIP IN SCULPTURE
1974-5 CORNELL GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP IN SCULPTURE
1973 BLOSSOM FESTIVAL SCHOOL OF ART, Full Scholarship in Sculpture, Kent-Cleveland, Ohio

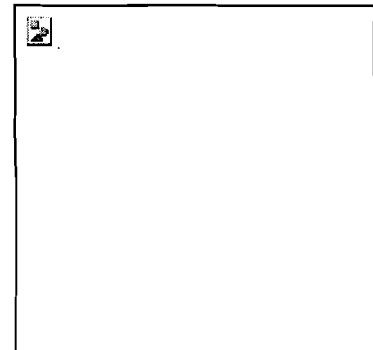
PUBLIC COLLECTIONS (SELECTED)

BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART, Baltimore, MD
BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART, University of Texas at Austin
CARNEGIE INSTITUTE OF ART, Pittsburgh, PA
CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART, Washington, DC
DAYTON ART INSTITUTE, Dayton, OH
DALLAS MUSEUM OF ART, Dallas, TX
DELAWARE MUSEUM OF ART, Wilmington, DE
DENVER ART MUSEUM, Gift of List Foundation, NYC
MR. & MRS. ROBERT LEVI FOUNDATION, Baltimore, MD
HIRSHHORN MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GARDEN, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC
THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, HOUSTON, Houston, TX
HERBERT F. JOHNSON MUSEUM OF ART, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC
FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD, Washington, DC
NEWARK MUSEUM OF ART, Newark, NY
MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, GULBENKIAN FOUNDATION, Lisbon, Portugal
PHOENIX ART MUSEUM, Phoenix, AZ
THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION, Washington, DC
U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT, Art in Embassies / Bolivian Embassy, Washington, DC

RECENT HARDCOVER BOOK RELEASE

"Bones of the Earth, Spirit of the Land: The Sculpture of JOHN VAN ALSTINE", Essay by Nick Capasso,
interview by Glenn Harper, published by Editions ARIEL,
an imprint of Grayson Publishing, hardcover-96pages, release spring 2000

INTERNATIONAL STONE SCULPTURE SYMPOSIUM Kettering OH. United States



representative. Other artists from Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico and Spain, September 2002

LARGE SCALE OUTDOOR SCULPTURAL COMMISSIONS

STATE UNIVERSITY OF INDIANA, Terre Haute, in progress, 2004-5
 9/11 MEMORIAL - Kettering, OH. Build in conjunction with the Kettering International Stone Sculpt Symposium, 2002
 NJ TRANSIT AUTHORITY - Light Rail Station, Hoboken, NJ, 2002-3
 DULLES TRADE CENTER - for Buchanan Partners Inc. Washington, DC 2002
 REED MEMORIAL, Harleysville, PA. 11foot granite and bronze monument with solstice calendar 2002
 JERSEY CITY STATE COLLEGE, funded by New Jersey State Council on the Arts. 1994
 ARTERY PLAZA HEADQUARTERS, Bethesda, MD, for the Artery Organization Inc. 1993
 18' bronze and granite. Solstice Calendar.
 DEMOCRACY PLAZA, Washington, D.C., for the Artery Organization Inc., 1988-89
 INSTITUTE FOR DEFENSE ANALYZES, Super Computing Research Ctr., Washington, D.C., 1988-89
 AUSTIN COLLEGE, Sherman, TX. Funded in part by the Texas Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts
 OUTDOOR PUBLIC SCULPTURE, Billings, MT. Funded by American Linen Co.,
 Burlington Northern Railroad, Ravenhust Corp., First Northwestern National Bank.
 OUTDOOR SCULPTURE -- LUCK STONE CORPORATION, Richmond, VA, 1983



SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTED)

NOHRA HAIME GALLERY, New York City, 2004, 2000, 1998, 1996, 1994, 1991, 1990, 1988
 HYDE COLLECTION ART MUSEUM, "CONFLUENCE" Glens Falls, NY, Jan-April 1999
 GRIMALDIS GALLERY, Baltimore, 2000, 1999, 1997, 1995, 1992, 1984
 WOOD STREET GALLERY and SCULPTURE GARDEN, Chicago, 1999
 STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, PLATTSBURGH, ART MUSEUM, "Acknowledging the Figure" 1998
 DeCORDOVA MUSEUM, Lincoln, Mass. "Vessels and Voyages", June 1996-June 1997
 KENDALL CAMPUS ART GALLERY, Miami-Dade Com. Collage, Miami, Fl, October 1997
 DARTMOUTH COLLEGE, Studio Art Exhibition Program, Sept.- Nov. 1995
 UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, Paul Creative Arts Center, Durham, NH, Oct.-Dec. 1994
 TROYER FITZPATRICK LASSMAN GALLERY, Washington, DC, Sept -Oct. 1994
 CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY, Art Gallery, Cleveland, OH, April 1994
 SUN VALLEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS, Sun Valley, Idaho, February 1993
 SONSBECK INTERNATIONAL ART CENTER, Arnhem, The Netherlands, Sept.-Nov. 1991
 NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, Washington, D.C., "Documents" (drawings and related documents produced in conjunction with large scale site-specific solstice projects), Jan.-Mar., 1991
 MORRIS MUSEUM, Morristown, NJ, "New Jersey Artist Series," January/March, 1991
 GERALD PETERS GALLERY, Santa Fe, NM, 1991, 1989
 FRANZ BADER GALLERY, Washington, D.C., "New Work/Raw Space," special exhibition in conjunction with the international Sculpture Conference, 1990
 PHILLIPS COLLECTION, Washington, D.C., April-June, 1987

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITION

2005 GALLERY PRISMA, Südtiroler Künstlerbund Bozen, Südtirol - Italy "Exposition Transfer" Oct.-Nov. catalog
 ARNOT MUSEUM, Elmira, NY, "Re-present in Representation VII", Sept.-Nov.
 GERALD PETERS GALLERY, Santa Fe NM
 GRIMALDIS GALLERY, Baltimore
 2004 GROUNDS FOR SCULPTURE, Hamilton, NJ, "New Additions Outdoors - Spring Summer 2004"
 SUMMER '04, C. Grimaldis Gallery, Baltimore MD
 2003 9-19-03, 2 person show with painter Chuck Olson, JAMES GALLERY, Pittsburgh

- SCULPTURE INTERNATIONALE 2002, Cobb Galleria Center, Atlanta, October
- 2002 AVC CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY, NYC, *From Nature*, May 6 - June 7
 NOHRA HAIME GALLERY, NYC, *From Stone to Foam*, Feb19-April 6,
 BUSHLENMOWATT GALLERY, Palm Desert, CA
- 2001 EARTHLINE / LANDSCAPE, The Gallery of So. Orange, NJ, curated by Brooke Barrie, curator /director,
 Grounds for Sculpture and Meg Leipzig
 GROUNDS FOR SCULPTURE, Spring Invitational Exhibition, Curated by Brooke Barrie, Hamilton, NJ
- 2000 INTERNATIONAL SCULPTURE CENTER -COLLECTION III, at SCULPTURE 2000 conference, Robert
 McClain & Co Gallery, Houston, TX, June2000
 BIRTH, 57 "N" Street Fine Arts Gallery, Washington, DC
- 1999 INTO BALANCE, Outdoor sculpture exhibition, Washington, DC
 HISTORY AND HIGHLIGHTS: The Art Gallery's Collection, University of New Hampshire, Durham
 INDOOR/OUTDOOR SCULPTURE, Nohra Haime Gallery, NYC, June-July
 PORTALS, Outdoor public sculpture exhibition, curated Sarah Tanguy, Washington, DC
 PIERWALK 99, International outdoor sculpture exhibition, Chicago Navy Pier, May-October
 EQUILIBRIUM OF THE SENSES, Nohra Haime Gallery, NYC, Jan-Feb.
 MAQUETTE EXHIBITION - Pierwalk '99, international sculpture exhibition, Vedanta Gallery, Chicago, Jan.-Feb.
 10 by 10, Addison / Ripley Gallery, Washington, DC, Jan.-Feb.
 SMALL SCULPTURE, Grimaldis Gallery, Baltimore, Jan.-Feb.
- 1998 ANNMARIE GARDENS, "New Stone and Steel Sculpture, Solomons, MD
 GRIMALDIS GALLERY, *SUMMER 98* - Elaine DeKooning, Hartigan, Kenndrick, Ruckriem, Ruppert, Serra, Van
 Alstine and more, Baltimore MD
 PIERWALK 98, International outdoor sculpture exhibition, Chicago Navy Pier, May-October
 WOOD STREET GALLERY, Maquette Exhibition - Pier Walk '98, Chicago, January - March.
- 1997 HIRSHHORN MUSEUM, "The Hirshhorn Collects: Recent Acquisitions 1993-96", Washington, DC
 FIAC, "Drawings", Nohra Haime Gallery, Paris, France, October
 SOCRATES SCULPTURE PARK, "From the Ground UP", NYC, May - September
 CHICAGO NAVY PIER, "Pier Walk '97", Chicago, May-October
 NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM, Smithsonian Institution, "Tool as Art II, Exploring Metaphor -The Hechinger
 Collection ,Curated by Sarah Tanguy, Washington, DC, April-September
 NOHRA HAIME GALLERY, " Works on Paper", New York, January
 PLATTSBURG MUSEUM, State University of New York, "Inaugural Exhibition-Sculpture Terrace", Oct.
- 1996 FIAC, "Sculpture" Nohra Haime Gallery, Paris, France
 CERRILLOS CULTURAL CENTER, "C3: Beasley, Henry, Hunt, Jimenez, Moroles, Scholder, Suris, VanAlstine,
 Whitney, I.Witkin and others" Cerrillos, NM, July-August
 GRIMALDIS GALLERY, "SUMMER '96, Part I-The Sculptors: Isherwood, Kendrick, Ruckriem,
 Ruppert, Van Alstine", Baltimore, June
- 1995 NJ CENTER FOR THE VISUAL ARTS, "The Creative Process: Drawings by Sculptors", Sept. 1995
 INTERNATIONAL SCULPTURE CENTER, "Metamorphosis: Contemporary Sculpture at Tudor Place,
 Washington, DC, Summer/fall
 PHILLIPS COLLECTION, "Recent Acquisitions", Washington, DC, Spring/Summer
 ART INITIATIVES /NYC "SEMAPHORE: Placing the Mark", curated by Bill Bace
- 1994 HAKONE OPEN-AIR MUSEUM, "2nd Fujisankei Biennale, Ninotaira, Japan
- 1993 NOHRA HAIME GALLERY, "Contemporary Sculpture", New York, September
 GRIMALDIS GALLERY, "Sculptor's Drawings: Anthony Caro, Joel Fisher, Jene Highstein, David Nash, Joel Shapiro,
 John Van Alstine", Baltimore, March
- 1992 FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD, ART COLLECTION OF THE NATIONAL RESERVE BOARD, "Five Years of Accessions"
 June - August , Washington, DC
 NOHRA HAIME GALLERY, "Vara, Mutal, Van Alstine", New York, March
 NOHRA HAIME GALLERY, "10th Anniversary Exhibit", New York
- 1991 GRIMALDIS GALLERY, "Caro, Kendrick, Ruppert, Van Alstine", Baltimore, July-August
 CONGRESS SQUARE GALLERY, "Sculptors on Paper," Portland, ME, March
 INDIANA UNIVERSITY MUSEUM, "Object/Context: A National Invitational," Indiana University of Pennsylvania,
 Indiana, PA, April
 GRIMALDIS GALLERY, "Ruppert/Van Alstine" two person show, Baltimore, May
 NOHRA HAIME GALLERY, "Selections," New York, May
- 1990 FRANZ BADER GALLERY, "Washington Artists: Those Who Left, Those Who Stayed," Wash., D.C.
 MUSEUM OF MODERN ART OF LATIN AMERICA, ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, "Sculpture of the
 Americas into the 90's," Washington, D.C.
 FARNSWORTH MUSEUM, "Voyages of the Modern Imagination: The Boat in 20th Century Art," Rockland, ME

- PORTLAND MUSEUM OF ART, "The Boat Show," Portland, ME. Exhibition organized by the RENWICK GALLERY
Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
- NOHRA HAIME GALLERY, "Salon de mars," Paris
- 1989 NOHRA HAIME GALLERY, "Selections," New York
- INDIANA UNIVERSITY, "Sculpture Invitational: John Van Alstine and David Maxim," Indiana, PA
- 1988 NOHRA HAIME GALLERY, "Blues and Other Summer Delights," New York
- FRICK GALLERY, "About Seascape," Belfast, ME
- NOHRA HAIME GALLERY, "Small Sculpture," New York
- 1987 NEW JERSEY ARTS COUNCIL, MORRIS MUSEUM, "Artists Fellowship Exhibition," NJ
- NOHRA HAIME GALLERY, "Watercolors Plus," New York
- NOHRA HAIME GALLERY, "Inaugural Exhibition," New York
- SIBLE LARNEY GALLERY, "Los Gringos," Chicago, IL
- 1985 NEWARK MUSEUM, "New Jersey Artists Biennial," New Jersey
- DIANE BROWN GALLERY, "Drawings By Sculptors," New York
- GEORGE CISCLE GALLERY, "Discoveries and Disclosures," Baltimore, MD
- 1984 DIANE BROWN GALLERY, "Timely Objects," Inaugural Exhibition, New York
- 1983 SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE, "International Arts Council Exhibit," Bronxville, NY
- BALTIMORE SCULPTURE Works in Public Sites, Mayor's Advisory Council on the Arts, Balt., MD
- COLBY-SAWYER COLLEGE GALLERY, "Colby-Sawyer College National Invitational", London, NH
- WASHINGTON PROJECT FOR THE ARTS, "Flatworks -- Non 3-D works by Sculptors" Wash, DC
- 1982 INTERNATIONAL SCULPTURE CONFERENCE, San Francisco, CA, "10 Washington Sculptors," curated by Howard
Fox
- 1982 GRANTEES EXHIBITION, DC ARTS COMMISSION Washington, D.C., October-November
- OSUNA GALLERY, "Gallery Stable Sculpture," Washington, D.C.
- 1981 MARLBOROUGH GALLERY, "Color-Five New Views" photography, New York, NY
- 1980 HIRSHHORN MUSEUM, "Recent Acquisitions," Washington, D.C.
- 1979-80 -- First Western States Biennial Tour: DENVER ART MUSEUM, SAN FRANCISCO MUSEUM OF ARTS;
SEATTLE ART MUSEUM, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART, Washington, D.C.
- 1979 HIRSHHORN MUSEUM, "Directions '79," curated by Howard Fox, Washington, D.C.
- 1978 HERBERT F. JOHNSON MUSEUM, Cornell University, "Cornell Then/Sculpture Now," Ithaca

LARGE SCALE INSTALLATIONS

- THE PHOENIX ART MUSEUM, museum entrance, Phoenix, AZ 1997-
- STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, Plattsburgh
- DE CORDOVA MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GARDEN, Lincoln, (Boston) MA, 1997-
- HIRSHHORN MUSEUM SCULPTURE GARDEN, permanent collection, lower garden 1982-96
- SOCRATES SCULPTURE PARK, New York City, 1997-8
- PHILLIPS COLLECTION, Washington, D.C., 1995-7, Large scale sculpture at museum entrance
- AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS HEADQUARTERS, Washington, D.C., Spring 1983

SELECTED CORPORATE COLLECTIONS

Artery Organization, Bethesda, MD

Harris Trust & Savings Bank, Chicago, IL

Prudential Life Insurance, Newark, NJ

Mountain Bell, Denver, CO

Norwest Bank, Billings, MT

Peat Marwick Inc., Montvale, NJ

Rouse Company, Baltimore, MD

Progressive Corporation, Cleveland, Ohio

Gulf Co., Aspen, CO

Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis, Washington, DC

Wilmer Cutler & Pickering, Tyson, VA

Deltac Corporation, Washington, DC

Buchanan Partners, Washington, DC

Hechinger Company, "Tools AS Art: The Hechinger

Collection, Largo, Maryland

MCI Corporation-East Coast Headquarters, ArlingtonVA

9.1


1-22-08



"Larry Grossman"
<lgrossman@mcenearney.com>
01/22/2008 04:27 PM

To <jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov>
cc
bcc

Subject FW: Sacandaga Totem

History:  This message has been replied to and forwarded.

LARRY K. GROSSMAN
McEneaney Commercial
(O) 703-537-3312
(C) 703-966-7940
(F)703-683-7545

-----Original Message-----

From: Larry Grossman [mailto:lgrossman@mcenearney.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2008 4:26 PM
To: 'jackie.henderson@alexandria.va.gov'
Subject: FW: Sacandaga Totem

Jackie-could you forward this to City Council for Docket Item No. 9.1 regarding acceptance of Van Alstine sculpture.

Thanks.

LARRY K. GROSSMAN
McEneaney Commercial
(O) 703-537-3312
(C) 703-966-7940
(F)703-683-7545

-----Original Message-----

From: Larry Grossman [mailto:lgrossman@mcenearney.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2008 4:22 PM
To: 'cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov'
Subject: Sacandaga Totem

I don't think that Fayette and King is an appropriate location for this piece of sculpture. This sculpture needs a landscaped background so that it stands out and is distinguishable from its environs. I would like to see the park on Slater's Lane be considered as a gateway feature from the GW Parkway. I am also thinking about whether this piece could replace the clock that is on public right of way at the corner of Daingerfield Road and Duke Street. Years ago we redesigned the intersection and created a small park. The city purchased the clock and the owner maintains it. The clock is getting old and I'm not sure it really enhances the space. I wanted to place sculpture on the site of the clock but at the time the clock was an easier sell. A vertical element would be perfect for the site. Probably this piece

is too large for the Reinecker's Lane/Diagonal Road site as we discussed.

No need to be precipitous in selecting a site. I hope we can discuss this further.

Oh Oh - I just read the docket item and see that the location of the sculpture at Fayette/King is a condition of the donation. Too bad- don't think the donor should dictate the site of public art unless the public wants that site. It's like "Brio" having to be on Market Square.

LARRY K. GROSSMAN

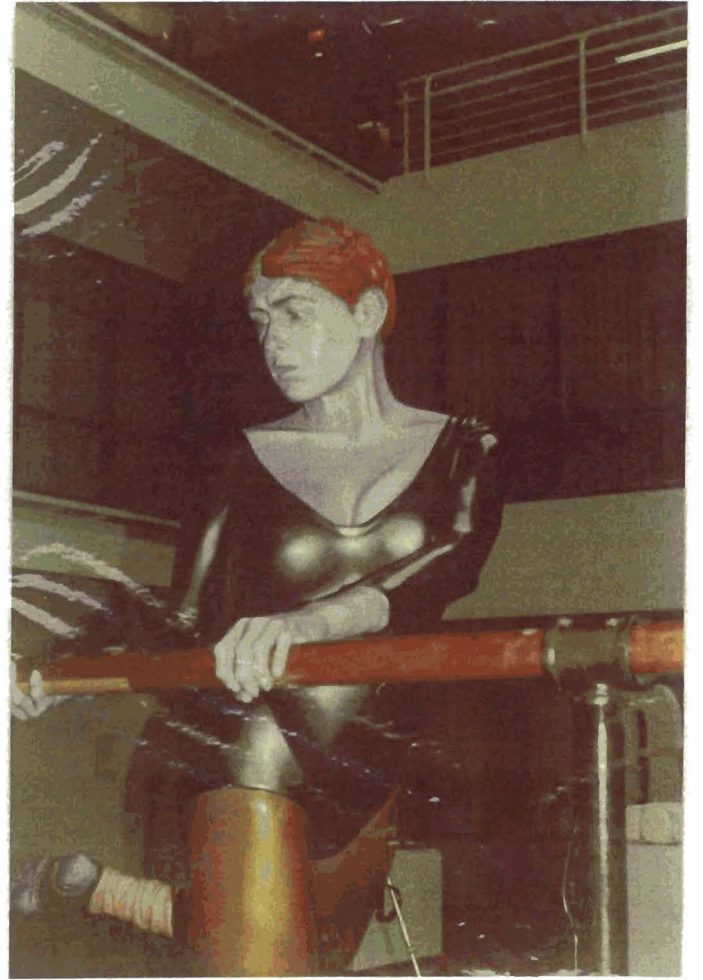
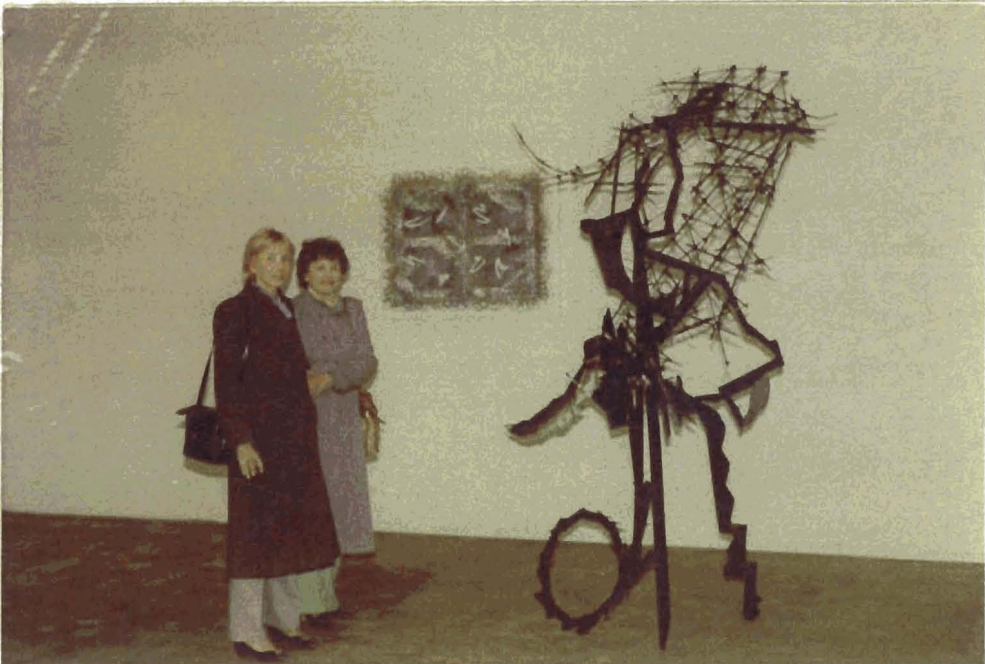
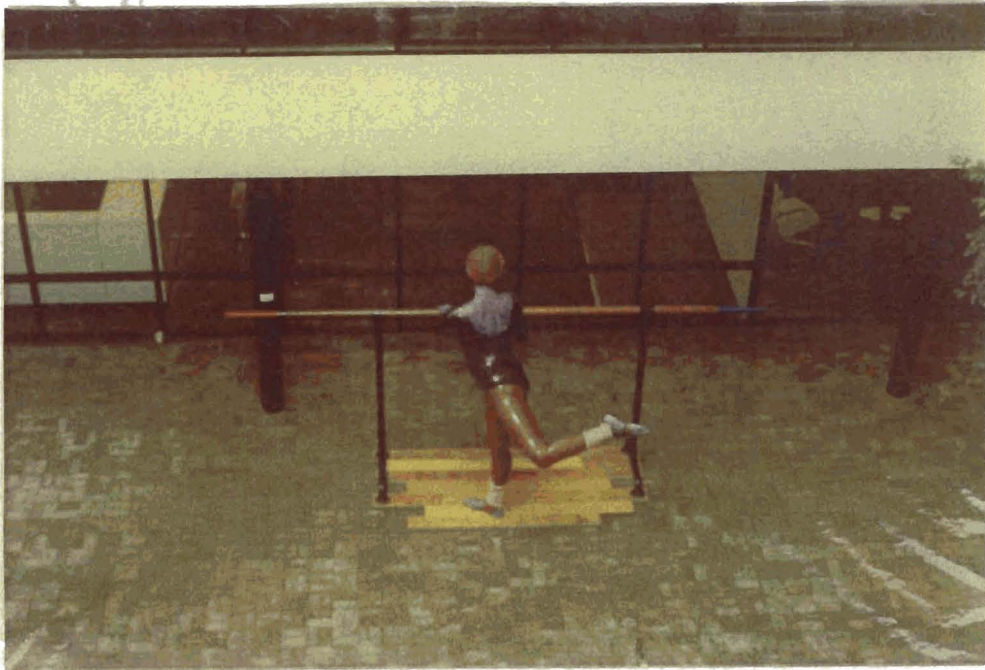
McEneaney Commercial

(O) 703-537-3312

(C) 703-966-7940

(F)703-683-7545

9.1
1-22-08



May 1983
1ST Alexandrin Sculpture
Festival
Indoors / Vosbeek Building



May 1983 - UNVEILING of "PRIO"



"BRIO" UNVEILING



1983 Sculpture Festival



9.1
1-22-08



Chatree Suvanasai
<suvanasai@mail.com>

01/28/2008 10:12 AM

Please respond to
Chatree Suvanasai
<suvanasai@mail.com>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>,
<councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>,
<delperpe@aol.com>, <paulcsmedberg@aol.com>,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Alstine Sculpture Placement



Time: [Mon Jan 28, 2008 10:12:41] IP Address: [72.83.174.241]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Chatree
Last Name: Suvanasai
Street Address: 1204 King Street
City: Alexandria
State: Virginia
Zip: 22314
Phone: 703 548-0168
Email Address: suvanasai@mail.com
Subject: Alstine Sculpture Placement

Alexandria Commission for the Arts
1108 Jefferson Street
Alexandria,

Virginia 22314
cherylanne.colton@alexandria.gov

January 28,
2008

RE: John Van Alstine Sculpture Placement at the Southwest Corner of
King and Fayette Streets

Dear Ms. Cherylanne Colton:

Thank you for

taking the time to speak with us January 25th regarding the placement of
the John Van Alstine Sculpture. We appreciate your willingness to hear our
concerns. Per your suggestion we have provided a brief synopsis of our
discussion. A meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday, January 29th, to
discuss the details of the proposed project. As a business who will
directly be impacted by the John Van Alstine Sculpture placement we feel

our presence and incite at this meeting would be beneficial and we would like to attend.

Chatree's is located at 1204 King Street, directly at the center of the hub made by King, Fayette and Commerce Streets. Our conservation, restoration and retail gallery has served the community for over 10 years and we have supported and encouraged the many wonderful changes that have occurred in Old Town over this time. We have always valued our position as an Alexandria staple and maintained positive relationships with the city, fellow merchants, neighbors, and clientele. We are open 6 days a week, 7 days seasonal. Our location allows us valuable incite into the community and we often find ourselves as the mediator between community and city; frequently receiving comments, questions and suggestions about the area and the many changes that have occurred. Our hope is that our pride in Old Town will only grow as it continues it's strides towards excellence.

Development of the public

space on the corner of King and Fayette Street directly impacts our business's visibility, clientele, and safety. It would be helpful if we could be provided with more information on this project.

1) The

sculpture is 113" high x 66" wide x 43" in diameter. The pedestal is 3' high.

What will be the full size of the pedestal in width and diameter?

What will be the total square footage needed for display?

2) We are

unable to determine position of the sculpture from Attachment #2 of the Memorandum to Mayor and Council on January 17. Positioning states the Southwest corner of Fayette and King Streets. It appears the sculpture will be placed towards the front of the plaza with a wider viewing that would include Fayette Street. Is there additional information which will show the positioning?

3) Will the benches be an extension of the sculptures

placement? Will plants, or other street scape amenities be used as an extension of the sculptures placement? What will be the total space used upon completion?

4) When will construction for the Sculpture and surrounding placement begin and what is the time frame for construction? Will heavy equipment or digging need to be done that will create vibrations? Will there be a loss of parking?

5) Funding for the installation, maintenance, and upkeep of the sculpture surroundings was not indicated. On a regular basis we clean, sweep, remove snow and ice from property line to the sidewalks. Who will keep the sculpture site area clear of debris and trash so that it does not blow towards the our store and require additional maintenance on our part. Will there be additional taxes or costs for the businesses to offset expense of the project?

Our display windows face the site for this sculpture. We fear that if the sculpture were to be damaged by some occurrence it could also damage to our property. Among our customers are collectors, designers and artists. We work on sensitive pieces which require delicate handling and care. If our customers do not feel safe or that their property will not be safe with our business they will cease to patronize us.

Comments:

At our own expense, we have provided and maintained a comfort zone of, lighting, decorative benches, urns and plants to suffice as a buffer zone reducing risk to our display windows and merchandise within. Our arrangements provide convenience for the public as well as effort to beautify our city. We have seen a reduction of episodes of urns pushed over, plants ripped from the roots, beer bottles and debris tossed about. The stores next to us have experienced the same problems and even experienced broken front windows. The Alexandria Police have been extremely helpful with this matter and responded quickly. We appreciate their attention to the safety of both

person and property. We have concluded that often during early morning weekend hours when bars and restaurants close, people will loiter on this corner; breaking liquor bottles, engaging in physical confrontations and generally causing disruption. We are concerned that without the proper placement of the sculpture and layout of the site such occurrences will happen on an even grander scale.

The original notice regarding the

John Van Alstine sculpture asked for comment only about acceptance of a donated sculpture, it did not include information about placement in the city.

It is difficult for us to comment on a sculpture without

understanding of placement and setting.

A work of art with presence that

is intimidating or overpowering is not calming nor does it promote unity

between city and community.

Old Town has changed over the years. We are

delighted to see families with young children frequenting the stores,

rides, biking, First Night and many other fun activities that make old town

a great community. We hope that the public art the city chooses to accept

will be compatible with walk able King Street.

Public Art is different

than art we select for our home. What is the lasting impression the city

wants to give to those that frequent the area? Is the art comforting and

inviting or evoke feelings of conflict? Does the sculpture inspire

thought that is gratifying or does the public feel frustrated after

viewing? This is particularly important for business owners that will be

the recipient of comment on a regular basis. We always try to speak

favorably of the city. We are supportive of the city wanting to include

public art as part of street scape designs. Please take into consideration

if the Public Art choice and placement evokes divisiveness, businesses

directly impacted by the permanent presence of the sculpture will be

affected the most. We spend an enormous amount of time at our business,

choice of public art and placement can make it harder or more pleasant of an experience. As business owners and residents of Old Town we hope this will be a good experience.

Sincerely,

Chatree

Suvananasai

Chatree's
1204 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia

22314
suvanasai@mail.com
703 548-0168

C.C.
Alexandria City

Council
301 King Street, Room 2300
Alexandria, Virginia

22314

Attachment: File was not uploaded. Only upload these file types: jpg, gif, png, bmp, doc, pdf, txt.