



**CITY OF KIRKLAND**  
Department of Finance & Administration  
123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3100  
www.kirklandwa.gov

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Kurt Triplett, City Manager  
**From:** Ellen Miller-Wolfe, Economic Development Manager  
**Date:** September 5, 2013  
**Subject:** Resolution Approving Interior Public Art for the Public Safety Building

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

City Council adopts Resolution R-5002 approving three interior art pieces for the Public Safety Building and receives an update on the status of one exterior piece.

### **BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:**

#### Authority for Public Art Expenditure and Organization of Stakeholder Committee

In accordance with the Capital Improvements Project 1% for Art Policy, \$289,000 was set aside from the Public Safety Building budget for the selection of public art. Given limited staffing, consultants Perri Howard, VMG: Velocity Made Good and Lesley Bain, Weinstein AU, were retained to oversee the project following a competitive process.

In accordance with the Resolution R-4995 the Cultural Arts Commission is authorized to advise the City Council on public art acquisitions and loans, and review and recommend projects under the City's "one percent for the arts" program. In addition, a Stakeholder Committee that included four members of the Cultural Arts Commission augmented by representatives from the Court and from the Kirkland Police Department as occupants of the Public Safety Building, would convene as the stakeholder group to determine the themes, materials and locations of the art, as well as to select the artists and oversee the process for defining the art pieces.

An outline of the art schedule is included as Attachment A. What follows is a summary of the process and description of the art that has been selected and recommendations to the City Council for its consideration.

#### **Public Safety Building Public Art Process**

##### Art Concepts Development

The process extends from January, 2013 to the June, 2014, and concludes with the art installation. The first meeting defined the mission or ethos for the project. The Stakeholder Committee determined that:

The selected artist or team will develop and create a new site specific project in response to one of three possible conditions: 1. Interior artwork based on a contemporary approach to law and justice memorabilia, 2. A landmark, exterior artwork that assists visitors in transitioning from the parking lot to a civic building 3. An interior artwork or series of amenities that is integrated with the lobby entry point, courtroom interior, or other interior spaces to be determined. (Attachment B: Map with final locations of artwork)

The Committee stated that in all instances the artwork will uphold the project ethos of fairness justice, dignity, civility and sanctity. The artists will consider law and justice as those concepts relate to the local community, the architectural renovation and surrounding natural areas.

### Artwork Selection Process

Following the identification of 40 artists based on a tour of comparable regional facilities and a review of other artists work that could be appropriate for the PSB project, the Stakeholder Committee interviewed five artists and subsequently chose two. The artists were Ellen Sollod, who was tasked with creating art for the exterior space and vestibule entry to courts, and Katy Stone, who was asked to create art for three and eventually, given budget constraints, two courtrooms. (Attachment C: Kirkland Public Safety Building - Artwork Selection Process Timeline)

### Artist's Art Proposals Described

#### ***Courtroom Artwork***

Katy Stone, creator of the courtroom artworks describes the art as follows:

#### *Medians: Sky Meets Water/Earth Meets Air*

My works reference nature and use natural form as a metaphor to express human emotion and the idea of underlying interconnectedness. They have a distinct material presence and capture a sense of both the monumental and the ephemeral, often evoking feelings wonder and reverence. They are obvious constructions: accumulations of separate parts that together make a larger whole—in this context, alluding both to the individual and to society.

Each artwork is based on the concept of balance and equilibrium, characteristics that reflect the ideals of both our justice and law enforcement systems. Each artwork uses the element of line to convey a feeling of stability and regularity, yet these lines are also subtly dynamic, creating a sense of both stillness and motion. The compositions depict a meeting point of two separate substances and allude to the relationship between them. The artworks suggest natural forms that define our area: calm water and vast sky, a mountain peak shrouded with mist. These phenomena are easily recognizable and they are associated with strength, dignity, and the enduring. They are symbolic places where many of us seek solitude and perspective. Within the stressful environment of the courtrooms, the artworks will create a zone for contemplation, a moment of escape, and sense of peacefulness.

The proposed artworks for the courtrooms are relief wall sculptures, made of dozens of 14 gauge (1/16<sup>th</sup> inch) laser-cut aluminum shapes, hand-painted with oil paint and permanently

mounted to the wall with custom hardware, at depths ranging from 1/2" to 3". They will employ the same basic design element to create two unique compositions in the two largest courtrooms, fulfilling the committee's desire for the artwork in each courtroom to feel distinct but related.

The pieces will be located 5 feet above the courtroom floor and anchored in a manner that precludes anyone from vandalizing the work or using the materials with dangerous intent. (Attachment D: Images of Katy Stone's Art Concept and past work)

### ***Interior Vestibule Artwork***

Ellen Sollod, the creator of the vestibule artwork describes it as follows:

*Blind Justice* is a legal concept regarding the neutrality of the dispensing of justice. The use of the eye chart references that as well as the many ways of interpreting the law. The topographic map references Kirkland in a regional context.

This artwork will be located in the divider that separates incoming from outgoing court visitors at the entrance to the Courts. The work substitutes for what would have been a plain glass divider at this spot. The quote originates from the Preamble to the Constitution.

Media for the Court vestibule is fired, vitreous enamels and sandblasting/etching on insulated, tempered glass units. The glass artwork meets or exceeds standards set in the project specifications for safety and maintenance. It will be installed by Larson Glass, the glazer for the overall project. (Attachment E: Ellen Sollod Art Concept Presentation)

### ***Exterior Artwork***

The exterior art piece is a work in progress and has not yet been accepted by the various review groups. Most stakeholders agree that more work is necessary. The continued evaluation is recommended by all involved, but due to the work already done by the artist it may result in either an increase to the art budget, or a decrease in the amount of money available for the exterior piece. The goal is to ensure the piece best reflects the ethos and mission that the Stakeholder Committee set for the art, to articulate the Police and Court functions inside the building, and most importantly, to provide the monumental civic symbol that the City desires for the building frontage. The plan is to bring a concept approved by the Stakeholder Committee and the Cultural Arts Commission to the City Council at a later date.

### **Process**

Following several meetings of the Stakeholder Committee to refine the art concepts, the Cultural Arts Commission together with the Stakeholder Committee met on September 4, 2013 and recommended City Council approval of the three interior art pieces for the Public Safety Building. The artwork was also reviewed by the Public Safety Committee at their September 6, 2013 meeting. The Public Safety Committee concurred with the Cultural Arts Commission recommendation to approve the three interior pieces of art, and with the decision to continue development of the exterior work.

## PSB ART PROJECT SCHEDULE

2013

09 MAY - ARTIST KICK-OFF MEETING

17 MAY - GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

20 MAY - ARTISTS UNDER CONTRACT/PROOF OF INSURANCE

29/31 MAY - STAKEHOLDER MEETING W/ ARTISTS

01 JUL - ARTWORK LOCATIONS FINALIZED

01 AUG - FINAL CONCEPT DUE W/ SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

21 AUG - ARTISTS PRESENT TO ARTS COMMISSION FOR VOTE

01 SEP - PACKET FOR CITY COUNCIL DUE

17 SEP - PRESENT TO CITY COUNCIL FOR VOTE

01 OCT - FABRICATION BEGINS

31 OCT - ART INSERT FOR CDs DUE

2014

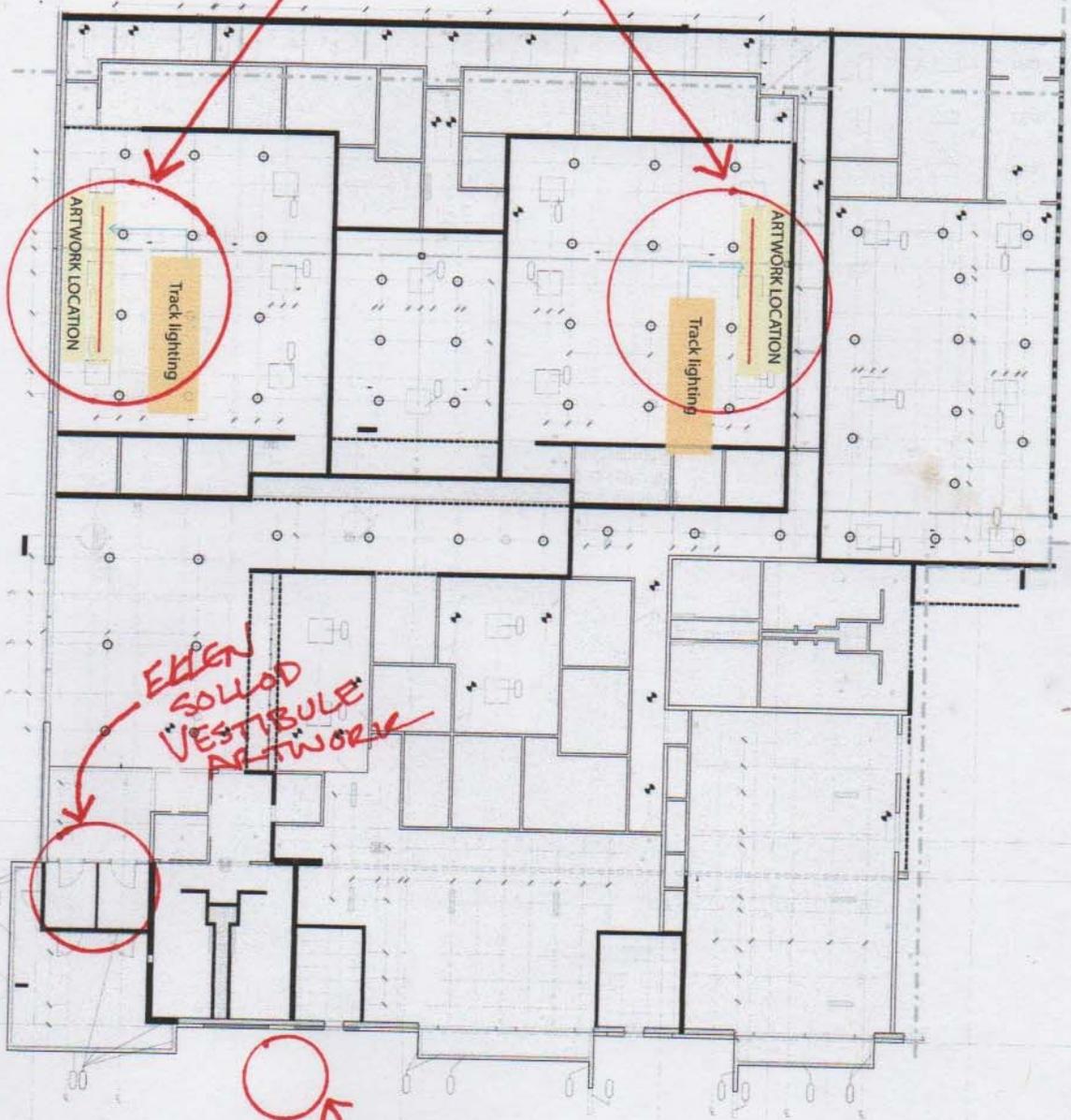
JAN - 50% FABRICATION COMPLETE

MAR - 100% FABRICATION

JUN - ART INSTALLATION COMPLETE

JUL - FINAL DOCUMENTATION DUE

KATY STONE  
COURTROOM ARTWORKS



ELLEN  
SOLLOD  
VESTIBULE  
ARTWORK

ELLEN SOLLOD  
EXTERIOR ARTWORK

= LOCATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE =  
= NOT TO SCALE =



MILLER HULL

MPH 04SEP13

## **Kirkland Public Safety Building - Artwork Selection Process**

02 JAN 13 - Brainstorming session with project stakeholders.

13 FEB 13 - Art tour of civic spaces for project stakeholders.

19 FEB 13 - Artist roster complete.

27 FEB 13 - RFQ sent to 40 invited artists from the Pacific Northwest and one bronze artist from the Midwest (recommended by the client).

18 MAR 13 - Applications received from 18 artists. Selection panel established with representatives from Courts, Police, City staff, and the Kirkland Arts Commission.

25 MAR 13 - Selection panel reviews applicants and narrows the field to 5 finalists.

08 APR 13 - Selection panel convenes to interview five artist finalists. Two artists chosen, Katy Stone and Ellen Sollod. Katy Stone chosen for courtroom artwork. Ellen Sollod chosen for an exterior public artwork and interior work for the court lobby.

09 MAY 13 - Artists meet with project team for site orientation and placement discussion. Rain garden, court rooms and court vestibule are identified as good locations for artwork based on foot traffic and visitor experience.

14 MAY 13 - Confirmation that Car #54 will be located in the Police lobby area.

17 MAY 13 - PSB ground breaking ceremony

19 JUN 13 - Art Consultant presents project update to Kirkland Arts Commission.

29 JUN 13 - Arts Commission Chair, Melissa Nelson coordinates with Police for her daughter (MFA UW, 2012) to design and arrange the memorabilia display for PD on a volunteer basis.

11 JUL 13 - Artists present preliminary concepts to stakeholder group for review. Stakeholders approve concept for court room art and vestibule art, but remain divided over concepts for exterior work.

17 JUL 13 - Art Consultant presents project update to Kirkland Arts Commission.

07 AUG 13 - Artists present final concepts and preliminary designs to the stakeholder group for review. Stakeholder group approve two artworks for two of the courtrooms instead of three, to increase scale and consolidate the budget. Courtroom artwork will be located in the two large courtrooms and not the traffic court.

### NEXT STEPS

03 SEP 13 - Artists meet with PSB project team for construction planning and integration.

04 SEP 13 - Artists present proposals to the Kirkland Arts Commission for a vote.

27 SEP 13 - If a "Yes" vote is received from the Arts Commission, Artists present proposals to Kirkland City Council for final endorsement.

01 OCT 13 - Final revisions of artwork complete.

31 OCT 13 - Art insert for Construction Documents due.

31 MAR 14 - Footings and Electrical Installed.

15 JUN 14 - Art installation complete.

15 JUL 14 - Final Documentation of artwork due.

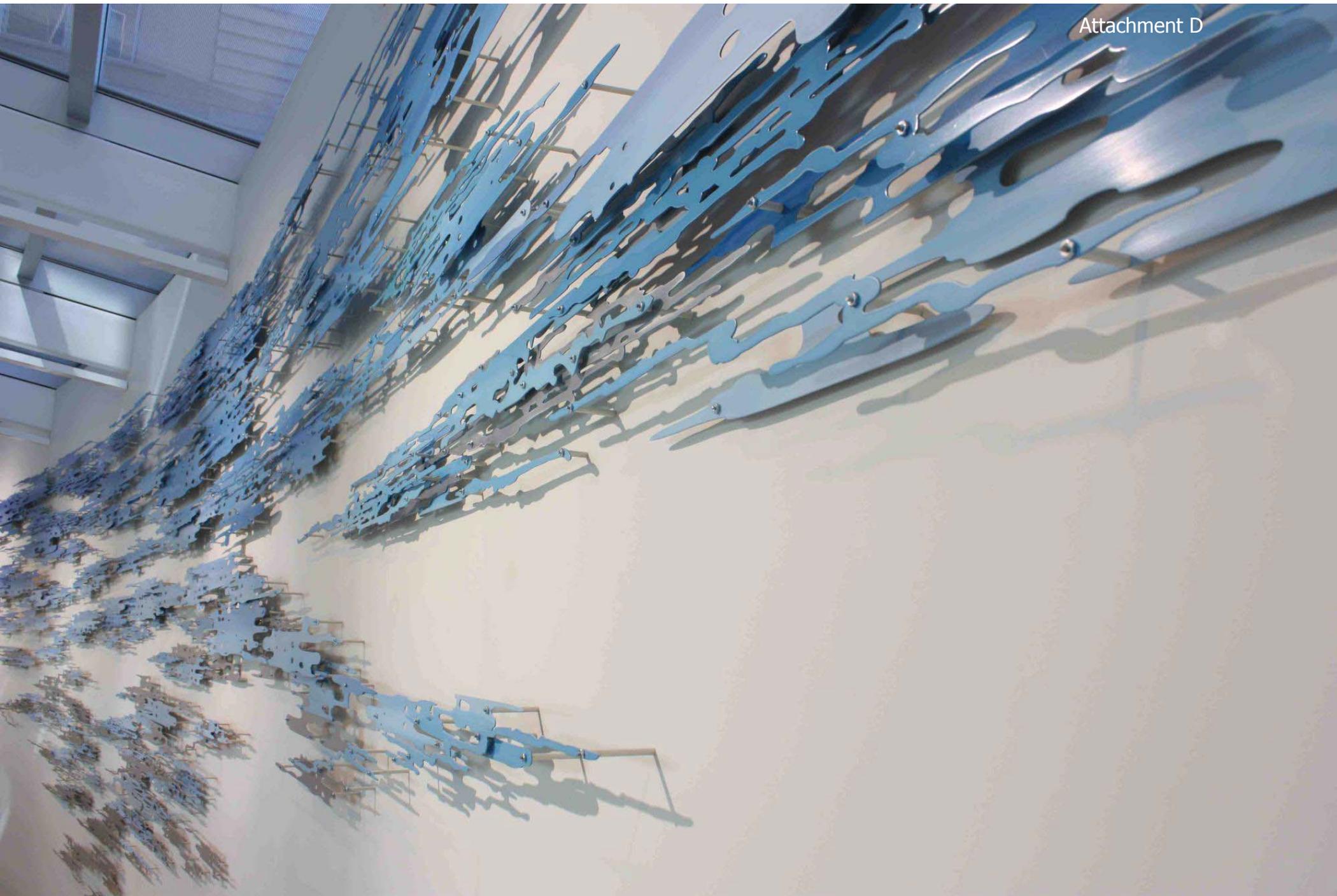
31 JUL 14 - Groundbreaking and dedication.

Note: Timeline for the conceptual design, approval and fabrication of exterior artwork has yet to be determined.



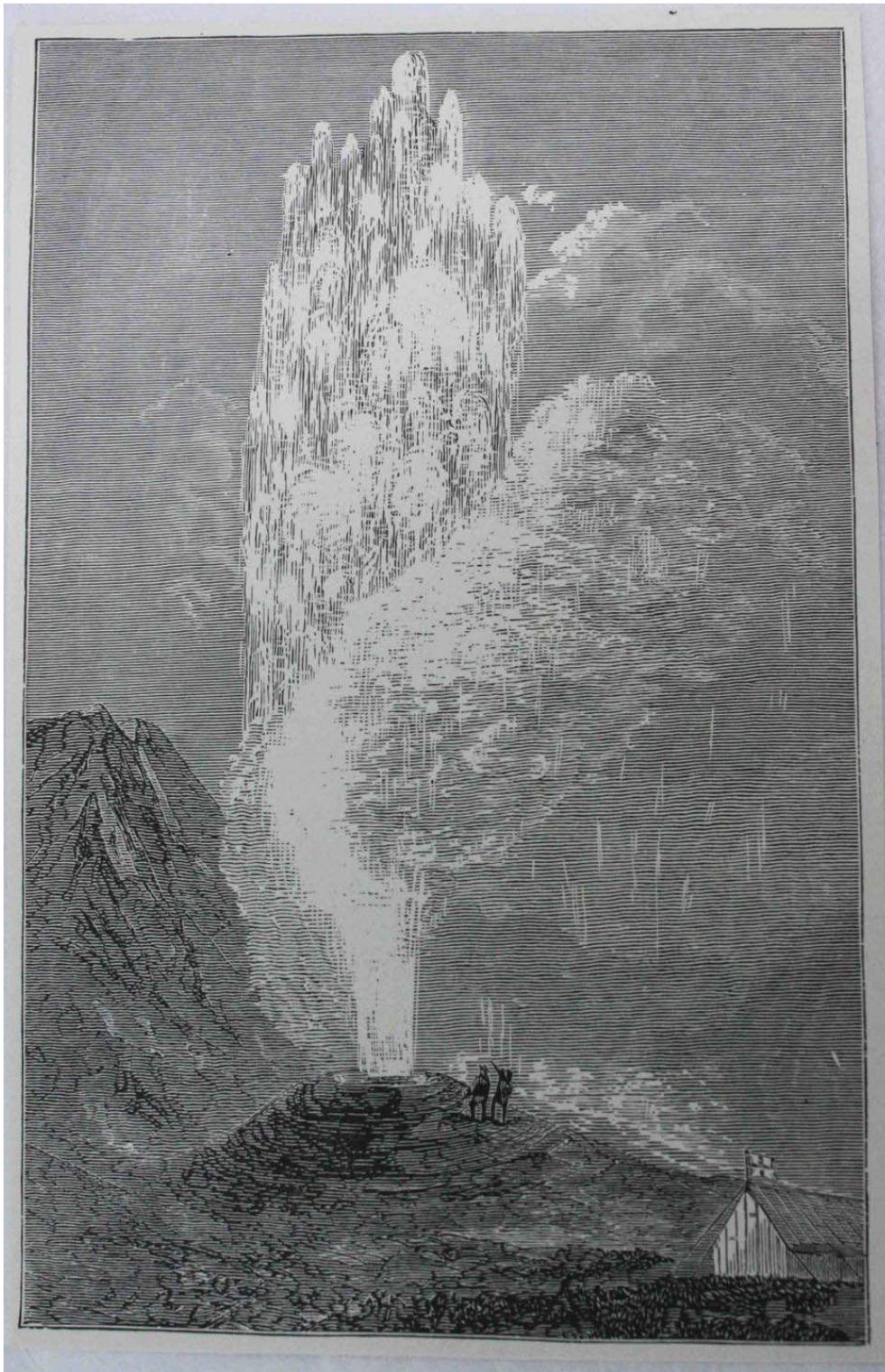


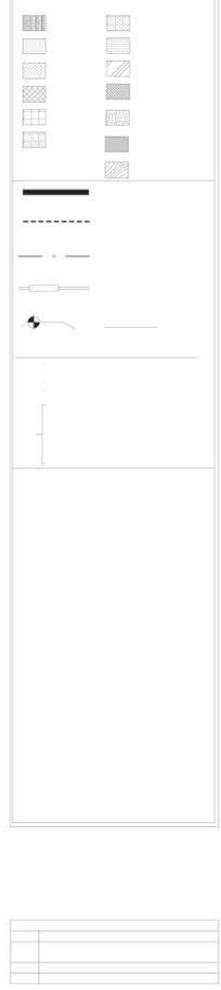




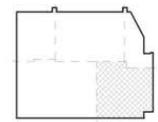








6288 REGISTERED ARCHITECT  
*Sarah Hull*  
SARAH HULL ARCHITECTS  
STATE OF WASHINGTON

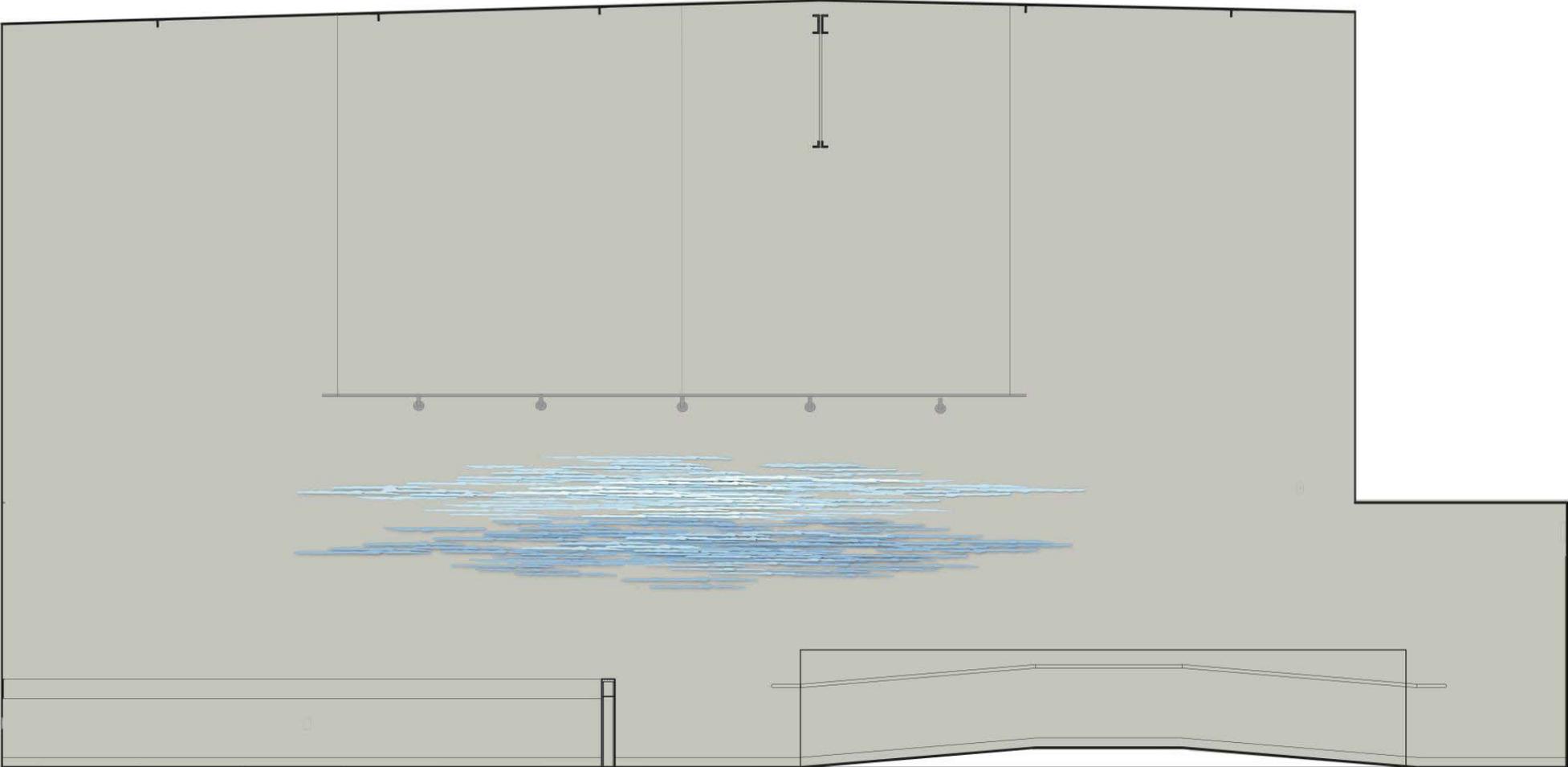


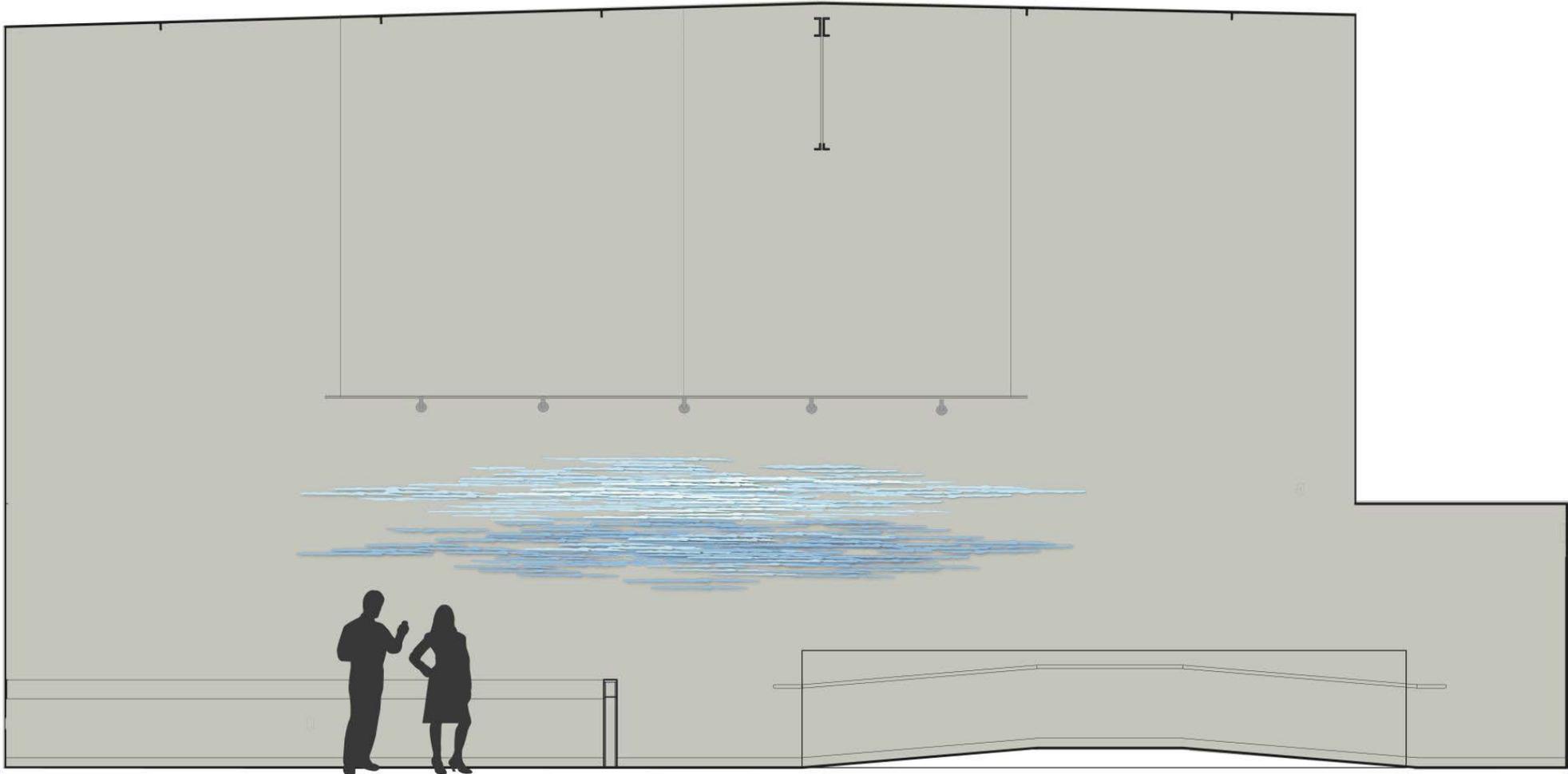


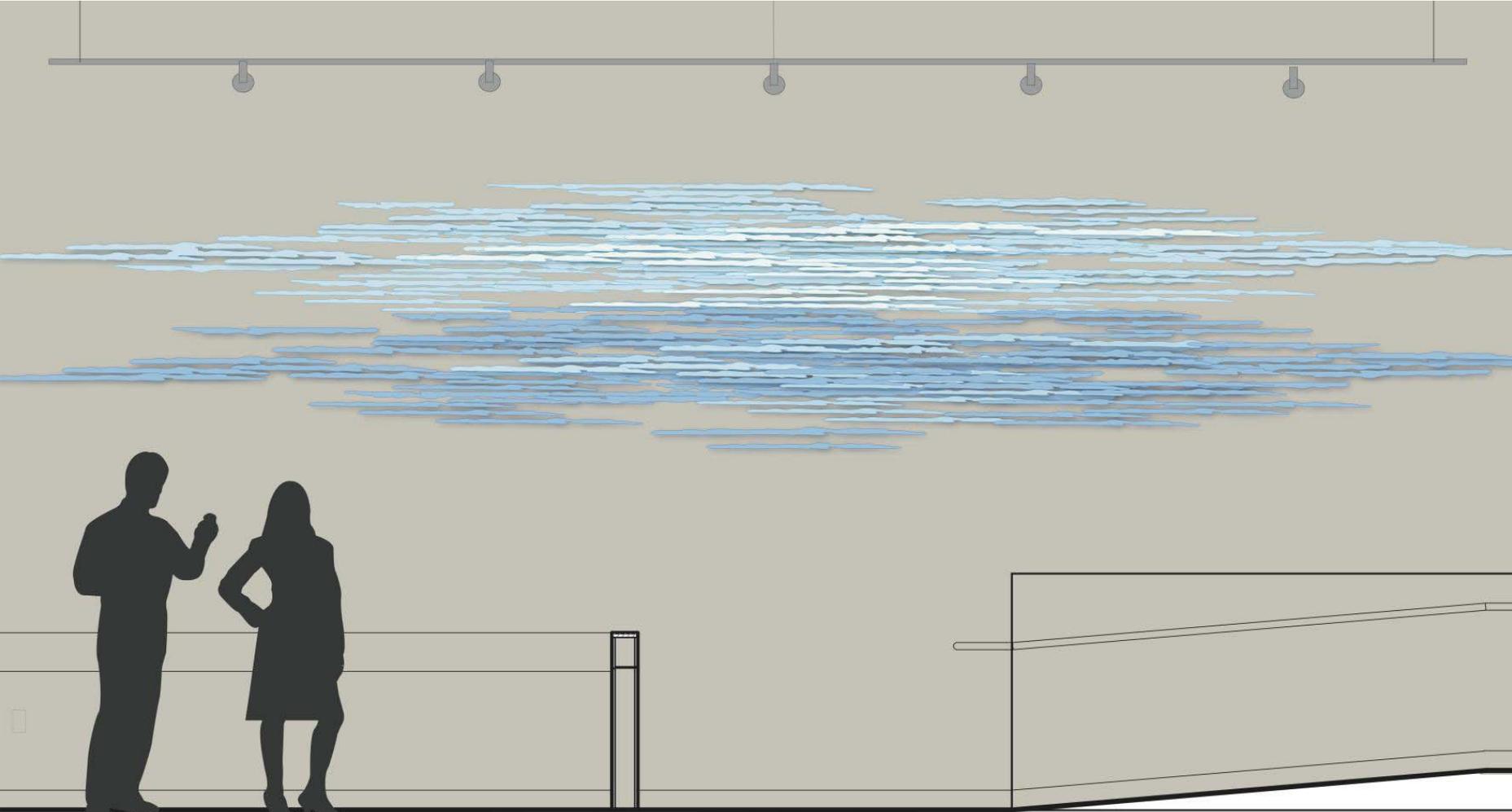
36 inches x 1.5 inches



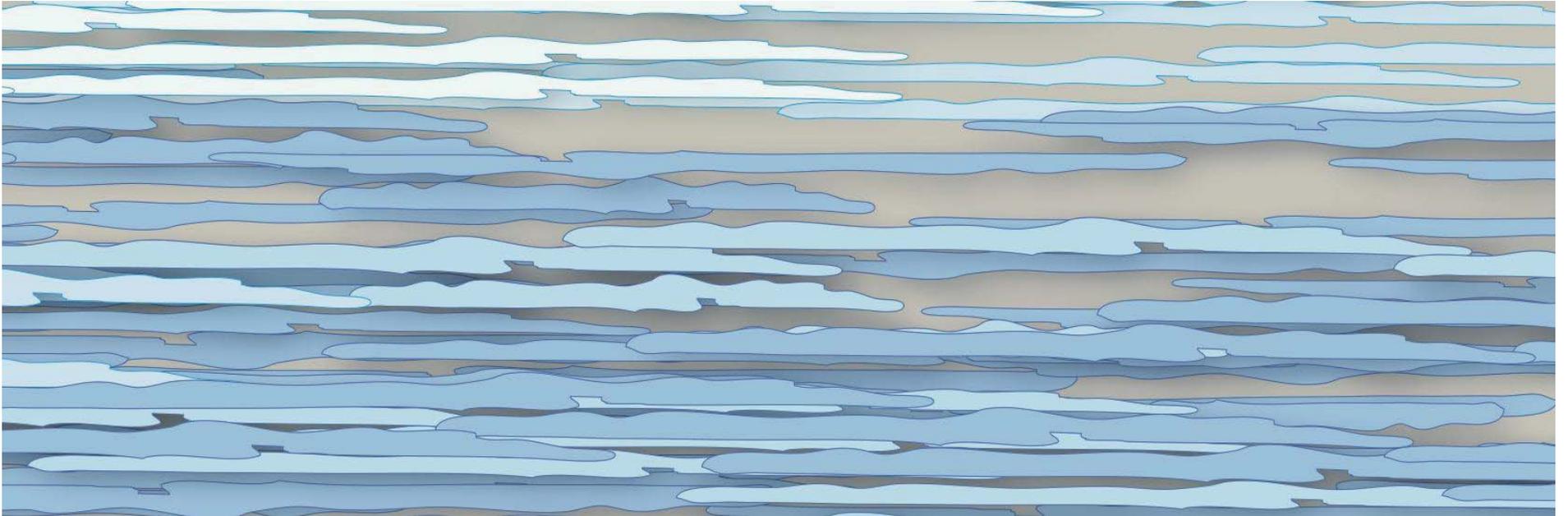
84.5 inches x 4.5 inches

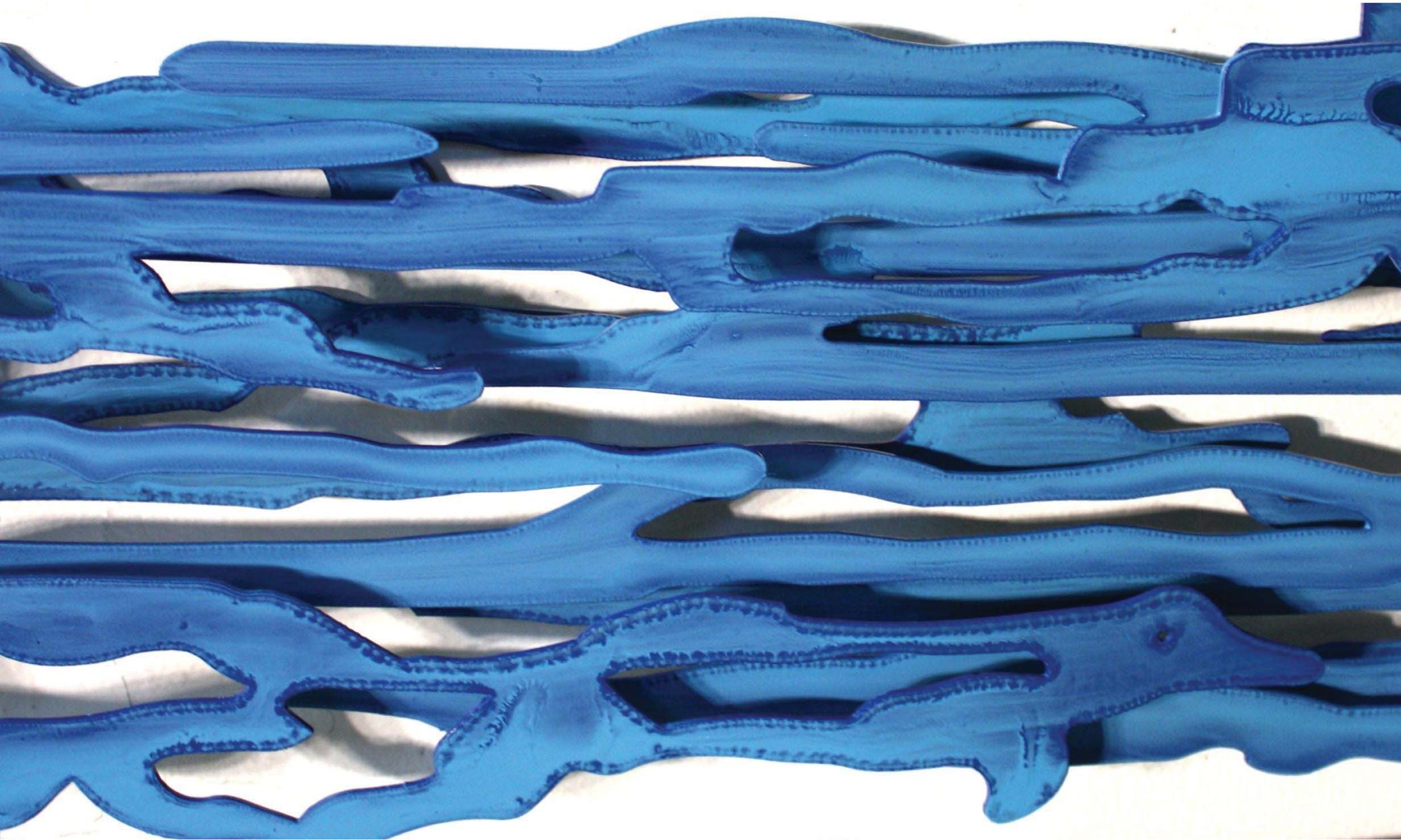


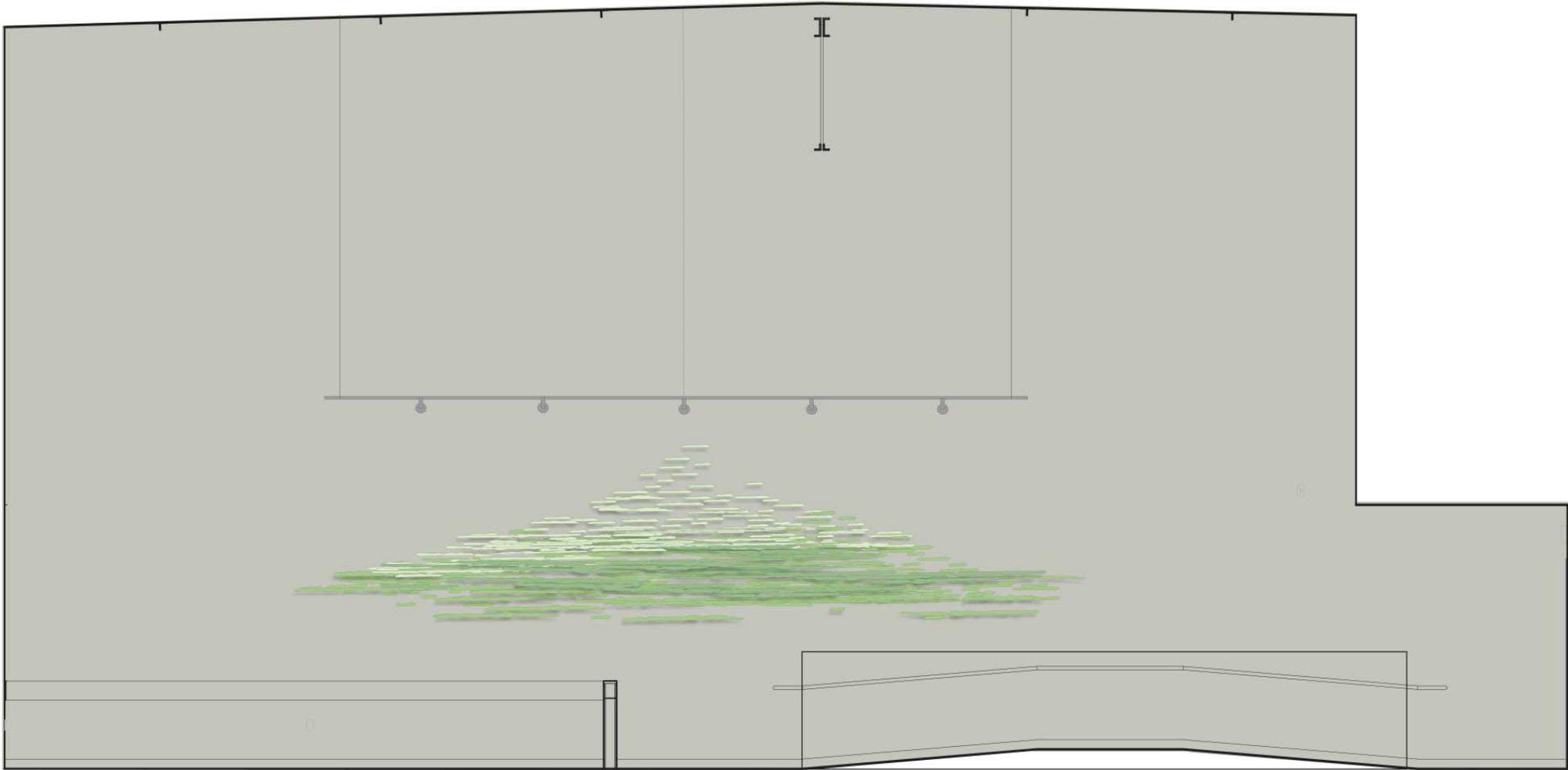


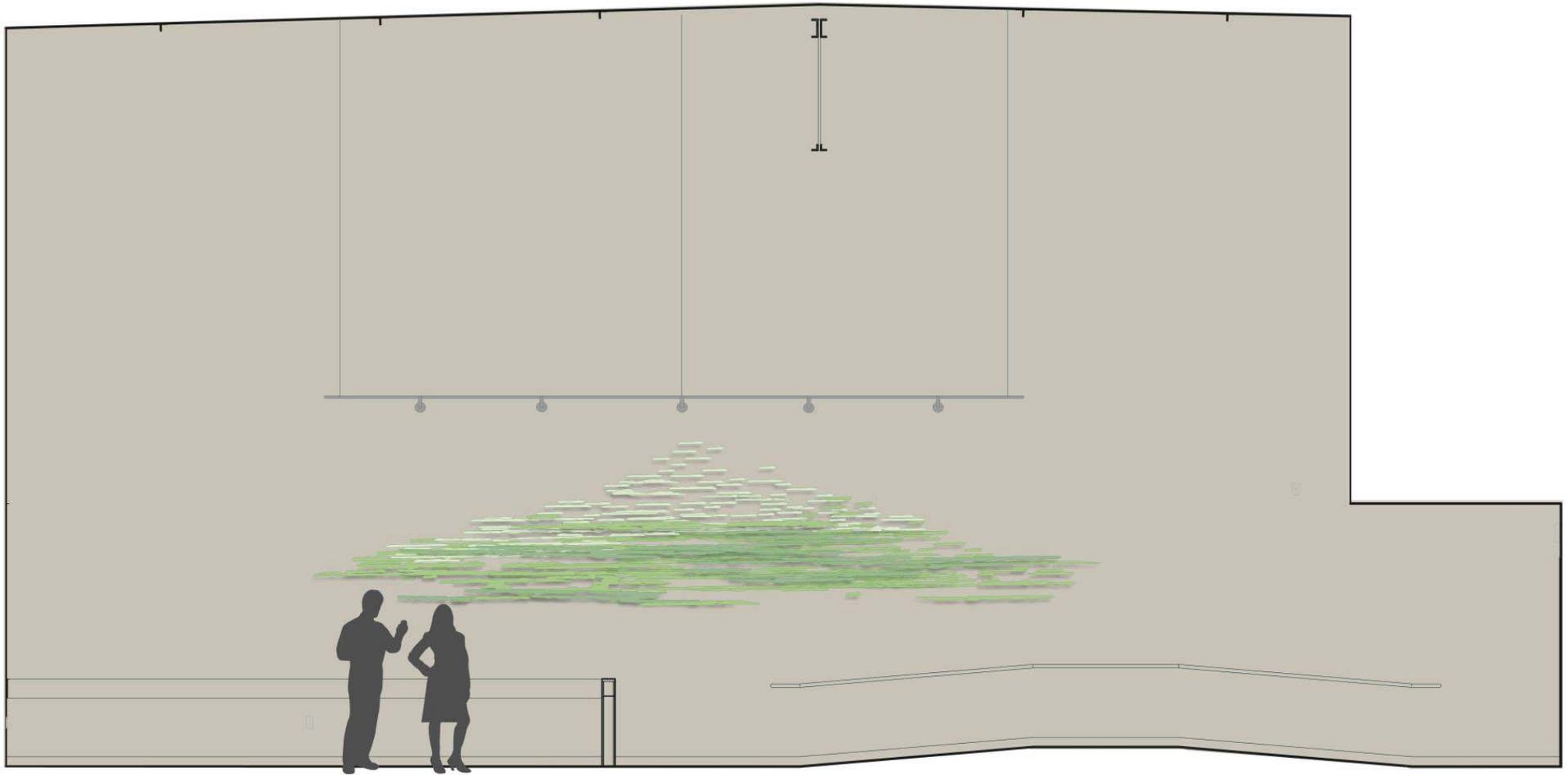


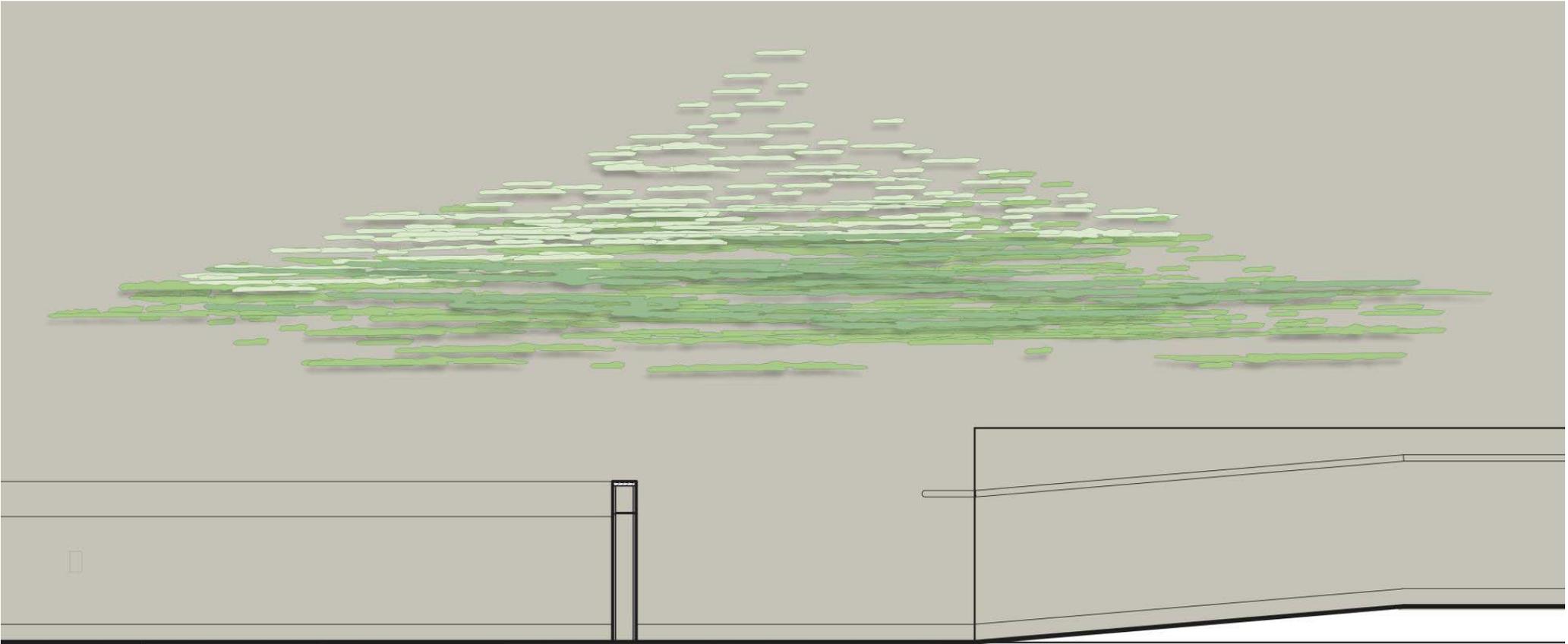


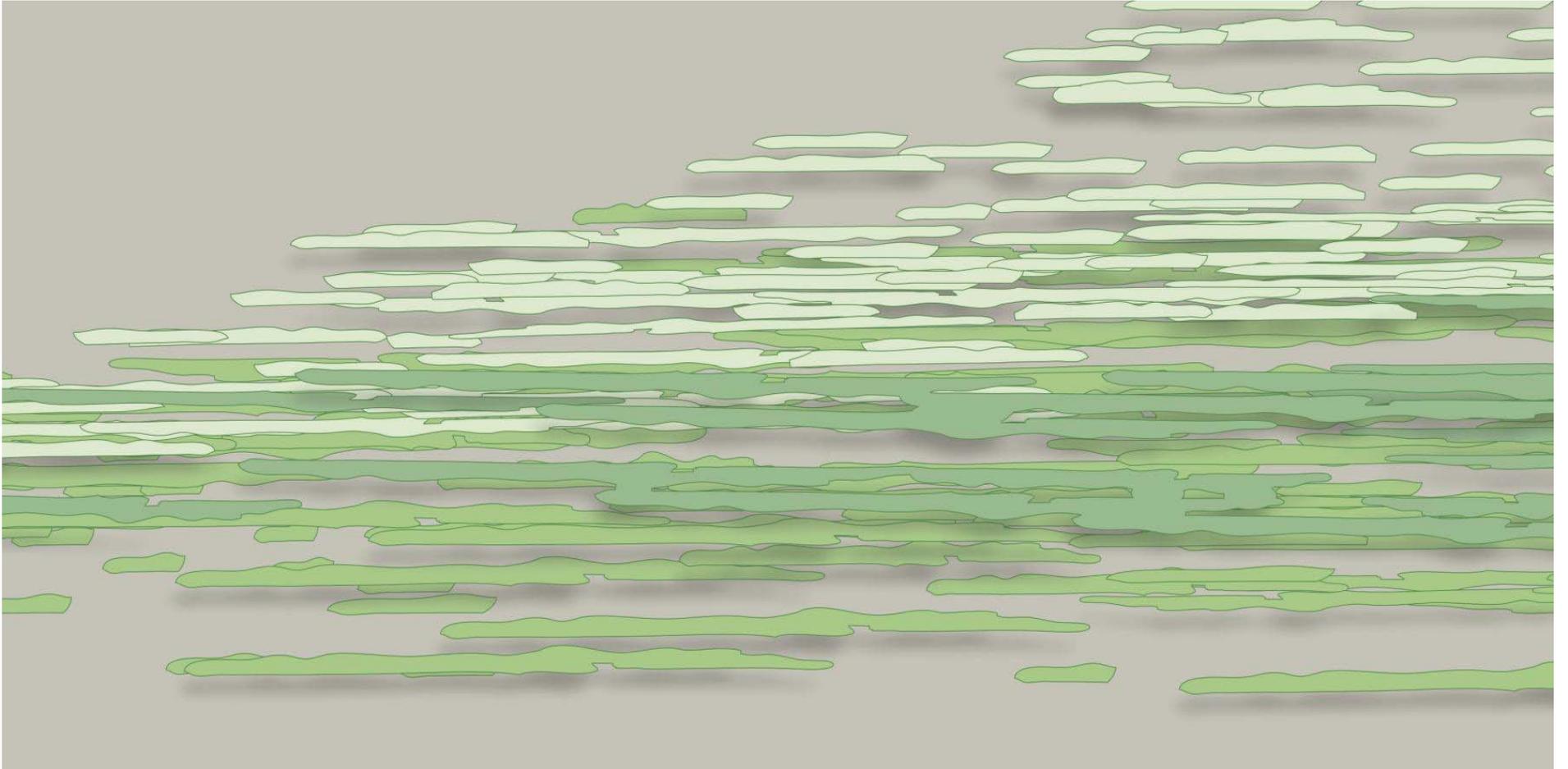


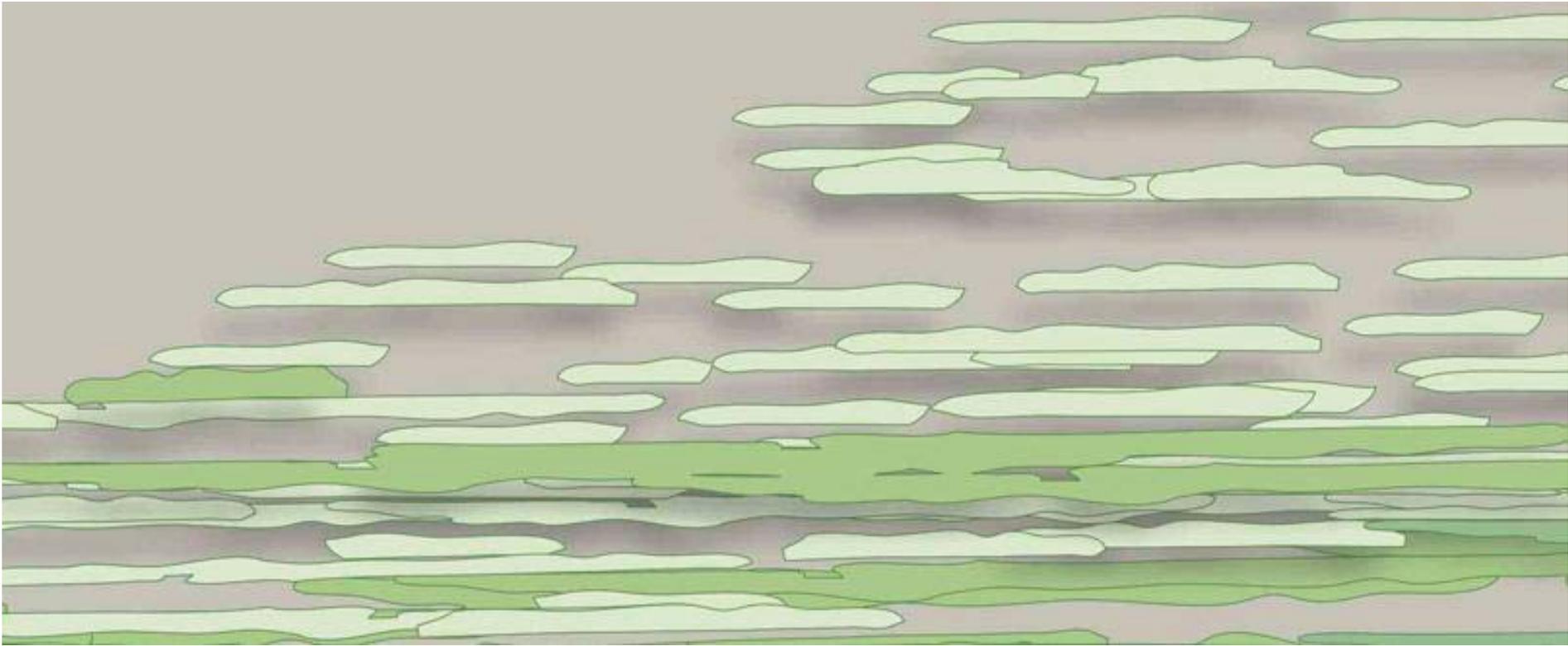


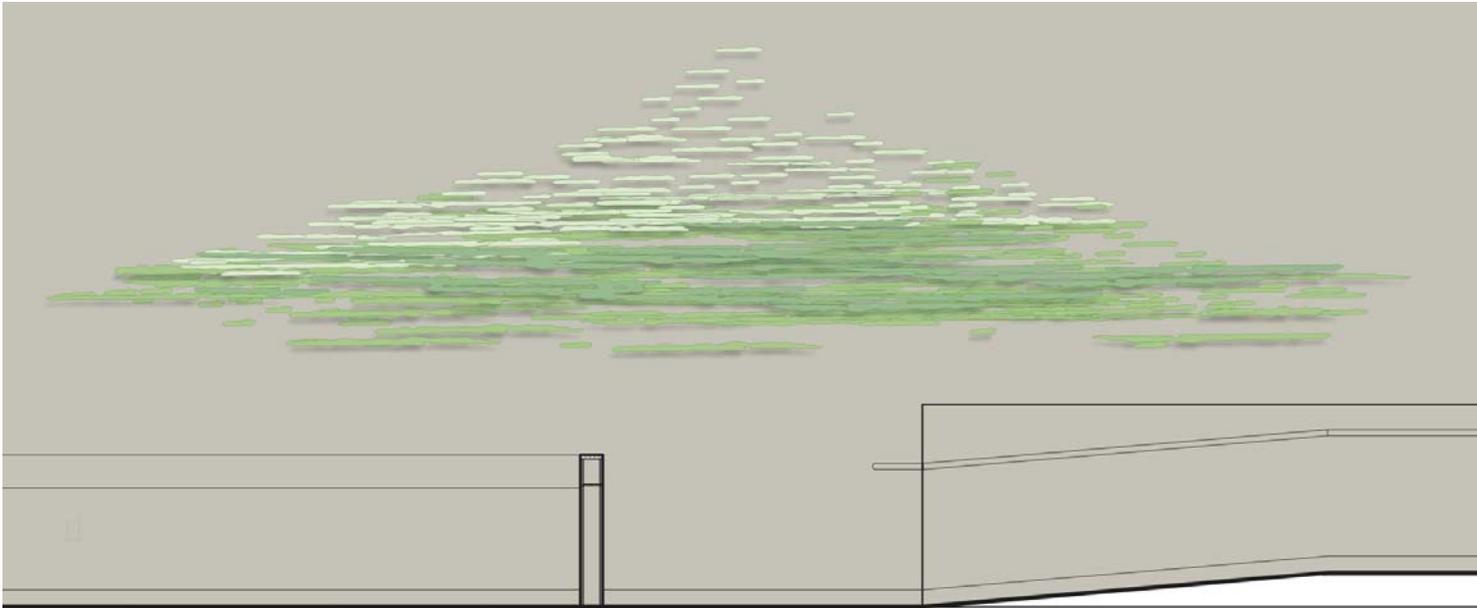
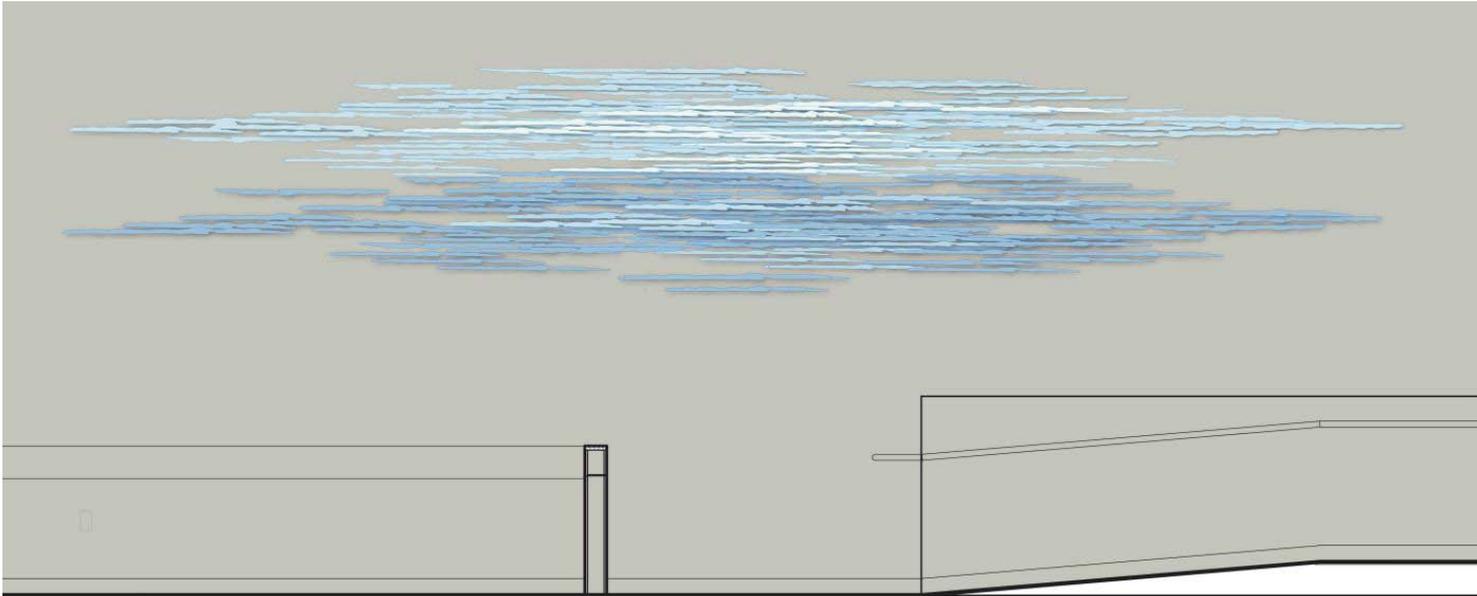












# Blind Justice

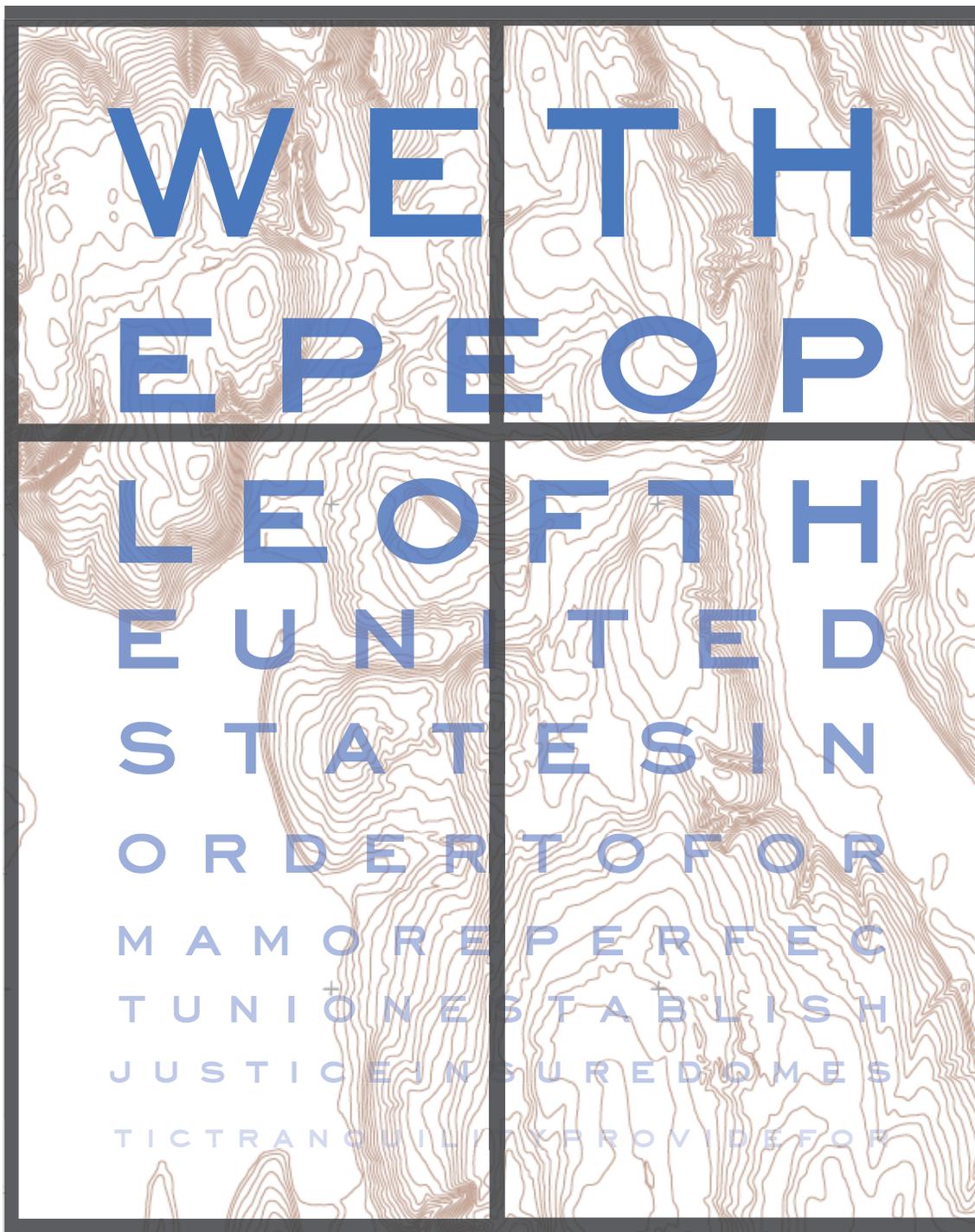
147”h x 114”

Fired vitreous enamel on float glass



Artwork Location

BLIND JUSTICE



RESOLUTION R-5002

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION FOR THREE INTERIOR ART PIECES FOR THE PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING.

WHEREAS, under Resolution R-4995 the Cultural Arts Commission is authorized to advise the City Council on public art acquisitions and to review and recommend projects under the City's "one percent for the arts" policy; and

WHEREAS, for the selection of artwork for the Public Safety Building, the Cultural Arts Commission and representatives from the Kirkland Municipal Court and Kirkland Police Department met to determine the themes, materials and locations of the art, as well as to select the artists and oversee the process for defining art pieces; and

WHEREAS, on September 4, 2013, the Cultural Arts Commission recommended acceptance of three interior art pieces proposed by the selected artists;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as follows:

Section 1. The recommendation of the Cultural Arts Commission is approved, with artist Katy Stone to create two courtroom artworks entitled *Sky Meets Water/Earth Meets Air* and artist Ellen Sollod to create artwork for the vestibule at the entrance to the courtrooms entitled *Blind Justice*.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

Signed in authentication thereof this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk