

# Mary Fuller McChesney Estate Acquisition

Presentation to the  
Petaluma Public Art  
Committee

October 27, 2022



# Item Agenda

---

Recommendation

---

Goals of Discussion

---

Background of Mary Fuller McChesney

---

Public Art Master Plan Mission

---

Addressing the Public Art Master Plan Mission

---

Financial Impact

---

Medium and Scale

---

Location

---

Next Steps

---

# Recommendation

It is recommended that the Petaluma Public Art Committee consider acquiring artworks from the Mary Fuller McChesney estate to add to the City's public art collection. By evaluating the appropriateness and purpose of collecting the artworks, the PPAC should direct and advise staff about executing further steps in the estate's acquisition opportunity.

# Goals of Discussion

- Addressing the Public Art Master Plan Mission
- Financial Impact
- Medium and Scale
- Location



# Background of Mary Fuller McChesney



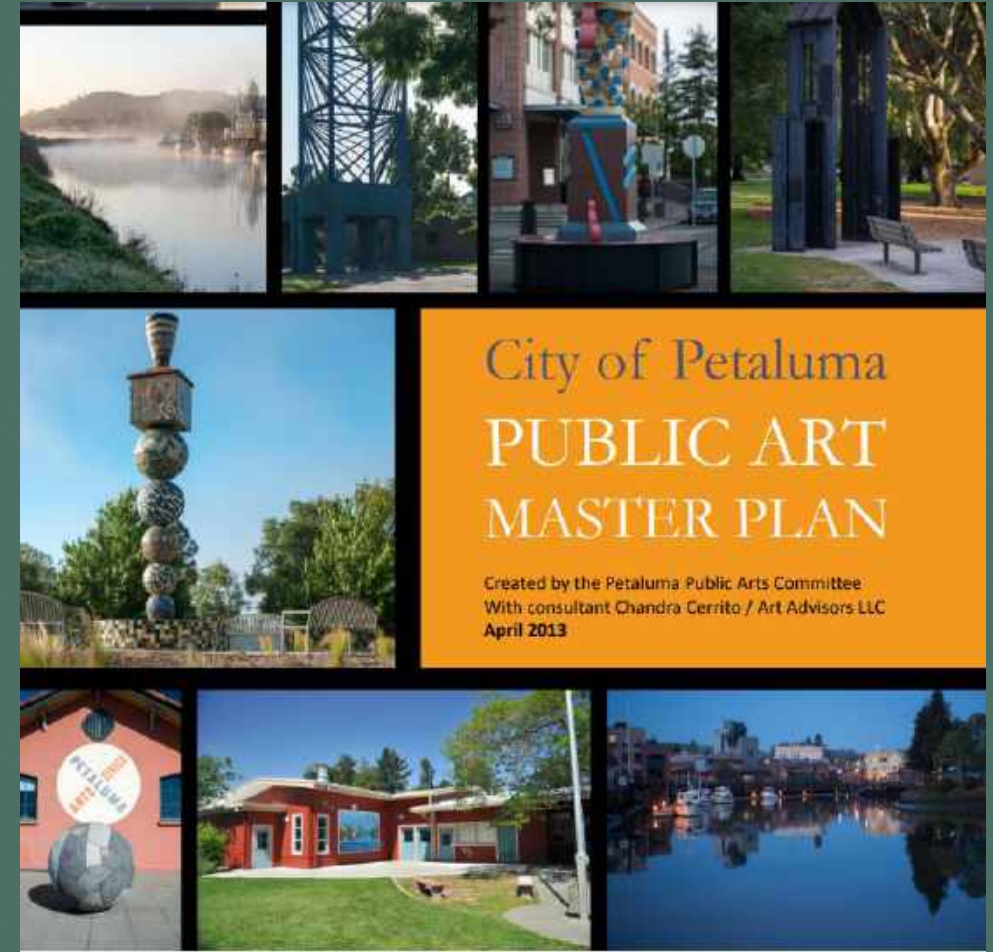
Courtesy of the Bohemian



Courtesy of Berkleyside

# Public Art Master Plan Mission

- Aiming to foster a sense of beauty at the artwork site
- Represent the diversity of our community
- Activate neighborhoods that may not have existing public art
- Be low maintenance and appropriate for public space



# Addressing the Public Art Master Plan Mission

- Does collecting specific sizes, themes, or numbers of McChesney works substantially further certain goals and collecting initiatives for the Public Art program?
- Could acquisition of McChesney's art address certain aspirations for the Public Art program?
- What would be the intent by adding McChesney's works to the public art collection? For example, would the purpose be educational, preservation-based, or possibly creating new components of the program (i.e. guided or online tour, a sculpture garden, a public-private loan program, a school program)?



# Financial Impact

Costs associated with:

- Acquisition (sale price, deinstallation, transportation, storage, installation)
- Conservation
- Ongoing maintenance
- Staging or temporary storage space
- Programming, signage, interpretive information



# Medium and Scale

- Small works versus large
- Outdoor display with minimal regular maintenance
- Modular assembly
- Can weigh upwards of thousands of pounds



# Location

- Indoor versus outdoor display
- Maintenance cost
- Use patterns



# Recommendation

It is recommended that the Petaluma Public Art Committee consider acquiring artworks from the Mary Fuller McChesney estate to add to the City's public art collection. By evaluating the appropriateness and purpose of collecting the artworks, the PPAC should direct and advise staff about executing further steps in the estate's acquisition opportunity.

# Next Steps

- Petaluma Regional Library
- Astro Motel exhibition until November 30<sup>th</sup> (or longer)
- McChesney's Sonoma Mountain Residence (currently for sale)
- Dennis Calabi's property (estate manager)
- Jennie Sinelli's property (estate trustee)