

## Quick Facts on the Airport Public Art

- What's happening at the Airport and what's art got to do with it?  
The Sacramento International Airport is opening its new Central Terminal, a County project budgeted at \$1.03 billion. Twelve works of art that elevate the travel experience and provide an identity for our region have been installed at the new Terminal. The artist selection process, design review, fabrication and installation are being managed by Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission's Art in Public Places program.
- What did the art cost?  
Funds for art at the Airport are a small percentage—less than 1%—of the overall Airport expansion construction budget. Approved by the County's Board of Supervisors, the cost of designing and building the 12 works of art was \$6 million, with an additional \$2 million set aside in an endowment to maintain it.
- Who's paying for the art?  
The total terminal construction budget, including the art, is funded through bonds, grants, fees from airlines, an existing surcharge on passenger tickets, concessions, parking and rental cars. This money cannot be used for any other public expense because of Federal law mandating that money earmarked for airports can only be used for airports. Funds did not come from taxpayer dollars.
- Did local artists participate in the project?  
Yes. Of the twelve artists whose works will be in the new Terminal, three are from Sacramento and a total of nine are from the Northern California region. These artists were selected – from the more than 500 artists who applied – through a rigorous two-year panel process that involved community members, county and Airport staff, the Airport's principal architect, and more than 50 curators, art historians, and critics. The panelists understood that working with local artists is an important emphasis of the Arts Commission.
- How much were the artists paid?  
The fee paid to each artist was 15% of his or her overall art budget. The remaining 85% paid for art project's materials, equipment, and labor costs, the majority of which went to businesses in Sacramento city, county, and state of California, employing approximately 150 people.
- Why the Red Rabbit?  
Like most of the artists hired for this project, Lawrence Argent responded to the building's architectural theme of "bringing the outdoors in." He also wanted to work on a monumental scale, creating an instantly recognizable object that illustrates our common desire to connect with our "stuff", which is represented by the giant, granite suitcase the 56-foot long rabbit is leaping into.



### **A project of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission**

To make a tour reservation for groups of ten or more, contact Dixie Laws at [dixie@dixielaws.com](mailto:dixie@dixielaws.com).

For more details and photos, go to: [www.SacMetroArts.org](http://www.SacMetroArts.org) or [www.Sacramento365.com](http://www.Sacramento365.com)

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