

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 11, 2016

PRESS CONTACT

Leticia Rhi Buckley (213) 202-5935 communications@arts.lacounty.gov

ARTWORK AT ZEV YAROSLAVSKY FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER NAMED ONE OF THE 38 BEST NEW PUBLIC ART PROJECTS IN THE UNITED STATES BY AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS

The Artwork Titled "Inverted Landscapes" by Elena Manferdini Was Chosen from 260 Submissions Across the Country







Inverted Landscapes, a site-specific artwork at the Zev Yaroslavsky Family Support Center in Van Nuys, California, has been named as one of the 38 best public art projects by the 2015 Public Art Network (PAN) Year in Review by Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts.

The annual Year in Review program recognizes the most exemplary, innovative, permanent or temporary public art works created or debuted in the previous year. It is the only national award that specifically recognizes public art projects. The 2015 Year in Review honorees were chosen from 260 submissions from across the United States.

"We believe that art contributes to the healing qualities of a place and the health of a community," said Pauline Kamiyama, Interim Director of Civic Art, Los Angeles County Arts Commission. "We are grateful to the Board of Supervisors, whose ongoing commitment to civic art invites artists like Elena Manferdini to contribute to the cultural legacy of LA County."

Inverted Landscapes is an artwork with two distinct parts that are thematically connected but located separately. Part one is the fantastic imagery of a large-scale structural landscape floating overhead in the building lobby, while the second part is found in the window and ground treatments of the building. Transitioning between easily identified flora and fauna such as butterflies and ladybugs to bursts of pixelated color, the artwork is meant to shift one's point of view. It appears to be a single sculpture, yet is actually a combination of digitally printed imagery, three-dimensional perforated powder coated metal panels and stainless steel reflective disks.

(Continued)

Manferdini photographed flowers, leaves and insects from all angles to create the imagery. Through digital manipulation, she combined the individual photos to create a flattened three-dimensional collage with enhanced vibrancy and color, giving the artwork depth and a photorealistic finish. The budget for the artwork including design, fabrication and installation totaled \$500,000.

The Zev Yaroslavsky Family Support Center is a new model for the County of Los Angeles Health and Human Services multi-agency campus which lends itself to innovative civic art. This prototype facility seeks to improve children and families' well-being, namely for good health, safety and survival, economic well-being, education and workforce readiness through a seamless delivery of health and human services. Elena Manferdini's *Inverted Landscapes* complements this approach by offering a moment of pause, peace and contemplation.

PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

To learn more about *Inverted Landscapes* and other projects of the Los Angeles County Arts Commission Civic Art Program, visit lacountyarts.org.

A complete list of the 2015 PAN Year in Review honorees can be found at Artsusa.org.

###

About Elena Manferdini

Elena Manferdini is principal and owner of Atelier Manferdini and teaches at the Southern California Institute of Architecture. Manferdini has received the 2013 COLA Fellowship from the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, the 2013 Graham Award for architecture, the 2013 ACADIA Innovative Research Award of Excellence and the Educator of the Year presidential award given by the AIA Los Angeles. In 2011, she was one of the recipients of the prestigious annual grants from United States Artists in the category of architecture and design. For additional information about the artist, http://www.ateliermanferdini.com/

About the Los Angeles County Civic Art Policy

In December 2004, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted the County's first Civic Art policy, which allocates one percent of County capital projects to civic art. The policy allows for integrated permanent public art enhancements, temporary art commissions, restoration of historic artworks, and the creation of cultural spaces or activities. The Los Angeles County Arts Commission is responsible for the administration of the Civic Art policy.

About the Los Angeles County Arts Commission

The Los Angeles County Arts Commission fosters excellence, diversity, vitality, understanding and accessibility of the arts in Los Angeles County. The Arts Commission provides leadership in cultural services for the County, encompassing 88 municipalities, including funding and job opportunities, professional development and general resources. lacountyarts.org.