













# **Artwork Selection:**

Frances St. is an impactful artery that invites pedestrians and commuters from the train station and historic Downtown Sunnyvale into the center of Cityline. We looked for a **totemic sculpture with verticality** that would be **a beacon to visitors** to the area, and highlight this important corridor that connects a transportation hub and the social core of the site. We also wanted an artwork that drew upon the **materiality of the surrounding terracotta buildings and the natural landscaping** on Frances.

**Sam Falls** (b. 1984) is a California-based artist who draws upon plant matter and the natural landscape to create works that bridge painting, photography and sculpture. Embracing the variable conditions of working en plein air, Falls engages the environment and the passage of time to create poetic, site-specific paintings and sculptures which act as a direct conduit to the experience of being immersed in nature.

## Career Highlights:

Folsom Streetscape, San Francisco, CA, 2020 (Public Art)

En Plein Air, The Highline, New York, NY 2019 (Public Art)

Laumeier Sculpture Park, Saint Louis, MO 2019 (Public Art)

Sculpture Garden Biennale, Genève, Switzerland 2018 (Public Art)

Light over Time, Public Art Fund, New York, NY 2014 (Public Art)

LAX Art, Los Angeles, CA 2013 (Public Art)

Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo, Japan 2024 (Solo Exhibition)

303 Gallery, New York, NY 2023 (Solo Exhibition)

Jessica Silverman, San Francisco, CA 2023 (Solo Exhibition)

MOCA Cleveland, Cleveland, OH 2023 (Solo Exhibition)

Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA 2018 (Solo Exhibition)

Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, CO 2018 (Group Exhibition)

ICA Boston, Boston, MA 2017 (Group Exhibition)











#### Sam Falls - Artist Statement

For Cityline Sunnyvale, Falls will create a monumental sculpture (30' tall by 1'6" diameter) using an I-beam and brightly glazed ceramic tiles. The ceramic will incorporate imagery that references the local environment, specifically the Redwood trees that anchor the heart of Cityline and the surrounding Bay Area, along with their native undergrowth. This totemic structure will serve as a beacon or icon for those approaching Cityline along Washington Ave and Frances St, and it will pay homage to the redwood tree, once named Vargas, that stood at the center of the site. Given the historical longevity of ceramics, Falls envisions the artwork as a fossil of the local flora, a monument to the area's pre-human inhabitants and a tribute to their significance for centuries to come.

Juxtaposing the organic with the man-made, the piece will feature two distinct sides with unique imagery. Conceptually, the colors will reflect the overarching goals of the artwork: one side connected to the grand tapestry of the earth and landscape, and the other representing the passage of each day. Looking south at the sculpture towards the park, Falls envisions the glaze transitioning in an organic gradient from earth tones to verdant greens of a redwood canopy, to oceanic and astral blues, mimicking the colors of the forest floor and the sky. Looking north at the sculpture from the park, the colors will evoke the hues and tones of a day passing, from sunrise to sunset. The artwork also functions obliquely as a sundial, nodding to the artist's interest in the passage of time. As the sun traverses the sky, the public will witness a shadow cast by its singular form, reminiscent of standing beneath a Redwood tree and encouraging prolonged engagement with the artwork.





SAM FALLS





#### **Material & Maintenance Details**

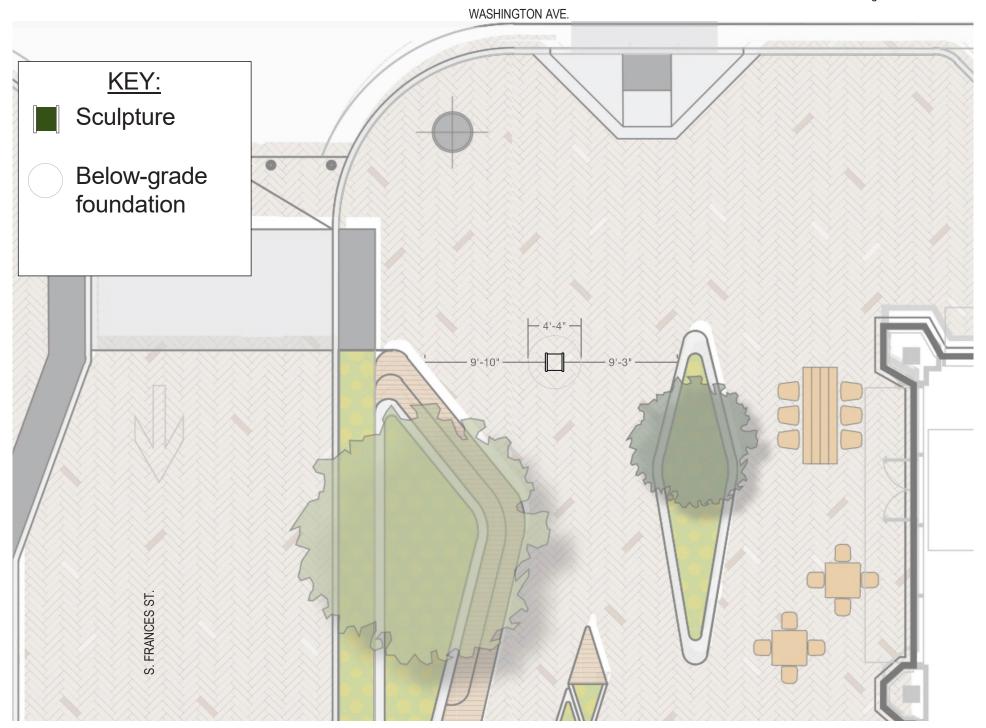
The sculpture consists of an A36 structural steel I-beam, A36 expanded metal mesh, glazed ceramic, and mortar for adhering the ceramic components to the metal mesh. The mortar used is Mapei Large Tile and Stone Mortar, Ultracolor Plus FA grout, which has stain blockers and does not require a sealant.

To maintain the artwork, rinse with clean water 4x/ year. Any stains, bird droppings, or graffiti can be removed with a non-abrasive detergent and soft bristle brush.

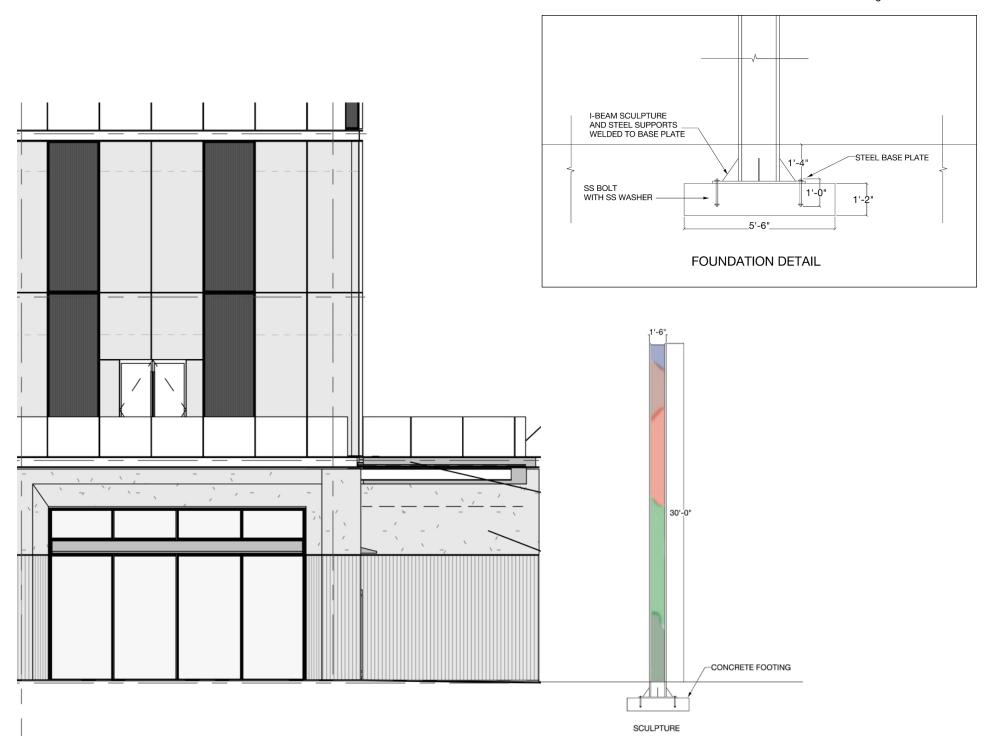
Material Samples & Representations





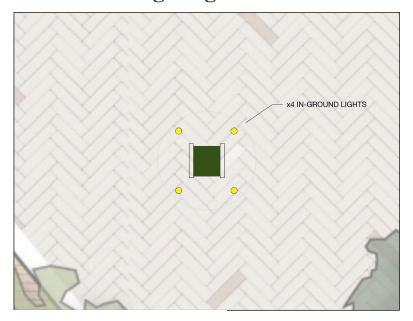


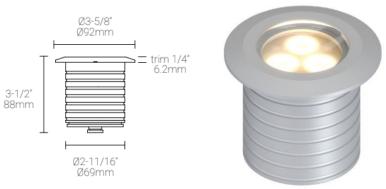
# Elevation & Dimensions



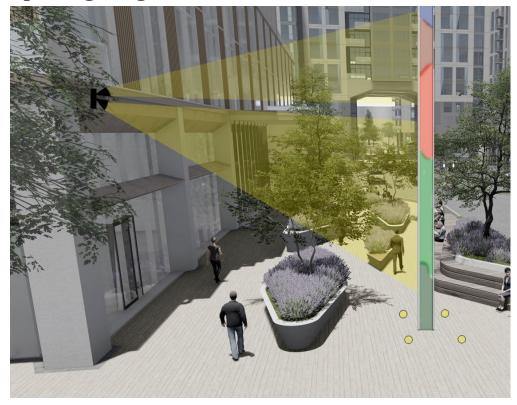
The sculpture will be primarily lit by four in-ground up-lights installed around the base that point directly at the artwork iself in order to show off the piece at night and to alert pedestrians to its presence. Supplemental lighting will come from spotlights installed on the canopy level of the adjacent building. All lights will land directly on the sculpture, in compliance with dark sky requirements.

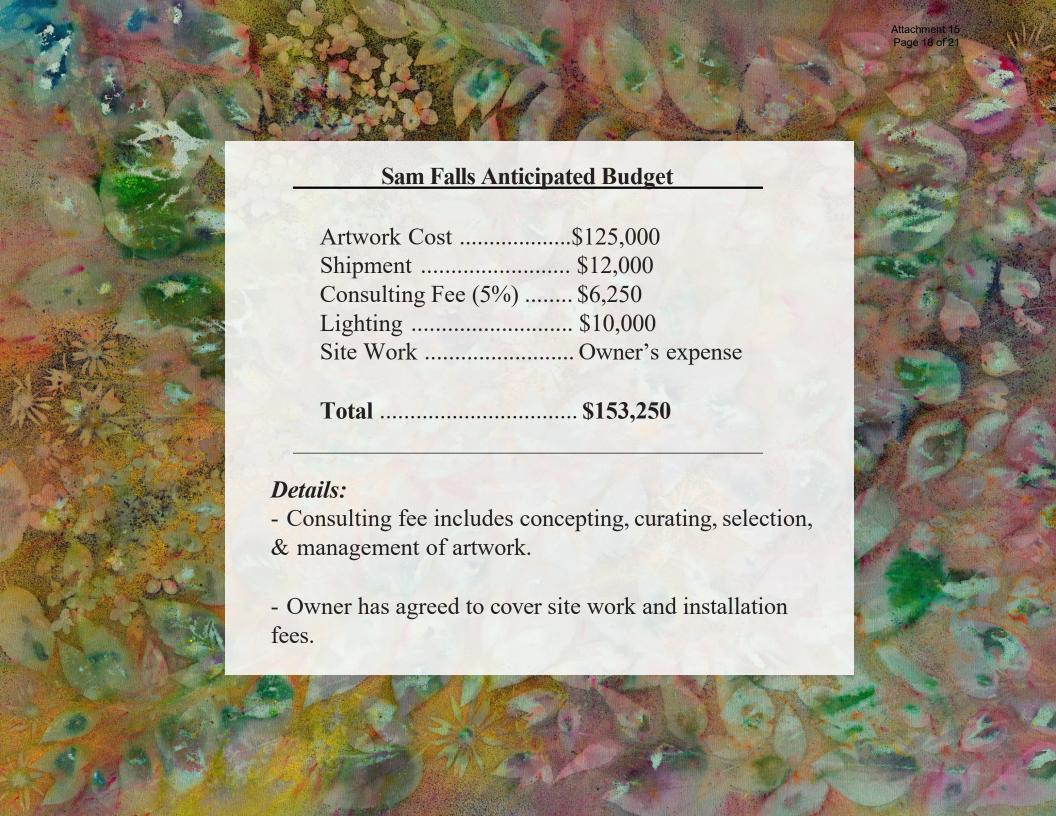
## **In-Ground Lighting:**





## **Spot Lighting:**











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