



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

## Memo to the Planning Commission

HEARING DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2013

*Date:* November 7, 2013  
*Case No.:* 2006.1273EKBX  
*Project Address:* **535 Mission Street**  
*Zoning:* C-3-O (SD) (Downtown Office-Special Development) District  
550-S Height and Bulk District  
Transbay C-3-O(SD) Commercial Special Use District  
Transbay C-3 Special Use District  
*Block/Lot:* 3721/122  
*Staff Contact:* Kevin Guy – (415) 558-6163  
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*Recommendation:* **None - Informational Item Only**

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### BACKGROUND

In August 2007, the Planning Commission granted approvals for 535 Mission Street project, a 27-story office building with approximately 3,700 square feet of ground-floor retail space, as well as publicly-accessible open space adjacent to Shaw Alley. The project is currently under construction as is expected to be completed during 2014.

### PUBLIC ART PROPOSAL

The Project Sponsor proposes to fulfill the public art requirements of Planning Code Section 429 by providing two artworks on site. The first artwork is a sculptural composition by Anton Josef Standteiner entitled "The Band", constructed of bronze, copper, and steel, situated at the corner of Minna Street and Shaw Alley. The piece consists of four separate sculptures representing members of a music group, with each sculpture measuring approximately 10 feet in height. The second artwork is a linear piece composed of a pattern of dichroic and mirrored glass mounted to a stone backing. This piece would be mounted within the lobby with portions extending outdoors beyond the glass curtain wall of the lobby, and the artwork would be highly visible from the exterior. Both artworks are intended to enliven and engage Shaw Alley, a public right-of-way which will be closed to vehicular traffic and upgraded with paving, lighting, and landscape treatments. Shaw Alley is expected to function as a significant pedestrian linkage between Mission Street and the Transit Center.

### REQUIRED COMMISSION ACTION

This item is being presented by the project sponsor for informational purposes only. No formal action by the Planning Commission is required.

<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> <b>None - Informational Item Only</b>
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**Attachments:**  
Public Art Proposal



# 535 Mission Street Art Program

 Boston Properties

November 6, 2013





## Table of Contents

1. About 535 Mission
2. Lobby Renderings
3. About the Artists
4. Art Location Plan

Shaw Alley toward Mission Street

# About 535 Mission Street

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**LEED® GOLD ANTICIPATED**

**SIZE**

354,000 sq. ft.  
27 stories

**COMPLETION**

2014

535 Mission Street, presently under construction, is an architecturally distinct office tower that will transform the block bounded by Mission Street, Shaw Alley and Minna Street. In addition to office space, the 27-story, Class A office tower, located at the corner of Mission Street and Shaw Alley, will provide 3,700 square feet of ground floor retail area to serve building occupants, visitors, and City residents. The public space begins in the lobby and flows into a covered outdoor plaza with flexible seating and generous landscaping. An espresso bar cart will sit at the corner of Minna Street and Shaw Alley. New street trees and a continuous band of planting will soften the Shaw Alley streetscape and enhance the pedestrian environment connecting Mission Street to the New Transbay Terminal.

The tower has been artistically designed by HOK as a slender, graceful urban form. Tapered façade corners and a sculptural cornice line define the building’s silhouette while a double-height ground floor lobby, adjacent pedestrian plazas, and improvements along Shaw Alley shape the street level experience. The building will adhere to the highest standards of environmental design as stipulated by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC), targeting minimum LEED® Gold for the Core and Shell certification.

The proposed public art includes a lively sculpture by Anton Josef Standteiner entitled *The Band* at the corner of Minna Street and Shaw Alley and a glass art light wall installation or “*Applique Da Parete*” by Gordon Huether that runs from Mission Street to Minna Street. These installations will be available for public viewing. Additionally, the project will accommodate closure of Shaw Alley to vehicular traffic permanently to further expand access to the public open space.

Standteiner’s sculpture, *The Band*, rejoices in San Francisco’s rich musical history, while situating itself among today’s stunning examples of a vibrant present. The piece is colorful and lively and will appeal to every passerby in a unique way, bringing a little movement, a little sound, a little smile to whoever sees it in hopes that they will be reminded of a good time.

Huether’s installation leverages the art glass installation to engage Shaw Alley and casually draw pedestrian traffic down Shaw as an informal “way-finding” device that connects Mission Street to Minna Street. The light wall sculpture is intended to be an environmental art installation that captures a change in light and shadow and a unique reflection of the outdoor environment throughout the day. At night while lights are on, the play of color and light contrast it’s at its full intensity and will offer a dramatic display.

With the proximity to the New Transbay Terminal, this new building and its public access will provide a lively and interesting space in the San Francisco urban fabric.



Shaw Alley toward Mission Street



Shaw Alley toward Transbay Terminal

## About Gordon Huether – Applique Da Parete

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Gordon Huether was born in Rochester, NY in 1959, to German immigrant parents. Having dual citizenship in Germany and the U.S., Huether has spent much time traveling between both countries. Huether learned art composition and appreciation at an early age from his father. In 1987, Huether founded his studio in Napa, California with a mission to create site-specific art installations. In 1989, Huether was awarded his first public art commission for the University of Alaska Geophysical Institute.

During his frequent visits to Germany in the early 1990s, Huether's aesthetic vision took an important turn, which was influenced by Professor Johannes Schreiter. While the medium of glass had initially inspired Huether's material impulses, Schreiter's work inspired him to unlock and express vital ideas and humanistic passion in his own work. Huether began to concentrate on the intellectual and emotional message one can deliver through an artistic creation. His work became about communicating a story, and not just creating objects of beauty. For more than 25 years, Napa artist Gordon Huether has been creating large-scale, site-specific art installations integrated into architecture and landscape for both public and private clients throughout the world. Huether's work has been exhibited at museums and galleries across the country and he has received more than 60 public art commissions and more than 150 private commissions.

Huether creates fine art pieces that give him the opportunity for exploration, self-discovery and the telling of stories through a multitude of materials. Much of his work is inspired by the effects nature has on man-made materials such as the rusty patterns present in deteriorating metal. These materials, translated into works of art, serve as a reminder of the temporal character of man's achievements and the awe-inspiring forces of nature.

The design concept for the 535 Mission project is to create a light wall (Applique Da Parete) of color, texture and refracted, transmitted and reflective light. The light wall is designed to be visually integrated with the stone wall in terms of scale, pattern and shadow. It is intended to be an environmental art installation that captures a change in light and shadow and a unique reflection of the outdoor environment throughout the day. At night while lights are on, when the play of color and light contrast, it will be at its full intensity and will offer a dramatic viewing.

The installation measures approximately 140 feet long by 18 feet tall and begins 12 feet off the ground. There are a total of 355 glass fins in three lengths, 30, 36 and 42 inches and two heights of 4 and 6 inches. The total square footage of art glass is 478.

There are two primary types of glass being used; dichroic and mirrored back glass on edge. The dichroic glass will be safety laminated to polished edge water white glass and will come in three colors. The colors are magenta, blue and red. The dichroic glass fins are pinned at varying heights to the stone wall with approximately 2-inch diameter stainless steel rods. The mirrored back, water white will be made of glass on edge laminated to mirror, which will be glued to the stone wall.

Beginning outdoors on Mission Street, the installation travels through the entire lobby and transitions to the outdoor space on the Minna Street side of the building. A viewer standing on Mission Street will be able to see almost the entire installation without entering the building. The intent is to leverage the art glass installation to engage Shaw Alley and casually draw pedestrian traffic down Shaw as an informal "way-finding" that connects Mission Street to Minna Street.



Mission Street Plaza / Building Main Entry - Gordon Huether - Applique Da Parete

# Anton Josef Standteiner - "The Band"

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Anton Standteiner grew up in the High Sierra of Lake Tahoe. He began his artistic career working at his father's blacksmith shop. Mountain Forge was home to Anton's metalwork education until an opportunity to study with a master smith in Peiting Germany presented itself in 2000. Anton's first full scale public artwork was completed under the instruction of the well-known German blacksmith, Martin Briedenbach.

After his first public project, he was commissioned for several other pieces, including several sculptures in 2013 for the City of Capitola, art integration for entry gates for the Family Resource Center in Truckee in 2012, a functional Windmill for the Sierra Nevada Children's Museum in Reno in 2011, a flower sculpture created from a recycled steel bike rack for the KidZone Museum in Truckee in 2010, and public art for the theater entrance and sculpture garden for the 2000 Oberammergau Passion Play in Germany, among others.

His most cherished sculpture to date is a piece he designed collaboratively with well-known contemporary artist and painter, Wayne Theibaud, in 2009. He and Theibaud worked together to create a work of mixed metal. This artistic collaboration between two artists of such divergent mediums and materials was very exciting for the members of the blacksmithing community and was recognized in several industry publications in Germany, Austria, and United States as a result.

The 535 Mission sculpture builds on this use of mixed metal techniques. The sculpture combines bronze, copper, mild steel. All have vibrant color patterns that can be forged to glint in the sun or deepen in the rain. Color is important in a modern setting of voiceless light and stoic glass because it speaks in a loud roar or a quiet whisper. It meets the demands of its diverse high tech audience by being something unique and original to everyone.

Public art commands that level of fluidity and universal appeal. The Band has an abstract composition from afar, but upon closer inspection it becomes a lively musical show as a happening jazz ensemble, a jamming rock band, or whatever the "listener" wants to hear and see, but it is the color that will really bring this piece to life.

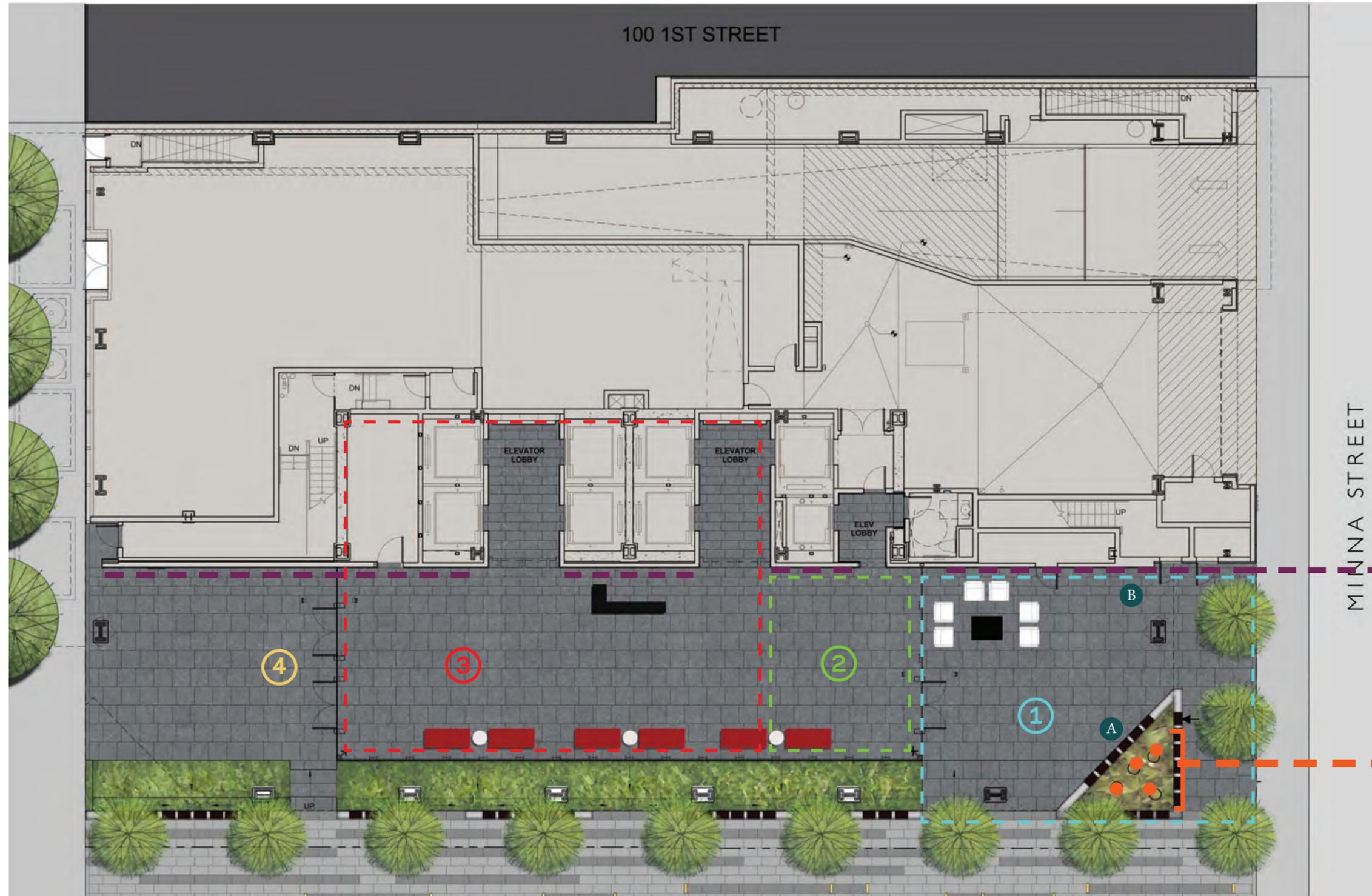
This installation will consist of four separate sculptures with each band member measuring roughly 4 feet in diameter by 10 feet tall. Each band member will be a varied assortment of type 316 stainless steel, 464 naval bronze, pure copper, and/or cartridge brass.

The sculpture rejoices in San Francisco's rich musical history, while situating itself among today's stunning examples of a vibrant present, creating something as colorful and lively as the residents of the city from way back when, to right this minute and into tomorrow's future. Music is timeless and inclusive.



Minna Street Plaza - Anton Josef Standteiner - "The Band"

# 535 Mission Street / Plaza and Art Location Plan



## Key

- 1 - Plaza, Covered and Open
- 2 - Indoor Plaza
- 3 - Building Lobby
- 4. Mission Street Building Entry/Plaza

## Proposed Signage Text

- A** The plaza and seating area of this building are provided and maintained for the enjoyment of the public.
- B** Gordon Huether's "Applique Da Parete" glass sculpture is located within the lobby of the building, and is provided for the enjoyment of the public. It is accessible from 8am - 6pm.

Gordon Huether's "Applique Da Parete"

Anton Standteiner's "The Band"