



Commission for Arts and Culture

FACT SHEET

Public Art at Fire Station No. 22

Firefighters, 2018

About the Artwork

The artist Roberto Delgado, who received this public art commission by the City, created a site-specific artwork for the façade of the fire station. The artwork, titled *Firefighters*, consists of a four-part mural installation covering the vertical columns on the north face of the building. Delgado's colorful and complex artwork for the fire station chronicles the history and character of the Point Loma neighborhood and its firefighters. Contemporary and historic photos are arranged into dynamic overlapping and layered compositions. Photographic imagery ranging from the Point Loma lighthouse to the neighborhood's past and present firefighters was transferred to porcelain tiles using a silkscreen and airbrush process and then assembled to create the installation. The resulting artwork invites curiosity of those traveling to or from the fire station about the community and the people who protect it.

About the Artist

Los-Angeles based artist Roberto Delgado creates both canvas-based paintings and murals which draw from an interest in the photographic image and the human form. His vibrant artworks reflect on the people and circumstances that he encounters. In the late 1970s and early 80s, Delgado spent time in Mexican state of Chiapas where he refined his practice in muralism and public art. Since that time, he has continued to create work for the public realm. Among his recent public art projects, Delgado created tiles, pavers, and murals for three Minneapolis-St. Paul light rail stations; as well as a ceramic cut-tile mural at a transit center in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Delgado studied art at the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome and holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of California Los Angeles. He is the recipient of a Brody Arts Foundation grant, a Ford Foundation grant, and two Fulbright Fellowships, the first in 1987 and the second in 1995 to teach about public art in Honduras.

About the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture

The Commission for Arts and Culture serves in an advisory capacity to the Mayor and City Council on promoting, encouraging and increasing support for the region's artistic and cultural assets, integrating arts and culture into community life and showcasing San Diego as an international tourist destination. The Commission, through its Public Art Program, promotes artistic development and transforms the built environment of San Diego's public buildings and spaces through the inclusion of public art in capital improvement projects.