

PROPOSAL FOR TREATMENT AND REINSTALLATION OF
ENZO GALLO'S *THE GLORY OF OLD GLORY*

January 5, 2023



Prepared for:

Daniel Ciraldo
Executive Director
Miami Design Preservation League
1001 Ocean Drive, Miami Beach, FL 33139
305.672.2014
daniel@mdpl.org

Prepared by:

RLA Conservation
852 NW 71st Street
Miami, FL 33150
Attn: Elena Bowen, Conservator
ebowen@rlaconservation.com

INTRODUCTION: Enzo Gallo's *The Glory of Old Glory* is composed of six (6) 15' x 15' mosaics depicting the US flag over time through scenes of American historical figures including Abraham Lincoln, Betsy Ross, man on the moon, and the raising of the flag over Iwo Jima. The mosaics also depict important US government buildings as well as a depiction of the state of Florida with the state flag. Each mosaic is made of irregularly-cut glass mosaic tiles of various colors set in mortar. The mosaic was created directly over concrete masonry units (CMUs) and, in three horizontal areas, applied directly to concrete structural beams. The artist's signature can be seen in the bottom visual right corner of the Lincoln mosaic. The mosaic panels were removed prior to demolition of the building and transferred to storage in an old Epicure grocery store.

Daniel Ciraldo, Executive Director of the Miami Dade Preservation League (MDPL), is currently in the beginning phases of fundraising and discussion with developers in order to determine a new location for the mosaics and the funds for conservation treatment. The following proposal is a ballpark estimate to prepare each panel for installation, oversee installation of the mosaics in a new location, and conserve the panels in-situ. As the new location is yet to be determined and the extent of conservation work necessary to stitch together the mosaic sections is unknown, this estimate is based on RLA's extensive experience with mosaic conservation and will likely need to be revised once the final installation location is chosen. Please note that installation of the mosaics will require input from a structural engineer, the cost of which is included in this proposal. Should the mosaic be installed above ground level, this proposal will need to be revised to include the cost of scaffolding.

BACKGROUND: RLA Conservation's conservators Rosa Lowinger and Caroline Dickensheets were contacted by MDPL in June 2022 to work with AmeriCaribe and provide guidance for conservation best practices for deinstallation of the mosaics. The building itself was scheduled for demolition without a plan in place for removing the mosaics prior. RLA has a history with these murals, having been first contacted in 2016 by the daughter of Shepherd Broad to remove the mosaics and reinstall them in a Bay Harbor public school. During the process of creating a proposal, Mr. Broad passed away and the project was no longer pursued by the family. Following this, in 2016, RLA was contacted by Marisa Galbut, the representative for then-owner of the building Russell Galbut. RLA was in discussions to remove a test panel, when the building owner dropped the project.

During the week of June 13 - 17, RLA Conservator Elena Bowen met with staff from General Contractors AmeriCaribe, LLC, Samurai Core Drilling Corp, and MDPL. From test cuts done on the mosaics, three (3) structural concrete beams were discovered running across the top, middle, and bottom of the mosaics. In these areas, the mosaic had been directly applied to the beams and therefore could not be deinstalled in blocks. Additionally, due to the sheer weight of the CMU substrate behind the mosaic, the contractors decided to cut 2' x 2' sections, which could be

handled by two people in the boom lift. After redrawing gridlines around the structural beams and edges of each mosaic, the panels were 3' x 3' each.

Overall, the mosaics are in good condition and the tesserae are mostly stable. The tesserae are generally well adhered to the substrate and only minor losses were noted along the edges of the deinstalled panels. During deinstallation, it was determined that approximately three to four inches of the mosaic border could not be salvaged due to limitations from the circular saw thickness. These areas can be replicated with a faux finish once the mosaics are re-installed. Three horizontal segments across each mosaic were directly applied to concrete structural beams and therefore were removed in smaller fragments than the larger panels on the CMU substrate. It is unknown at this time by RLA how many fragments these areas were divided into.

PROPOSED TREATMENT: This ballpark estimate is based off of the best-case scenario in which the mosaics are installed at ground-level and can be easily stitched back together. As of the writing of this proposal, RLA has not examined the removed mosaic panels for tesserae loss or stability and a new location for the mosaics has not been determined. If any of these factors change, reinstallation will be more complicated and will result in a revised proposal and estimated costs. Additionally, a facility with access to electricity and water will need to be identified where conservation work prior to reinstallation can be carried out. The cost of this is not included in the proposal.

1. Assess and inventory all of the elements. Use a diagram of the installed artwork to attempt to determine where each item is located in the composition. Assign a number to each item if a number is not already assigned.
2. Photograph each element and sort the pieces so mosaics are separated and carefully catalogued. Determine if any items are missing.
3. Provide oversight to a fine art handling firm for the transportation of the mosaic to a to-be-determined facility for treatment.
 - a. The mosaic will need to be placed on a platform support in order treatment to be performed. A forklift or other machinery will most likely be required to move these mosaics and place them on the supports.
4. Clean all of the elements using a conservation grade detergent and low-pressure water.
5. Reset loose tesserae and source new tesserae to replace missing ones.
6. Perform preliminary repairs to the concrete in preparation for being able to turn the mosaics.
7. Possibly face mosaic panels as needed.
8. Using a forklift, move and turn the mosaics for work on the backs.
9. Remove CMU backing from each panel.
10. Once elements are conserved, safeguard them in a covered area until they can be installed. The cost of this will need to be calculated separately once we know where the items are going and who will move them.

11. Prior to re-installation, consult with a structural engineer to determine best method of attachment, which will be dependent upon the receiving wall/location. This will inform any modifications that need to be made to the back side of the mosaics, construction of specialty frame, etc.
12. Source replacement tesserae to match originals as close as possible in terms of color and reflectance.
 - a. Any tiles collected during the de-installation phase will be cleaned and reused within the mosaic for the restoration.
13. Mosaics to be re-installed per the engineer's specifications by a subcontract art handling firm, to be performed with conservation oversight by RLA.
 - a. During installation, ensure that each section is straight along both the horizontal and vertical axis and that the kerf of the cut is maintained in order to keep original spacing of the individual panels. In addition, great care will be taken to ensure that the mosaic sections are in plane and do not become faceted.
14. Once all mosaic sections are installed, remove facing from mosaic and investigate changes in the mural surface. Document any new conditions that may have appeared in transport or during de-installation.
15. Clean mural with a conservation grade cleaning agent.
16. Conduct general sounding survey of all surfaces to see if any areas of delamination have developed since de-installation.
 - a. If so, inject a conservation grade material into delaminating areas identified during sounding to provide stability to these vulnerable locations.
17. Damp-clean surface and interior of any cracks with clean/distilled water to remove all dust, loose or deleterious material.
18. Remove tiles directly affected by the cut lines throughout the mosaic. These would be any tiles that were cut during the de-installation process.
19. Back-fill cut lines to create a stable surface for replacement tiles.
20. Replacement tiles will be set and grouted with an appropriate mortar and grout, matching the original in color and texture as closely as possible.
21. Investigate the need for a sealant on the mosaic, particularly if it is re-installed outdoors or in a high-traffic area where they can be touched by visitors.
22. Note: This scope does not include special trim or other finishing around the borders/edges of the mosaic to recreate the edges of the mosaics lost during deinstallation.

Estimated Cost Per Pictorial Panel = \$250,000.00 – 295,000.00

Includes labor, materials, specialized equipment rentals, structural engineer, and administrative time for coordination. Allow approximately a 3-5% increase annually beginning in January 2023.

Note: RLA estimates that these costs could be reduced after the first panel is completed. Each time one of these is completed, we may be able to refine the process. We estimate that each installation

of a pictorial panel will range depending on whether it is installed at ground level or higher up. This scope does not allow for scaffolding or permit costs. Owners should allow approximately \$300,000 per the initial panels and a lower cost for future ones, as long as they are not situated on a high surface.

Total Cost to Treat and Oversee Installation of All Six (6) Panels = \$1,470,000.00 – 1,749,000.00

Please Note: Pre-payment of 50% due upon submission of signed proposal. Balance due upon completion.

EXCLUSIONS AND CAVEATS

- This price is valid for a period of 90 days from the date of the proposal.
- No work will be performed until a mutually acceptable schedule for work and payment is agreed upon.
- Costs are NOT based on Davis Bacon, Service Contract Act or any other legally mandated prevailing wage rates beyond minimum wage. If prevailing wage compliance is required, we reserve the right to modify our proposal accordingly.
- We require clear access to the worksite in an uninterrupted schedule during daytime work hours, Monday through Friday, unless other arrangements are made.
- We will require access to water and electricity within 100 feet of the work site.
- We will require access to free parking for at least one vehicle in close proximity to the worksite.
- We will require access to bathrooms at the worksite.
- Non-toxic trash will be deposited into dumpsters provided by client unless otherwise arranged.
- This price does not include any special insurance, permits, licenses, or bonds.
- Notwithstanding anything in the proposal/agreement to the contrary, any material or equipment prices provided herein are only applicable to work performed in the next 90 days. After this period, material and equipment prices will be subject to further increases due to any shortages, unavailability or increases in market pricing from any cause whatsoever except to the extent caused by RLA. If, during the performance of the proposal/agreement, any material or equipment price increases, the price shall be increased by an amount necessary to cover such price increases. Where the delivery of material or equipment is delayed, through no fault of RLA, RLA shall not be responsible for any additional costs or damages associated with such delays.
- RLA shall not be considered in default because of any failure to perform the above scope of work under its terms if the failure arises from causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of RLA. Examples of these causes are (1) acts of God or of the public enemy, (2) acts of the Government in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, (3) fires, (4) floods, (5) epidemics, (6) quarantine restrictions, (7) strikes, (8) freight embargoes, (9) earthquakes, and (10) unusually severe weather. In each instance, if RLA determines that any failure to perform would result from one or more of the causes above, the delivery schedule shall be revised.

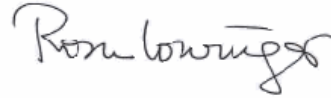
Thank you for your consideration of this proposal. We look forward to working with you.

Prepared by:



Elena Bowen, Conservator

Approved by:



Rosa Lowinger, Chief Conservator

NOTE: THIS PROPOSAL IS THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OF RLA CONSERVATION OF ART & ARCHITECTURE AND MAY NOT BE SHARED WITH ANY OTHER PARTIES OR INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSION OF RLA CONSERVATION OF ART & ARCHITECTURE OR USED TO CREATE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) TO SOLICIT WORK FROM ANOTHER CONSERVATION FIRM.

Accepted by:

(sign name)

(print name)

(title & agency)

(date)