Metro THESOURCE

New Metro artwork by Jacob Hashimoto inspired by a 4,800 year-old pine tree

By Selene Santiago August 8, 2023



Artwork panels laid out during fabrication

Metro Art commissioned artist Jacob Hashimoto's artwork, *The Ancient Forest*, is being installed at the Metro Center Project facility.

Here are some interesting facts about the artwork and artist:

- The artist was inspired by the cellular structure of a 4,800 year-old Great Basin bristlecone pine, known as the Methuselah tree The Methuselah tree is thought to be one of the oldest known living organisms in the world.
- The design represents a growing network of public transportation that serves the county.
- Inspired and informed by the architectural design and build process and in consultation with the fabricators, the artist developed a silkscreen process that integrates the artwork into the building panels.
- Hashimoto is world-renowned for his intricate, large-scale, hanging installations, many of which use traditional kite-making techniques. He has been featured in multiple museum exhibitions in the U.S. and abroad and has created artwork for public buildings — including key transportation hubs such as airports.

Learn more about the artist selection and this in progress artwork.

In addition to the Metro Center Project artwork by Jacob Hashimoto, the project also includes temporary construction banners entitled, *we bear the fruit of our ancestors*, designed by a team consisting of the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center (JACCC), artist Susu Attar and artist Kuniharu Yoshida. Learn about the artists' community engagement and view the vibrant banner images set to be installed summer 2023!