



## Art Magazine Picks Metro Rail Stations for Top Honors

by GAYLE ANDERSON, Associate Editor

*Art in America*, a national monthly magazine that keeps tabs on the art world, has selected three Metro Rail stations to be among the top 24 public art projects of 1999.

The projects selected for the magazine's 1999 Public Art Year in Review honors are the Vermont/Sunset, Hollywood/Western and Vermont/Santa Monica Metro Rail stations.

The three stations share the spotlight with 21 other public art projects from across the nation in the August issue that also features the annual publication of the Guide and Sourcebook to the U.S. Art World.

"It's an honor to be selected for this annual review, which is a national recognition of professional achievement," said Maya Emsden, director of Metro Art programs.

Metro Art programs and projects have received more than 18 significant art and design awards and extensive positive international media coverage. The *New York Times* called MTA Metro Art "one of the most imaginative public art programs in the country."

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In June, the US Department of Transportation bestowed the Design Excellence Award 2000, a highly competitive national honor awarded every five years to activities which "develop, foster, or sustain design excellence...and have made an outstanding contribution to the nation's transportation systems and the people they serve."

Awards garnered by Metro Art range demonstrate a range of appreciation from general aesthetics to the most specific details. For example, the Portland Cement Association gave its "Concrete in Transit Award" to the Vermont/Santa Monica Station and the International Union of Bricklayers bestowed its "Best Tile and Mosaic Project" upon the Hollywood/Vine station.

With more than \$2.5 million of artists' commissions remaining on the books for several new initiatives in the Metro Rail system, Metro Art cannot yet rest on its laurels.

Up next are proposals for a performance art program, temporary works throughout the system including photo and poetry-based projects, and a permanent project in one of the tunnels, said Emsden.

<b>MTA METRO ART AWARDS</b>	
<b>2000</b>	
Art In America Magazine Public Art:1999 IN REVIEW	Vermont/Sunset, Hollywood/Western and Vermont/Santa Monica Metro Rail Stations
Progressive Architecture Award (Citation)	101 Pedestrian Bridge Morphosis, architects Jenny Holzer, artist
U.S. Dept. of Transportation Merit Award for Design Excellence	10 Years of Metro Art Programs Permanent Art Program, Temporary Art Program, Conservation Program, and Docent Tour Program
U.S. Dept. of Transportation Merit Award for Design Excellence	Vermont/Santa Monica Metro Rail Station Robert Millar, artist Ellerbe Becket, architects
Los Angeles Business Council Urban Beautification Award	Vermont/Santa Monica Metro Rail Station Robert Millar, artist Ellerbe Becket, architects
Portland Cement Association Concrete in Transit Award	Vermont/Santa Monica Metro Rail Station Robert Millar, artist Ellerbe Becket, architects
Chicago Athenaeum American Architecture Award	Vermont/Santa Monica Metro Rail Station Robert Millar, artist Ellerbe Becket, architects
<b>1999</b>	
International Union of Bricklayers Best Tile & Mosaic Project	Hollywood/Vine Metro Rail Station (nominated by Local 18) Gilbert "Magu" Lujan, artist Adolfo Miralles, architect
Hollywood Arts Council Charlie Award	Hollywood/Vine Metro Rail Station (nominated by Local 18) Gilbert "Magu" Lujan, artist Adolfo Miralles, architect
<b>1998</b>	
Rose Award Best Public Art Downtown Breakfast Club	Photo Essay Bus Card Project Willie Garcia, photographer Marisela Norte, writer

1997	
Caltrans Design Excellence Award	Douglas/Rosecrans Metro Rail Station Renee Petropolous, artist EFA, architects
Metropolitan Home Magazine "World's Top 100 Design Ideas"	Metro Art included in this magazine's feature issue of the world's best 100 design ideas (selected by design critic Aaron Betsky)
1996	
Los Angeles Business Council Urban Beautification Award	Marine Metro Rail Station Carl Cheng, artist EFA, architects
1995	
Los Angeles Business Council Urban Beautification Award	Baldwin Park Metrolink Station Judy Baca, artist Siegel Diamond Architects
National Endowment for the Arts/ U.S. Department of Transportation Merit Award for Design Excellence	Vernon Metro Rail Station Horace Washington, artist
AIA Award San Fernando Valley Chapter	Universal City Metro Rail Station Margaret Garcia, artist Seigel Diamond Architects
1994	
Caltrans Design Excellence Award	Five Downtown Metro Rail stations
1992	
Progressive Architecture Award (Citation)	Vermont/Santa Monica Metro Rail Station Robert Millar, artist Ellerbe Becket, architects
1991	
Rose Award Best Public Art Downtown Breakfast Club	Metro Center Metro Rail Station Terry Schoonhoven, artist (Project funded by Home Savings)

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