

Legacy Business Registry Staff Report

HEARING DATE JUNE 12, 2017

CANESSA GALLERY

Application No.: LBR-2016-17-046
Business Name: Canessa Gallery
Business Address: 708 Montgomery Street
District: District 3
Applicant: Zach Stewart
Nomination Date: December 12, 2016
Nominated By: Supervisor Aaron Peskin
Staff Contact: Richard Kurylo
legacybusiness@sfgov.org

BUSINESS DESCRIPTION

Canessa Gallery is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit art gallery that was founded by Zach Stewart, an architect, landscape designer, environmentalist and political activist in 1966. The gallery officially received nonprofit status in 1976. Stewart's architecture firm had moved into the former Canessa Printing Co. building (1890s-1965) and Stewart pursued an idea of utilizing the large open space below their offices as an art gallery. One of Canessa Gallery's first exhibitions was based on the firm's interest in designing parks and showcased photographs of the well-known nature photographer Philip Hyde. Stewart continued to host shows and exhibitions, many of which had a strong emphasis on the natural world. Through establishing Canessa Gallery, Stewart acknowledged and restored Montgomery Street's artistic heritage that was once composed of studios for artists such as Maynard Dixon, Ralph Stackpole, Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera. Similarly, the ground floor of the Canessa Printing Co. building was once home to the Black Cat Café (1930s-1963), a notorious space for bohemian and Beat artists, writers, and poets with a mixed straight and gay crowd.

Canessa Gallery lives up to its mission "to support and showcase the work of artists who are dedicated to be artists for their lifetime" by not only reintroducing the building and Montgomery Street's artistic roots, but also by providing invaluable exhibition, performance, and meeting spaces to the artistic, literary, and progressive community of San Francisco in a time when gallery and performance spaces are dwindling. It is not a traditional gallery that signs artists onto its list of talent and promotes their work to collectors but rather it allows "artists-for-life" to hang their work on the walls and invite friends and neighbors and the public to see their work in conversation with itself or with that of other artists. Canessa gallery has become fundamental to the continuity of North Beach/Jackson Square as a center of San Francisco's rich artistic, literary, and cultural history. The gallery regularly hosts poetry readings, lectures, and various cultural and community meetings and events and currently hosts an ongoing monthly poetry critique group and monthly Meridian Music Series featuring experimental musicians.

CRITERION 1: Has the applicant operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years?



Yes, the applicant has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years:

708 Montgomery Street from 1966 to Present (51 years).

CRITERION 2: Has the applicant contributed to the neighborhood's history and/or the identity of a particular neighborhood or community?

Yes, the applicant has contributed to the North Beach/Jackson Square neighborhood's history and identity.

The Historic Preservation Commission recommended the applicant as qualifying, noting the following ways the applicant contributed to the neighborhood's history and/or the identity of a particular neighborhood or community:

- Canessa Gallery is associated with the tradition of exhibiting the work of emerging and established artists, a historic tradition of the neighborhood.
- Canessa Gallery has contributed to the community's history and identity by providing a space for emerging and established artists to showcase and promote their work thereby contributing to and continuing the artistic history of the neighborhood.
- The 1906 property has been identified as a "Category A Property" located within the Article 10 Jackson Square Landmark Historic District. The building is also associated with the former Black Cat Café as identified and described in the Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco.
- The business has received two proclamations from the City and County of San Francisco
- The business has been cited in the following publications:
 - Hoodline, 8/18/2015, "Canessa Gallery is a North beach Vessel of Art and History," by Geri Koeppel.
 - Semaphore, Summer 2016, "The Art of Survival: Canessa Gallery Turns 50," by Carolyn Miller.

CRITERION 3: Is the applicant committed to maintaining the physical features or traditions that define the business, including craft, culinary, or art forms?

Yes, Canessa Gallery is committed to maintaining the physical features and traditions that define its presence as an exhibition space for artists in a city that is experiencing a shortage of gallery spaces, as a space for poetry readings, lectures and various cultural and community events, and as a continuing supporter of the artistic history of the neighborhood.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

The Historic Preservation Commission recommends that Canessa Gallery qualifies for the Legacy Business Registry under Administrative Code Section 2A.242(b)(2) and recommends safeguarding of the below listed physical features and traditions.

Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Business:

- Tradition of regularly hosting various cultural and community meetings and events.
- Gallery and performance spaces.
- Business model that supports new, emerging and established artists with a focus on allowing artists to showcase and promote their work and engage in conversation with friends, the public and other artists.
- Location of the business in the Canessa Printing Co. building on Montgomery Street within the North Beach neighborhood.





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EDWIN M. LEE, MAYOR

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
REGINA DICK-ENDRIZZI, DIRECTOR

- Design by Italian-American architect Luigi Mastropasqua that includes Asian-inspired round windows incorporated into a Palladian façade, recessed fenestration throughout the primary façade and applied lettering “Canessa Printing Co.” below a bracketed cornice.
- Mezzanine above and open to the gallery space thought to have been constructed by shipbuilders and is supported only by slender metal poles.
- Gallery space at the second floor that includes original pine flooring and remnants of the Canessa Printing Co. such as small brass fittings that swing out from the walls that are still-working gaslights.
- Staff recommends that exterior features outlined in the Article 10 Jackson Square Landmark District landmark designation that are relevant to the Canessa Printing Co. building continue to be maintained.

CORE PHYSICAL FEATURE OR TRADITION THAT DEFINES THE BUSINESS

Following is the core physical feature or tradition that defines the business that would be required for maintenance of the business on the Legacy Business Registry.

- Art gallery.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the San Francisco Small Business Commission include Canessa Gallery currently located at 708 Montgomery Street in the Legacy Business Registry as a Legacy Business under Administrative Code Section 2A.242.

Richard Kurylo, Manager
Legacy Business Program



Small Business Commission Draft Resolution

HEARING DATE JUNE 12, 2017

CANESSA GALLERY

LEGACY BUSINESS REGISTRY RESOLUTION NO. _____

<i>Application No.:</i>	LBR-2016-17-046
<i>Business Name:</i>	Canessa Gallery
<i>Business Address:</i>	708 Montgomery Street
<i>District:</i>	District 3
<i>Applicant:</i>	Zach Stewart
<i>Nomination Date:</i>	December 12, 2016
<i>Nominated By:</i>	Supervisor Aaron Peskin
<i>Staff Contact:</i>	Richard Kurylo legacybusiness@sfgov.org

ADOPTING FINDINGS APPROVING THE LEGACY BUSINESS REGISTRY APPLICATION FOR CANESSA GALLERY, CURRENTLY LOCATED AT 708 MONTGOMERY STREET.

WHEREAS, in accordance with Administrative Code Section 2A.242, the Office of Small Business maintains a registry of Legacy Businesses in San Francisco (the "Registry") to recognize that longstanding, community-serving businesses can be valuable cultural assets of the City and to be a tool for providing educational and promotional assistance to Legacy Businesses to encourage their continued viability and success; and

WHEREAS, the subject business has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years; or

WHEREAS, the subject business has operated in San Francisco for more than 20 years but less than 30 years, has had no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years, has significantly contributed to the history or identity of a particular neighborhood or community and, if not included in the Registry, faces a significant risk of displacement; and

WHEREAS, the subject business has contributed to the neighborhood's history and identity; and

WHEREAS, the subject business is committed to maintaining the physical features and traditions that define the business; and

WHEREAS, at a duly noticed public hearing held on June 12, 2017, the San Francisco Small Business Commission reviewed documents and correspondence, and heard oral testimony on the Legacy Business Registry application; therefore





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CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
EDWIN M. LEE, MAYOR

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
REGINA DICK-ENDRIZZI, DIRECTOR

BE IT RESOLVED that the Small Business Commission hereby includes Canessa Gallery in the Legacy Business Registry as a Legacy Business under Administrative Code Section 2A.242.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Small Business Commission recommends safeguarding the below listed physical features and traditions at Canessa Gallery:

Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Business:

- Tradition of regularly hosting various cultural and community meetings and events.
- Gallery and performance spaces.
- Business model that supports new, emerging and established artists with a focus on allowing artists to showcase and promote their work and engage in conversation with friends, the public and other artists.
- Location of the business in the Canessa Printing Co. building on Montgomery Street within the North Beach neighborhood.
- Design by Italian-American architect Luigi Mastropasqua that includes Asian-inspired round windows incorporated into a Palladian façade, recessed fenestration throughout the primary façade and applied lettering “Canessa Printing Co.” below a bracketed cornice.
- Mezzanine above and open to the gallery space thought to have been constructed by shipbuilders and is supported only by slender metal poles.
- Gallery space at the second floor that includes original pine flooring and remnants of the Canessa Printing Co. such as small brass fittings that swing out from the walls that are still-working gaslights.
- Staff recommends that exterior features outlined in the Article 10 Jackson Square Landmark District landmark designation that are relevant to the Canessa Printing Co. building continue to be maintained.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Small Business Commission requires maintenance of the below listed core physical feature or tradition to maintain Canessa Gallery on the Legacy Business Registry:

- Art gallery.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED by the Small Business Commission on June 12, 2017.

Regina Dick-Endrizzi
Director

RESOLUTION NO. _____

Ayes –
Nays –
Abstained –
Absent –





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OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
REGINA DICK-ENDRIZZI, DIRECTOR

Legacy Business Registry

Application Review Sheet

Application No.: LBR-2016-17-046
Business Name: Canessa Gallery
Business Address: 708 Montgomery Street
District: District 3
Applicant: Zach Stewart
Nomination Date: December 12, 2016
Nominated By: Supervisor Aaron Peskin

CRITERION 1: Has the applicant has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years? X Yes No

708 Montgomery Street from 1966 to Present (51 years)

CRITERION 2: Has the applicant contributed to the neighborhood's history and/or the identity of a particular neighborhood or community? X Yes No

CRITERION 3: Is the applicant committed to maintaining the physical features or traditions that define the business, including craft, culinary, or art forms? X Yes No

NOTES: NA

DELIVERY DATE TO HPC: April 19, 2017

Richard Kurylo
Manager, Legacy Business Program



Member, Board of Supervisors
District 3



City and County of San Francisco

AARON PESKIN

佩斯金 市參事

December 12, 2016

Director Regina Dick-Endrizzi
San Francisco Office of Small Business
City Hall, Room 110
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Director Dick-Endrizzi:

It is my honor and privilege to nominate Canessa Gallery for inclusion on the Legacy Business Registry.

Canessa Gallery, a nonprofit neighborhood art gallery located at 708 Montgomery Street, held its first art exhibition in 1966. For over the fifty years, Canessa Gallery has showcased and supported more than 600 new, emerging and established sculptors, painters, photographers, and performance and literary artists. Canessa Gallery is an institution that is fundamental to the continuity of North Beach as a center of San Francisco's rich artistic, literary, and cultural history.

Canessa Gallery is an essential piece of the fabric of North Beach's rich artistic heritage, and I hope for its continued success and growth as part of the Legacy Business Registry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Aaron Peskin".

Aaron Peskin

Section One:

Business / Applicant Information. Provide the following information:

- The name, mailing address, and other contact information of the business;
- The name of the person who owns the business. For businesses with multiple owners, identify the person(s) with the highest ownership stake in the business;
- The name, title, and contact information of the applicant;
- The business's San Francisco Business Account Number and entity number with the Secretary of State, if applicable.

NAME OF BUSINESS:		
CANESSA GALLERY		
BUSINESS OWNER(S) (identify the person(s) with the highest ownership stake in the business)		
NON-PROFIT ALL VOLUNTEER ZACH STEWART - CONTACT		
CURRENT BUSINESS ADDRESS:		TELEPHONE:
708 MONTGOMERY ST. SAN FRANCISCO CA 94111 2104		(415) 392 1768
		EMAIL:
		708 zach@gmail.com
WEBSITE:	FACEBOOK PAGE:	YELP PAGE
CANESSA.ORG	NONE	NONE
APPLICANT'S NAME		
ZACH STEWART		<input type="checkbox"/> Same as Business
APPLICANT'S TITLE		
NON PROFIT CONTACT		
APPLICANT'S ADDRESS:		TELEPHONE:
see above		()
		EMAIL:
SAN FRANCISCO BUSINESS ACCOUNT NUMBER:		SECRETARY OF STATE ENTITY NUMBER (if applicable):
*94-3181858		185635429204
OFFICIAL USE: Completed by OSB Staff		
NAME OF NOMINATOR:		DATE OF NOMINATION:
SUPERVISOR PESKIN		12/12/16

Section Two:

Business Location(s).

List the business address of the original San Francisco location, the start date of business, and the dates of operation at the original location. Check the box indicating whether the original location of the business in San Francisco is the founding location of the business. If the business moved from its original location and has had additional addresses in San Francisco, identify all other addresses and the dates of operation at each address. For businesses with more than one location, list the additional locations in section three of the narrative.

ORIGINAL SAN FRANCISCO ADDRESS:	ZIP CODE:	START DATE OF BUSINESS
708 MONTGOMERY ST.	94111	1/10/66
IS THIS LOCATION THE FOUNDING LOCATION OF THE BUSINESS?	DATES OF OPERATION AT THIS LOCATON	
<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	1/10/16 TO PRESENT	

OTHER ADDRESSES (if applicable):	ZIP CODE:	DATES OF OPERATION
NONE		Start: End:

OTHER ADDRESSES (if applicable):	ZIP CODE:	DATES OF OPERATION
NONE		Start: End:

OTHER ADDRESSES (if applicable):	ZIP CODE:	DATES OF OPERATION
NONE		Start: End:

OTHER ADDRESSES (if applicable):	ZIP CODE:	DATES OF OPERATION
NONE		Start: End:

OTHER ADDRESSES (if applicable):	ZIP CODE:	DATES OF OPERATION
NONE		Start: End:

OTHER ADDRESSES (if applicable):	ZIP CODE:	DATES OF OPERATION
NONE		Start: End:

Section Three:

Disclosure Statement.

San Francisco Taxes, Business Registration, Licenses, Labor Laws and Public Information Release.

This section is verification that all San Francisco taxes, business registration, and licenses are current and complete, and there are no current violations of San Francisco labor laws. This information will be verified and a business deemed not current in with all San Francisco taxes, business registration, and licenses, or has current violations of San Francisco labor laws, will not be eligible to apply for the Business Assistance Grant.

In addition, we are required to inform you that all information provided in the application will become subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act.

Please read the following statements and check each to indicate that you agree with the statement. Then sign below in the space provided.


- ☒ I am authorized to submit this application on behalf of the business.
- ☒ I attest that the business is current on all of its San Francisco tax obligations.
- ☒ I attest that the business's business registration and any applicable regulatory license(s) are current. ✱
- ☒ I attest that the Office of Labor Standards and Enforcement (OLSE) has not determined that the business is currently in violation of any of the City's labor laws, and that the business does not owe any outstanding penalties or payments ordered by the OLSE.
- ☒ I understand that documents submitted with this application may be made available to the public for inspection and copying pursuant to the California Public Records Act and San Francisco Sunshine Ordinance.
- ☒ I hereby acknowledge and authorize that all photographs and images submitted as part of the application may be used by the City without compensation.
- ☒ I understand that the Small Business Commission may revoke the placement of the business on the Registry if it finds that the business no longer qualifies, and that placement on the Registry does not entitle the business to a grant of City funds.

✱ LESS THAN \$1000 / YEAR INCOME / NO PROPERTY
ALL VOLUNTEER AND DONATIONS NO
EMPLOYEES OR INCOME

ZACH STEWART 2/15/17

Name (Print):

Date:

Signature: 

CANESSA GALLERY

Section 4: Written Historical Narrative

CRITERION 1

a. Provide a short history of the business from the date the business opened in San Francisco to the present day, including the ownership history. For businesses with multiple locations, include the history of the original location in San Francisco (including whether it was the business's founding and or headquartered location) and the opening dates and locations of all other locations.

Canessa Gallery is a nonprofit art gallery founded in 1966 that is committed to supporting and showcasing artists who want to be artists for their lifetime.

Zach Stewart, architect, landscape designer, environmentalist, and political activist, began running Canessa Gallery after the Canessa Printing Company closed and his architectural firm moved into the space. Because their offices were upstairs, this left the large, open space downstairs free. The firm was interested in designing parks, so it seemed natural to show the photographs of the well-known nature photographer Philip Hyde on the big, empty walls. After this first show, Stewart continued to host shows there, many, but not all of them, with an emphasis on the natural world. In doing so, he restored the street's artistic heritage, for the ground floor was once the site of the Black Cat Café, a notorious haunt of bohemian and Beat artists, writers, and poets, with a mixed straight and gay crowd. Next door was a warren of studios for such famous artists as Maynard Dixon, Ralph Stackpole, Frida Kahlo, and Diego Rivera. Today, the Transamerica Pyramid intermittently shadows the Canessa building like the gnomon on a sundial, but before that it was the site of the famous Montgomery Block, a haven for writers including Mark Twain, Bret Harte, Ambrose Bierce, and Robert Louis Stevenson and, during the thirties, as many as seventy-five New Deal artists. The same 700-block of Montgomery Street includes some of the oldest buildings in San Francisco, part of the Jackson Square Historic District, including the Belli Building, which, like the Canessa Building, rests on a foundation that includes remnants of sailing ships abandoned by their crews in 1949, at the beginning of the Gold Rush, when Montgomery Street marked the shore of Yerba Buena Cove and the beginnings of the settlement that became San Francisco.

Today, Canessa Gallery keeps the rich artistic tradition of upper Montgomery Street alive by providing space for artists to show their work. In a time when many traditional galleries have closed or are closing because their buildings have been sold or rented to high-tech companies, Canessa Gallery operates on a shoestring budget as a nonprofit. Exhibiting artists are asked to contribute to the running of the place, but the gallery takes no percentage of any sales. A small band of unpaid volunteers helps to keep the place afloat, as does the rental income from three large-windowed offices and several open-desk spaces and cubby holes. At night, Canessa regularly hosts poetry readings, lectures, and various kinds of cultural and community meetings.

Over its 51 years of existence, Canessa has shown work by more than 600 artists. Some went on to achieve wide recognition, such as Trudy Myrrh Reagan, Mokhtar Pak, John Mattos, and Chico MacMurtrie. To both well-known and not-so-well-known artists, Canessa has been a godsend. It's not a traditional gallery that signs artists onto its list of talent and promotes their work to collectors who follow the gallery circuit. Instead, it's the kind of gallery that allows "artists-for-life," the focus of Canessa's mission, to hang their work on the old brick walls, and to invite their friends and neighbors and First Friday art walkers and people on the Canessa mailing list to see their work in conversation with itself or with that of other artists.

b. Describe any circumstances that required the business to cease operations in San Francisco for more than six months?

Canessa Gallery has operated continuously since its inception in 1966.

c. Is the business a family-owned business? If so, give the generational history of the business.

Canessa Gallery is not a family-owned business.

d. Describe the ownership history when the business ownership is not the original owner or a family-owned business.

Canessa Gallery opened in 1966 on the second floor of the Canessa Printing Company Building under the ownership of Zach Stewart, whose architectural firm had its offices upstairs from the gallery. In 1976, the gallery became a nonprofit corporation, of which Zach Stewart is the president.

e. When the current ownership is not the original owner and has owned the business for less than 30 years, the applicant will need to provide documentation of the existence of the business prior to current ownership to verify it has been in operation for 30+ years. Please use the list of supplemental documents and/or materials as a guide to help demonstrate the existence of the business prior to current ownership.

The original owner of the business, Zach Stewart, became the president of the Canessa Gallery nonprofit corporation in 1976; the business has operated continuously for 51 years in April 2017.

f. Note any other special features of the business location, such as, if the property associated with the business is listed on a local, state, or federal historic resources registry.

The Canessa Printing Company Building, which houses the Canessa Gallery, was built in the late 1800s in the historic heart of San Francisco. After being partially destroyed in the 1906 earthquake, it was rebuilt by the Italian-American architect Luigi Mastropasqua, incorporating Asian-inspired round windows in a Palladian façade. It is a landmarked building in the Jackson

Square Historic District of San Francisco and is listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places.

CRITERION 2

a. Describe the business's contribution to the history and/or identity of the neighborhood, community or San Francisco.

For more than 50 years, Canessa Gallery has been at the center of San Francisco's rich artistic, literary, and cultural history. The mission of the gallery is to support and showcase the work of artists who are dedicated to be artists for their lifetime. To date, more than 600 new, emerging, and established sculptors, painters, photographers, and performance and literary artists have presented their work at Canessa Gallery. Well-known artists who have shown at Canessa Gallery include [Trudy Myrrh Reagan](#), [Mokhtar Paki](#), [John Mattos](#), and [Chico MacMurtrie](#).

Located in the landmark Canessa Printing Company Building, the gallery also provides valuable space for lectures, book launches, poetry readings, community gatherings, and social events, as well as office spaces on both the first and second floors of the gallery. It currently hosts an on-going monthly poetry critique group and the monthly Meridian Music Series, featuring experimental musicians. Canessa Gallery is also a participant in the North Beach First Friday Art Walk.

The gallery also features a history room, where visitors can view photos and articles about the building's past as well as the history of the gallery.

b. Is the business (or has been) associated with significant events in the neighborhood, the city, or the business industry?

Canessa Gallery has hosted innumerable art openings, month-long art exhibitions, cultural events, lectures, poetry readings, books launches, art performances, community gatherings, and other events of cultural, artistic, and political importance over its 51-year existence. In September 2016, it held the Canessa Gallery 50th Anniversary Show, featuring over 60 artworks donated to the gallery by artists who had previously shown there. In a city where exhibition and performance space is expensive and increasingly limited, it provides an invaluable opportunity for artists to showcase their work. During the 1970s, Canessa Gallery was instrumental in helping to found the Ecology Center that operated across the street on Columbus Avenue, doing valuable work protesting the nuclear arms race.

c. Has the business ever been referenced in an historical context? Such as in a business trade publication, media, or historical documents?

The gallery has long been referenced in a historical context as being housed in a building that is part of the Jackson Square Historic district and is listed on National Registry. Recent publications featuring the gallery and its history include an article in Hoodline and another in

Semaphore, the newsletter of the Telegraph Hill Dwellers association. The gallery has twice been the recipient of a proclamation from the City and County of San Francisco, most recently on September 9, 2016, in recognition of its 50th anniversary.

d. Is the business associated with a significant or historical person?

Canessa Gallery's location in the Canessa Printing Company Building at 708 Montgomery Street places it at the locus of the oldest part of San Francisco, on what was once the shore of Yerba Buena Cove. It is believed that the foundations of this building include part of one of the sailing ships that were abandoned and then sunk when the Gold Rush erupted in the Sierras in 1849. It is on the same block as other famous pre-earthquake structures, including the recently restored Belli Building, and is part of the Jackson Square Historic District. During the 1930s, this area was the artistic center of San Francisco, with Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, Ralph Stackpole, Maynard Dixon, and other internationally famous artists maintaining studios in the building next door to the Canessa Printing Company. Many other artists, including a number of the WPA-funded muralists of Coit Tower, lived and worked in the adjacent block in the Montgomery Block, on the site now occupied by the Transamerica Building; in earlier days, such writers as Mark Twain, Bret Harte, Ambrose Bierce, and Robert Louis Stevenson were associated with that building.

The ground floor of the Canessa Printing Company was once home to the Black Cat Café, a notorious haunt of bohemian and Beat artists, writers, and poets, with a mixed straight and gay crowd, making it an important site in the gay history of San Francisco. Luigi Mastropasqua, the Italian-American architect who designed and rebuilt the building after the 1906 earthquake, also designed several other buildings in San Francisco, including Julius' Castle.

e. How does the business demonstrate its commitment to the community?

The business provides invaluable exhibition, performance, and meeting space to the artistic, literary, and progressive community of San Francisco in a time when gallery and performance spaces are dwindling in this city. It is often the first space that a beginning artist is able to utilize to show work, and provides a lifeline to developing artists as well.

f. Provide a description of the community the business serves.

The gallery showcases new and established artists from North Beach and helps to maintain this neighborhood's reputation as an artistic center of San Francisco. Its service is not limited to North Beach artists, however, as it hosts many artists from other parts of San Francisco as well as from elsewhere in the greater Bay Area.

g. Is the business associated with a culturally significant building/structure/site/object/interior?

The Canessa Printing Company Building, which houses the Canessa Gallery, was built in the late 1800s in one of the oldest commercial districts of San Francisco. It was rebuilt after it was

partially destroyed in the 1906 earthquake. It is a landmarked building in the Jackson Square Historic District of San Francisco and is listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. Its façade and signage was refurbished in 2016. When you walk up the rickety stairs to the gallery, you enter a room that was once inhabited by huge printing presses along one wall. The pine floor is original, but the brick walls were rebuilt with new and quake-damaged bricks after the second floor fell down in the 1906 earthquake. Other than periodic repainting and rewiring, the interior has been little changed over the years. The building has been retrofitted against future tremors, but the small brass fittings that swing out from the walls in the gallery are still-working gaslights. Natural light pours down from the skylight high in the rafters. On warm days, the wooden floor beads with oil from the long-gone printing presses. The high, open room smells like old wood and old brick and the passage of time, and it's quiet, with the serenity of a long-time survivor of history, with a legacy of supporting art and artists over the decades.

h. How would the community be diminished if the business were to be sold, relocated, shut down, etc.?

The loss of Canessa Gallery would deprive artists in San Francisco and the greater Bay Area of valuable exhibition space in a city where such space is becoming increasingly scarce. It would also deprive the North Beach community of invaluable performance space and a venue for the Meridian Music Series, poetry readings, community meetings, and other events essential to a vibrant artistic community.

CRITERION 3

a. Describe the business and the essential features that define its character.

Canessa Gallery is a nonprofit art gallery serving dedicated artists of all kinds by making exhibition space available to them for month-long shows. It also provides space for a wide variety of other artistic and literary events, as well as work space for businesses and a gathering space for community organizations. It is an all-volunteer organization.

b. How does the business demonstrate a commitment to maintaining the historical traditions that define the business, and which of these traditions should not be changed in order to retain the businesses historical character? (e.g., business model, goods and services, craft, culinary, or art forms)

The all-volunteer, nonprofit business model of the Canessa Gallery allows it to operate on a shoestring budget and make its exhibition space available to artists who are not part of a traditional gallery that is operated for a profit.

c. How has the business demonstrated a commitment to maintaining the special physical features that define the business? Describe any special exterior and interior physical characteristics of the space occupied by the business (e.g. signage, murals, architectural details, neon signs, etc.).

The exterior of the building has been maintained as it was originally designed when it was rebuilt after the 1906 earthquake and has been recently refurbished, including the original signage for the Canessa Printing Company. The brick walls have not been painted and still show the division between pre- and post-earthquake construction. The original first floor of the gallery has not been altered in any way and is still marked with the oil that leaked from the big presses during the days when the printing company operated there. Very few changes have been made to the interior since the building was rebuilt after the earthquake. The original gas lights that swing out from the wall, minus their chimneys, are still operable today. Natural light pours down from the skylight high in the rafters. The mezzanine, which is thought to have been built by shipbuilders, is still supported only by slender metal poles and is open to the gallery below.

d. When the current ownership is not the original owner and has owned the business for less than 30years; the applicant will need to provide documentation that demonstrates the current owner has maintained the physical features or traditions that define the business, including craft, culinary, or art forms. Please use the list of supplemental documents and/or materials as a guide to help demonstrate the existence of the business prior to current ownership.

Zach Stewart, the president of the Canessa Gallery nonprofit corporation, is the original owner of the gallery, which has functioned continuously for over 50 years.







wine + tapas

CANESSA PRINTING CO
708

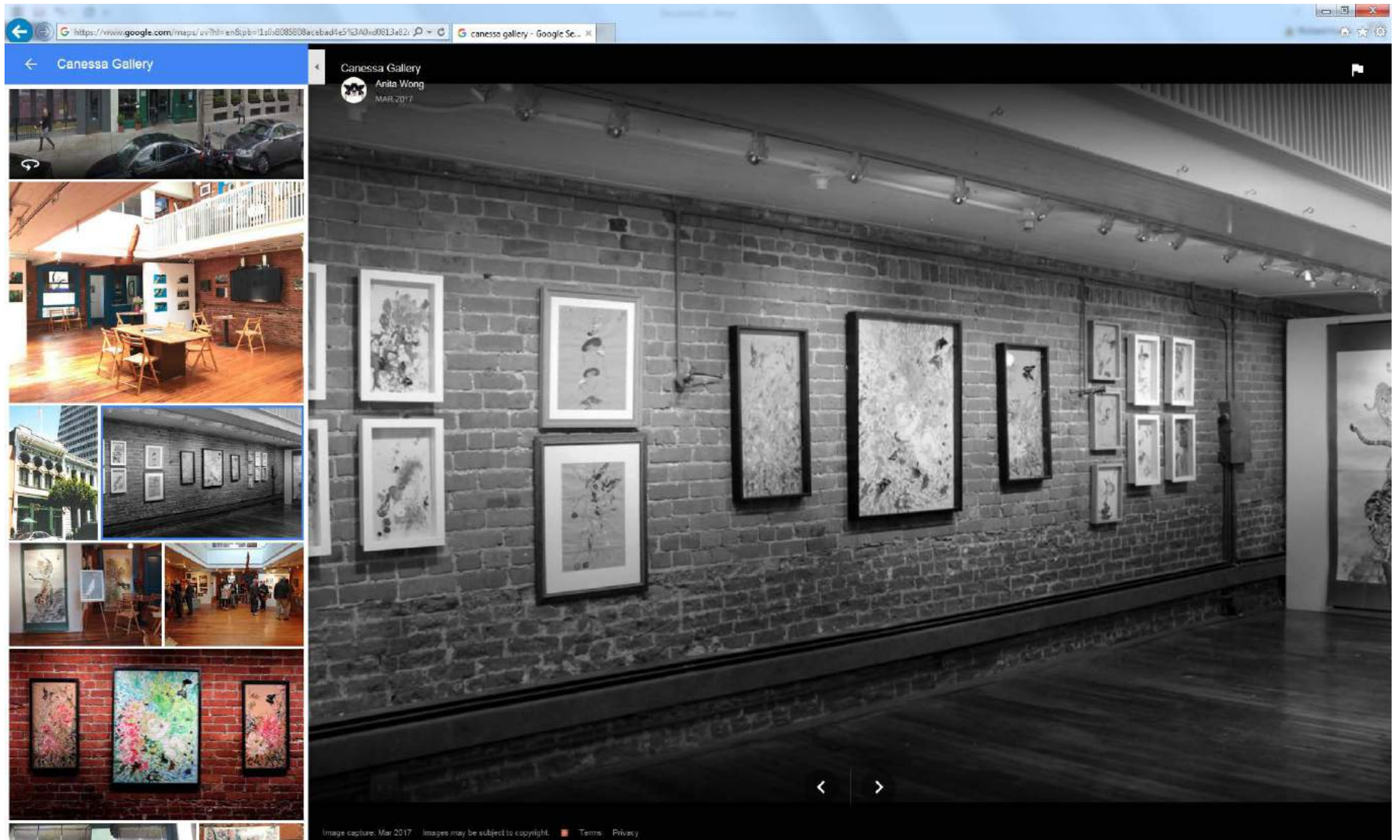
BOCADILLOS











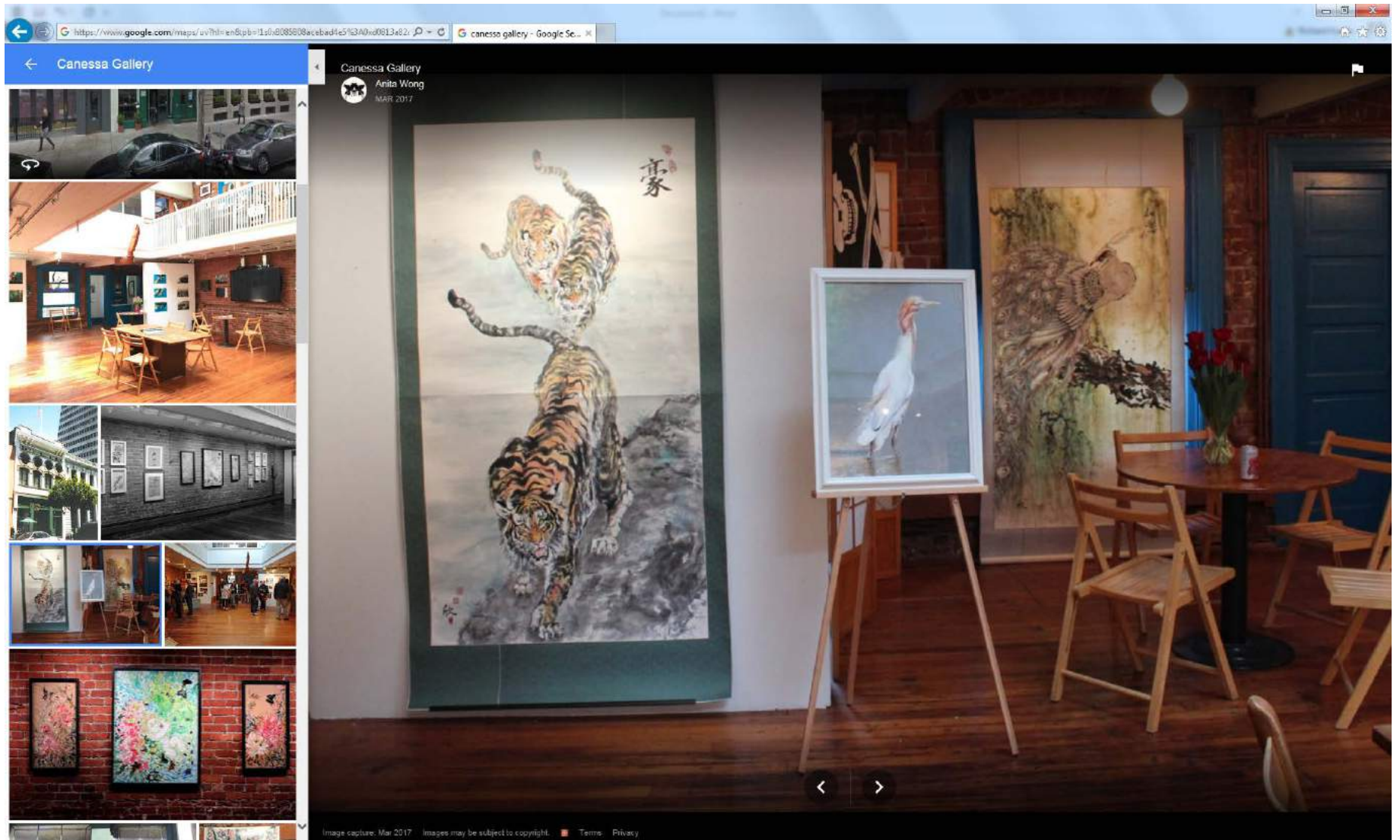
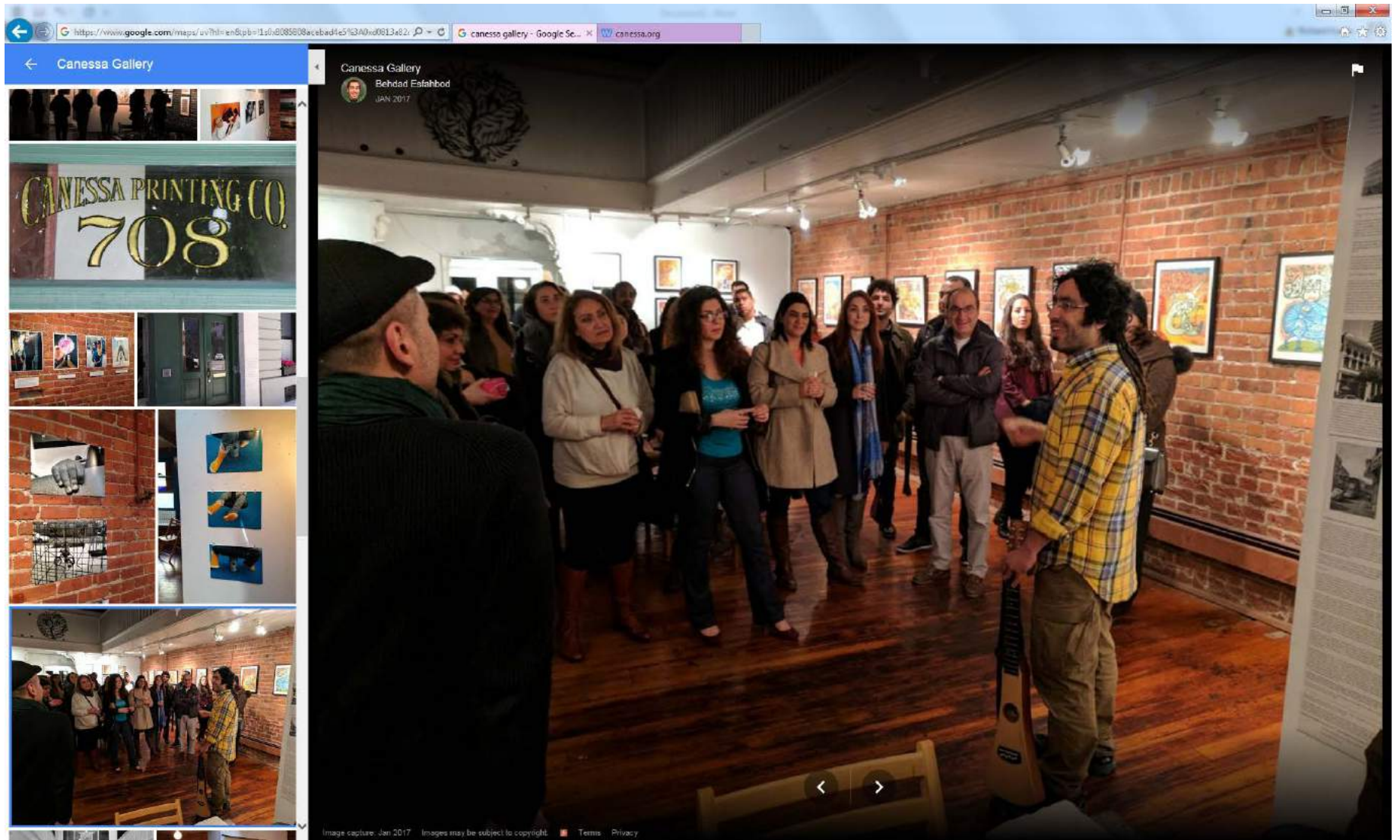
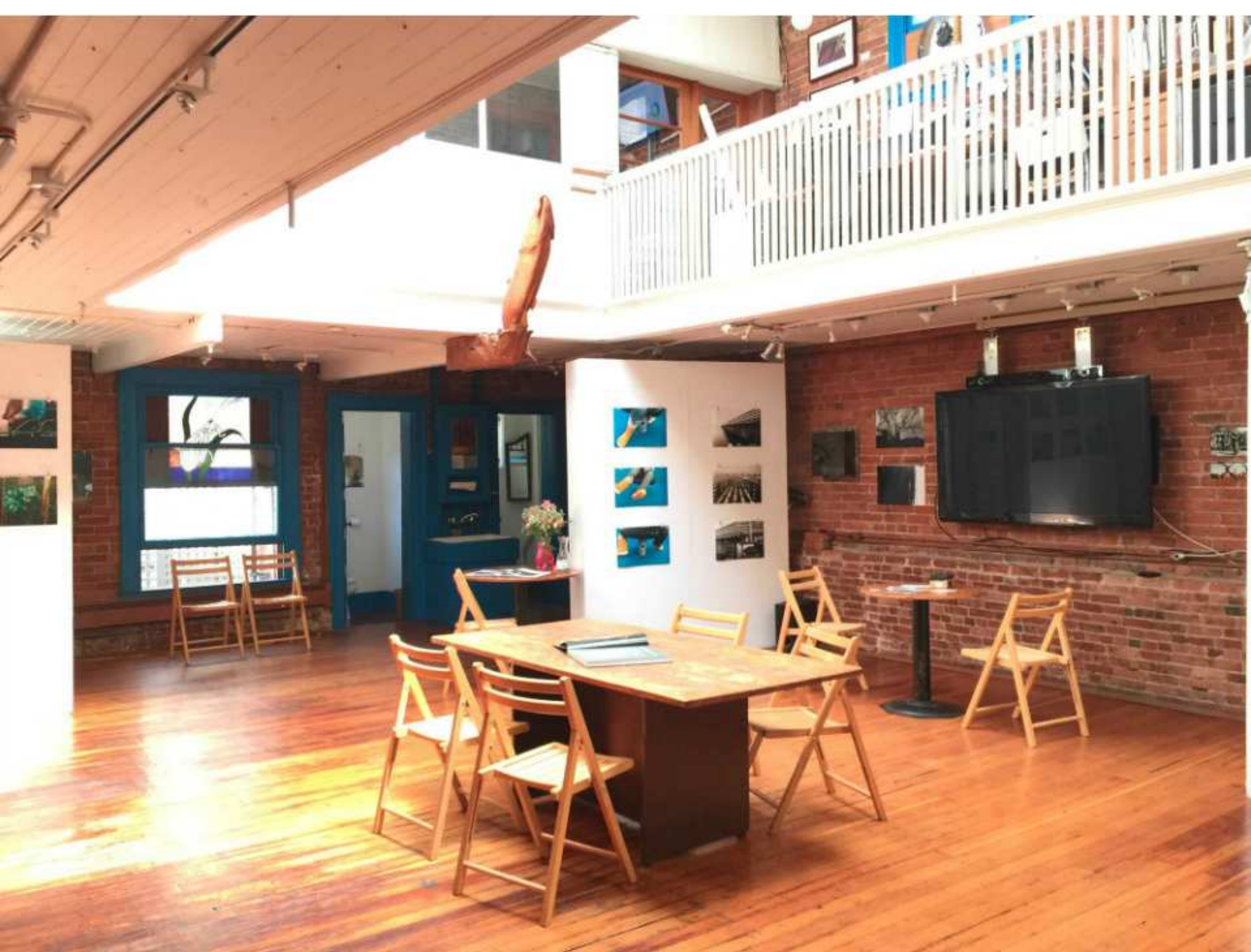


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Behavioral and Environmental Interventions with students with developmental disabilities are designed to help them learn to function more independently in the classroom. Behavioral interventions are designed to help students learn to control their behavior and to learn to follow rules. Environmental interventions are designed to help students learn to function in the classroom by modifying the environment to meet their needs. Both types of interventions are designed to help students learn to function more independently in the classroom.



1. Einmalig - 1 Mal pro Jahr
2. Einmalig - 1 Mal pro Jahr
3. Einmalig - 1 Mal pro Jahr
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9. Einmalig - 1 Mal pro Jahr
10. Einmalig - 1 Mal pro Jahr



1. The first step is to identify the problem. This is often done by looking at the data and seeing what is going wrong.



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
The University of Chicago Press
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611
U.S.A. and Canada
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Printed in Great Britain
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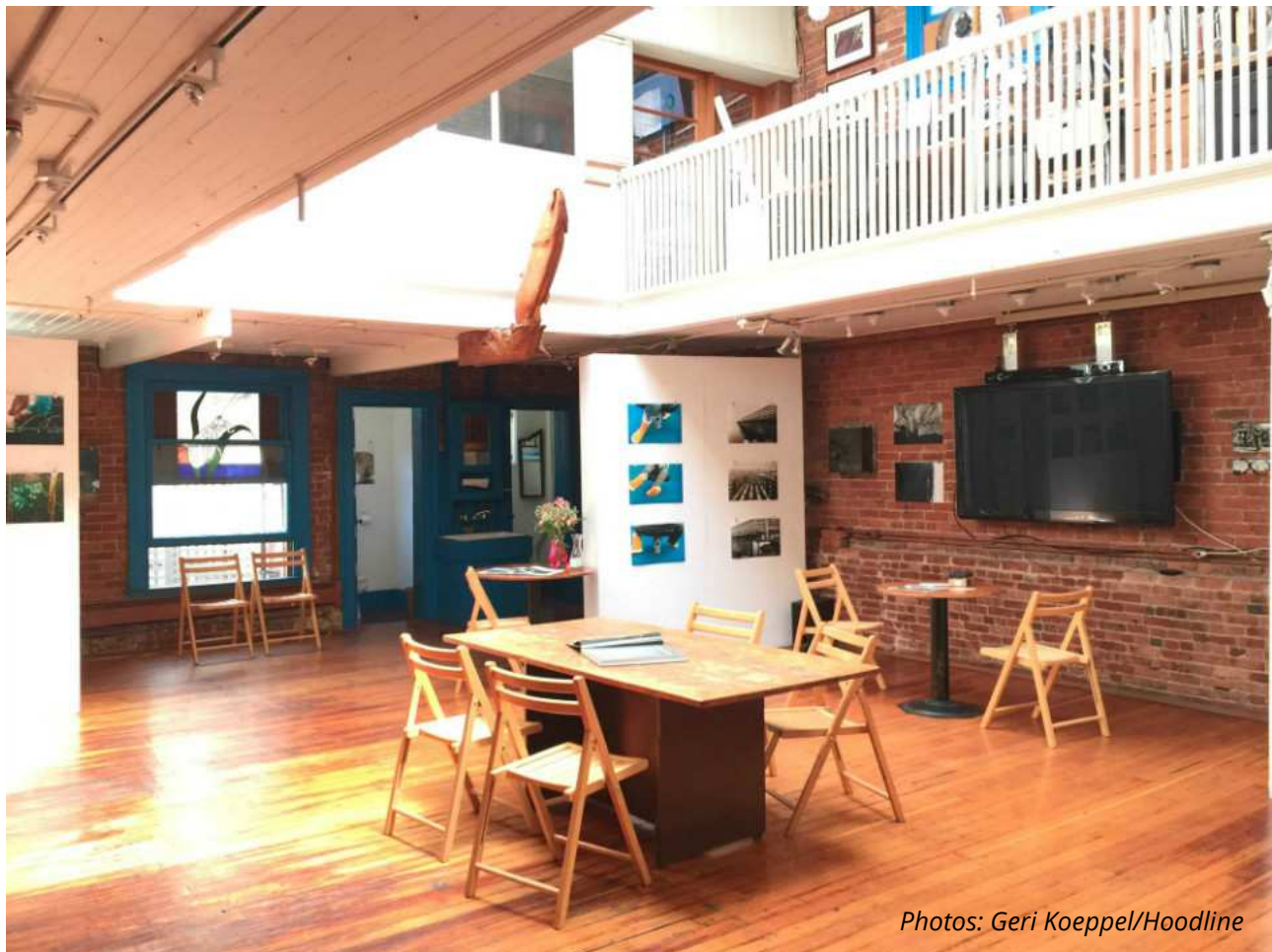








Canessa Gallery Is A North Beach Vessel Of Art And History



Photos: Geri Koepfel/Hoodline

Tue. August 18, 2015, 10:14am



Canessa Gallery (<http://www.canessa.org/>), located at 708 Montgomery St. in Jackson Square, isn't only a place to admire art: it's arguably a work of art in and of itself.

Though it's a stop (<http://northbeachfirstfridays.com/canessa-gallery/>) on the North Beach First Fridays (<http://northbeachfirstfridays.com/>) art walk and well-known to the Telegraph Hill Dwellers (<http://www.thd.org/>), which hosts art and cultural events in the space, the gallery isn't widely advertised and is easy to miss. It's tucked away on a block of Montgomery, with just a doorway and a steep, rickety staircase to beckon to visitors. But art and architecture lovers should drop in during First Fridays or regular business hours and take a gander, because it's a sight to behold.



"Canessa is located in what was the original heart of San Francisco, and it's on a block that was the center of a lot of activity San Francisco became known for," said Jon Golinger, a North Beach environmental attorney, author and preservationist who rents office space in the building.

Golinger describes the building as "pre-1906 earthquake historic building that's been saved and preserved as an art gallery with creative offices wrapped around it." It has its original brick walls and wood floors; the mezzanine and skylight were added shortly after the earthquake damaged it.



"My favorite detail about it is that the balcony was made by shipbuilders, which is why there are no columns blocking your view," said North Beach artist Julie Jaycox (<http://juliejaycox.com/>), a botanical photographer who has helped organize many exhibits at the Canessa. "The balcony is hung, just like on a ship. It's suspended; it's not supported."

The building features a history room, where visitors can view photos and articles about its past. The first building to reside on the site was actually a wooden ship, whose hull was eventually incorporated into the building. By 1856, a brick structure was on the lot, and by 1893, the Canessa Printing Company had been established at the address.

After the 1906 quake, Italian-American architect Luigi Mastropasqua rehabilitated the building, incorporating Asian-inspired designs such as round windows. Mastropasqua was also behind a few other local landmarks and buildings (<http://canessa.blogspot.com/2006/10/luigi-mastropasqua-architect-of.html>), including the ornate Julius' Castle (<http://www.juliuscastlesf.com/>) on Telegraph Hill.

The Jackson Square neighborhood continued its pre-quake status as a hub for artists, with a new generation moving in. Diego Rivera, Frida Kahlo, William Gerstle, Ralph Stackpole, Caroline Martin and Ruth Cravath were just a few of the sculptors and painters who had studios in the area. Nearby was the Montgomery Block building, affectionately called the "Monkey Block" (http://foundsf.org/index.php?title=The_Monkey_Block), which had a long, rich history as an artists' enclave. It was torn down in 1959, and the Transamerica Building was erected on the site.

Downstairs, where Bocadillos now serves up Basque cuisine, was the Black Cat Cafe, an artists' retreat and the city's first openly gay bar after World War II. (Interestingly, its owner, Sol Stouman, was not gay.) It occupied the ground floor from the 1930s to 1963.



Photo: SF Public Library Photo Archives
(<http://webbie1.sfpl.org/multimedia/sfphotos/AAB-2597.jpg>)

As the decades passed, Canessa Printing Company continued to operate. Jaycox said on warm days when the sun comes through the skylight, oil from the presses still seeps up from the floor. The printer finally closed up shop in 1965, and Canessa Gallery, a nonprofit, was founded in 1966. Its proprietor wishes to remain anonymous.

For nearly 50 years, the gallery has provided space (<http://www.canessa.org/past-exhibitions.html>) for more than 600 artists and creatives to showcase their work. Jaycox said many exhibits focus on nature-related art, and that the scope of the gallery has always been closely tied to with environmentalism and ecology. But the gallery's scope isn't

limited to environmental art; the walls currently display a show called "Time" by photographer Ali Assareh, which includes quirky and personal shots of "moments."



Canessa is also something of a precursor to the current era of coworking spaces. Various creative types rent desk space or nooks and crannies. "In the center of it has always been a rotating art gallery, which to me, makes it more fun to show up every day that I'm there," Golinger said. "There's something different to look at on the walls, rather than some cookie-cutter art from a poster shop."



Jaycox also said people say there's a calm energy to the space—a sense of time and place. "What I like about Canessa is there's so much history in it," she said, "Even if you think you're creating something new, you're not."

Canessa Gallery is open on Wednesdays from 12-3 pm, and at other times by appointment (<http://www.canessa.org/contact.html>). The gallery also opens to the public on the first Friday of each month for North Beach First Fridays, from 6-9pm.



CANESSA GALLERY 50TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW

OPENING RECEPTION &
SILENT AUCTION
SEPTEMBER 9

CLOSING PARTY &
SILENT AUCTION
SEPTEMBER 30



Proclamation

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

WHEREAS, Canessa Gallery, a nonprofit neighborhood art gallery located at 708 Montgomery Street, held its first art exhibition in 1966; and,

WHEREAS, Over the last fifty years Canessa Gallery has showcased and supported more than 600 new, emerging, and established sculptors, painters, photographers, and performance and literary artists; and,

WHEREAS, Canessa Gallery is an institution that is fundamental to the continuity of North Beach as a center of San Francisco's rich artistic, literary, and cultural history; and,

WHEREAS, Canessa Gallery provides valuable meeting space for book launches, poetry readings, and a wide range of community gatherings;

WHEREAS, The gallery is housed in a pre-1906 earthquake architectural gem on one of the oldest and most storied streets in San Francisco, and is thus an important part of this city's heritage; and,

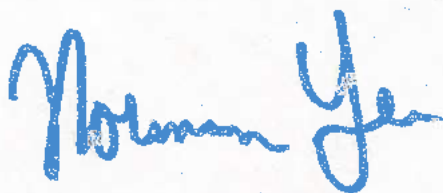
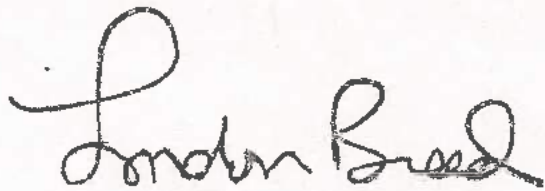
WHEREAS, Canessa Gallery has been kept alive for fifty years by architect and environmentalist Zach Stewart, a "New Deal kid" who has made it a hub of North Beach activism; now, therefore be it

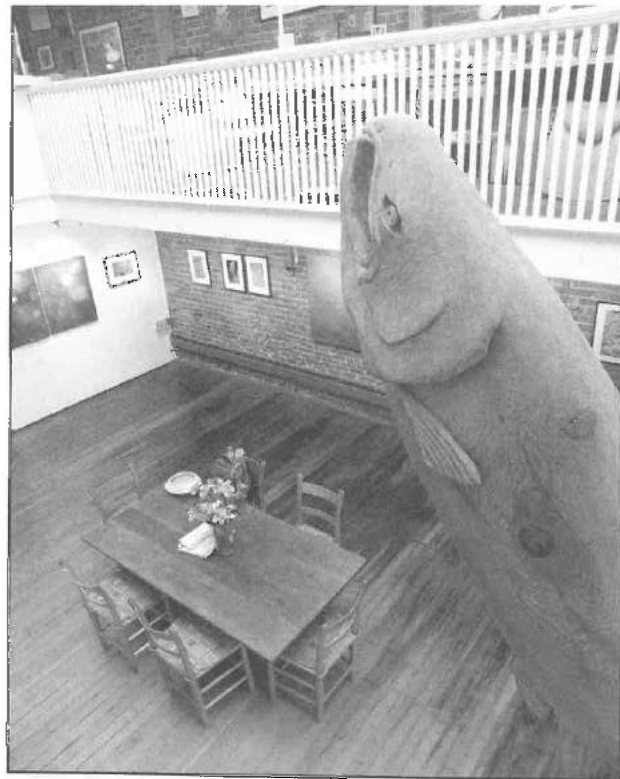
RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco honors Canessa Gallery on its 50th anniversary; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims September 9, 2016 to be Canessa Gallery Day in the City and County of San Francisco.



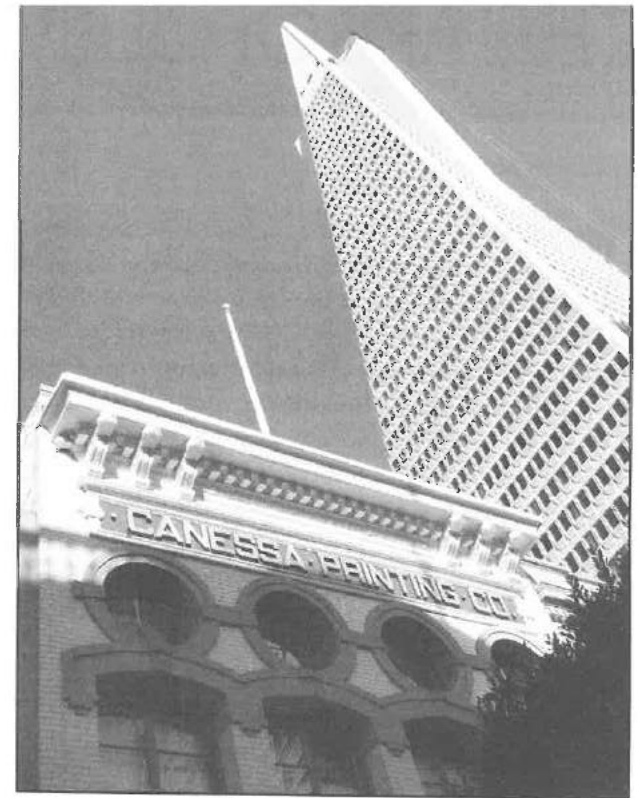
Aaron Peskin
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
September 9, 2016





CANESSA FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY PARTY, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 6 TO 9 PM

In September, Canessa Gallery celebrates its fiftieth anniversary with a fundraiser featuring work donated by artists who have shown here in the past. Tickets for the opening reception on Friday, September 9, from 6 to 9 PM, will be available at the door for a donation of \$20. A silent auction of the exhibited artworks will be held during the reception, with a minimum bid of \$100 and an outright purchase price of \$200 per artwork. Wine and appetizers will be served. Come and help us celebrate and support this jewel of a nonprofit neighborhood gallery.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

THD President Stan Hayes's summary of the Hill Dwellers' accomplishments in the past fiscal year appears on pp. 10-11 of the Summer Semaphore. Here's his brief additional report on one key issue the THD Board is following.

The developer of a multi-unit residential project at 115 Telegraph Hill Boulevard has elected to move ahead despite an ongoing appeal of a lower court decision in April that failed to block the project. On June 6, representatives of the developers held a meeting at the Italian Athletic Club to discuss their construction plans. Developer representatives stated that construction, including excavation of the

UPDATE ON 115 TELEGRAPH HILL BOULEVARD

hillside adjoining the Filbert Steps for a thirty-foot deep garage, will begin within two to three months.

A large and contentious crowd confronted the developer representatives with numerous questions regarding their plans for managing truck traffic and other construction impacts, and demanding more detailed information about those impacts. Given that one of the conditions for approval of the project imposed by the Board of Supervisors and City agencies is neighborhood consultation, local residents questioned whether sufficient information was being provided for that to occur.

In a follow-up comment letter to the developer, THD President Stan Hayes challenged the developer's permitting strategy with the City, stating THD's concern that it "would allow construction [excavation and shoring] to commence prior to the City's approval of the site

permit." Further, "key information required for informed and meaningful neighborhood consultation was not provided." Under the project's conditions of approval, "neighbors need and are entitled to sufficient information to evaluate the adequacy of the project sponsor's construction management plan," along with other details the developer representatives were not ready to provide. Hayes reminded them that "such consultation must be completed *before construction is initiated*."

Developer representatives stated that an additional meeting would be held once further more detailed calculations were done. In his letter, Hayes urged the developer to commit not just to one additional meeting, but to holding "any additional meetings necessary for full and meaningful neighborhood consultation."

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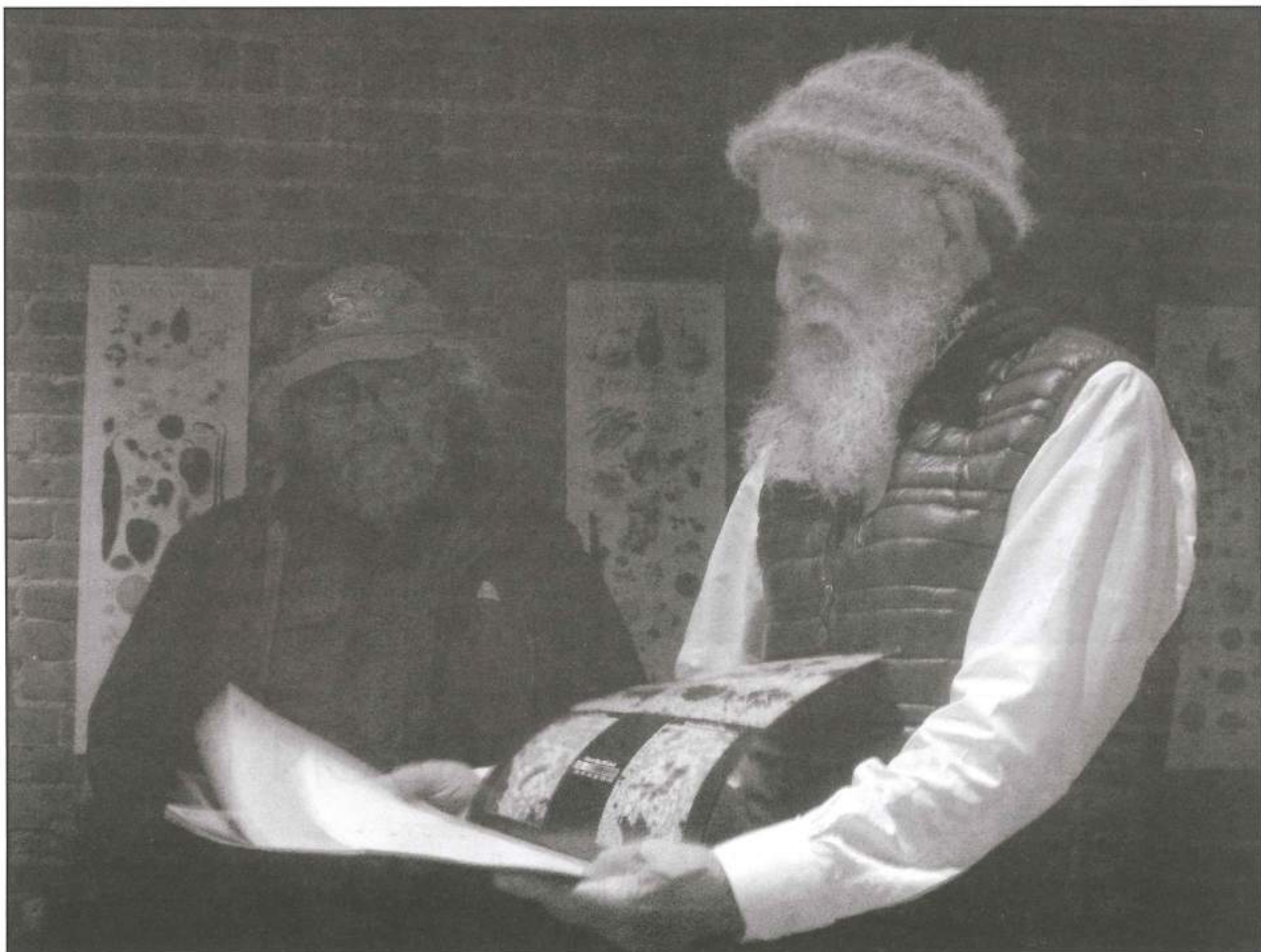
THE ART OF SURVIVAL: CANESSA GALLERY TURNS FIFTY

by Carolyn Miller

It sits on one of the oldest and most storied streets in San Francisco, on what was once the shore of San Francisco Bay: a quirky survivor of a building jammed in next to other survivors. It rests on mud and fill and the remnants of sailing ships. Along with its neighbor, the Belli Building, it survived the Great Earthquake of 1906 and the mania for urban high-rises. On its ornate white-brick façade and beneath its bracketed cornice is a sign in large gold letters: Canessa Printing Company.

The ground floor is home to Bocado, an elegant little Spanish restaurant. But if you enter the narrow green door to the right of the restaurant entrance and climb the worn wooden stairs, you will discover a neighborhood gem, Canessa Gallery.

Zach Stewart, architect, landscape designer, environmentalist, and political activist, began running the gallery in 1966, after the Canessa Printing Company closed and his architectural firm moved into the space. Because their offices were upstairs, this left the large, open space downstairs free. The firm was interested in designing parks, so it seemed natural to show the photographs of the well-known nature photographer Philip Hyde on the big, empty walls. After this first show, Stewart continued to host shows there. In doing so, he restored the street's artistic heritage, for the ground floor was once the site of the Black Cat Café, a notorious haunt of bohemian and Beat artists, writers, and poets, with a mixed straight and gay crowd. Next



Zach Stewart, who has kept the gallery going since 1966, with writer Mark Bittner.

ALL PHOTOS (C) JULIE JAYCOX

door was a warren of studios for such famous artists as Maynard Dixon, Ralph Stackpole, Frida Kahlo, and Diego Rivera. Today, the Transamerica Pyramid intermittently shadows the Canessa building like the gnomon on a sundial, but before that it was the site of the famous Montgomery Block, a haven for writers including Mark Twain, Bret Harte, Ambrose Bierce, and Robert Louis Stevenson and, during the thirties, as many as seventy-five New Deal artists.

Today, Canessa Gallery keeps the rich artistic tradition of upper Montgomery Street alive by providing space for artists to show their work. In a time when many traditional galleries have closed or are closing because their buildings have been sold or rented to high-tech companies, Canessa Gallery operates on a shoestring as a nonprofit. Exhibiting artists are asked to contribute to the running of the place, but the gallery takes no percentage of any sales. A small band of volunteers helps keep the place afloat, as does the rental income from three large-windowed offices and several open-desk spaces and cubbyholes. At night, Canessa regularly hosts poetry readings, lectures, and various kinds of cultural and community meetings.

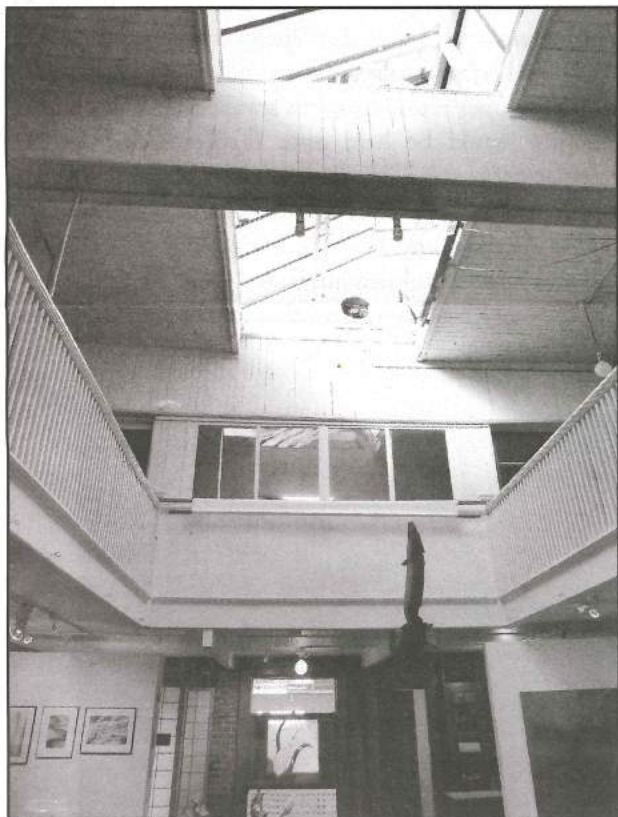
Over its fifty years of existence, Canessa has shown work by a whopping six hundred artists. Some

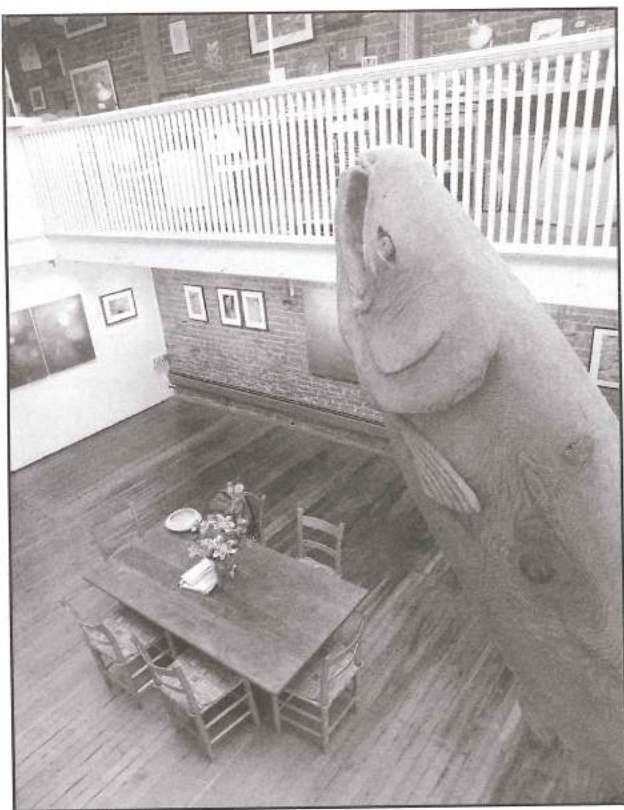
went on to achieve wide recognition, such as Trudy Myrrh Reagan, Mokhtar Pak, John Mattos, and Chico MacMurtrie. To both well-known and not-so-well-known artists, Canessa has been a godsend. It's not a traditional gallery that signs artists onto its list of talent and promotes their work to collectors who follow the gallery circuit—thus Zach's warning to every new exhibitor that "no one will come to your show, and no one will buy your work" (though people *do* come to the shows, and artists *do* sell work). Instead, it's the kind of gallery that allows "artists-for-life," the focus of Canessa's mission, to hang their work on the old brick walls, and to invite their friends and neighbors and First Friday art walkers and people on the Canessa mailing list to see their work in conversation with itself or with that of other artists.

When you walk up the rickety stairs to the second floor of the Canessa Building, you enter a room that was once inhabited by huge printing presses along one wall. The fir floor is original, but the brick walls were rebuilt with new and quake-damaged bricks after the second floor fell down in the Great Quake. The building has been retrofitted against future tremors, but the small brass fittings that swing out from the walls are still-working gaslights. Natural light pours down from the skylight high in the rafters. On warm days, the wooden floor beads with oil from the long-gone printing presses. The high, open room smells like old wood and old brick and the passage of time, and it's quiet, with the serenity of a long-time survivor of history, and the room is host to sculpture or the walls are hung with paintings or prints or drawings or photographs, the fruition of one or more artists' creativity and belief in the power and meaning of art.



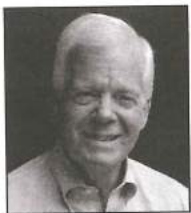
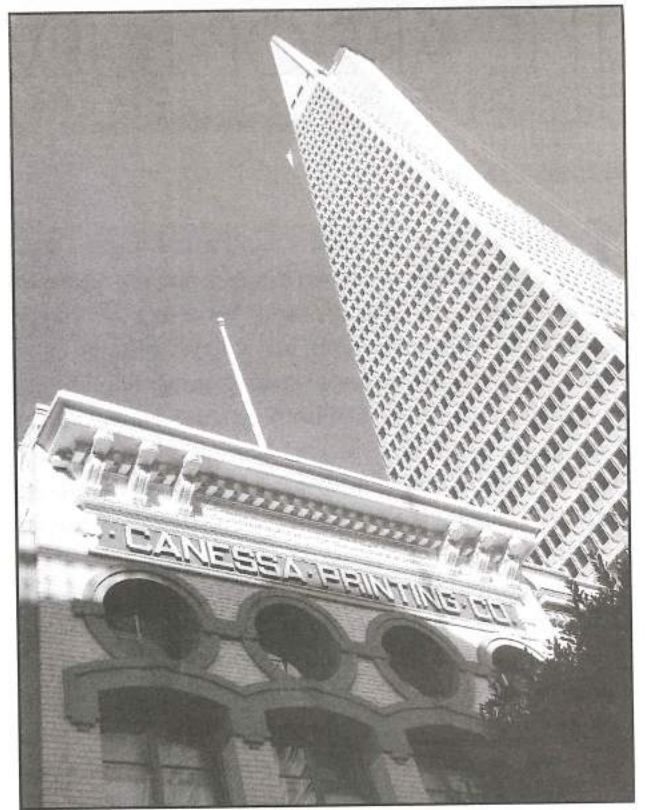
Carolyn Miller is a poet and painter who has lived in San Francisco since 1970. She most recently showed her work at Canessa Gallery in June, with photographers Richard Zimmerman and Julie Jaycox.





CANESSA FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY PARTY, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 6 TO 9 PM

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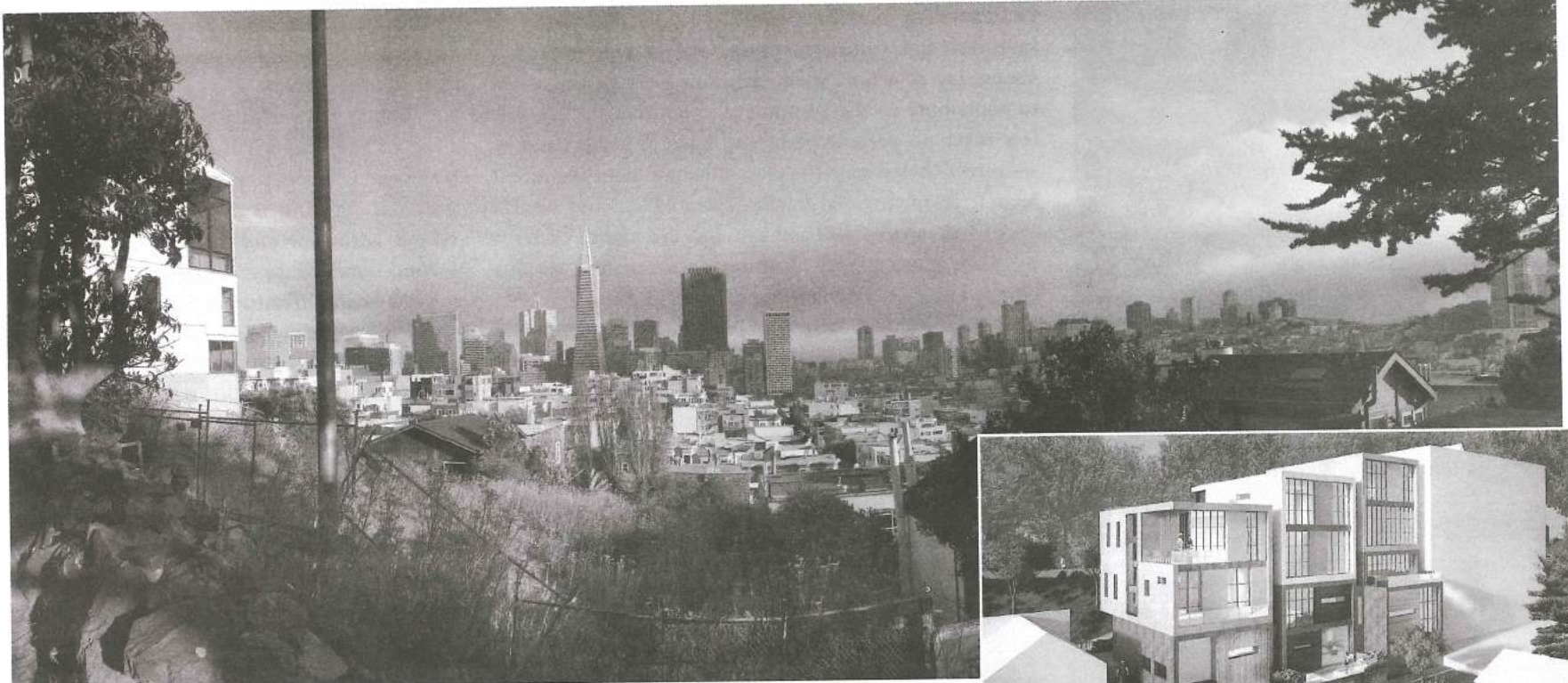
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No date has been scheduled for the next neighborhood meeting.



The view that would be blocked by the proposed condo project. PHOTO © STAN HAYES.
[Inset] Architects' rendering of the proposed 3-unit condo project from the rear.



HELP BEAUTIFY AND PROTECT THE CHARACTER OF TELEGRAPH HILL

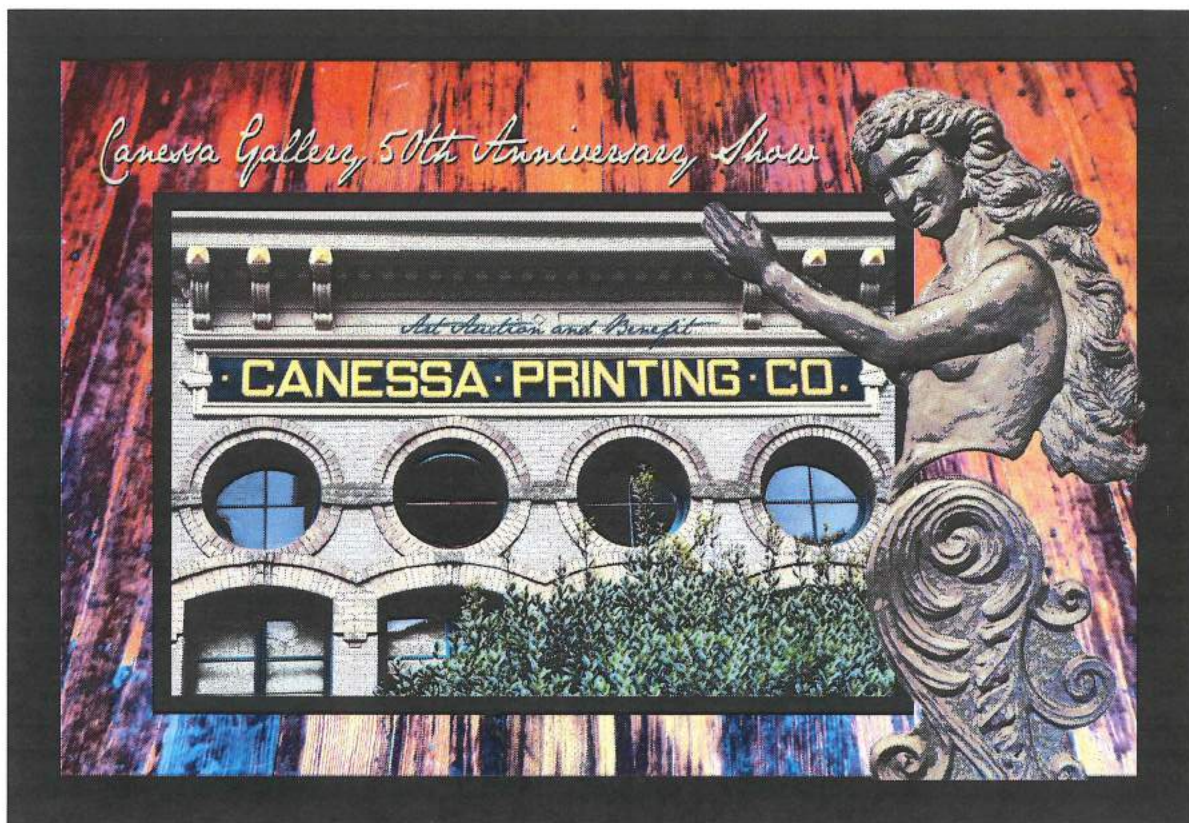
Please consider making a lasting commitment to the neighborhood you love. Include Telegraph Hill Dwellers Gift Planning Project in your estate planning.

Contact Jon Golinger for information: (415) 531-8585 or jon.golinger@thd.org

ERRATA: Our apologies to the late Mohandas K. Gandhi, whose name was misspelled in our Spring issue. Also to Larry Habegger, author of "Saving Grace's Garden," whose credit line should have read:

Adapted by Telegraph Hill writer and publisher Larry Habegger from a work in progress, "Grace Marchant and Her Famous Garden: A Life on Telegraph Hill." For more of Larry's books, see TravelersTales.com.

Larry also noted that the tall shingled building pictured on the right at the bottom of p. 7 is 261-265 Filbert, not Grace Marchant's home at 222 Filbert.



Canessa Gallery Artists Resource
50th Anniversary
Art Auction
1966-2016

North Beach FIRST FRIDAYS



- | | |
|---|--|
| A) Sweetie's Art Bar: 475 Francisco St | J) Church Key: 1402 Grant Ave |
| B) Real Old Paper: 801 Columbus St | K) Live Worms Gallery: 1345 Grant Ave |
| C) La Trappe: 800 Greenwich St | L) 1317 Gallery & Design Studio: 1317 Grant Ave |
| D) Modern Eden Gallery: 801 Greenwich St | M) Mule Gallery: 80 Fresno St |
| E) Tom's Beautiful Sexy Hair: 701 Greenwich St | N) Urban Sidewalk: 241 Columbus Ave |
| F) The North Beach Bauhaus: 703 Columbus Ave | O) Grey City Gallery: 250 Columbus Ave |
| G) Telegraph Hill Gallery: 491 Greenwich St | P) Canessa Gallery: 708 Montgomery St |
| H) Macchiarini Creative Design: 1544 Grant Ave | Q) Orangeland: 1250 Mason St |
| I) Naivasha Studio & Gallery: 1499 Grant Ave | R) Clay by the Bay: 1242 Mason St |



2017
Celebrating
Six Years

The **first friday** of each month, the North Beach business district opens its doors from **6 pm to 9 pm**, encouraging residents and visitors alike to explore the visual arts and entertainment that color the neighborhood with special events occurring monthly at participating venues. Follow us on facebook or twitter for event updates, or visit our website to get involved!

Supporters



/northbeachfirstfridays

www.northbeachfirstfridays.com

@nb1stfridays





"Wavelength to Nature" Ethan Cranke, Oil on Gesso on PVA Size on Mounted Birch Panel, 24 x 30" 2014
(Photo by Rena Nicole Morabe)

New
Landscape
Paintings

Ethan Cranke

Ethan Cranke: New Landscape Paintings

During his 17 years as a full-time painter, Ethan Cranke has dedicated much of his canvas to alla prima landscapes— and this is evident in his dramatic displays of strong colors and confident mark-making found in this body of work which will be on display at San Francisco's historic Canessa Gallery. These rich, moody landscapes evoke both the 19th-century expressionists and the magnificent light of West Sonoma County—where Ethan lives, paints, and chops wood.

"I am deeply honored to be showing here. To have my paintings hanging on the same walls that have been privy to the goings-on of artists such as Diego Rivera, Benny Bufano, Frida Kahlo, and many others whom I would consider legendary, is beyond compare." ~Ethan Cranke

"People buy artwork because it speaks to their emotions, unless they are buying for the surface value, and then because it's pretty, cool, or the colors coordinate with their interiors (ick). What looking at Ethan's art tells me about him is the depth of spirit... and (his) confidence in his execution. The bold strokes...I think one has to love the subject to do that." ~Linda McKay (Collector, Co-owner of Juxtapoz Magazine and Ermico Enterprises.)

Opening night, April 1, Doug Carroll and David Samas will play sets of improvised music inspired by the painted landscapes, incorporating Carroll on cello with original field recordings and Samas (joined by Bryan Day) re-creating live, natural soundscapes on invented instruments. By donation.

Doors for the First Friday Opening Reception and concert at Canessa Gallery in North Beach open at 5:00pm; concert at 7:30.

A Closing reception will be held on April 30. All events are free and open to the public.

Opening Reception:
Friday April 1, 5-8pm
Concert at 7:30pm with
Doug Carroll &
David Samas

Show open through May 1

Closing Reception:
Sat April 30, 5-8pm

Canessa Gallery

708 Montgomery st,
SF, CA, 94111
Open Wed. 12-3pm
& by appointment:
(415) 218-9341

for immediate release
publicity contact:
David Samas
petthetiger@gmail.com
(415) 218-9341

<http://EthanCranke.com>

<http://EthanCranke.BlogSpot.com>

<http://Canessa.org>

SOLENCE

AN EVENING OF LIVE EXCURSIONS INTO SIGHT & SOUND

SATURDAY 4-23 8PM

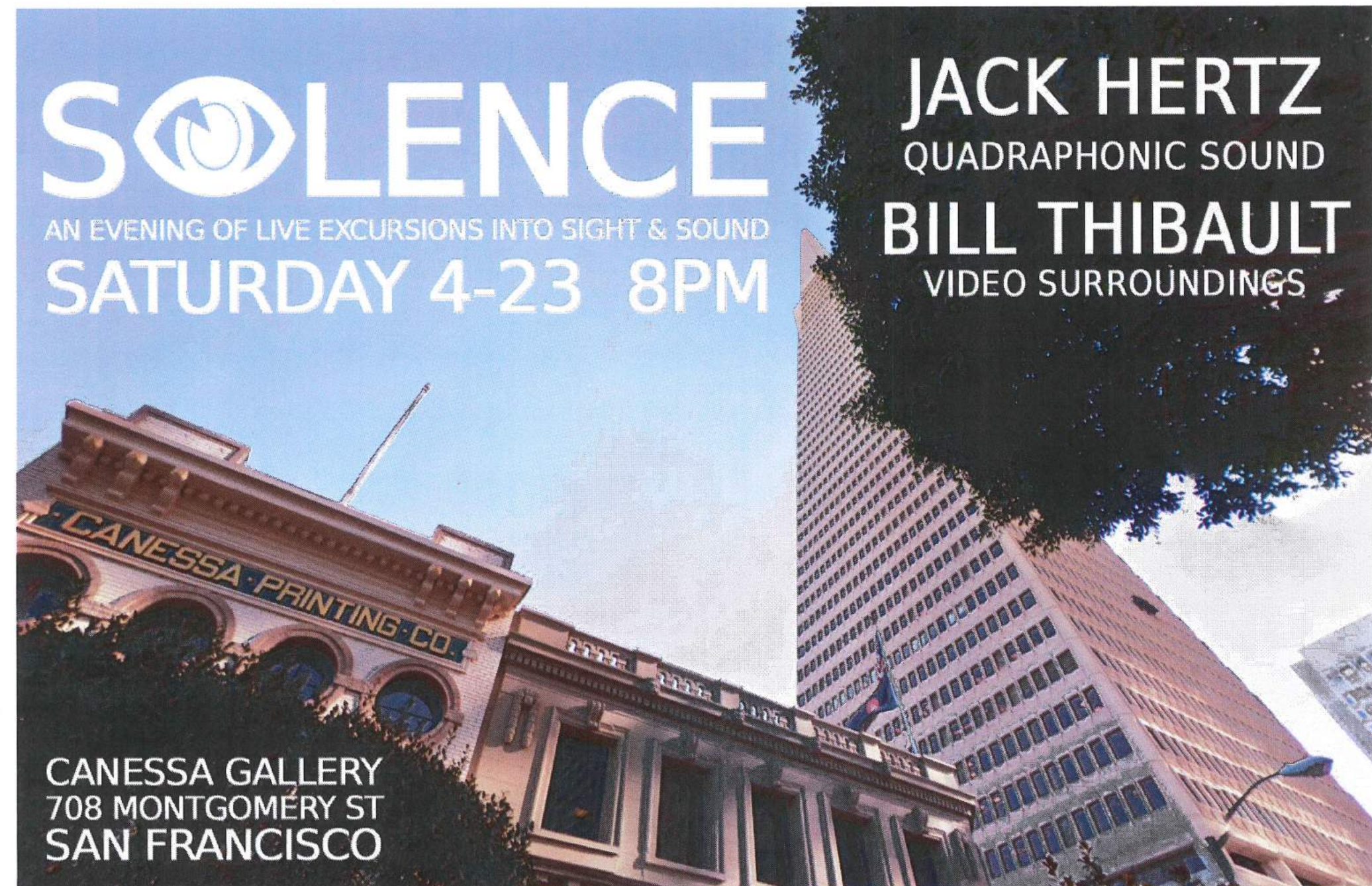
JACK HERTZ

QUADRAPHONIC SOUND

BILL THIBAUT

VIDEO SURROUNDINGS

CANESSA GALLERY
708 MONTGOMERY ST
SAN FRANCISCO



Filing Date: April 19, 2017
Case No.: 2017-004873LBR
Business Name: Canessa Gallery
Business Address: 708 Montgomery Street
Zoning: C-2 (Community Business)/
65-A Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: 0196/010
Applicant: Zach Stewart
708 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, CA 94111
Nominated By: Supervisor Aaron Peskin, District 3
Staff Contact: Stephanie Cisneros - (415) 575-9186
stephanie.cisneros@sfgov.org
Reviewed By: Tim Frye – (415) 575-6822
tim.frye@sfgov.org

BUSINESS DESCRIPTION

Canessa Gallery is a 501(c)(3) non-profit art gallery that was founded by Zach Stewart, an architect, landscape designer, environmentalist and political activist in 1966. The gallery officially received non-profit status in 1976. Stewart's architecture firm had moved into the former Canessa Printing Co. building (1890s-1965) and Stewart pursued an idea of utilizing the large open space below their offices as an art gallery. One of Canessa Gallery's first exhibitions was based on the firm's interest in designing parks and showcased photographs of the well-known nature photographer Philip Hyde. Stewart continued to host shows and exhibitions, many of which had a strong emphasis on the natural world. Through establishing Canessa Gallery, Stewart acknowledged and restored Montgomery Street's artistic heritage that was once composed of studios for artists such as Maynard Dixon, Ralph Stackpole, Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera. Similarly, the ground floor of the Canessa Printing Co. building was once home to the Black Cat Café (1930s-1963), a notorious space for bohemian and Beat artists, writers, and poets with a mixed straight and gay crowd.

Canessa Gallery lives up to its mission "to support and showcase the work of artists who are dedicated to be artists for their lifetime" by not only reintroducing the building and Montgomery Street's artistic roots, but also by providing invaluable exhibition, performance, and meeting spaces to the artistic, literary, and progressive community of San Francisco in a time when gallery and performance spaces are dwindling. It is not a traditional gallery that signs artists onto its list of talent and promotes their work to collectors but rather it allows "artists-for-life" to hang their work on the walls and invite friends and neighbors and the public to see their work in conversation with itself or with that of other artists.

Canessa gallery has become fundamental to the continuity of North Beach/Jackson Square as a center of San Francisco's rich artistic, literary, and cultural history. The gallery regularly hosts poetry readings, lectures, and various cultural and community meetings and events and currently hosts an ongoing monthly poetry critique group and monthly Meridian Music Series featuring experimental musicians.

STAFF ANALYSIS

Review Criteria

1. *When was business founded?*

The business was founded in 1966 and became a 501(c)(3) non-profit in 1976.

2. *Does the business qualify for listing on the Legacy Business Registry? If so, how?*

Yes, Canessa Gallery qualifies for listing on the Legacy Business Registry because it meets all of the eligibility Criteria:

- i. Canessa Gallery has operated for 51 years and 41 years as a non-profit.
- ii. Canessa Gallery has contributed to the community's history and identity by providing a space for emerging and established artists to showcase and promote their work thereby contributing to and continuing the artistic history of the neighborhood.
- iii. Canessa Gallery is committed to maintaining the physical features and traditions that define its presence as an exhibition space for artists in a city that is experiencing a shortage of gallery spaces, as a space for poetry readings, lectures and various cultural and community events, and as a continuing supporter of the artistic history of the neighborhood.

3. *Is the business associated with a culturally significant art/craft/cuisine/tradition?*

The business is associated with the tradition of exhibiting the work of emerging and established artists, a historic tradition of the neighborhood.

4. *Is the business or its building associated with significant events, persons, and/or architecture?*

Yes. The 1906 property has been identified as a "Category A Property" located within the Article 10 Jackson Square Landmark Historic District. The building is also associated with the former Black Cat Café as identified and described in the *Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco*.

5. *Is the property associated with the business listed on a local, state, or federal historic resource registry?*

The property is part of the Jackson Square Designated Historic District, which is listed locally under Article 10 of the San Francisco Planning Code, on the California Register of Historic Resources, and on the National Register of Historic Places.

6. *Is the business mentioned in a local historic context statement?*

The business is not mentioned in a local historic context statement. However, the building that houses the business is mentioned in the *Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ in San Francisco* as being the location of the former Black Cat Café.

7. *Has the business been cited in published literature, newspapers, journals, etc.?*

The business has been cited in a number of publications including but not limited to: Hoodline, 8/18/2015, "Canessa Gallery is a North beach Vessel of Art and History," by Geri Koeppel; and

Semaphore, Summer 2016, "The Art of Survival: Canessa Gallery Turns 50," by Carolyn Miller.

The business has also received two proclamations from the City and County of San Francisco.

Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Business

Location(s) associated with the business:

- 708 Montgomery Street

Recommended by Applicant

- Tradition of regularly hosting various cultural and community meetings and events
- Gallery and performance spaces
- Business model that supports new, emerging and established artists with a focus on allowing artists to showcase and promote their work and engage in conversation with friends, the public and other artists

Additional Recommended by Staff

- Location of the business in the Canessa Printing Co. building on Montgomery Street within the North Beach neighborhood
- Design by Italian-American architect Luigi Mastropasqua that includes Asian-inspired round windows incorporated into a Palladian façade, recessed fenestration throughout the primary façade and applied lettering "Canessa Printing Co." below a bracketed cornice
- Mezzanine above and open to the gallery space thought to have been constructed by shipbuilders and is supported only by slender metal poles
- Gallery space at the second floor that includes original pine flooring and remnants of the Canessa Printing Co. such as small brass fittings that swing out from the walls that are still-working gaslights
- Staff recommends that exterior features outlined in the Article 10 Jackson Square Landmark District landmark designation that are relevant to the Canessa Printing Co. building continue to be maintained



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Historic Preservation Commission Resolution No. 871 HEARING DATE MAY 17, 2017

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San Francisco,
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Case No.: 2017-004873LBR
Business Name: Canessa Gallery
Business Address: 708 Montgomery Street
Zoning: C-2 (Community Business)/
65-A Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: 0196/010
Applicant: Zach Stewart
708 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, CA 94111
Nominated By: Supervisor Aaron Peskin, District 3
Staff Contact: Stephanie Cisneros - (415) 575-9186
stephanie.cisneros@sfgov.org
Reviewed By: Tim Frye - (415) 575-6822
tim.frye@sfgov.org

ADOPTING FINDINGS RECOMMENDING TO THE SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION APPROVAL OF THE LEGACY BUSINESS REGISTRY NOMINATION CANESSA GALLERY, CURRENTLY LOCATED AT 708 MONTGOMERY STREET (BLOCK/LOT 0196/010).

WHEREAS, in accordance with Administrative Code Section 2A.242, the Office of Small Business maintains a registry of Legacy Businesses in San Francisco (the "Registry") to recognize that longstanding, community-serving businesses can be valuable cultural assets of the City and to be a tool for providing educational and promotional assistance to Legacy Businesses to encourage their continued viability and success; and

WHEREAS, the subject business has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years; and

WHEREAS, the subject business has contributed to the North Beach/Jackson Square neighborhood's history and identity; and

WHEREAS, the subject business is committed to maintaining the physical features and traditions that define the business; and

WHEREAS, at a duly noticed public hearing held on May 17, 2017, the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed documents, correspondence and heard oral testimony on the Legacy Business Registry nomination.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the **Historic Preservation Commission** hereby recommends that Canessa Gallery qualifies for the Legacy Business Registry under Administrative Code Section 2A.242(b)(2) as it has operated for 30 or more years and has continued to contribute to the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the **Historic Preservation Commission** hereby recommends safeguarding of the below listed physical features and traditions for Canessa Gallery

Location (if applicable)

- 708 Montgomery Street

Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Business

- Tradition of regularly hosting various cultural and community meetings and events
- Gallery and performance spaces
- Business model that supports new, emerging and established artists with a focus on allowing artists to showcase and promote their work and engage in conversation with friends, the public and other artists
- Location of the business in the Canessa Printing Co. building on Montgomery Street within the North Beach neighborhood
- Design by Italian-American architect Luigi Mastropasqua that includes Asian-inspired round windows incorporated into a Palladian façade, recessed fenestration throughout the primary façade and applied lettering "Canessa Printing Co." below a bracketed cornice
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- Staff recommends that exterior features outlined in the Article 10 Jackson Square Landmark District landmark designation that are relevant to the Canessa Printing Co. building continue to be maintained

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the **Historic Preservation Commission's** findings and recommendations are made solely for the purpose of evaluating the subject business's eligibility for the Legacy Business Registry, and the Historic Preservation Commission makes no finding that the subject property or any of its features constitutes a historical resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the **Historic Preservation Commission** hereby directs its Commission Secretary to transmit this Resolution and other pertinent materials in the case file 2017-004873LBR to the Office of Small Business.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED by the Historic Preservation Commission on May 17, 2017.



Jonas P. Ionin
Commission Secretary

AYES: Hasz, Johnck, Johns, Matsuda, Pearlman, Wolfram

NOES: None

ABSENT: Hyland

ADOPTED: May 17, 2017