

Clearwater Beach Marina Waterfront Sculpture Art Project  
**Eileen Gay** - Designer, Fabricator, Project Manager  
Mosaic Sculptural Proposal – OF SEA & SKY



A gateway into a space or pathway suggests a feeling of arrival. An iconic sculpture can also act as a welcoming attract, beckoning visitors into a site. At twelve feet tall, “Of Sea & Sky” announces the site of the Clearwater Beach Municipal Marina welcoming visitors with its colorful, nautical presence.

“Of Sea & Sky” consists of two ‘sails’ that give visitors the opportunity to interact with the artwork by transitioning into and out of its forms to experience a personal connection to the sea wildlife in the mosaic. Please take a moment to view the short video clip of a ruff model on a turntable to get a better feel for the sculpture’s form in the round.

I’m excited about the idea of creating iconic concrete sculptural mosaic as a waypoint for navigating to the marina. The sculptural mosaics will be approximately 12’ tall and 7’ by 3’ at the base, making for an approachable human scale and feeling of entry to the site. Mosaic on the forms will feature ocean and undersea life on one side of the sails and an azure sky with various seabirds on the other side of the sails. The rich and natural colors in glass and glazed tile honoring the world of nature.

My vision is that “Of Sea & Sky” would celebrate the natural sea life that the marina is a gateway to and offer a sense of arrival for visitors. The materials for the sculptures - steel, concrete, high fire glazed tile and glass, are strong and freeze-thaw resistant making the artwork a low maintenance, non-fading icon at the marina for many years to come. Hidden surprises embedded within the mosaics are often a part of my art installations offering a sense of personal discovery for those who are drawn to take a closer look.

The sculpture mounting base plate will be installed below the finished grade that will be completed after the sculpture is installed. The sails themselves will rise from steel masts with the bottom of the sails starting at approximately 20” above the finished grade to allow for better visibility, airflow, and safety. Placement at the marina entry will welcome visitors in and act as a waypoint for meeting up with friends and family before enjoying the marina walkway area.

**Materials:** The armature for my sculptural mosaic form is created using expanded polystyrene (EPS) material. The steel infrastructure inside the sculpture will include necessary pick points and attachments, per engineered specs, for installation.

Once carving is complete, the sculptural form is then wrapped in fiberglass mesh and coated with an acrylic cement material made by Drivit. This application is done in multiple, successive coats to achieve a strong outer skin over the armature which is the perfect substrate for my mosaic installation.

Once the outer shell has cured, I use latex modified thin-set mortar to adhere the mosaic on the forms. My mosaic materials will consist of high fire glazed porcelain and glass tile rated to weather freeze / thaw conditions. I then use a urethane grout to finish the mosaics. These mosaic materials will hold up well over time and retain their rich, bright colors for years to come.

Many successful examples of my work using this technique are included in my portfolio for your viewing. All of the materials used in this type of construction have held up extremely well. Some of my installations have been successfully in place for almost 20 years. Technical data sheets on materials are available upon request.

#### **Detailed Budget:**

### **OF SEA & SKY**

Item	Budget
Artist's Fee	6,000.00
Engineering	2,000.00
Sculpture forms, steel	10,500.00
Materials/Supplies	4,650.00
Fabrication	33,850.00
Load, transport, crane	13,000.00
Sitework (footings)	0.00
Contingency	5,000.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>Budget</b>
	75,000.00

**Site work / installation:** For site preparation and installation I will work with a local contractor and / or the City of Clearwater's crew / staff.

**Schedule for project:** My fabrication schedule aims to have fabrication and installation completed within approximately 10 months. If there are delays brought about by supply chain or other issues, I will work with the City of Clearwater to assure the best possible schedule for all parties.

This time estimate is also subject to the City of Clearwater's timely issuance of documents, payments, and approvals as needed at various stages of the project.

Fabrication time starts at full execution of a contract by all required parties, artist's receipt of Notice to Proceed, and receipt of first payment.

**Maintenance plan and recommendations:** General maintenance is a wipe down of the surfaces with a mild soap and water to brighten and refresh the color. Hand wash the surfaces only. PRESSURE WASHING OR OTHER MECHANICAL WASHING IS NOT RECOMMENDED.

# EILEEN GAY

Mosaic Artist – Sculptor

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