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Traveling Via the MSP Airport? Look up!

*Massive Scrolls by Minnesota Artist, Anne Labovitz
Greet Travelers with Creativity, Color and a Hidden Message*

MINNEAPOLIS/ST PAUL -- Four dozen bold, colorful scrolls – some pieced together, some ranging up to 50-feet long -- cascade down along the walls beside the main ticketing area of Terminal 2 at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport. While intended as a conversation starter, the scrolls are also the culmination of *122 Conversations* -- a multi-year, international art project by Minnesota native, Anne Labovitz.

Labovitz conceived of *122 Conversations* as a means of using artmaking to connect diverse cultures, communities and countries. This vision makes MSP International Airport the ideal setting for the scrolls.



Each of the scrolls is made up of multiple layers of acrylic paint on Tyvek® and reflect the artist’s visual interpretation of more than 60 interviews she conducted with individuals from Duluth, Minnesota, and its five sister cities: : Petrozavodsk, Russia; Rania, Iraqi Kurdistan; Växjö, Sweden; Thunder Bay, Canada; and Ohara Isumi-City, Japan. In addition to engaging individuals from each of those countries, interactive exhibitions featuring the scrolls were hosted in each of the sister cities as well. The ambitious initiative spanned six years, four continents, and six countries

“While reviewing Labovitz’s exhibit proposal, our steering committee was drawn to the possibility of engaging with global communities through visual arts, and the positivity that these bright pops of color would bring to many locations throughout MSP,” stated Ben Owen, Director, Arts@MSP, Airport Foundation MSP. “The ticketing lobbies are the perfect spaces to brighten our guest’s experience through artwork that celebrates diversity and bridges the gap between distant places, cultures, and peoples.”

Organized by the Tweed Museum of Art and in collaboration with Duluth Sister Cities, International and University of Minnesota Duluth, School of Fine Arts, the project celebrates the combined 122 year relationship with Duluth’s five sister Cities.

The scrolls at Terminal 2 will be on display through 2020, while a smaller exhibit of 25 of the artist’s scrolls will be on display in MSP airport’s Terminal 1 through Jan. 5, 2019.

Additional details about *122 Conversations: Person to Person, Art Beyond Borders* are available at: www.122Conversations.com

About the Artist

A native of Duluth, Anne Labovitz currently lives and works in St. Paul, Minn. In 2013, she was recognized with Duluth Depot Foundation's Artist Award as an artist whose distinguished career has made significant contributions to the development of both artists and the arts. In 2015, Labovitz was awarded the key to all six sister cities by Duluth Sister Cities, Intl. for her work in *122 Conversations*. Her paintings are part of the permanent collections at the Tweed Museum of Art in Duluth, Minn., the Athenaeum Music & Arts Library in La Jolla, Calif., the Minnesota Museum of American Art, the Weisman Art Museum, and the International Gallery of Portrait in Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina.



Labovitz is a member of the Board of Trustees for the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, a former Advisory Board member of The Artist Book Foundation in New York City, and a former member of the Colleagues Advisory Board at the Weisman Art Museum on the campus of the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. In August 2017, Labovitz received her Master of Fine Arts degree from Transart Institute, an innovative program based in Berlin and New York. She received her degree in art and art education from Hamline University, St. Paul, Minn. In addition, she has trained in studios in Florida, Italy, New Mexico, New York, Massachusetts, and the United Kingdom.

Labovitz is a professional artist and teaches arts education and conducts artist workshops in both public and private schools, and throughout the Minneapolis/St. Paul community. She also is active in the Duluth, Minn., art community and metro area.

About Arts@MSP

Arts@MSP is a program of Airport Foundation MSP, a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the experience and exceeding the expectations of travelers at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. Airport Foundation MSP partners with the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) to bring artistic and cultural events to MSP, including live music, as well as exhibits featuring regional artists and commissioned art installations.

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Anne Labovitz

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