

MEG SALIGMAN

Fact sheet: Fertile Ground

Project Name: Fertile Ground

Artist: Meg Saligman

Subject: The past, present and future of Omaha, including thoroughly researched historic references, along with images drawn from today's landscape and people of Omaha

Size: A massive 22,000 square-foot mural (6705.6 square meters) measuring 70 feet tall and 328 feet long. Upon completion, the work will be the largest public art project in the history of the city and one of the largest murals in the country

Location: Downtown Omaha, Nebraska, on the east wall of the Energy Systems building near 13th and Webster Street

Technique: Unparalleled figurative painting, combining innovative mural making technology with classical techniques.

Innovations: use of computer graphics and application of non-woven cloth to the wall to provide highly accurate images

Permanence: 30 or more years; other murals begin to deteriorate after only 10 years

National Importance: The production of the mural is being followed by the Gerald R. Ford Conservation Center in Omaha, the Rescue Public Murals project of Heritage Preservation in Washington, D.C., and the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation as a Best Practices project

Funding: The Peter Kiewit Foundation

Project Administration: The Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts

Completion: Spring 2009