

County selects artist to design civic center project

By DAVID DIPINO
TIMES STAFF WRITER

After being chosen from 11 applicants vying for a public art project designed to enhance the exterior of the South County Civic Center at 16700 Jog Road, West Palm Beach-based artist Mark Fuller was unsure about his original design recently one night before he went to bed.

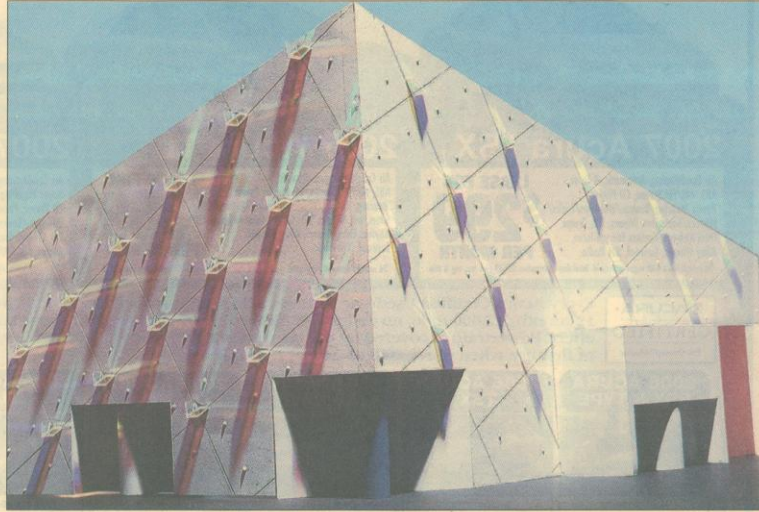
He said he thought he would "sleep on it" and maybe a new design would come to him in the morning.

"I woke up in the middle of the night at two in the morning and realized what I needed to do," Fuller said. "A vision of the walls of this building turning into a kaleidoscope during the day."

The budget for the project is \$75,000, with \$73,500 going directly to the artist. The money came from a 2002 Cultural and Recreational Facilities Bond that was voter approved.

Fuller has developed reflective, acrylic and metal waveforms that will be mounted on to several areas on the building's exterior. According to Fuller, the structures are based on the illumination of the acrylic coating that changes color depending on the viewer's position to it, as well as the position being reflected from the sun or other sources.

"When the sun hits the wave-



SPECTRUM: A model shows the prisms of light that will be given off by artist Mark Fuller's design for the South County Civic Center. Submitted photo

form it will create colorful streaks on the outer walls of the building," Fuller said. "They're also collecting solar power so, at night, LED lights in the waveforms will reflect streaks when the sun has

set."

The exterior of the South County Civic Center building is flat. Aluminum spheres will be attached to the building, providing a building texture and reflect-

ing light.

"The origin of the design comes from the building itself," Fuller said. "Early on I met with

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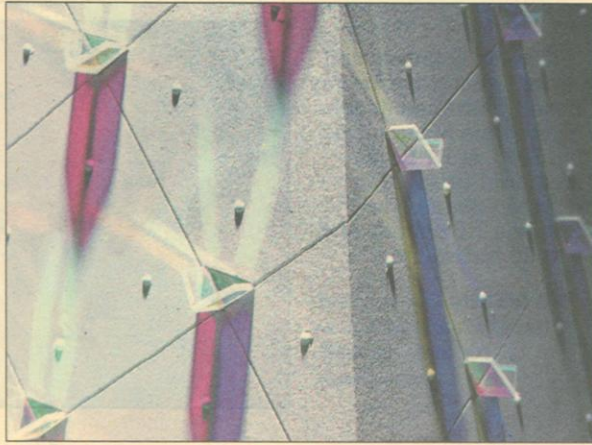
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the building's original architect."

Delray Beach resident Carol Klausner, who came to an April 11 community input session for the project, told Fuller that his design was not what she expected. "I think this is absolutely magnificent," she said. "It is so brilliantly executed, truly."

Klausner suggested to Elayna Toby Singer, Palm Beach County's Art in Public Spaces administrator, that they should start communication with the traffic departments about putting a sign up with a warning: "If I was driving along and this building began to show up in all of it's magnificence, it would be very distracting," Klausner said.

Singer fielded ques-



SHIMMERING: A close up view of the waveforms that will be placed on the South County Civic Center's outside walls.

Submitted photo

tions and presented a presentation before Fuller's explanation of his art design.

According to Singer, the project should be completed by September.

For information call 561-233-0235 or visit www.pbcgov.com/fdo/art.

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