

**Press Office**  
Press release

15th October 2020

## **Philip Stanton's mural in the metro, a large-format public work that documents Barcelona's courage and experience in overcoming obstacles**

The artistic intervention is a thank you to all the health workers who have taken care of us during the pandemic and a song to hope and solidarity

Yesterday, 14 October, the president of Transports Metropolitans de Barcelona (TMB), Rosa Alarcón; the North American artist Philip Stanton; representatives of Titanlux paints and students from EINA, University Centre of Design and Art of Barcelona, presented the large-format mural ***The Colours of Gratitude***, which decorates the main lobby of the Guinardó / Hospital de Sant Pau station on the L4 metro line and which was completed at the end of July. The prize was also awarded to the winner of the social network competition to create a title for this work of art.

The artistic intervention, created by Philip Stanton and which colours a wall of about 60 square metres, is a symbol of creativity and multi-generational teamwork. The mural wants to be a sincere thanks to the staff, especially in the health field, who have taken care of us during these months of the pandemic caused by the Covid-19.

Despite being painted in complex conditions (between June and July), it has managed to create a permanent piece that sends out a message of hope, joy and solidarity towards society in a public space, making it probably the first large-format public work that documents the socio-health crisis we have experienced.



*View of the mural "The Colours of Gratitude" at the Guinardó / Hospital de Sant Pau station L4*

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It took [four weeks of work](#) for the mural to take shape, starting with just a white canvas (June 25th), then adding the sketches that shaped the mural, then references to Barcelona and l'Hospitalet de Llobregat, the buildings and monuments of the cities, the TMB transport network and the organic forms that pay homage to the master of the 20TH century and a great reference in the work of Stanton, Henri Matisse.

The large scale mural is also dedicated to the city of Barcelona and its spirit of self-improvement and resilience, a hymn to hope, positivism and happiness after the hard months of confinement. The work shows a cubist, colourful and Mediterranean landscape, a very characteristic style of the North American artist and professor Philip Stanton, who has lived in Barcelona for more than 30 years. In order to paint the piece, Philip Stanton has collaborated with the students of EINA, Centre Universitari de Disseny i Art de Barcelona.

The title of the work was chosen with the help of the public thanks to contributions from transport users who took part in a contest held between 20th and 22nd July on the social profiles of TMB's Instagram and Facebook. A total of 346 proposals were received, and the one selected by the jury was *The colours of gratitude*, by Maribel Sáez Pérez, the winner of the competition, who received a set of Titanlux paints and a work by Philip Stanton as a prize.