



VARA KAMIN IMAGES (VKI) CREATE A POSITIVE POINT OF FOCUS

client:

William E. Kahlert Regional Cancer Center (WEKRCC), in Westminster, MD

project:

CT Simulator Room and Linear Accelerator Suites

architect:

Wilmont Sanz, Inc.

contractor:

Lendlease



The William E. Kahlert Regional Cancer Center (WEKRCC) on Carroll Hospital's campus, in Westminster, MD has incorporated art into its healing philosophies.

“Art in its many forms has the power to heal, soothe and comfort patients and their families in times of stress and discomfort. That is the principle behind many of the design elements found inside the new William E. Kahlert Regional Cancer Center and Tevis Center for Wellness at Carroll Hospital Center.”

*Carroll Hospital magazine,
Nov-Dec 2014 Issue*

At the heart of the Cancer Center's art is Vara Kamin's Impressions of Light® Images, (VKI), which are installed in the ceilings of the radiology rooms. The VKI Images were made possible through the generous donation of Dr. Bob and Mrs. Carolyn Scott.

Replicated from Vara Kamin's original works of art, these backlit ceiling Images provide a positive point of focus for the patients. While mitigating stress, the Images invite the body's natural relaxation response; stimulating the integration of the patient's body, mind and spirit during the treatment process.



DESIGN FOR THE RADIOLOGY SUITES

Cultivating a soothing, nurturing environment is a critical component for patients going through intensive medical treatments. For the CT Simulator room and Linear Accelerator suites the WEKRCC design team looked into a variety of visual support solutions. The initial option that was explored: projecting images on walls and ceilings, did not meet the budget constraints for the project. Additionally, in reviewing the more typical photographic nature scenes offered for use in Radiology settings, they simply did not provide the depth of visual and emotional support that the WEKRCC design team felt was essential for their patients in these very stressful environments.

When the team members saw VKI installations and examples from other hospitals, the deeply interpretive, visceral experience appealed to them immediately. As more of the staff members experienced the VKI Images, they understood the potential of the Images to invoke stillness and the relaxation response in patients, families, and the staff at the Center.

Artist Vara Kamin and the VKI team worked closely with the hospital staff to understand the project objectives. From the VKI Portfolio of Paintings offered for replication, the painting entitled Infinite Moments © was selected for one of the Linear Accelerator suites and the CT Simulator room. For the other Linear Accelerator suite, the painting entitled Sea Garden © was selected.

INSTALLATION ONE:

Project: Linear Accelerator Suite

Date of Completion: March 2014

VKI Image: INFINITE MOMENTS ©

Size and Configuration: 10' Diameter Custom Ceiling, 25 panels @ 22.45" x 22.45" x 0.063"

Fixture: Insight Lighting Versa-Tile™

INSTALLATION TWO:

Project: Linear Accelerator Suite

Date of Completion: July 2014

VKI Image: SEA GARDEN ©

Size and Configuration: 10' Diameter Custom Ceiling, 25 panels @ 22.45" x 22.45" x 0.063"

Fixture: Insight Lighting Versa-Tile™

INSTALLATION THREE:

Project: CT Simulator

Date of Completion: July 2014

VKI Image: INFINITE MOMENTS ©

Size and Configuration: 8' Diameter Custom Ceiling, 16 panels @ 22.45" x 22.45" x 0.063"

Fixture: Insight Lighting Versa-Tile™



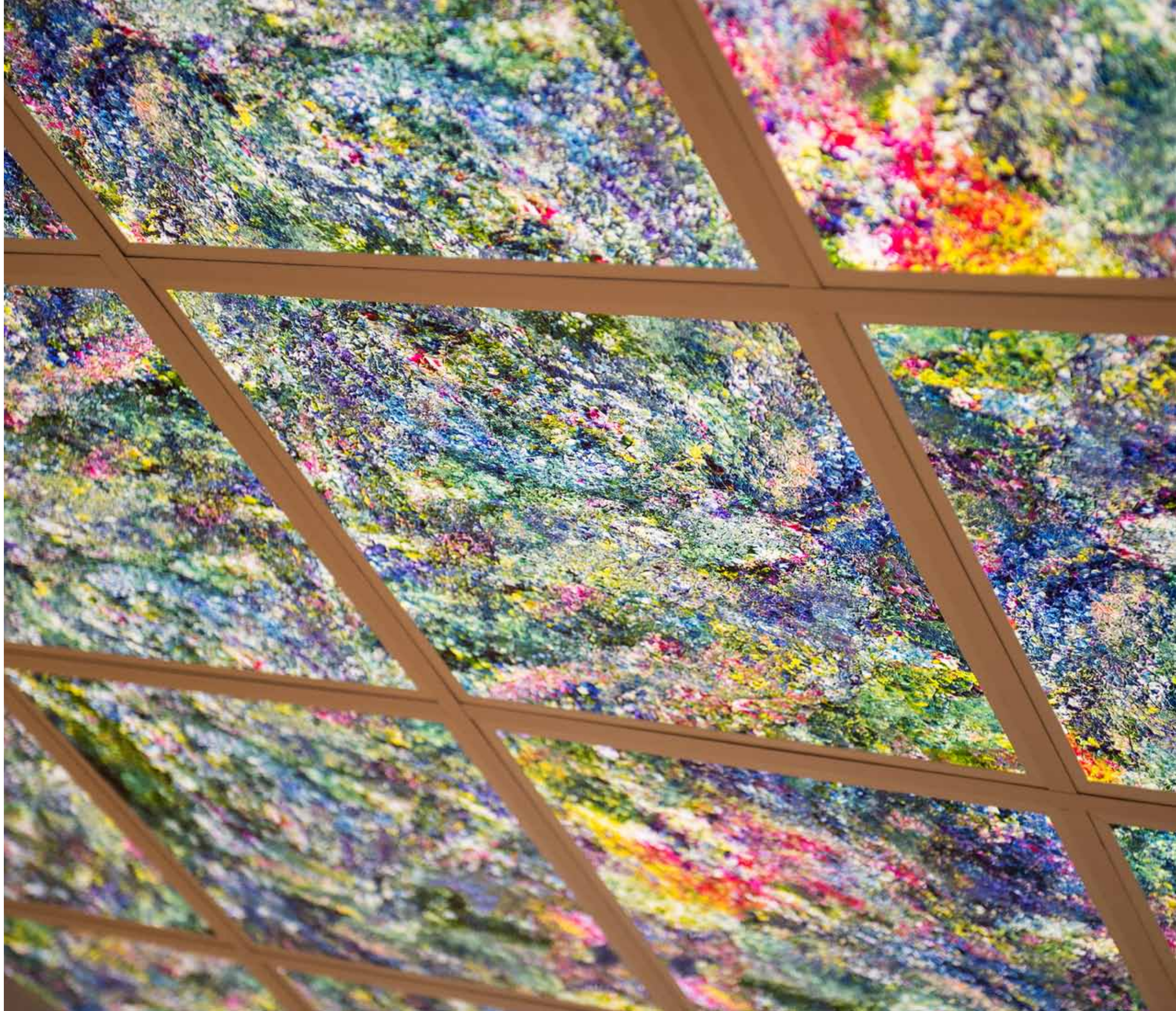
VKI IMAGE DESIGN PROCESS

Coordinating closely with the architect for the Cancer Center and the hospital facilities department, the project team selected the size of the circular installation for each of the three suites. The installations in the two Linear Accelerator suites are 10' in diameter. The installation in the CT Simulator room is 8' in diameter.

The unique characteristics of Kamin's paintings and the way in which she creates the original works of art, allow for the extraordinary capacity to take various cross sections of the painting and fashion them into an extended ceiling design without compromising the deeper intent and integrity of the original painting. For example, the original painting of Sea Garden © is 4' x 5', and the original painting of Infinite Moments © is 4' x 4'.

A numbered Design/Production and Installation layout was created by the VKI Design Team for each room. This detailed layout also noted the placement of the hole for the laser beam for the Linear Accelerator suite installations. Exact dimensions and placement for the laser beam holes were provided by the hospital.

The 10' diameter layout design consisted of (25) 22.45" x 22.45" VKI Images. The 8' diameter layout design consisted of (16) 22.45" x 22.45" Images.



VKI IMAGE FABRICATION/ INSTALLATION

In pre-production, the VKI Images, Sea Garden© and Infinite Moments©, were reviewed for clarity and color correctness for integration with Insight Lighting's Versa-Tile fixture.

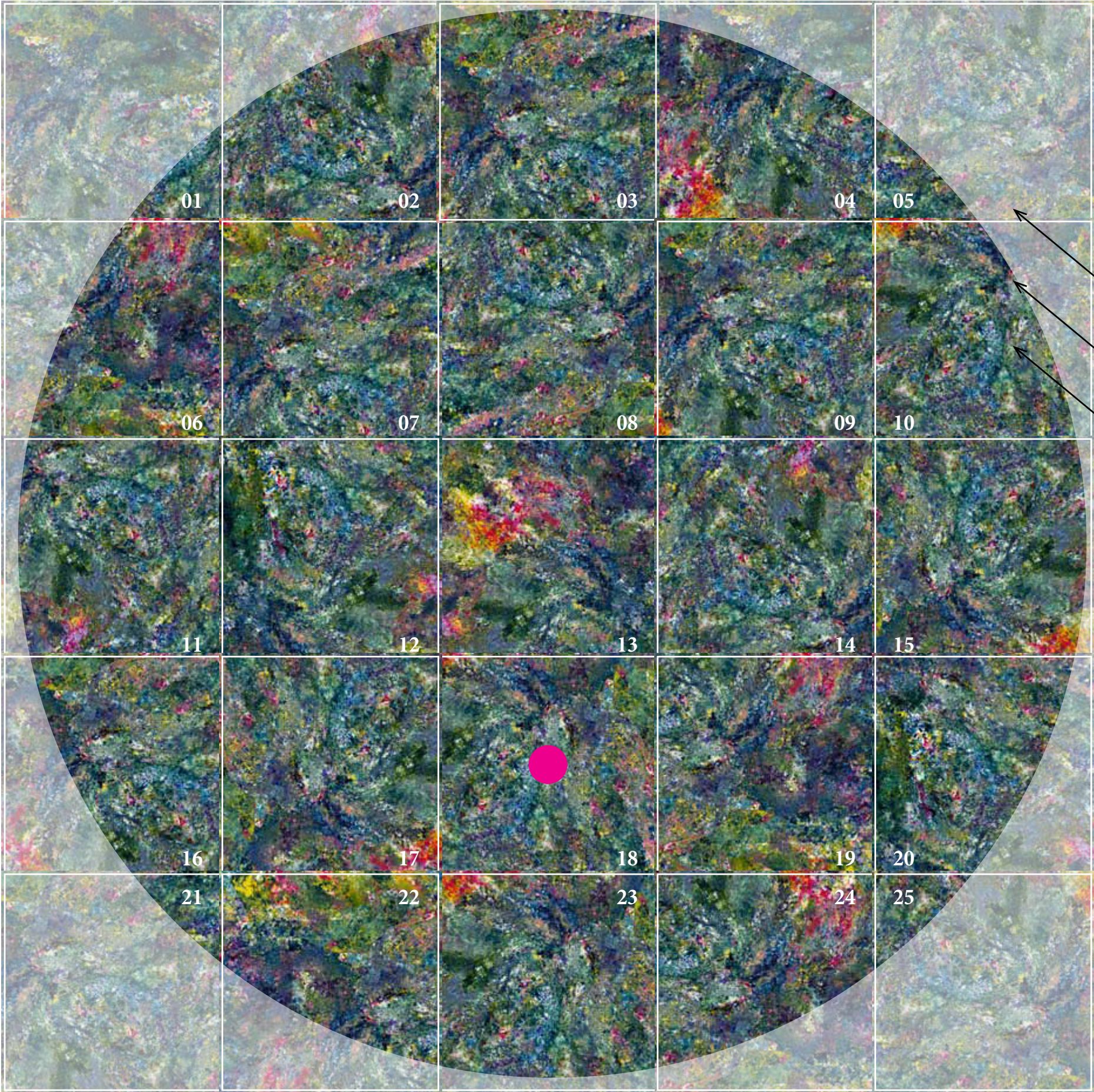
The Images were fabricated using an emulsion based film which was then applied first surface to a 1/16" milky plex with a 3.2mm clear protective laminate.

The laser beam holes were cut using a digital cutter with an industrial router bit following a precise digital cut path. Insight Lighting also cut the same laser holes in the corresponding Versa-Tile fixtures.

An Armstrong® Axiom Perimeter trim was placed to support the T-bar grid. Those VKI Images on the perimeter of the diameter were tucked under the trim.

Note: *Insight Lighting's Versa-Tile fixture is no longer available. Please request a list of other compatible light sources.*





**INFINITE
MOMENTS[©]**

10' Diameter - 25 Panels @
22.450" x 22.450" x .063"

Note: The pink circle represents
the hole cut through the VKI Image
for the Linear Accelerator laser
beam.

INSTALLED VIEW
[FROM BELOW]

25-2'X2' FIXTURES W/
10' DIAMETER REVEAL

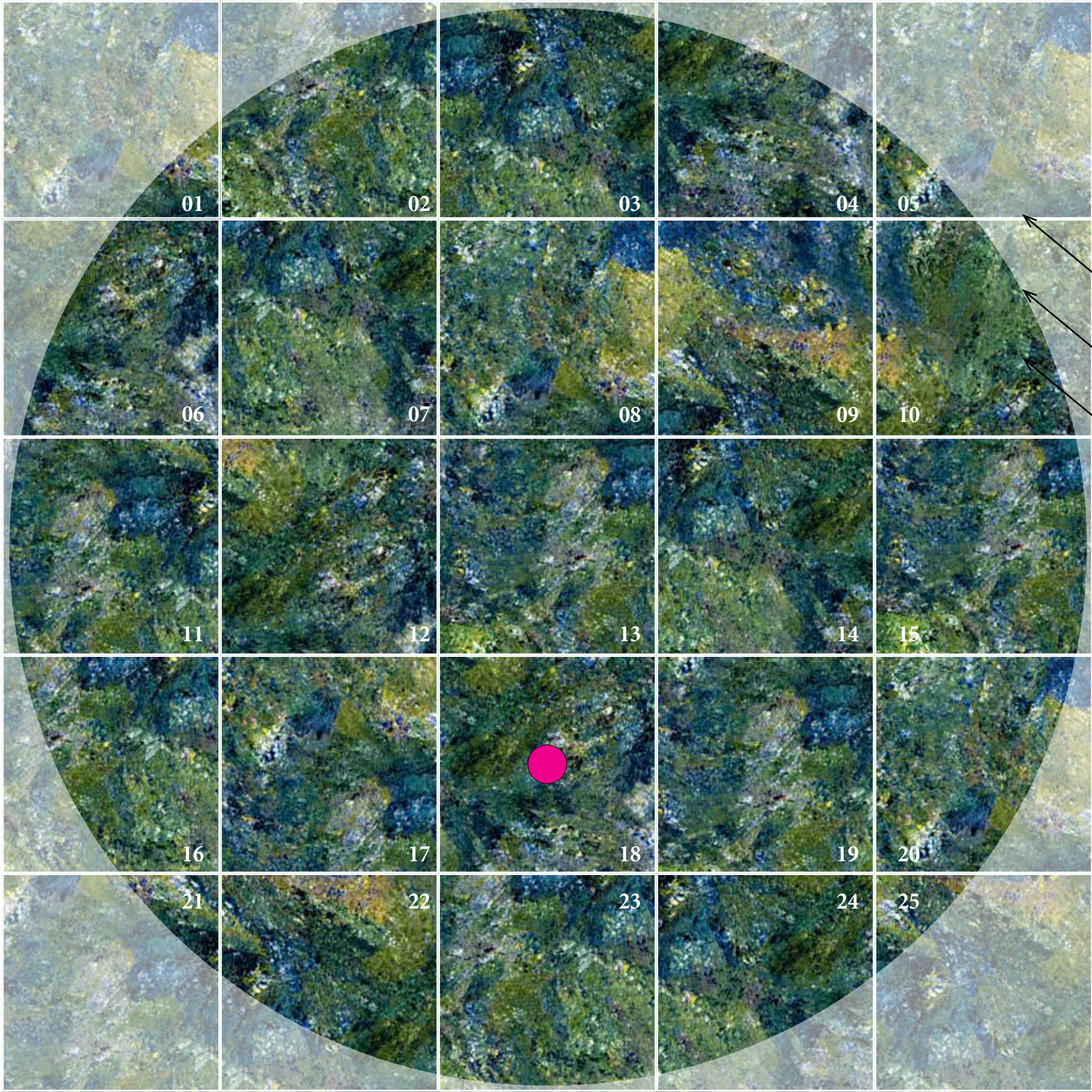
CONCEALED FIXTURE / ARTWORK

REVEAL EDGE (10' DIAMETER)

EXPOSED FIXTURE / ARTWORK

INSTALLATION DETAIL FIXTURE NUMBERS

612.920.0105
info@varakamin.com
www.varakamin.com



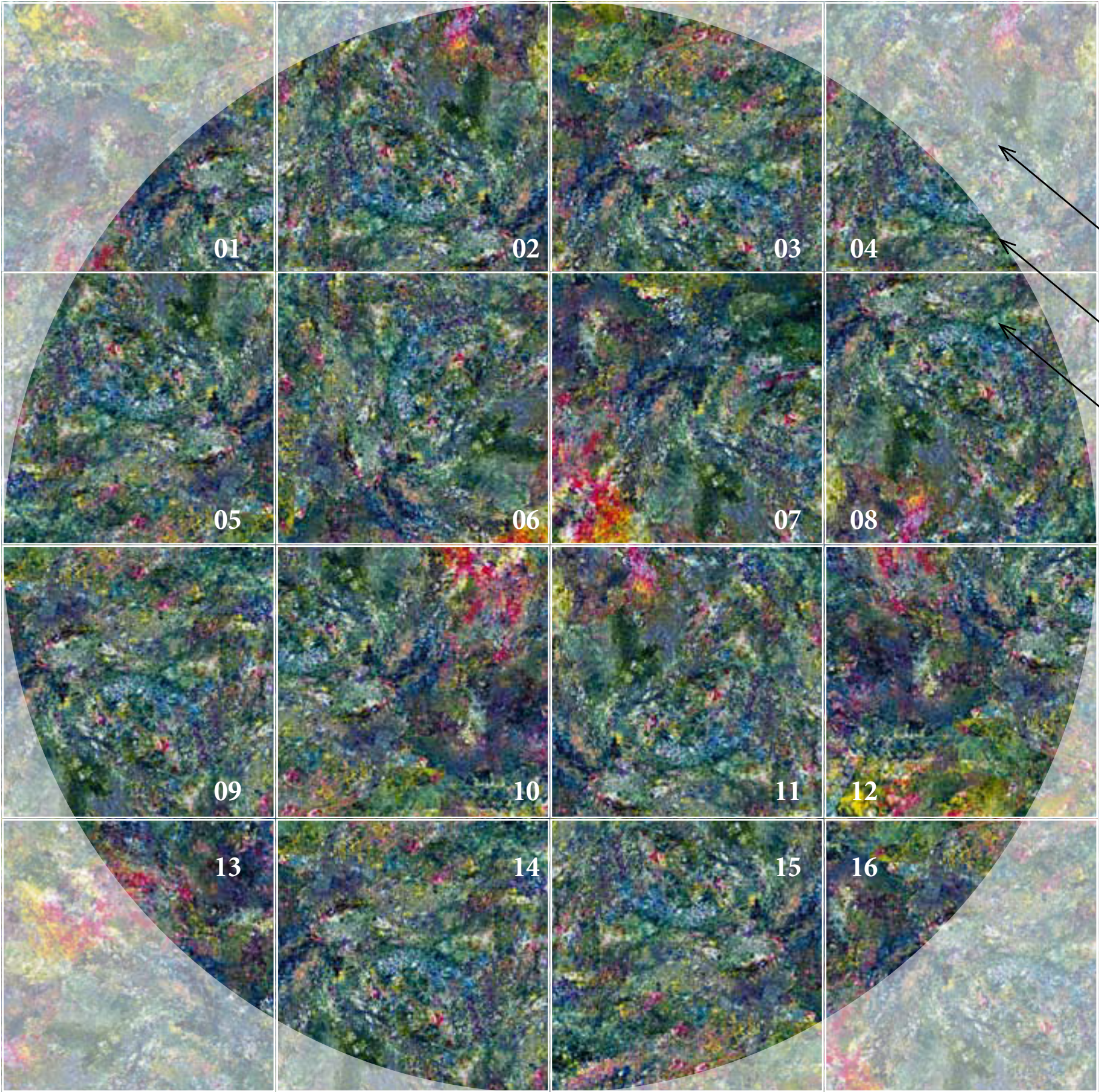
SEA GARDEN[©]

Panel Dimensions:
22.450" x 22.450" x 0.063"

Note: The pink circle represents the hole cut through the VKI Image for the Linear Accelerator laser beam.

- INSTALLED VIEW
[FROM BELOW]
- 25-2'X2' FIXTURES W/
10' DIAMETER REVEAL
- CONCEALED FIXTURE / ARTWORK
- REVEAL EDGE (10' DIAMETER)
- EXPOSED FIXTURE / ARTWORK

INSTALLATION DETAIL FIXTURE NUMBERS



INSTALLED VIEW
[FROM BELOW]

**16-2'X2' FIXTURES W/
8' DIAMETER REVEAL**

CONCEALED FIXTURE / ARTWORK

REVEAL EDGE (8' DIAMETER)

EXPOSED FIXTURE / ARTWORK

INFINITE MOMENTS[©]

Panel Dimensions:
22.450" x 22.450" x 0.063"

INSTALLATION DETAIL FIXTURE NUMBERS

612.920.0105
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www.varakamin.com

“We know now that healing requires more than just a focus on physical health. We have to support patients as people first—and that means providing for them spiritually and emotionally as much as we do medically. Vara Kamin’s artwork in our Cancer Center helps us to provide that full support.”

**Flavio Kruter, M.D.,
Hematology/Oncology,
Medical Director,
William E. Kahlert
Regional Cancer Center**

“Vara Kamin Images are so calm and serene. We are privileged to have a state-of-the art Cancer Center to support our community. Since the Images were installed in the Cancer Center 18 months ago we have heard patients comment over and over again how beautiful the Images are, that they are drawn to them, and that the Images are a valuable distraction from the cold, hard machinery that is the unfortunate reality in treating cancer.

The ability to dim the backlighting of the VKI Image is also very powerful. We raise or lower the intensity of the lighting based on treatment requirements and patient preference. Dimming the light can change the look of the Image and can really make a difference to the patients. It is also gratifying to see that even as the length of some procedures has grown longer and the masks the patients wear have grown larger, we still use very little sedation in our Center, and we attribute that in part to the calming influence of the Vara Kamin Images.”

**Karen Alban, RN, BSN, OCN, Executive Director Oncology Services,
William E. Kahlert Regional Cancer Center**

“Influenced by the science and practice of integrative medicine, we have taken the art of creative self expression to an extended state of use. Mindfulness and stillness connect each of us with the healing, nurturing energy from within; VKI Images provide an empowering shift in energy helping individuals connect to that inner peace and synergy that we all embody.”

**Vara Kamin, Founder, Creative Artist and
Visionary behind Vara Kamin Images (VKI)**

“We are grateful that the VKI Images are part of the healing process that is making a difference in the patient care experience in hospitals and healing centers throughout the U.S. and abroad. Vara Kamin Images are now impacting not only healthcare, but hospitality, corporate and residential environments as well.”

**Denise Wald, Director of Operations and
Project Management, Vara Kamin Images (VKI)**

