

# poetic poetic poetic poetic poetic poetic justice justice justice justice justice

## Bigger is Better

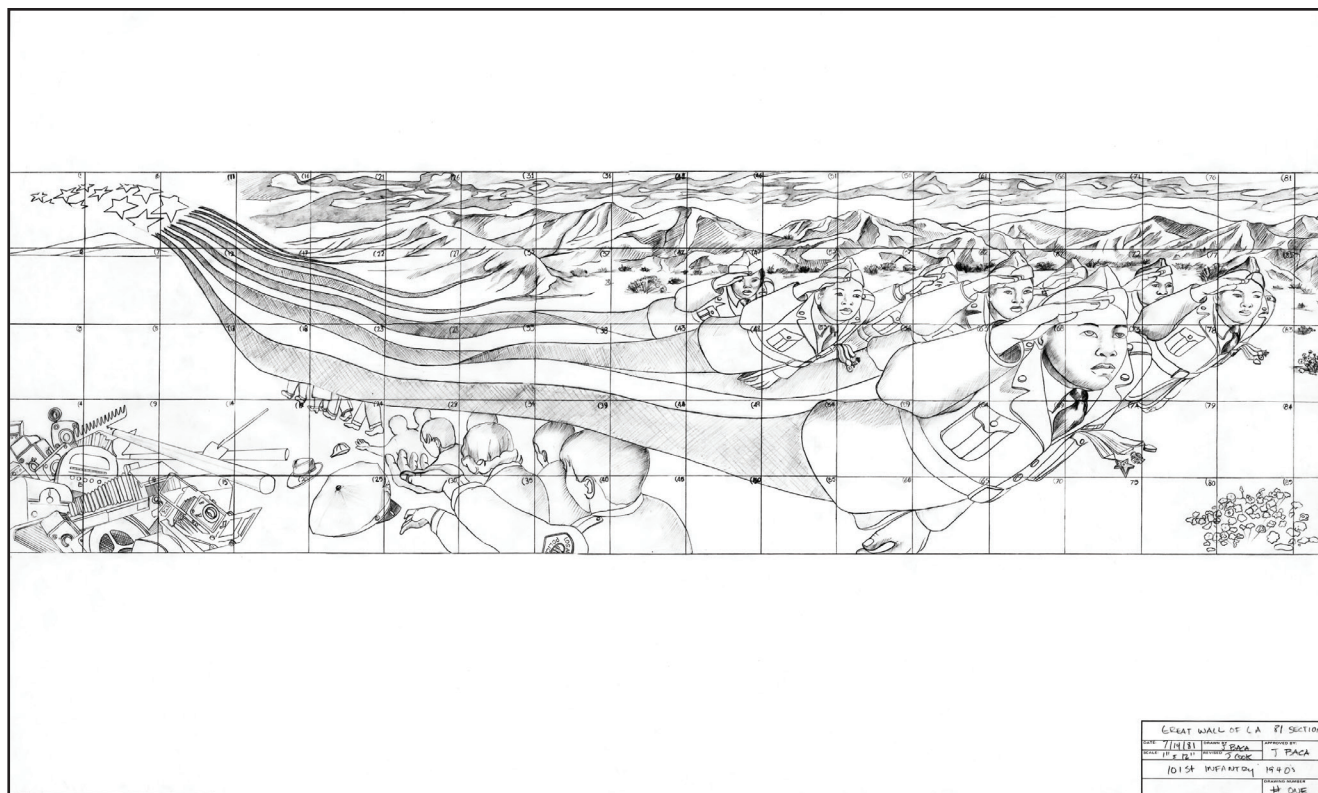
**Judith F. Baca** trained at Taller Siqueiros in Cuernavaca, Mexico, working with students of David Alfaro Siqueiros who, along with Diego Rivera and José Clemente Orozco are the “tres grandes” of the Mexican mural movement. Like these early masters, Baca uses her art to record and amend history to include everyday people.

Her large-scale public murals begin as small drawings. She uses the grid technique to make the drawing bigger. Throughout art history, many artists have used the grid technique to enlarge images. No one knows exactly when this technique started, but the Ancient Egyptians used it and as did many famous artists like Leonardo da Vinci.

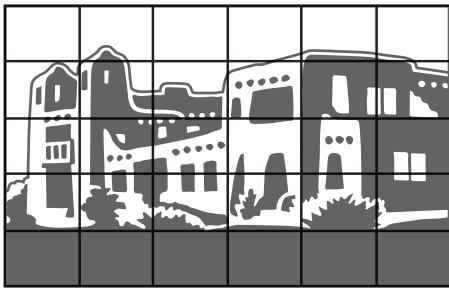
Baca’s most famous work, *The Great Wall of Los Angeles*, is painted on the cement walls of a flood control channel in Los Angeles’s San Fernando Valley. Just over thirteen feet high and stretching 2,754 feet—nearly half a mile long—the mural tells a multiethnic history of Los Angeles from prehistory through the 1950s.



**Judith F. Baca, 442nd Infantry (Japanese Americans)**, in situ, detail of 1940s section of *The Great Wall of Los Angeles*, painted summer 1983, acrylic on concrete. Courtesy of the artist



**Judith F. Baca, 442nd Infantry (Japanese Americans)**, detail of 1940s section of *The Great Wall of Los Angeles*. Gridded xerographic print on paper, 1981. Courtesy of the artist



### TRY THE GRID TECHNIQUE

Try the grid technique to make this image bigger. Transfer what you see square by square to the larger grid below.

#### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Graphite pencil
- Eraser
- Pencil sharpener
- Ruler

#### ENLARGE THE IMAGE ABOVE BY TRANSFERRING ON THE GRID BELOW

1. Take it one square at a time, starting at top left-hand corner.
2. Draw the image you see in smaller box but make it bigger on the larger blank grid.
3. Continue drawing the images you see in each box on the larger grid.
4. Repeat until the drawing is complete.

