

Memorandum



Date: July 15, 2025

To: Chair and Members
Art in Public Places Trust

From: Marialaura Leslie, Director
Department of Cultural Affairs

Subject: Trust Resolution No. APPT 25-37 / James Brazil at Joseph Caleb Auditorium /
Addendum 2

Trust Resolution No. APPT 25-37

RESOLUTION APPROVING ADENDUM II TO THE PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH ARTIST JAMES PETER LEONG BRAZIL (LEAD ARTIST, JAMES BRAZIL) IN THE NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$235,000.00 FOR FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION SERVICES FOR THE JOSEPH CALEB AUDITORIUM PLAZA CANOPY (FROM MIAMI-DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL PUBLIC ART FUNDS).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Art in Public Places Trust approve Addendum II to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with James Peter Leong Brazil (lead artist, James Brazil) in the not-to-exceed amount of \$235,000.00 for fabrication and installation services for the Joseph Caleb Auditorium Plaza Canopy.

Background

A meeting of the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) was held on October 2, 2017 for the purpose of reviewing artists proposal concepts for the Joseph Caleb Center expansion located in Liberty City at 5400 NW 22 Avenue, Miami, FL 33142. The original expansion included the construction of a new courthouse building, parking garage, and a significant landscape and hardscape improvement to the overall grounds of the campus including the Joseph Caleb Auditorium, a 962-seat theater, owned and operated by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs. Per the original scope of the project in 2017, APP staff and staff from the Miami-Dade County People and Internal Services Department (PIOD; formerly Internal Services Department), jointly agreed to allocate the APP funding generated by this expansion to enhance the main entrance to the Joseph Caleb Auditorium.

The PAC recommended artist James Brazil, for the implementation of his site-specific proposal known as The Cloud. Designed to mimic the amorphous shapes of clouds, the work is intended to transform the exterior of the Auditorium into an immersive environment and provide expanded performance and civic gathering spaces. The proposal's main feature would function as a canopy shielding visitors from elements, fabricated primarily from impact resistant polycarbonate sheets and a structural metal framework. Contingent on funding, the proposal would also incorporate a programmable lighting element capable of displaying various colors and sequences to potentially activate an artist's designed floor pattern.

Shortly after the artist's commissioning, the County cancelled the construction of the new courthouse and the Department of Cultural Affairs initiated a phased renovation project of the

Auditorium that would transform the back and front of house of the facility into a state-of-the art performing arts center. The APP funding available to realize James Brazil's project was significantly reduced and limited to revenues generated by the parking garage. In collaboration with the capital team, several infrastructure elements including foundations and a super structure were incorporated in the Auditorium's renovation budget to help the artist realize his vision for the sculptural canopy. Since then, the artist has completed various design iterations, however, none of them could be implemented within the \$200,000.00 original commission budget.

To date, the artist's budget has a remaining balance of \$122,500.00 which staff recommends combining with the value of the project's super structure for a total amount of \$235,000.00. The combined budget would require that the artist team up with a local metal fabricator to design and engineer an all-inclusive artist's design canopy system. The artist's work will need to be aligned for implementation with the front of house renovation project anticipated for completion late 2026.

APP staff recommends the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 25-37 authorizing Addendum II to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with James Peter Leong Brazil (lead artist, James Brazil) in the not-to-exceed amount of \$235,000.00 for the fabrication and installation of the Joseph Caleb Auditorium Canopy project.