



“UPWARD GAZE”

A TEMPORARY ART INSTALLATION AT THE METROPOLE BUILDING
423 2nd Avenue Extension South

Pioneer Square Preservation Board Briefing 1

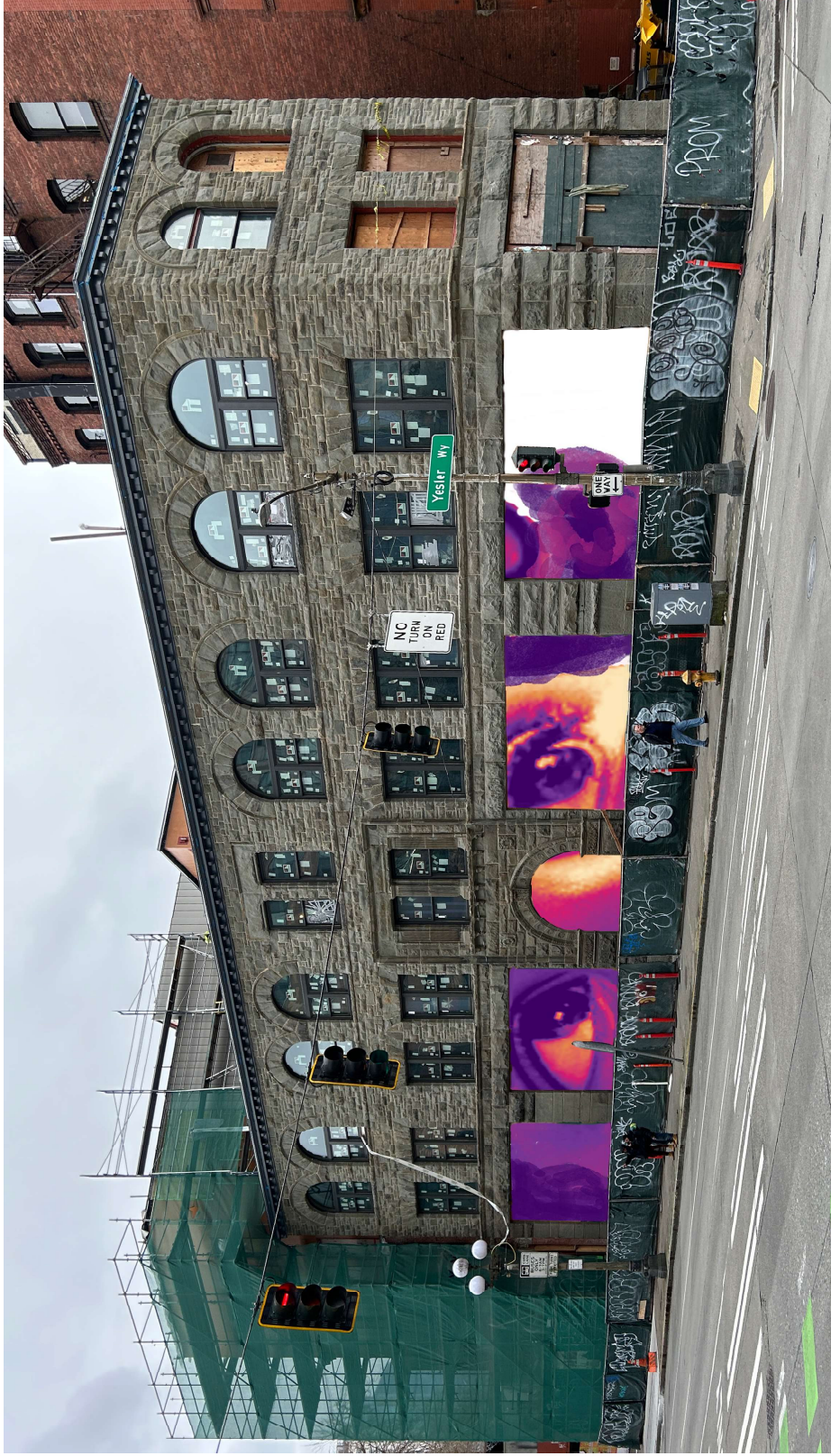
March 1, 2024

Project Background

The Metropole Project is currently under construction. The project is the complete renovation and adaptive re-use of both the Metropole and Busy Bee buildings, as well as the reconstruction of the two floors of the Busy Bee which were demolished after the 1949 earthquake. The Project includes a mix of community-oriented uses, including a child care center, a conference and event center, a community kitchen, and offices for not-for-profit organizations that do social justice and equity work. The project is designed to meet LEED Platinum certification. A Certificate of Approval has been issued for this scope.

A second Certificate of Approval has been issued for the repair and restoration of the areaway on Yesler and along Second Avenue. This construction work is yet to begin as SDOT permitting has been slower than anticipated. This areaway scope has impacted the overall project schedule and substantial completion is now anticipated in December, 2024.

The large windows at street level open Second Avenue are anticipated to be installed in August, 2024. The large openings at the street level are currently filled in with plywood which will remain in place until that time. This third Certificate of Approval is for a temporary art installation at the plywood infill along Second Avenue.



Proposed Scope of Work

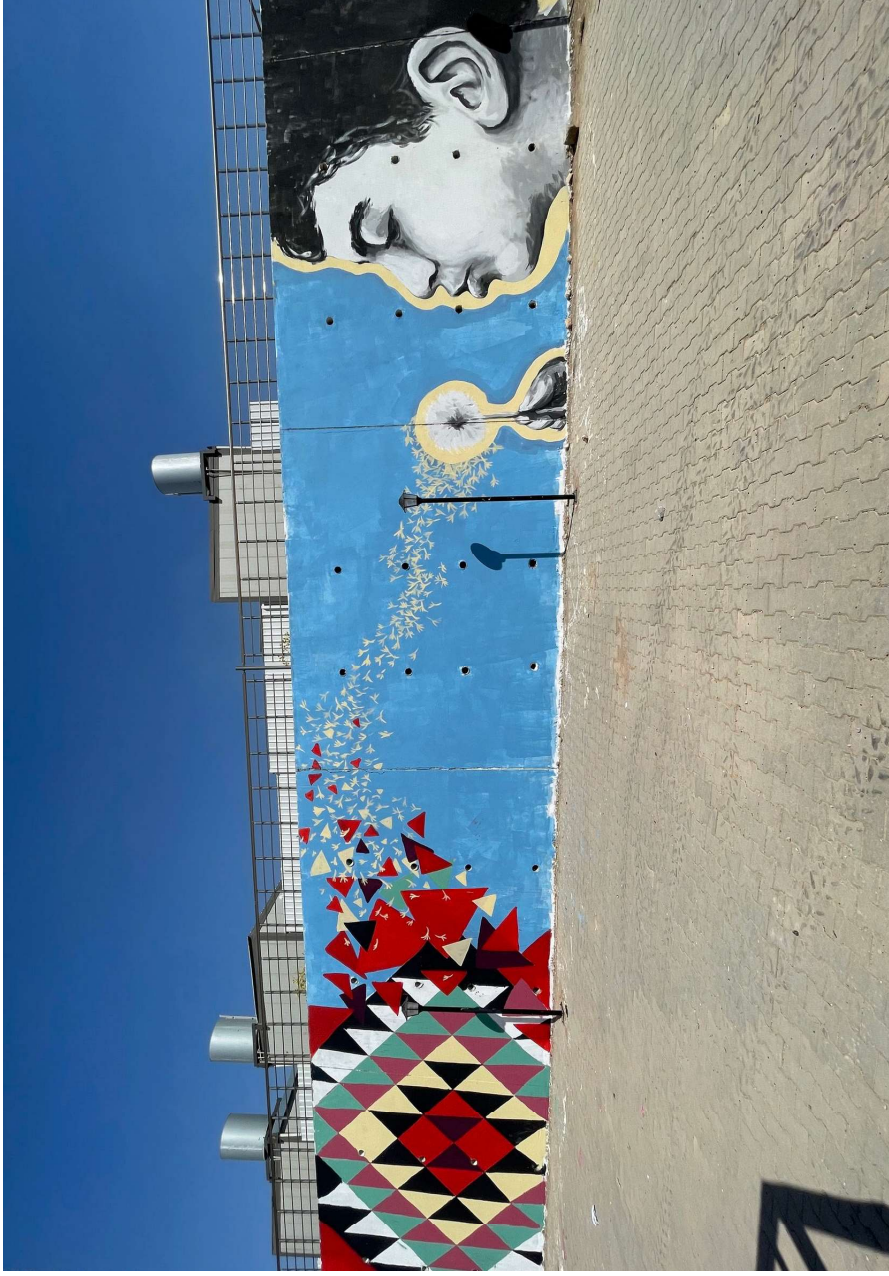
The building owner is working with local artists to provide custom artwork throughout the interior of the building, upon completion. One of these artists, Brady Black, has offered to paint a mural over the plywood hoarding which would remain in place until the curtain wall is installed.

The artist's inspiration is an "upward gaze with a playful spirit and the figure itself will be a fictional figure but a young, female, person of color to align with the future of the Metrople Building." The completed building will provide workspace for minority-owned businesses and childcare for communities of color.

The mural will be painted directly to the construction plywood that is currently in place and will be removed when the curtain wall is ready to be installed. There will be no paint applied to the building and no fasteners or hardware used for the mural itself.



Visit Seattle Monorail Portraits



Yazidi Empowerment Mural

Artist Background

Brady Black is an artist who describes himself as "an artist focused primarily on large format public art and "Community Murals" with an emphasis on bringing attention to marginalized communities." Brady is a local artist responsible for murals throughout the city, many of them the result of Community Collaboration.

The "Visit Seattle Monorail Portraits" are the result of the collaboration of 150 people and highlight MLB All-Star players and normal Seattle fans. The art includes 16 portraits installed on monorail columns and were left on display for 6 months for the All-Star game hosted in Seattle in 2023.

The "Yazidi Empowerment Mural," painted in a refugee camp in Iraq, is 100 yards long and an example of Brady's larger format murals. The mural represents the Yazidi culture and "completely changed this public space into a lively and colorful wall representing their story," according to the artist.