June 13, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Mark A. Hussey
   Interim President, Texas A&M University

SUBJECT: CBE Recommendation: OPAS Art Sculpture Outside Rudder Complex

The Council for the Built Environment (CBE) first reviewed the proposed sculpture at its March 2013 meeting. Formally, the CBE tabled the motion in hopes for a better process. The members of the CBE, especially the students and deans, believed that proposals for art should be solicited for important sites such as what was being proposed for this sculpture. In addition, the design group had some concerns for the actual proposed sculpture. The President then asked the CBE to reconsider what specifically needs to happen for this sculpture to be approved by the CBE. At its July 9, 2013 meeting, the CBE met to discuss a request from MSC OPAS to place a sculpture on the exterior grounds of the Rudder Complex. This was the second time the CBE considered this opportunity. Due to the fact that the Rudder/MSC complex is used for a multitude of University events, not just OPAS, the request was narrowly and conditionally approved and forwarded to the previous President with the recommendation that the proposal only be approved if the following caveats are met:

1. The sculptor considers rotating the grouping of sculptures 90 degrees. If the sculptor refuses to consider this request, he must provide, in writing, to the CBE the reasoning for his refusal.
2. The sculptor considers upsizing the conductor proportionately as the rest of the figures, not just an elongation of the arms and legs. An image of the proportional upsizing must be provided to the Design Review sub-council (DRsc) for consideration, so that they may ensure that there are no diversity/gender inequities reinforced within the sculpture.
3. Details regarding the lighting plan are submitted to the DRsc for Review.
4. Details regarding the plaque size and exact location are submitted to the DRsc for review to ensure compliance with the Texas A&M Plaque Policy.

Per the previous President’s memo dated October 22, 2013, approval of the request was provided contingent on noted caveats being met. After receiving all the requested information per the noted caveats, the DRsc re-reviewed this item on May 28, 2014.
Responses

1. The DRse reviewed the explanation provided in writing and maintains its position on rotating the grouping of sculptures 90 degrees. Please note that the rotation of the sculptures is a nonstarter for the artist. He strongly feels the 90 degree rotation will diminish the story of the piece.

2. Per the dimensioned drawing provided, it appears all the figures have been proportionately upsized 1.25%. The DRse has found this acceptable and no further action is required.

3. The DRse found the lighting plan acceptable as presented with the recommendation that some additional distance be provided between the proposed lights and the ballerina.

4. The DRse recommends approval for only one plaque not two as requested. The recommendation is for the plaque to be located on the back side of the platform base for the conductor with a dimension of no greater than 24”x28”.

Since the artist has refused to consider the request to rotate the sculpture 90 degrees, it is the opinion of the CBE that the caveats have not been met and voted unanimously to recommend the President **not** approve the request from OPAS to place a sculpture on the exterior grounds of the Rudder Complex.

In addition, the CBE has charged the Design Review sub-council to develop a process for soliciting art investments around campus that ensures student input is gathered before any proposal is proposed to the CBE.

Karan L. Watson 6-13-14
Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs
Co-Chair, Council for the Built Environment

B. J. Crain 6-13-14
Vice President for Finance and Administration
Co-Chair, Council for the Built Environment

Mark A. Hussey 6/20/2014
Interim President

**Concur** with CBE Recommendations - Not Approved.

cc: Ms. Anne Black, OPAS Executive Director
    Sub-Council Chairs, Council for the Built Environment
MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Karan Watson  
    Co-Chair, Council for the Built Environment

    Ms. B.J. Crain  
    Co-Chair, Council for the Built Environment

FROM: Ms. Lilia Gonzales, AIA  
       University Architect and Chair, Design Review Sub-Council

DATE: June 5, 2014

RE: Design Review Sub-Council (DRsc) – Update Report  
    OPAS Request for Sculpture Outside Rudder Complex

Per the President’s memo dated October 22, 2013, approval of the request was provided contingent on noted caveats being met. After receiving all the requested information per the noted caveats, the DRsc re-reviewed this item on May 28, 2014.

Action

- The sculptor considers rotating the grouping of sculptures 90 degrees. If the sculptor refuses to consider this request, he must provide, in writing, to the CBE the reasoning for his refusal.
  The DRsc reviewed the explanation provided in writing and maintains its position on rotating the grouping of sculptures 90 degrees. Please note that the rotation of the sculptures is a nonstarter for the artist. He strongly feels the 90 degree rotation will diminish the story of the piece.

- The sculptor considers upsizing the conductor proportionately as the rest of the figures, not just an elongation of the arms and legs. An image of the proportional upsizing must be provided to the Design Review sub-council (DRsc) for consideration, so that they may ensure that there are no diversity/gender inequities reinforced within the sculpture.
  Per the dimensioned drawing provided, it appears all the figures have been proportionately upsized 1.25%. The DRsc has found this acceptable and no further action is required.

- Details regarding the lighting plan are submitted to the DRsc for Review.
  The DRsc found the lighting plan acceptable as presented with the recommendation that some additional distance be provided between the proposed lights and the ballerina.

- Details regarding the plaque size and exact location are submitted to the DRsc for review to ensure compliance with the Texas A&M Plaque Policy.
  The DRsc recommends approval for only one plaque not two as requested. The recommendation is for the plaque to be located on the back side of the platform base for the conductor with a dimension of no greater than 24”x28”.
DESIGN REVIEW SUB-COUNCIL

Please let us know if you need additional information. For your reference, attached is the additional information as requested.

cc: Anne Black
    DRsc Members
    Bettyann Zito
Proposal for a sculpture at Rudder Complex commemorating 40 years of OPAS

The Theme:

Create a symbolic stage by utilizing the existing 20’x20’ planter box located in the center of the entry plaza and placing three bronze figures, a conductor and two performers, in the appropriate relationship.

Project Goals:

. Provide insight into the Rudder Complex function
. Create an interactive sculpture which engages the viewer to explore and discover

The orientation as proposed plays a significant role to our theme and project goals, and therefore, the reasoning for the refusal to rotate 90 degrees.

- The intent is for the viewer to approach the stage from a recognized, audience point of view, which is the back of the conductor. As individuals approach the south entrance of Rudder, this will be their experience.
- Upon arrival at the plaza, the enjoyment and discovery of the sculpture offerings becomes unique for each individual such as in a performance.
- As you exit the theater, the orientation of the sculpture now places you on the stage and you are an engaged part of the performance. This helps to reiterate the final designed interactive experience with the sculpture, which occurs at the conclusion of any performance. If you have laughed, if you have cried, if you have dreamed of being on stage and wondered if that might have been you ----- if you applauded; you have become part of the evenings event.

This is what I would like to offer to everyone who has the opportunity to experience an event within the Rudder Complex. The orientation of our newly created stage as proposed is integral to the experience as stated above and why any other orientation will diminish its story.
MSC OPAS 40th ANNIVERSARY
SCULPTURE - PROPORTIONS

FINISHED BRONZE SCULPTURE HEIGHTS

- Adult Male: 90"
- Adult Female: 71"
- 5-7 Year Old Child: 50"

PROPORTIONAL SCALED FIGURES USED IN SCULPTURE CREATION
Examination of adjacent structures and existing architectural features
Recognition of opportunity to enhance an understated entry and facade
Study of entrance and egress to create a positive and extended experience
The preliminary ensemble in a working maquette
ADAGIO

Larry Schueckler        Ensemble cast in 2014
Sculptor

In Commemoration of the Fortieth Anniversary of

MSC OPAS

presenter of professional productions of theatre,
music, and dance programs that enlighten, entertain,
and inspire audiences

of Texas A&M University and the Brazos Valley

---

DONORS

Lelia and Charles Bankston
Marie and Red Cashion
Gina and Bill Flores
Florence and Bookman Peters
Rebecca and B. Don Russell
Stephanie and Jim Singleton
Ellen and Rod Thornton
Susan and Gaines West
with

Anne Black, Executive Director of MSC OPAS
ADAGIO

The Conductor orchestrates the embodiment of all artistic achievement.

The Dancer exemplifies the perfection of training and interpretation.

The Child is the future.

---

The Meaning:

Adagio describes a musical movement in slow tempo or a slow dance movement focused on balance and line.

In celebration of the Fortieth Anniversary of MSC OPAS at Texas A&M University.