JAMES STREET SOUTH MURAL **PUBLIC ART** COMPETITION

Mural Location (existing to be replaced)

Artist's Proposal

Vermillion Sands:
Jacqui Oakley & Jamie Lawson

Artist's Concept Statement

We have taken "change" as our primary driving concept. Change is a constant, as is quite evident in any city, and certainly in ours. We believe change can be both celebrated and interrogated simultaneously – in fact, that the two are inextricably linked: being concerned enough to question is based in a desire to learn and improve. Certain recent changes have been rapid, and this "transformation" has brought attention; many newcomers are flocking to the area and there's renewed passion for the city.

Our concept of change relates to revitalization: finding harmony between old and new; differences colliding in fruitful ways. We've chosen to represent this through illustrations of indigenous flora and fauna interacting with a dynamic background of cascading colours and patterns.

We also want to provide a different context for the viewer to see their surroundings in a new way; reminding us that there's beauty in the commonplace, and that — while still meaningful — innovation and newness are not the only ideals being championed. In this way, the theme of "change" is embodied as a change in perspective, rather than as a fundamental change.

Additionally, we feel that the analogy between change and movement is strong. We have represented this using dramatic foreshortened rays, suggestive of transit lines, moving towards a destination — also stylistically echoing the Art Deco style of the train station and many other buildings in the area.

In a more literal way, we've also suggested our theme using the plants and animals as representatives of change – the butterfly emerging from its cocoon, the unfurling of fern stalks, etc.

We have tried to create an overall atmosphere of movement, dynamism and excitement that we feel is symbolic of the spirit of Hamilton. We want this mural to be a fun, engaging reminder of what we have, and what we can become

Mural Details