

2013-J488

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of arts advocate Harold Reed of New York City's South Seaport Area

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to mourn publicly cherished citizens of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, It is with deep regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of Harold Reed, a longtime, well-known and highly admired resident of New York City's South Seaport Area on January 5, 2013, at the age of 75, while en route to Hong Kong; and

WHEREAS, Art dealer, theatrical producer and community advocate, Harold Reed was born in Newark, New Jersey; he studied at Stanford University, then settled in New York in the mid 1960s; and

WHEREAS, Harold Reed began a career as a theatrical agent before turning to art; he founded the Mobile Art Gallery and later the Harold Reed Gallery, known for seminal shows of works by Botero, Alice Neel, and many others; and

WHEREAS, He was a member of the Art Dealers Association of America in the 1980s and, in more recent years, was an active member of Manhattan Community Board 1 (CB1) and lobbied in support of theater and the arts in Lower Manhattan, especially for the South Street Seaport area; and

WHEREAS, Harold Reed served, as well, on the boards of the CB1's Landmarks Committee as well as the Yaddo arts colony; and

WHEREAS, A longtime resident of the Seaport, Harold Reed joined Community Board 1 in 2001; during his time on the board, where he chaired the Arts and Entertainment Task Force, he worked tirelessly to bolster opportunities for artists Downtown and to create new performance spaces; and

WHEREAS, Harold Reed was a fierce advocate for the World Trade Center Performing Arts Center and was also working for the creation of a year-round performing arts space in the Seaport; he had, also, previously served on the board of the South Street Seaport Museum; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his efforts to expand public art space, Harold Reed is remembered, as well, by his fellow CB1 members for his cheerful and quiet demeanor and as a gentleman who brought people together in a

quiet way; and

WHEREAS, Before joining Community Board 1, he worked as an art dealer and theatrical producer; among his credits as a producer is the 1987 Broadway production of "Burn This," with John Malkovich; Harold Reed spent a year collecting photographs for "By the Gladness of the River," a 2004 portrait exhibition at the South Street Seaport Museum which he described as a "tribute" to the work of local artists; and

WHEREAS, Harold Reed is survived by his son, Bradford Reed, a musician and composer; and

WHEREAS, Over his meritorious life Harold Reed distinguished himself as a man of talent, sincere dedication and substantial contribution; his legacy will forever live on through his family, friends and colleagues, and the many lives he touched throughout his lifetime; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to pay tribute to Harold Reed, to celebrate his life, and to honor his accomplishments; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Bradford Reed, his son.