



For Immediate Release



Left to right: Jamal Cyrus, *It's All in Me...*, 2018; Nicole Awai, *Reclaimed Water—CC'd*, 2018; Xaviera Simmons, *The Importance Of Slavery In The Construction Of*, 2018.

Traveling Exhibition *New Monuments for New Cities* Opens in New York September 26, Coinciding with the First High Line Network Symposium

Twenty-five Artists from Across North America Address Public Commemorations of History as Part of Larger Conversations about Social Impact of Infrastructure Reuse Projects

September 26 — October 23, 2019
On the High Line at 14th St.

New York, NY (August 16, 2019) — *New Monuments for New Cities* opens September 26 on the High Line in New York City. This is the final stop of the exhibition's tour of five cities around North America. On view through October 23, 2019, this stage of the exhibition coincides with the High Line Network's first symposium *Beyond Economic Impact: Charting the Field of Infrastructure Reuse*, to be held October 16 through 18, 2019 in New York City. The symposium includes a public panel featuring five artists participating in *New Monuments for New Cities*. In addition, Monument Lab will present a series of workshops in conjunction with the exhibition on the High Line.

THE EXHIBITION

For *New Monuments for New Cities*, 25 artists or artist groups from across the United States and Canada designed posters of monuments—both possible and impossible to build—that



question the format of monuments and envision their future. They span from proposals for traditional monuments, to revised historical statues, to newly imagined methods of public commemoration. They take the form of drawings, photographs, renderings, “missing pet” posters, Wikipedia pages, bold text-based statements, collages, and more. These 25 artworks address questions around permanence, representation, public space, land ownership, and the writing and re-writing of history.

Participating artists include: Regina Agu, Nicole Awai, Judith Bernstein, Susan Blight, Daniela Cavazos Madrigal, Jamal Cyrus, Eric J. García, Guerrilla Girls, Coco Guzman, Hans Haacke, Tonika Johnson, *Life of a Craphhead* (Amy Lam and Jon McCurley), An Te Liu, Teruko Nimura and Rachel Alex Crist, Chris Pappan, Denise Prince, Phillip Pyle, II, Paul Ramírez Jonas, Richard Santiago (TIAGO), Xaviera Simmons, Sin Huellas artists: Delilah Montoya and Jimmy Castillo, Zissou Tasseff-Elenkoff, Vincent Valdez, Nick Vaughan and Jake Margolin, and Quentin VerCetty.

In considering the role of monuments to address social histories in our cities, High Line Art collaborated with the High Line Network, a group of infrastructure reuse projects and organizations across North America. As the inaugural Joint Art Initiative of the Network, *New Monuments for New Cities* traveled to four other Network cities across North America. Buffalo Bayou, in Houston, Texas, Waller Creek, in Austin, Texas, The 606 in Chicago, Illinois, The Bentway in Toronto, Ontario, and the High Line in New York, New York, each selected five local artists or artist groups to create proposals for new monuments. The resulting 25 proposals were presented in different formats at each site. The New York City exhibition will be presented as posters printed at large-scale on aluminum and mounted in the 14th Street Passage on the High Line. The posters will be on view September 26 through October 23, 2019.

“As memorials to the deeply imbalanced history of the Western world are being torn down, the current moment demands critical thought and creativity about the monuments that adorn our cities. These proposals from today’s artists offer an inspiring range of vision for how we might eternalize this point in society’s progress,” says Cecilia Alemani, the Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art.

“*New Monuments for New Cities* is an exciting opportunity for the Network to provoke a conversation among local communities about activating public space with art, taking insights specific to each location and finding common themes around monumentality and legacy. The exhibit also extends our commitment to building the social impact of our public spaces,” says Asima Jansveld, Vice President of the High Line Network.

THE SYMPOSIUM AND PUBLIC PANEL

The exhibition coincides with the Network’s first symposium: *Beyond Economic Impact: Charting the Field of Infrastructure Reuse*, to be held October 16 through 18, 2019 at the Ford Foundation Center for Social Justice in New York. This symposium will bring project leaders, board members, and partnering community organizations from over 60 projects across North America into both group and one-on-one conversations with thought leaders, academics, and practitioners. The symposium will provide those in the emerging field of infrastructure reuse the opportunity to share practical skills and lessons, and to discuss the cultural, social, and environmental values and impact of these projects.



As part of the symposium, the Network presents its first public events, including a keynote presentation on the social and environmental impacts of urban open spaces on October 16, and a panel on the exhibition *New Monuments for New Cities* on October 17. Five artists selected by the High Line for the exhibition will speak on the panel: Judith Bernstein, Guerilla Girls, Hans Haacke, Paul Ramírez Jonas, and Xaviera Simmons. The panel, to be held at the Ford Foundation, will discuss themes around public monuments and urbanism.

MONUMENT LAB PROGRAMMING

Also in conjunction with *New Monuments for New Cities* on the High Line, the public art and history studio Monument Lab will present a series of conversations as workshops. Monument Lab has invited artists, organizers, historians, and urbanists to lead open conversations about monuments, cities, and history on October 5 and October 12 at 2pm. Eight speakers on each date will guide these conversations with the public to share insights and experiences.

ABOUT HIGH LINE ART

Founded in 2009, High Line Art commissions and produces a wide array of artwork, including site-specific commissions, exhibitions, performances, video programs, and a series of billboard interventions. Led by Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art Cecilia Alemani, and presented by the High Line, the art program invites artists to think of creative ways to engage with the unique architecture, history, and design of the park, and to foster a productive dialogue with the surrounding neighborhood and urban landscape.

For more information about High Line Art, please visit thehighline.org/art.

ABOUT THE NETWORK

Presented by the High Line, the High Line Network is a group of infrastructure reuse projects—and the people who help them come to life. As cities become denser and land for traditional parks becomes more scarce, residents are finding creative ways to bring greenspace to their neighborhoods. Projects in the High Line Network transform underutilized infrastructure into new urban landscapes. Redefining what a park can be, these hybrid spaces are also public squares, open-air museums, botanical gardens, social service organizations, walkways, transit corridors, and more.

For more information about the High Line Network, please visit network.thehighline.org.

ABOUT THE HIGH LINE

Built on a historic, elevated freight line, we reimagine public space with our communities, neighborhoods, and city, in partnership with NYC Parks. The High Line is a park where visitors can view art, walk through gardens, experience a performance, or connect with friends and neighbors—all while enjoying a unique perspective of New York City. We raise nearly 100% of the annual budget for our programming, maintenance, and operations.

SUPPORT

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Lead support for the High Line Network's Beyond Economic Impact: Charting the Field of Infrastructure Reuse symposium is provided by The JPB Foundation. Program support is provided by Knight Foundation, JPMorgan Chase & Co., The Brown Foundation, Inc. of Houston, and Amanda and Don Mullen.

@highlineartnyc #NewMonumentsforNewCities #HighLineNetwork

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