



For Immediate Release



## SCULPTURAL MAQUETTES OF SHORTLISTED HIGH LINE PLINTH PROPOSALS NOW ON VIEW

**12 artists' visions for monumental public art for the 21st century  
on display through April**

**New York, NY (January 28, 2021)** —High Line Art announces today that the twelve shortlisted proposals for the third and fourth High Line Plinth commissions are now on view in the park as sculptural maquettes. The models currently are exhibited in the park in the Coach Passage at 30th Street and will remain on view through April 2021. The exhibited proposals are by artists **Iván Argote, Nina Beier, Margarita Cabrera, Nick Cave, Banu Cennetoğlu, Rafa Esparza, Teresita Fernández, Kapwani Kiwanga, Lu Pingyuan, Pamela Rosenkranz, Mary Sibande,** and **Andra Ursuța.**

The maquettes, presented at approximately 1:16 scale, offer the public a three-dimensional perspective of the proposals. They range in material, from adobe brick soil to dichroic glass panes, suggesting the varying impact and challenges of their construction at full-size. Evoking themes that include climate change, decolonization, and civil rights, these proposals present

**HIGH LINE** ART



each artist's vision for monumental public art in New York City in the 21st century. The models are exhibited a short distance away from the Plinth, where the first commission, Simone Leigh's *Brick House*, is currently on view.

Two out of the 12 shortlisted artists will be selected to create the full-scale third and fourth High Line Plinth commissions, to be installed in 2022 and 2024 respectively. Simone Leigh's *Brick House*, the first Plinth commission, is currently on view until spring 2021, and the second Plinth commission, to be announced, will follow. Each Plinth commission will be on view for 18 months.

In 2020, 80 artists from 40 countries and across the United States submitted proposals to be considered for the third and fourth Plinth commissions. These artists were nominated by an international advisory committee of artists, curators, and arts professionals convened by High Line Art. The High Line Art team then selected twelve proposals for further consideration.

The High Line Plinth is a landmark destination for public art, designed as the focal point of the Spur, the newest section of the High Line, which opened in June 2019. Unlike most sections of the park, the Spur is conceived as a natural gathering space; the Plinth serves as the anchor and center of this piazza, creating a dialogue with the towering skyscrapers and arresting vistas of the immediate surroundings. The Plinth is located on the High Line at 30th Street and 10th Avenue, and is visible from the street.

### **The Shortlisted Artists and Proposals**

**Iván Argote** (b. 1983, Bogotá, Colombia) lives and works in Paris, France. *Dinosaur* is a giant, realistically-painted pigeon realized at the size of a Tyrannosaurus rex.

**Nina Beier** (b. 1975, Aarhus, Denmark) lives and works in Berlin, Germany. *Women & Children* is a fountain composed of generic found sculptures of women and children, with water streaming from their eyes as tears.

**Margarita Cabrera** (b. 1973, Monterrey, Mexico) lives and works in El Paso, Texas, United States. *UPLIFT New York* comprises a flock of birds modeled on *papel picado* wings with the bodies of chopped-up confiscated firearms; Cabrera proposes art-making workshops with local immigrant and gun control groups that would then inform the final sculpture.

**Nick Cave** (b. 1959, Fulton, Missouri, United States) lives and works in Chicago, Illinois, United States. *A-mal-gam* is a sculpture cast from found tree branches, vintage toile flowers, and ceramic birds.

**Banu Cennetoğlu** (b. 1970, Ankara, Turkey) lives and works in Istanbul, Turkey. In *right?*, Cennetoğlu's proposed sculpture, the artist writes each article of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, published by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948, in letter-shaped balloons.

**Rafa Esparza** (b. 1981, Los Angeles, California, United States) lives and works in Los Angeles, California, United States. *KT Hyperspace* is an Olmec monument, made from the artist's family's adobe recipe, distorted as if on the edge of a wormhole.



**Teresita Fernández** (b. 1968, Miami, Florida, United States) lives and works in Brooklyn, New York, United States. **Maelstrom** depicts a group of glistening, wind-battered palm trees, posing questions about land, power, and decolonization.

**Kapwani Kiwanga** (b. 1978, Hamilton, Canada) lives and works in Paris, France. **On growth** (working title) is a sculpture of a fern encased in a dichroic glass structure, evoking natural history, botanic technology, and global economics.

**Lu Pingyuan** (b. 1984, Jinhua, Zhejiang province, China) lives and works in Shanghai, China. **Tree** is a sacred, ancient mountain pine tree as an anthropomorphic cartoon.

**Pamela Rosenkranz** (b. 1979, Uri, Switzerland) lives and works in Zurich, Switzerland. **Old Tree** is a bright red and pink tree, the color evoking the internal systems of the human body.

**Mary Sibande** (b. 1982, Barberton, South Africa) lives and works in Johannesburg, South Africa. Sibande's proposal **Old wars are out and a new reason of humanity is in** recreates the pedestal that elevates a bronze statue of the Dutch colonial navigator, Jan Van Riebeeck, in Cape Town. In Sibande's sculpture, the statue is absent, and the crumbling pedestal is pecked by red chickens.

**Andra Ursuța** (b. 1979, Salonta, Romania) lives and works in New York, New York, United States. **Broken Obelisk** is a translucent sculpture of an anthropomorphic obelisk bent into a seated position.

## **SUPPORT**

Major support for the High Line Plinth comes from the High Line Plinth Committee, a group of contemporary art leaders committed to realizing major commissions and engaging in the public success of the Plinth.

Support for the High Line Plinth is provided by Shelley Fox Aarons and Philip E. Aarons, Jennifer and Jonathan Allan Soros, Elizabeth Belfer, Suzanne Deal Booth, Fairfax Dorn, Steve Ells, Kerianne Flynn, Hermine Riegerl Heller and David B. Heller, J. Tomilson and Janine Hill, The Holly Peterson Foundation, Annie Hubbard, Miyoung Lee and Neil Simpkins, Amanda and Don Mullen, Douglas Oliver and Sherry Brous, Mario Palumbo and Stefan Gargiulo, Susan and Stephen Scherr, and Susan and David Viniar.

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## **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 Cecilia Alemani, Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art, 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](https://thehighline.org/art).

### **ABOUT THE HIGH LINE**

The High Line is both a nonprofit organization and a public park on the West Side of Manhattan. Through our work with communities on and off the High Line, we're devoted to reimagining public spaces to create connected, healthy neighborhoods and cities.

Built on a historic, elevated rail line, the High Line was always intended to be more than a park. You can walk through gardens, view art, experience a performance, enjoy food and beverage, or connect with friends and neighbors—all while enjoying a unique perspective of New York City.

Nearly 100% of our annual budget comes through donations. The High Line is owned by the City of New York and we operate under a license agreement with NYC Parks.

For more information, visit [thehighline.org](https://thehighline.org) and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#).

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

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