

OBSERVER

The Best Outdoor and Spring-Inspired Art Exhibitions in and Around NYC

By Margaret Carrigan · 04/13/18 11:30am

"Agora" at the High Line

April 19, 2018 – March 2019



Rendering of Sable Elyse Smith's *C.R.E.A.M.*, 2018. Friends of the High Line

Walking the High Line is a joy for New Yorkers and tourists alike, even in colder months. But there's no better time than spring to enjoy its perfectly planted naturescape. It's a utopian gem of shared urban space, which makes High Line Arts' new exhibition, titled "Agora," all the more apt. Inspired by the "agoras" (central city squares) of Ancient Greece, the show explores how public spaces can offer something as simple as a meeting place for friends to a site of social change for the community. Specially commissioned works by nine artists including Maria Thereza Alves, Pope.L and Andrea Bowers dot the entirety of the pathway, each offering a unique view on pressing issues facing the public today, such as women's rights, mass incarceration, immigration and the environment.

"Indicators: Artists on Climate Change" at Storm King Art Center

May 19 – November 25



Storm King offers 500 acres of rolling hills to hike or bike and verdant vistas to enjoy after a long, gray winter. Just over an hour outside of New York, it's a perennial day trip favorite among city dwellers, and it has officially reopened for the season as of this month. Enjoy picnicking among its permanent collection, a broad smattering of behemoth sculptures by big-name artists such as Louise Bourgeois, Alexander Calder and Richard Serra. And once spring is in full swing, experience the center's newest exhibition, "Indicators: Artists on Climate Change," opening in May. Featuring works from over a dozen ecologically minded artists including Maya Lin, Mark Dion, Ellie Ga and Justin Brice Guariglia, the show uses the sculpture park's own surrounding natural beauty as a call to action to respond to the increasingly dire health of the global environmental.