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For Immediate Release

# HIGH LINE NETWORK JOINT ART INITIATIVE **NEW MONUMENTS FOR NEW CITIES**

## Five cities imagine new monuments

February – October 2019

**New York, NY (November 28, 2018)** — Friends of the High Line announces **New Monuments for New Cities**, the inaugural project of the High Line Network Joint Art Initiative, a new collaboration between industrial reuse projects in North America. *New Monuments for New Cities* is a public art exhibition that will travel across the United States and Canada throughout 2019. Five urban reuse projects, which are part of the High Line Network, invited five of their local artists or artist groups to create proposals (in the form of posters) for new monuments. Each participating location will produce an exhibition of the 25 artworks, specific to their site.

Participating sites include:

- Buffalo Bayou, Houston, Texas; February – April, 2019
- Waller Creek, Austin, Texas; March – May, 2019
- The 606, Chicago, Illinois; May – July, 2019
- The Bentway, Toronto, Ontario; May – August, 2019
- The High Line, New York, New York; September – October, 2019

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 Craphead (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.

“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* ends its run on the High Line in the fall of 2019, coinciding with the annual convening of High Line Network. This fifth assembly of the High Line Network will be its first public symposium, to be held in New York City, and brings together experts, practitioners, and leaders from across North America working to expand the developing field of



infrastructure reuse.

*“New Monuments for New Cities* is an exciting opportunity for different communities to share ideas about activating public space with art, taking insights specific to each location and finding common themes around monumentality and legacy that resonate on an international level,” says Ana C. Traverso-Krejcarek, Manager of the High Line Network. “The eclectic mix of proposals developed by the artists selected reflect the social and political hallmarks that make each city’s heart beat.”

### **ABOUT HIGH LINE NETWORK**

Presented by Friends of the High Line, the High Line Network is a group of industrial reuse projects—and the people who help them come to life. As cities become denser and land for traditional parks becomes scarce, citizens 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.

The High Line Network is made possible by the founding support of The JPB Foundation.

### **ABOUT HIGH LINE ART**

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

Lead support for High Line Art comes from Amanda and Don Mullen. Major support for High Line Art is provided by The Brown Foundation, Inc. of Houston, and the Charina Endowment Fund. High Line Art is supported, in part, with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the New York City Council, under the leadership of Speaker Corey Johnson.

For further information on High Line Art, please visit [thehighline.org/art](http://thehighline.org/art).

### **ABOUT FRIENDS OF THE HIGH LINE**

[Friends of the High Line](http://thehighline.org) is the nonprofit organization responsible for the High Line. We raise nearly 100% of the High Line’s annual budget. Owned by the City of New York, the High Line is programmed, maintained, and operated by Friends of the High Line, in partnership with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation.

Through excellence in operations, stewardship, innovative programming, and world-class design, we seek to engage the vibrant and diverse community on and around the High Line, to raise the essential private funding to help complete the High Line’s construction, and to create an endowment for its future operations.



## **ABOUT BUFFALO BAYOU**

Established in 1986, [Buffalo Bayou Partnership](#) (BBP) is the Houston nonprofit organization transforming and revitalizing Buffalo Bayou, the city's most significant natural resource. Thanks to the generous support of foundations, corporations, individuals, and government agencies, BBP has raised and leveraged more than \$150 million for the redevelopment and stewardship of the waterfront. The organization develops award-winning projects such as the \$58 million Buffalo Bayou Park, protects land for future parks, constructs hiking and biking trails, and operates comprehensive clean-up and maintenance programs. BBP also seeks ways to activate Buffalo Bayou through pedestrian, boating, and biking amenities, volunteer activities, permanent and temporary art installations, and wide-ranging tours and events.

## **ABOUT WALLER CREEK**

[Waller Creek Conservancy](#) is a nonprofit whose mission is to create and maintain a chain of extraordinary urban parks around a restored Waller Creek in partnership with the City of Austin for the benefit of all. Running from Waterloo Park at 15th St. to Lady Bird Lake, the new Waller Creek parks district will include roughly 37 acres of newly designed and connected urban parks and public open space, more than three miles of new hiking and biking trails, and engaging art and educational programming. Founded on great design, the revitalized Waller Creek will renew the natural environment, foster the arts, and nourish experiences that reflect Austin's diversity and dynamic spirit.

Local supporters of *New Monuments for New Cities* at Waller Creek, Austin, include BBVA Compass and City of Austin Cultural Arts Division.

## **ABOUT THE 606**

Opened in 2015, [The 606](#) is an innovative project on Chicago's Northwest side that has transformed nearly three miles of unused rail line into the elevated Bloomingdale Trail. Set above city streets, the park and trail system includes elevated trails for bikers, runners, and walkers, four access parks at the ground level, event spaces, alternative transportation avenues, and green open space for Chicagoans from all neighborhoods to enjoy. Named for the 606 zip code prefix all Chicagoans share, The 606 connects parks, people, and communities: what once physically separated four neighborhoods now knits them together. The project is a partnership between the Trust for Public Land, the Chicago Park District, and the City of Chicago.

## **ABOUT THE BENTWAY**

[The Bentway](#) is a new public space that transforms 1.75km of underused space underneath Toronto's Gardiner Expressway into a gathering place for the city's growing population. The initial phase brings together seven local neighborhoods with over 70,000 residents, creating a gateway to the Toronto waterfront. The Bentway offers year-round artistic, cultural, and recreational activities and events. The site follows the original shoreline of Lake Ontario, which was once an important junction for trade and a hunting and a gathering place for Indigenous peoples. The first phase of The Bentway is located on lands that are part of Fort York National Historic Site. The Bentway is maintained, operated, and programmed by The Bentway Conservancy.

Local supporters of *New Monuments for New Cities* at The Bentway, Toronto, include the City



of Toronto, Ira Gluskin and Maxine Granovsky Gluskin, Donald K. Johnson, O.C. and Anna McCowan-Johnson, Diamond Corporation, and Northwood Family Office.

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