

Art Commissioning Program Fact Sheet

Overview

Contemporary art commissions are a vital part of SFMOMA's commitment to sharing the art of our time with the Bay Area. The art commissioning program invites leading artists to create new works for the museum.

Beginning in 2017, commissioned works will be featured in the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Atrium and the new Roberts Family Gallery, part of the free public space on the main level of the expanded museum. The first commission in the Haas, Jr. Atrium will be by artist Julie Mehretu.

The contemporary art commissioning program engages artists from around the world who are working in a wide variety of media, creating a dynamic and ever-changing experience for visitors. Through this program, in conjunction with educational programs, public symposia, artist talks, museum guide training and digital resources, SFMOMA offers illuminating and surprising art experiences for the Bay Area community and beyond.

Upcoming Commissions

- Julie Mehretu
 SFMOMA has commissioned American artist Julie Mehretu to create two large-scale
 paintings—each 32 by 25 feet—that will cover the expansive, angled walls in the Haas, Jr.
 Atrium. Mehretu is known for her densely layered abstract paintings and works on paper,
 which often incorporate the dynamic visual vocabulary of maps, urban-planning grids and
 architectural forms. The work will be exhibited in the free public space of the museum in late
 2017.

Previous Commissions

SFMOMA has a long history of commissioning artists. Previous artworks commissioned by the museum for the Haas, Jr. Atrium include:

- Jim Campbell, Exploded Views (2011)
- Sol LeWitt, Wall Drawing 935 and Wall Drawing 936 (2000)
- Kerry James Marshall, Visible Means of Support: Monticello and Visible Means of Support: Mount Vernon (2009)
- Sarah Sze, Things Fall Apart (2001)
- Gu Wenda, united nations--babel of the millennium (1999)

Media contacts

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