



# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Rendering of Kathryn Andrews, *Sunbathers I*, 2016. Courtesy the artist.

## HIGH LINE ART PRESENTS

## KATHRYN ANDREWS *SUNBATHERS I & II*

### THE ARTIST'S FIRST PUBLIC COMMISSION

**APRIL 2016 – MARCH 2017**

**ON THE HIGH LINE AT WEST 18TH STREET**

**ON THE HIGH LINE AT LITTLE WEST 12TH STREET**

**New York, NY (April 25, 2016)** – Presented by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art is pleased to announce the upcoming High Line Commission by artist Kathryn Andrews titled *Sunbathers I & II* (2016). Covering two aluminum boxes with silkscreened black-and-white photographs, the artist introduces two monolithic sculptures to the High Line's landscape. Installed on the High Line at West 18th Street and under The Standard, High Line at Little West 12th Street, the sculptures will be on view from May 2016 to April 2017.

In her sculptures and wall works, Kathryn Andrews appropriates images from popular culture, often from American movies, television, and stock photography archives. She then alters and recontextualizes them into three-dimensional configurations to create new narratives where viewers are invited to rethink the images' content in relation to their own bodies. Frequently, Andrews works with stainless steel and aluminum, polished to a mirrored finish, to further challenge the perception of reality and its depiction, and the ubiquitous photographic world that proliferates in advertising and on screen.





For the High Line, Andrews presents her first-ever public art commission, responding to two contrasting aspects of the elevated park: its relationship to nearby billboards and to the natural landscape. Andrews describes the High Line's environment as a "hyper-surreal image world," composed of large-scale advertisements and commercial signs that surround park visitors as they stroll high above the bustling cityscape. Andrews notes, by contrast, that the High Line's physical design offers visitors a chance to develop awareness of the body in relation to extreme natural weather conditions including intense winds, rain, snow, and sun.

Andrews's first sculpture, *Sunbathers I*, is a towering box-like structure, silkscreened with a black-and-white stock image of a public beach sign that announces, "Beyond This Point You May Encounter Nude Sunbathers." Installed at West 18th Street, the sculpture houses misting nozzles that spray water intermittently at passers-by. Placing this work on the High Line, where nudity is not allowed, draws attention to the more risqué social mores displayed on nearby billboards. The second sculpture, *Sunbathers II*, installed under The Standard, High Line, is a large, horizontal aluminum box containing a giant fan and featuring a photograph of an ice cream cone. The fan's movement is juxtaposed with the adjacent static image, mirroring the park itself.

"Kathryn is one of the most exciting artists from California, and we are thrilled she is bringing a Finish Fetish aesthetic to the outdoor spaces of the High Line," says Cecilia Alemani, the Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art. "I am curious to see how the viewers will react to this encounter, which is at the same time enigmatic and participatory."

#### **ABOUT THE ARTIST**

Kathryn Andrews (b. 1973, United States) lives and works in Los Angeles. Recent solo exhibitions have included the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (2015); Bass Museum of Art, Miami (2014); and Museum Ludwig, Cologne (2013). Notable group exhibitions include *Teen Paranormal Romance*, traveling to the Santa Barbara Museum of Art (2015); the Renaissance Society at The University of Chicago (2014); and Atlanta Contemporary Art Center (2014); *The Los Angeles Project*, Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing (2014); *When Attitudes Became Form Become Attitudes*, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (2013); *Made in L.A. 2012*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (2012); and *First Among Equals*, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia (2012).

#### **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. Curated 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 uniqueness of the architecture, history, and design of the High Line and to foster a productive dialogue with the surrounding neighborhood and urban landscape.

Major support for High Line Art comes from Donald R. Mullen, Jr. and The Brown Foundation, Inc. of Houston. Additional funding is provided by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, and Dorothy Lichtenstein. High Line Art is supported, in part, with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the New York City Council and from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

Kathryn Andrews, *Sunbathers I & II*, is supported, in part, by Christen and Derek Wilson, VIA Art Fund and HFZ Capital Group.

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

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

Friends of the High Line raises 98% of the High Line's annual budget. Owned by the City of New York, the High Line is a public park maintained, operated, and programmed by Friends of the High Line, in partnership with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation.

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