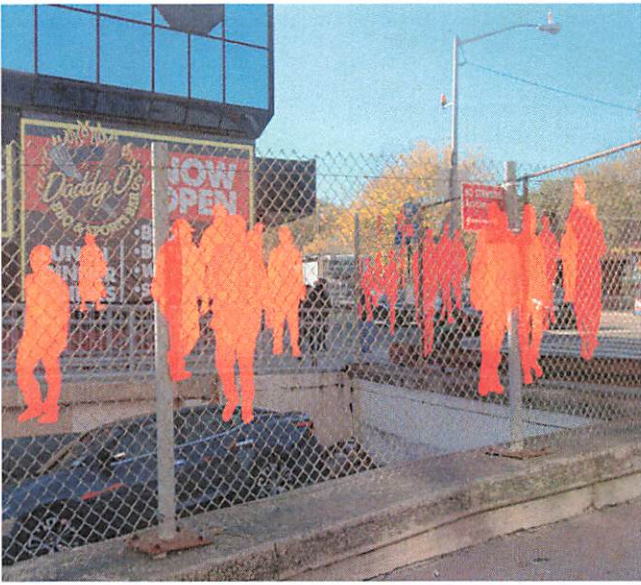


2020

# SITE SELECTION GUIDE:

## ELIGIBLE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PUBLIC ART

I am Here by Harumi Ori



Pedestrian Patterns by Mark Salinas



# INTRODUCTION

The New York City Department of Transportation's Art Program (DOT Art) partners with community-based, nonprofit organizations and professional artists to present temporary public artwork on DOT infrastructure throughout the five boroughs. Asphalt, bridges, fences, jersey barriers, medians, plazas, sidewalks, step streets, streetlight poles and triangles serve as canvases and foundations for temporary murals, projections, sculptures and interventions.

This guide defines transportation infrastructure eligible for public art installations. Infrastructure is categorized into distinct classifications known as site types. Each definition includes the following supplemental information:

- typical elements found at a site;
- site requirements and recommendations; and
- potential artwork installations associated with each site type.

Organizations and artists are invited to select DOT-owned infrastructure within their communities as potential sites for temporary art. Appropriate sites for art are evaluated based on the following criteria:

## SIZE + SAFETY

The site is large enough to accommodate artwork, and the addition of artwork will not impede pedestrian circulation or introduce any public safety hazards.

## VISIBILITY + ACCESSIBILITY

The site is accessible to a diverse audience, in close proximity to public transportation, and adjacent to a mixed used corridor.

## SITE ENHANCEMENT + SIGNIFICANCE

The site is in need of beautification and is historically or geographically relevant to the community.

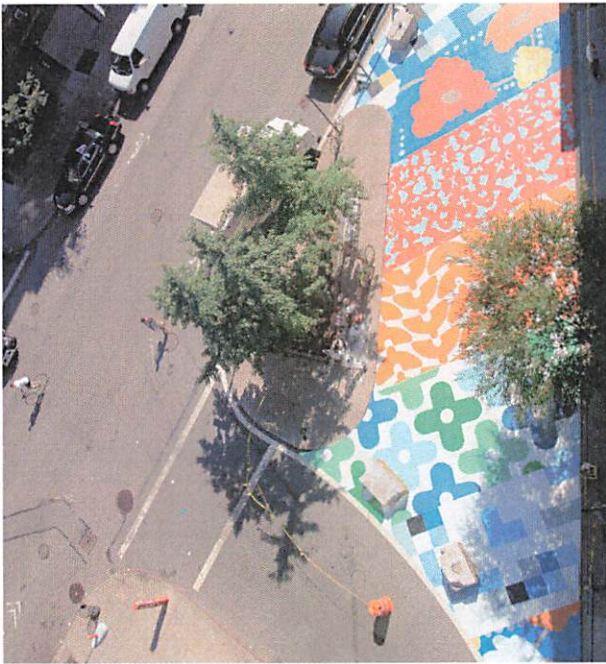
As new priority initiatives arise at the agency as well as policies on a regional and national level, DOT Art may introduce new site typologies eligible for public art. The streets of New York are ever-changing and so too is the public art landscape. DOT Art hopes to inspire organizations and artists to uncover unique sites within their communities in New York City and beyond.



Up and Down River by Ellen Picken



Modern Tapestry by Kim Sillen



Big City of Dreams by Andrea von Bujdoss (Queen Andrea)



# SITE TYPE: ASPHALT PEDESTRIAN SPACE

Asphalt pedestrian spaces are car-free street segments reclaimed to improve pedestrian safety and increase accessibility (i.e. larger curb extensions and slip lane closures).

## TYPICAL ELEMENTS

- Citi Bike stations
- Planters
- Granite blocks
- Flexible delineators

## REQUIREMENTS + RECOMMENDATIONS

- Murals may only be painted on closed asphalt surfaces. Epoxy resin, ruby glass or gravel surfaces are not eligible.
- 2-D artwork may be digitized and printed onto approved vinyl adhesive material for installation.
- Sites must be in close proximity to business districts, schools, community centers, parks, art institutions or other commercial corridors.
- Appropriate asphalt pedestrian spaces for art must be a minimum of 1,000 square feet.
- Installation method must allow for safe pedestrian flow within spaces during implementation.

## POTENTIAL INSTALLATIONS

- Asphalt Art
- Vinyl Adhesive

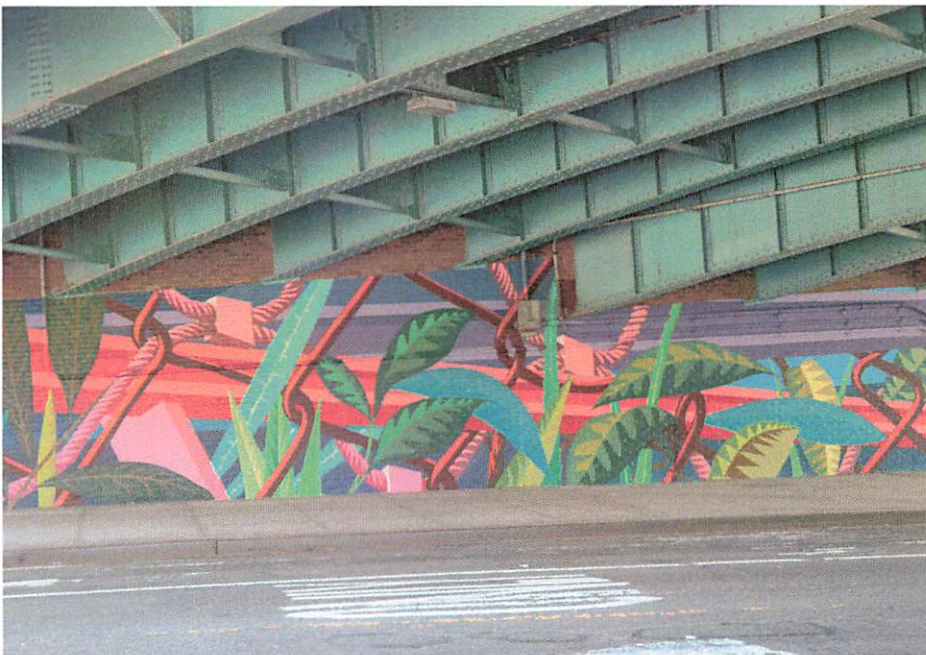
Vivid Chroma Locamotion by Anda von Bujdoss



The Night Life, Baby by Patrick Griffin [VIZIE]



into the Wild by Nelson Rivas [Cekis]



# SITE TYPE: BRIDGE (CONCRETE WALL)

A bridge allows pedestrians, bicycles and vehicles to cross over or under water, railway tracks, greenways or highways. Concrete walls enclosing the bridge may be utilized for art.

## TYPICAL ELEMENTS

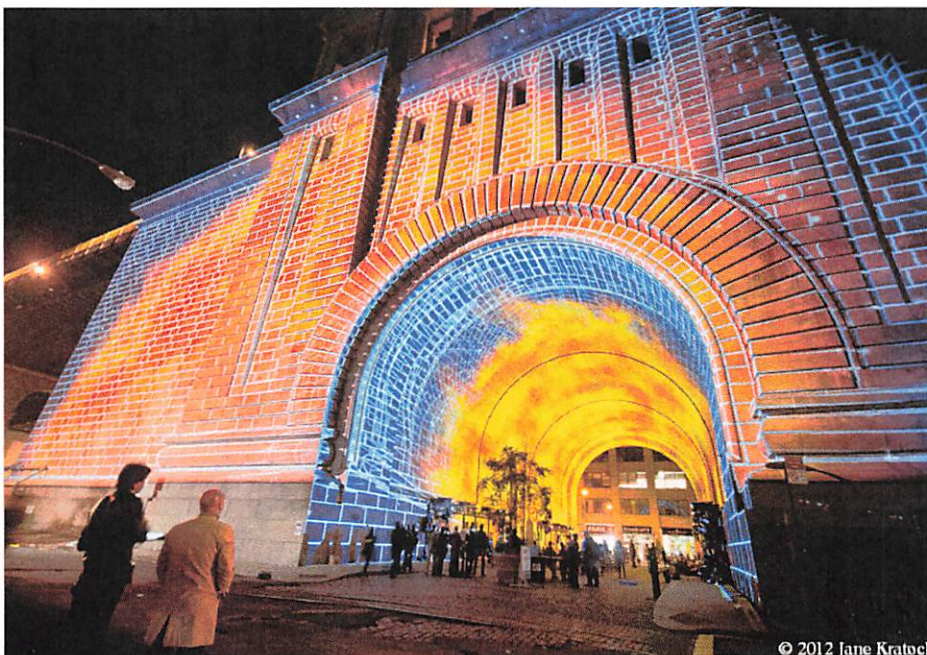
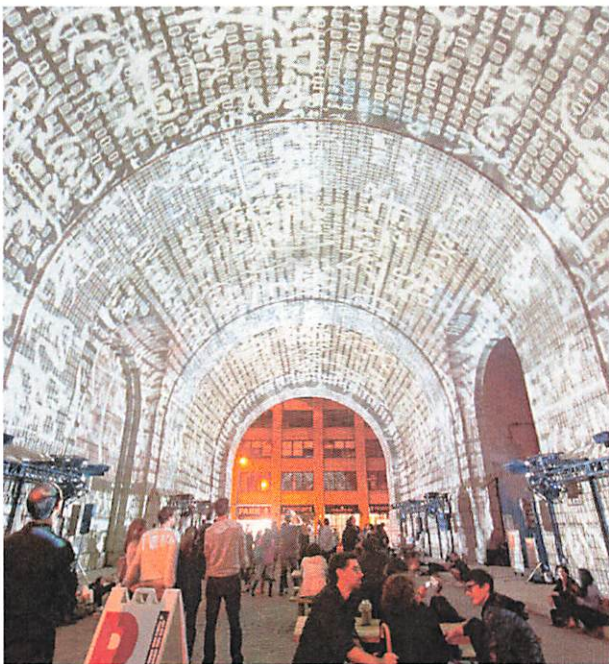
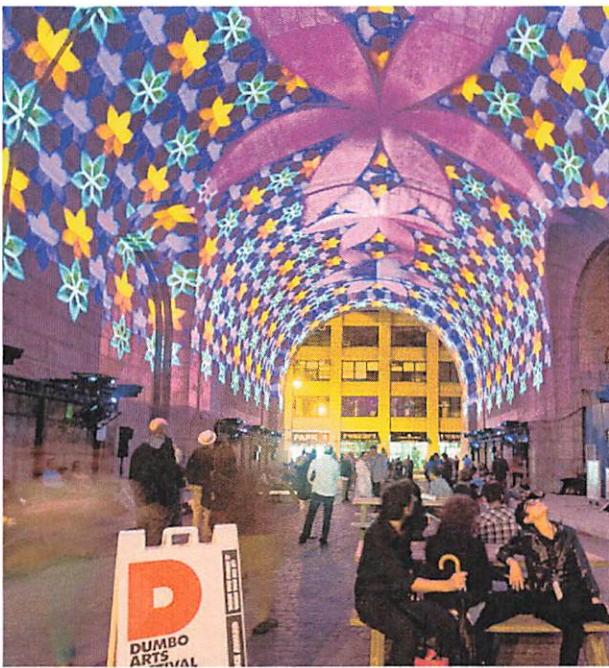
- Corrugated fence attachment
- Signs

## REQUIREMENTS + RECOMMENDATIONS

- The bridge structure cannot be permanently altered; therefore, a temporary solution must be proposed for review by the agency. The agency recommends standard brackets or clamps.
- Art cannot interfere with pedestrian traffic on the sidewalk or walkway.
- Murals may only be painted on concrete wall segments.
- Murals may not be painted on corrugated metal or chain link fences.

## POTENTIAL INSTALLATIONS

- Murals



# SITE TYPE: BRIDGE ANCHORAGE & ARCHWAY

A bridge anchorage is composed of the two outer sides of a bridge that are grounded on land, providing support for the structure as it spans across a body of water, a roadway, a railroad, etc.

## TYPICAL ELEMENTS

- Corrugated metal fence or chain-link fence
- Signs
- Gates
- Stonework

## REQUIREMENTS + RECOMMENDATIONS

- The bridge structure cannot be altered; therefore, artwork may only be projected onto the surface of the bridge.
- The anchorages and archways, any doors or gates, utility points, conduits, emergency fire valves and stand pipe systems of the bridge can not be blocked by equipment used to project art.
- The anchorages' security system can not be interfered with by the art projections.
- Sites are appropriate for art only if the projected image is below the bridge roadway.

## POTENTIAL INSTALLATIONS

- Art/Light projections only



## SITE TYPE: CONCRETE JERSEY BARRIER

Concrete jersey barriers are safety divides placed along bike lanes or pedestrian walkways to separate and protect cyclists and pedestrians from vehicular traffic. The dimensions of each barrier are approximately twenty (20) feet in length by three (3) feet in height.

### TYPICAL ELEMENTS

- Metal fence attachment
- Drainage holes
- Metal hardware

### REQUIREMENTS + RECOMMENDATIONS

- Designs may only be painted on concrete jersey barrier surfaces facing cyclist or pedestrian pathways.
- 2-D artwork designs may be digitized and printed onto approved vinyl adhesives for installation.
- Appropriate jersey barrier sites for art must measure a minimum of 500 linear feet.
- The bike lane or pedestrian walkway must be temporarily reduced during design implementation using an approved safety set-up.
- Metal safety elements secured to the top of jersey barriers may not be painted or altered in any way.
- Jersey barriers installed as part of private construction projects are ineligible. Only DOT owned sites are eligible for art.

### POTENTIAL INSTALLATIONS

- Painted design
- Vinyl Adhesive



When it opens like this, up is not over by Rena Leinberger



## SITE TYPE: FENCE

A fence is a barrier that encloses an area and restricts movement in and out of a DOT-owned space. Corrugated metal or chain-link fences enclose these spaces.

### TYPICAL ELEMENTS

- Corrugated metal fence or chain-link fence
- Signs
- Gates

### REQUIREMENTS + RECOMMENDATIONS

- Gates or other egress points on a fence must not be blocked by art.
- Fences must be able to support the weight of an installation.
- Art cannot be painted directly onto the surface of a fence. Instead, it must be bolted or mounted to the structure.

### POTENTIAL INSTALLATIONS

- Murals
- Vinyl Banners
- Design Interventions (i.e. yarn, zip ties, etc.)
- Art Panels (plywood or metal)

Swish Swash by Andrea Bergart



Las Mariposas Amarillas by Lina Montoya



Connected Stories by Dan Monteavaro



# SITE TYPE: PLAZAS + SEASONAL STREETS

DOT plazas and Seasonal Streets are vibrant, social public spaces created by reclaiming and redesigning underutilized street segments as places for pedestrian and cyclist use. DOT partners with community groups to operate, maintain and manage these spaces.

## TYPICAL ELEMENTS

- Street furniture (benches, tables, planters)
- Pedestrian lighting
- Drinking fountains
- Litter receptacles
- Utilities
- Landscaping
- Main amenity (permanent artwork, fountains)
- Bike racks
- Wayfinding

## REQUIREMENTS + RECOMMENDATIONS

- Plazas with permanent art or large fountains are not sites for temporary art.
- The paths must be maintained at an acceptable width of eight feet; ancillary paths within a plaza may be reduced to the five-foot ADA minimum when necessary.
- An unobstructed path with a width of at least eight feet between the art and the curb line must be maintained at all times for pedestrian use and vehicular safety.
- Murals are not permitted on paved or epoxy gravel surfaces.
- Organizations and artists must partner with the plaza maintenance partner to install art.

## POTENTIAL INSTALLATIONS

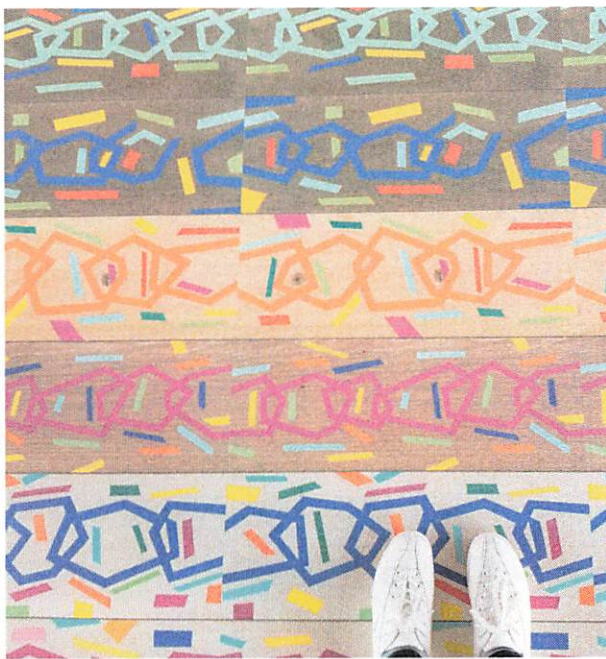
- Sculpture/3-Dimensional
- Art Display Cases
- Vinyl Adhesive
- Asphalt Art (Seasonal Streets)

For more information on the NYC Plaza Program, visit [www.nyc.gov/plazas](http://www.nyc.gov/plazas) and on Seasonal Streets, visit [www.nyc.gov/seasonalstreets](http://www.nyc.gov/seasonalstreets).

For Closure by Gabriela Salazar



Magic Carpet by Soonaee Tark

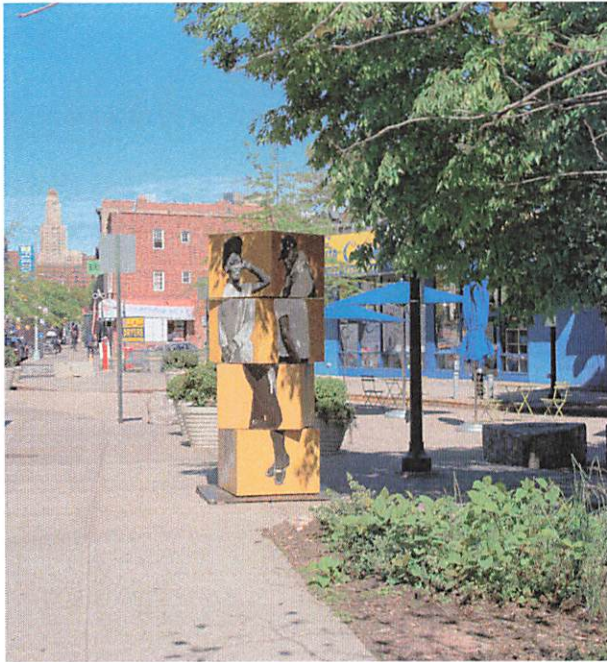




King and Queen Size Bench by Jason Wallace



Exquisite Corpse by Fanny Allié



NYC Commission on Human Rights by Tatyana Fazlalizadeh



# SITE TYPE: SIDEWALKS

Sidewalks are paved paths designed primarily for pedestrian use, which are located between the roadside curb and adjacent property lines.

## TYPICAL ELEMENTS

- Street furniture
- Litter receptacles
- Bike racks
- Bike shelters
- Signs & sign posts
- Street & pedestrian lighting
- Wayfinding

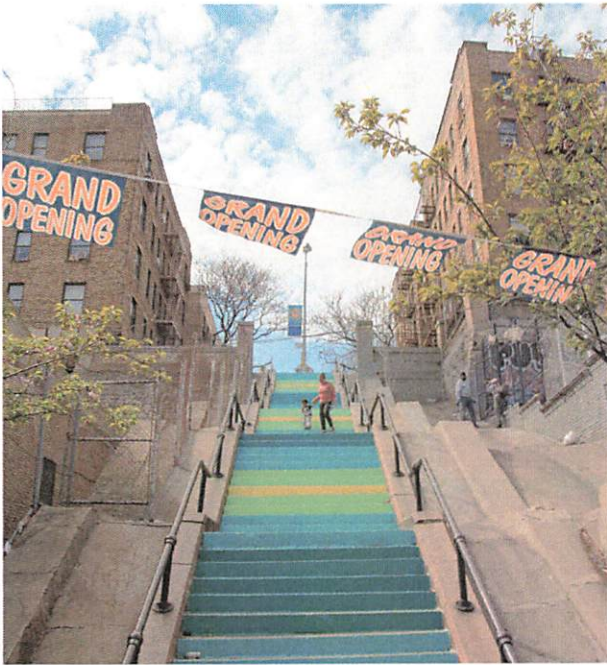
## REQUIREMENTS + RECOMMENDATIONS

- A sidewalk must be a minimum of twenty feet in width from the building line to the curb line to be considered for a sculpture.
- Wide, well-maintained sidewalks with a limited number of elements are appropriate sites for artwork.
- In accordance with ADA regulations, a clear path of eight feet must be maintained around a sculpture at all times and a sculpture must be installed at a minimum of eighteen inches from the curb.
- Art cannot be painted directly onto the sidewalk, but must instead be bolted or mounted to the concrete.

## POTENTIAL INSTALLATIONS

- Sculpture/3-Dimensional
- Art Display Cases

Rhythmic Color by Publicolor



Cross-Street Stitches by Laura Alvarez



What We Came For by Cara Lynch



# SITE TYPE: STEP STREET

A step street is a large concrete pedestrian staircase that rests on a hill connecting two streets.

## TYPICAL ELEMENTS

- Landings
- Metal railings

## REQUIREMENTS + RECOMMENDATIONS

- The step street staircase and walls cannot be permanently altered; therefore a temporary solution must be proposed for review by the agency. The agency recommends murals.
- Art cannot interfere with pedestrian traffic on the sidewalk or walkway.
- Murals may only be painted on the concrete walls or steps.
- Murals may not be painted on metal railings unless approved by DOT.

## POTENTIAL INSTALLATIONS

- Murals

Welcome to Chinatown by Dingding Hu



## SITE TYPE: **STREETLIGHT POLE**

Streetlights provide light for pedestrians and vehicles on bridges, walkways, bikeways, plazas and parks. The poles are located adjacent to the curb. DOT maintains 250,000 streetlights throughout the city.

### **TYPICAL ELEMENTS**

- 28' - 30' standard street pole
- 16' - 18' standard pedestrian pole
- Standard street light poles include:  
1) base 2) pole 3) lamp 4) fixture
- Standard street signs

### **REQUIREMENTS + RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Only midblock street light poles shall be considered for art installations.
- Art cannot be installed on traffic signal poles at intersections.
- Art cannot interfere with traffic safety signs and must be installed above or below signs.
- Art must be installed at seven feet above sidewalk due to public safety concerns; however, if the art dimensions match those of the pole (maximum of 8" width), DOT will consider installing at a lower height.
- Installation method cannot alter the surface of the street light pole. Standard brackets or clamps must be used.

### **POTENTIAL INSTALLATIONS**

- Signs
- Design Interventions (ie. yarn, zip ties, etc.)

Flaming Cactus by Animus Art



Street Cathedral by Claudia Ravaschiere and Michael Moss



We Call this Place Home by Sam Holleran



# SITE TYPE: TRIANGLES & MEDIANS

Triangles and medians are raised divides separating traffic lanes, roadway directions or roadbeds within a street. Triangles and medians vary in size.

## TYPICAL ELEMENTS

- Benches
- Litter receptacles
- Landscaping
- Street lighting
- Road signs
- Bike racks

## REQUIREMENTS + RECOMMENDATIONS

- Larger concrete triangles/medians are appropriate for artwork.
- An unobstructed path with a width of at least eight feet between the art and the curb line must be maintained at all times if intended for pedestrian use.
- Triangles/medians that are easily and safely accessible and/or visible to the public are appropriate for artwork.
- Triangles/medians owned by DOT, but maintained by the Department of Parks and Recreation (Greenstreets) are not eligible through DOT Art.

## POTENTIAL INSTALLATIONS

- Sculpture/3-Dimensional

Tally Ho by Alan Glater



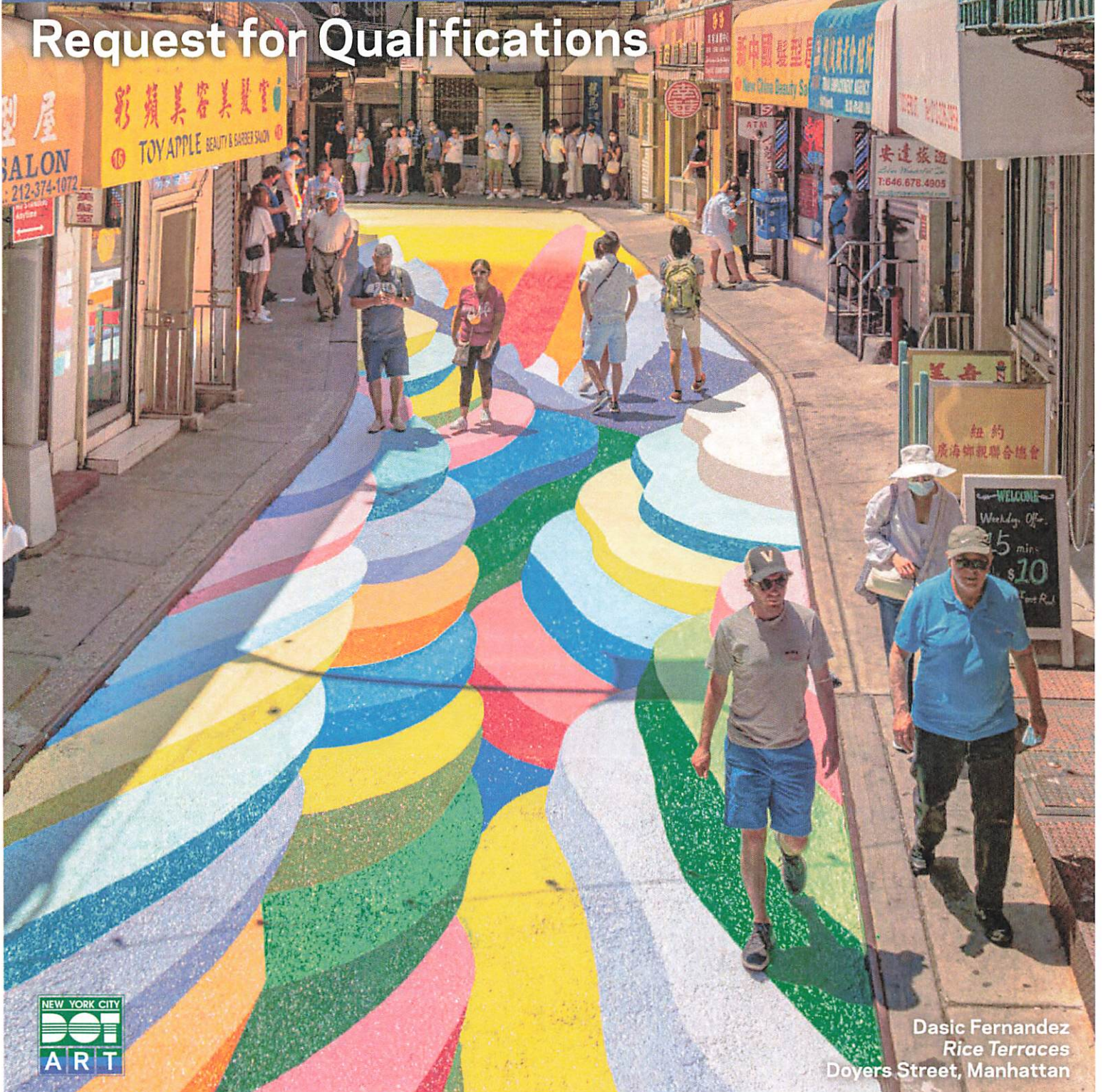
Unparallel Way by Emily Weiskopf



2023

# Asphalt Art Activations

## Request for Qualifications



Dasic Fernandez  
Rice Terraces  
Doyers Street, Manhattan

## DOT ART PROGRAM BACKGROUND

The New York City Department of Transportation's ("NYC DOT") Art Program ("DOT Art") has installed over 400 temporary public artworks on NYC DOT property throughout New York City in partnership with a diverse body of professional artists, galleries, business improvement districts and arts, community-based and other nonprofit organizations. City sidewalks, fences, triangles, medians, bridges, jersey barriers, step streets, pedestrian plazas and other unique project sites service as canvases and foundations for temporary murals, sculptures, interventions and cultural programming. In addition, DOT Art coordinates conservation and maintenance of NYC DOT's permanent art collection and collaborates with the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs (DCLA) Percent for Art Program to commission permanent art as part of the Percent for Art law.

For more information about DOT Art, visit: [www.nyc.gov/dotart](http://www.nyc.gov/dotart).

## ASPHALT ART ACTIVATIONS BACKGROUND

As part of NYC DOT's efforts to make our streets more pedestrian friendly, the agency continues to reclaim underutilized street space for pedestrian use whether it be a curb extension to create larger waiting areas at corners with a more direct crosswalk; a slip lane closure to encourage pedestrian circulation along the curb line adjacent to a heavily trafficked sidewalk; or an entire street transformation from that of a thoroughfare for cars into an active public space for pedestrians to stop and linger.

To highlight these infrastructure changes, DOT Art is partnering with internal teams, including Bike Share; the Pedestrian Unit; Public Space; Research, Implementation and Safety (RIS); and Urban Design to commission temporary treatments that will be painted onto repurposed pedestrianized asphalt spaces transforming them from ordinary asphalt spaces into canvases for art. DOT Art is seeking to identify qualified artists to be included in a registry for potential asphalt art commissions to be implemented between summer and fall 2023.

## PROJECT SCOPE

All interested professional architects, artists and/or graphic designers (the "Artists") are eligible to submit past work in response to this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to be selected to develop and install a final design at one of a series of asphalt street spaces (the "Project Sites") designated by NYC DOT. All of the Project Sites are a minimum of one thousand (1,000) square feet. The selected Artists will be required to prep and prime the site and produce enough stencils or prepare an efficient implementation plan to execute their design within a one to two week period, weather permitting. Artwork will remain installed for a minimum of one month and a maximum of 11 months. Artists are responsible for maintaining the artwork over the specified display period and may be responsible for removing the Artwork upon completion of the display period.

**The selected Artist(s) shall accomplish the following tasks:**

- Complete one (1) conceptual design and, once approved, complete one (1) final design for review and approval by DOT Art;
- Produce stencils or develop an implementation plan to prepare the site and translate a design onto asphalt; and
- Paint the design onto the asphalt with support from a group of assistants and/or volunteers.

Artists should consider past examples of asphalt murals to understand the types of designs that are most successful in the public realm ([See Exhibit A: Past Examples of Asphalt Art Activations](#)). Designs will be implemented throughout 2022 beginning in early summer.

## SITE SPECIFICATIONS

**Asphalt spaces are designated by NYC DOT for beautification for the following reasons:**

- Recently developed pedestrianized spaces (bike share stations, curb extensions, public plazas, and slip lane closures);
- Large asphalt areas (minimum of 1,000 square feet);
- In relatively good condition (limited potholes, cracks, utility covers); and
- In close proximity to commercial areas, schools, community centers or arts institutions.

Project Sites are located citywide; therefore, selected Artists must be willing to work in any of the five boroughs. For examples of upcoming potential site types: ([See Exhibit B: Potential Project Site Types](#)).

## MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS

All designs must be implemented using exterior grade enamel or a similar material that meets NYC DOT requirements. A primer is recommended prior to painting the design on-site. Final clear coats will generally not receive approval from NYC DOT as removal is problematic upon completion of the display period. Artists are required to submit a materials list for approval by DOT Art in advance of purchasing. In addition, selected Artists must prepare a detailed implementation plan including a proposed schedule for review and approval by DOT Art.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

The DOT Art Advisory Committee and NYC DOT staff shall review and identify Artists to be included in an Artist Registry based on the following criteria:

- Past artwork demonstrates proficiency in design and ability to translate the design; and
- Previous experience demonstrates ability to collaborate with a large agency on a public project.

As a Project Site becomes available, DOT Art shall review the Artist Registry and invite two (2) of the ranked Artists to participate in a phone interview to discuss the potential Project Site and run through a short question and answer segment to better acquaint the agency with the Artists' past work and artistic process. Final selection shall be based on both the written response to the RFQ and the phone interview.

The DOT Art Committee shall assign each selected Artist to a Project Site. Upon selection, each Artist shall develop a site-responsive design for implementation at a designated Project Site within a minimum of two months of notification. As additional Project Sites become available throughout the year, DOT Art will review the Artist Registry and contact ranked Artists to respond to these opportunities.

## PROJECT FEES

DOT Art will provide selected Artists with up to twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) towards direct project costs associated with designing, installing and removing the Artwork including but not limited to all labor, paint, materials and equipment. In addition, studio space, storage rental, sink rental, etc. must be included as part of the overall budget. All selected Artists are entitled to an Artist Fee not to exceed twenty percent (20%) of the total budget, but may also be entitled to an hourly labor fee not to exceed an additional ten percent (10%) of that total budget. All Artists will be required to enter into a legal agreement with NYC DOT, and in order to receive payment, will be required to submit a W9 form, Doing Business Form, Quote Form and invoices. The legal agreement must be signed in advance of receiving any payments. Selected Artists shall agree to extend to NYC DOT the right to a royalty-free, perpetual license to use any depiction of the Artwork for noncommercial purposes.

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Interested Artists are invited to submit a single application, and Artists are only eligible to receive one commission per fiscal year. Submissions should consist of the following materials either by e-mail as PDF or JPEG files or by mail as printouts with an accompanying USB drive:

- Asphalt Art Activations Application Form;
- Artist curriculum vitae; and
- No more than four (4) photographs of past artwork in JPEG format (resolution of 72 to 150 dpi) and an associated image list that includes: title, date of completion, medium, dimensions, location, sale price or commission budget, description of artwork, and list of partners.

Submitted materials will **not** be returned and incomplete applications will **not** be considered.

## DEADLINE

Submissions must be postmarked or submitted via email no later than **Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 11:59 PM EST**. Hand-delivered proposals will not be accepted.

All submissions should be emailed to [arts@dot.nyc.gov](mailto:arts@dot.nyc.gov) or mailed to:

**NYC Department of Transportation**  
**Art Program**  
**55 Water Street, 9th Floor**  
**New York, NY 10041**

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please note the following:

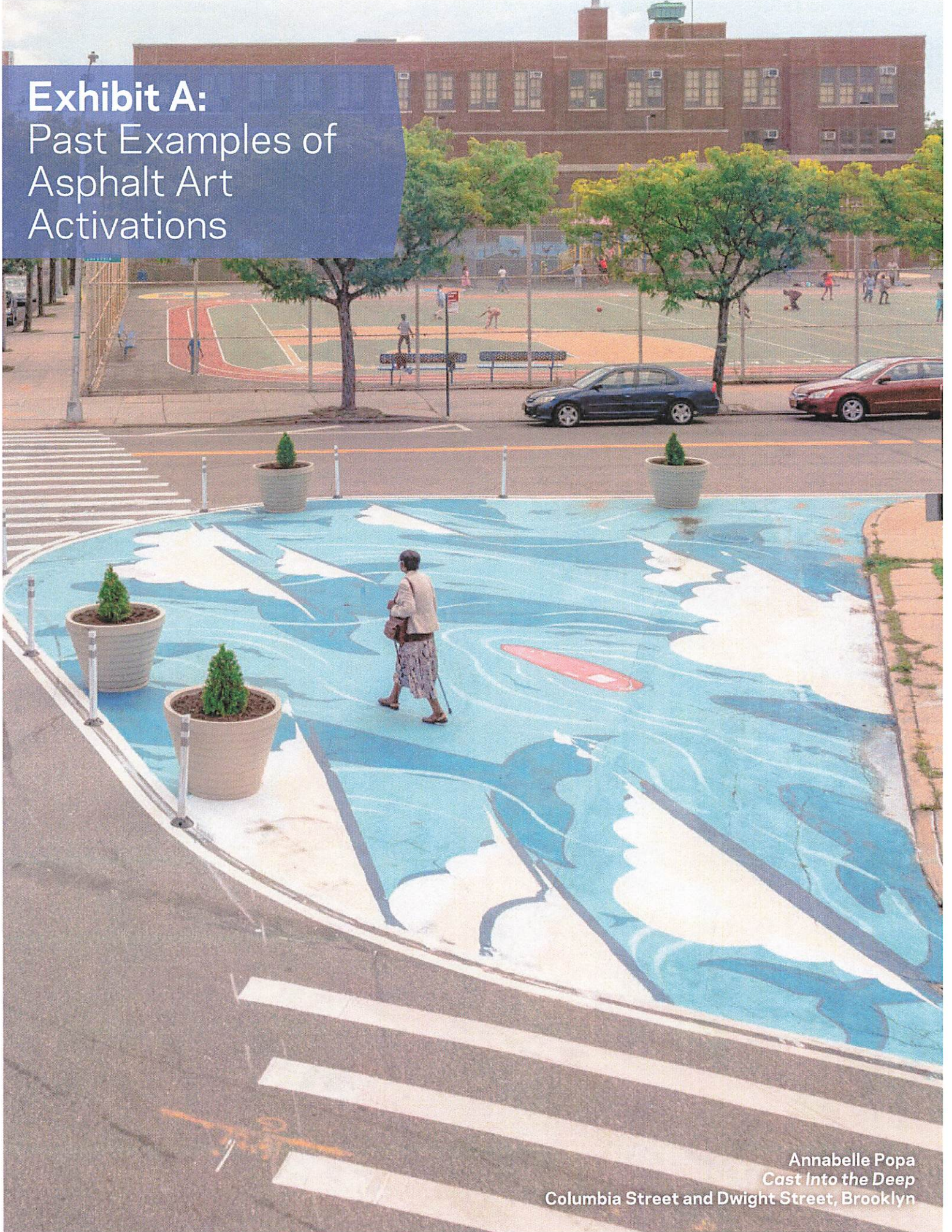
- This RFQ is not intended as a formal offering for the award of a contract or for participation in any future solicitation;
- NYC DOT does not intend to grant or issue any additional agreements on the basis of this RFQ;
- NYC DOT, the City and their officials, agents and employees make no representation or warranty and assume no responsibility for the accuracy of the information set forth in this RFQ;
- No information contained in submissions shall be deemed confidential and such information may be shared with other governmental entities. Therefore, please do not submit any information that may be deemed proprietary in nature;
- Neither NYC DOT nor the City shall be liable for any costs incurred by any respondent in the preparation, submittal, presentation or revision of its submission. Neither NYC DOT nor the City shall be obligated to pay and shall not pay any costs in connection with the preparation of such submissions;
- All submissions shall become the property of NYC DOT and the City and shall not be returned; and
- NYC DOT at its sole discretion reserves, without limitation, the right to;
  - + Withdraw the RFQ at any time;
  - + Discuss various approaches with one or more respondents (including parties not responding to the RFQ); and
  - + Change any terms of this RFQ.

## QUESTIONS

All inquiries regarding Asphalt Art Activations should be sent to: [arts@dot.nyc.gov](mailto:arts@dot.nyc.gov).



# Exhibit A: Past Examples of Asphalt Art Activations



Annabelle Popa  
*Cast Into the Deep*  
Columbia Street and Dwight Street, Brooklyn

**BOICUT**  
*The Smile*  
Macombs Road, Bronx



**Nathan Randall Green**  
*Rail Fence Runner (for Tompkinsville)*  
Victory Boulevard, Staten Island



**Mary Carter Taub**

*Bird's-Eye View*

E 165th Street and Rogers Place, Bronx



**Ansley Randall**

*Untitled*

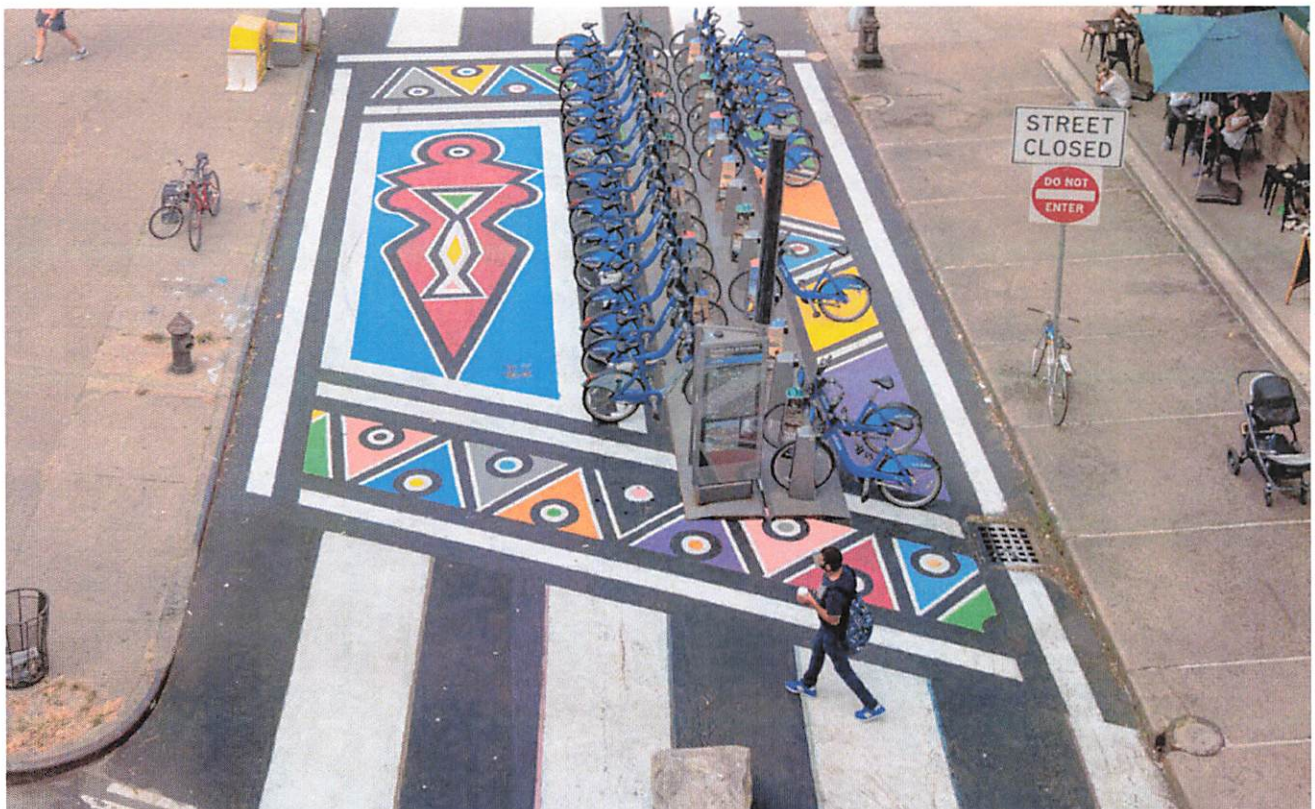
W. 190th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, Manhattan



**Carla Torres**  
*Four Regions*  
Wren Place and Rex Road, Queens



**Imani Shanklin-Roberts**  
*Xola (Stay in Peace)*  
Franklin Street and West Broadway, Manhattan



# Exhibit B: Potential Project Site Types



Britny Lizet  
Unity  
Jerome Avenue, Bronx

**Curb Extension: Rogers Place at Hall Place, Bronx**



**Bike Share Station: Roebling Street, Brooklyn**



**Slip Lane Closure: Theiriot Avenue, Bronx**



**Sidewalk Extension: Alexander Avenue, Bronx**

