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DESIGN TRUST FOR PUBLIC SPACE AND STATEN ISLAND ARTS ANNOUNCE
THE FUTURE CULTURE SUMMER 2018 PUBLIC ART PROGRAM
ON STATEN ISLAND’S NORTH SHORE FEATURING STATEN ISLAND ARTISTS

Sonic Gates – A sound sculpture walk from St. George to Stapleton created by artist Volker Goetze featuring Scott Van Campen, Alassane Drabo, DB Lampman, Jeremy Munson, Lina Montoya, and Arthur Simms

Court Yard Fridays – Outdoor concert series at the Staten Island Borough Hall featuring Worldtown Soundsystem, Red Baraat, Papo Vázquez, and UTA All Stars

#connectingcultureSI #SonicGates #CourtYardFridays

NEW YORK, NY (Tuesday, April 24, 2018) (Updated: June 8, 2018) – The Design Trust for Public Space and Staten Island Arts are excited to announce the Future Culture 2018 Public Art Program curated by and featuring Staten Island-based artists and community members. Seven sound sculptures, a mural, and four world music concerts will take place at various locations along Staten Island’s North Shore waterfront and Bay Street corridor from St. George to Stapleton, within a three- to twenty-minute walk from the Staten Island Ferry Terminal. A suite of physical and digital maps as well as pedestrian signage will guide the audience through a playful sound sculpture walk.

Sonic Gates is created by artist Volker Goetze. Court Yard Fridays is developed by musician Homer Jackson, community organizer Kevin Washington, and designer Lynn Washington. Sonic Gates and Court Yard Fridays are pilot projects of the Future Culture initiative. Staten Island Arts and the Design Trust for Public Space launched Future Culture: Connecting Staten Island’s Waterfront to foster community connections and shape a vision for culture on the North Shore of Staten Island. The Future Culture project is supported in part by the NYC Department of Small Business Services’ Neighborhood 360° Grant program, which has invested $1.54 million to advance commerce in Downtown Staten Island through partnerships with local businesses and community organizations.

“The Future Culture pilots will highlight our borough’s rich cultural assets, from the Bay Street commercial corridor bustling with restaurants, stores and art centers, to Parks locations where dynamic community activities are taking place, to the spectacular waterfront, where we are reflecting Staten Island’s deep maritime heritage,” said Elizabeth Bennett, Executive Director at Staten Island Arts.

Sonic Gates, a series of eight public artworks, will be installed in June 2018. A celebratory event on July 14, 2018, will include performance at each sculpture and lead the audience along this art walk. The seven sound sculptures and a mural range from a 17-foot-long wind harp on Bay Street that plays itself, to a drum totem for weekly drum circles in Tompkinsville Park, to a 90-foot-long mural of the endangered Right Whale at a bus shelter that pays homage to Staten Island’s maritime heritage. A team of artists directed by Volker Goetze will create the artworks at Staten Island MakerSpace. The team includes Scott Van Campen, Alassane Drabo, DB Lampman, Jeremy Munson, Lina Montoya, Arthur Simms, and students from Curtis High School and PS 78. Sonic Gates promotes exploration of St. George, Tompkinsville, and Stapleton through a multisensory experience and interactive way finding.
“Our public art installations will attract Staten Islanders to get out of their cars and visitors to pass beyond the ferry terminal and explore the North Shore by foot or bike. We encourage everyone to slow down and discover things that we would otherwise miss just whizzing by in a city bus, the Staten Island Railway, or a car,” said Volker Goetze, lead artist of Sonic Gates.

“This engaging public art program will inspire Staten Islanders and visitors to walk the underused pathways and unleash new possibilities for regenerating public spaces as a valuable community asset,” said Susan Chin, FAIA, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director, Design Trust for Public Space.

Court Yard Fridays will host music performances on four consecutive Fridays in June 2018, in the courtyard between the Staten Island Borough Hall and the old Supreme Court in St. George, Staten Island. This concert series brings together pioneering music legends of varying genres representing cultures from around the world: House and techno powerhouse Worldtown Soundsystem on June 8 at 5 pm, funk and brangra guru Red Bara at on June 15 at 5 pm, Afro-Latin music impresario Papo Vázquez on June 22 at 5 pm, and Staten Island’s jazz band extraordinaire UTA All Stars on June 29 at 5 pm. Staten Island native, retired NYC Fire fighter, and community organizer Kevin Washington, Philadelphia Jazz Project director Homer Jackson and designer Lynn Washington created Court Yard Fridays to activate this underused central civic space in St. George as a regular gathering place for the Staten Island community and visitors.

“Located directly across the street from the Staten Island Ferry, the Richmond County Courthouse – a beautiful example of neo-classical, 20th century architecture – will come to life at our four multicultural concerts featuring international music stars and local talent. We invite commuters, workers, neighbors, and visitors to join us,” said Kevin Washington, organizer of Court Yard Fridays.

“Strong neighborhoods are the backbone of our city, and the $1.54 million in investments to Staten Island through our Neighborhood 360 ° grant program are already going a long way towards revitalizing key commercial corridors,” said Gregg Bishop, Commissioner of the NYC Department of Small Business Services. “By working with Staten Island Arts, we are responding to local needs to support small business growth and build more vibrant neighborhoods for all New Yorkers.”

SONIC GATES ART INSTALLATIONS

Nested Bells (left), 7’ 2” long, 3’ wide, 7’ 2” tall
Created by Jeremy Munson
Located at the St. George Ferry Terminal Plaza
Three movable bell tubes create a harmonic chord.

Talking Tubes (left), 7’ 9” long, 5’ 55” wide, 8’ tall
Created by DB Lampman
Located at the Barrett Triangle and Bay Street
The colorful PVC pipes shaped into whimsical lines can be played to create sounds.
Right Whale (above), 90’ wide, 10’ tall
Created by Lina Montoya with Curtis High School students and in partnership with 100 Gates Project
Right Whale at the Barrett Triangle Bus Shelter on Bay Street
A mural of a right whale and homage to Staten Island’s maritime heritage.

Wind Harp #7 (left), 17’ long, 2’6” wide, 12’ tall
Created by Scott Van Campen, Located on Bay Street at Slosson Terrace
The steel strings vibrate in the wind and “sing” recreating the phenomenon of the “von Kármán Vortex Street”.

Drum Totem (left), 3’ wide, 16’ tall
Created by Alassane Drabo
Located at Tompkinsville Park
The arranged pieces of reclaimed timber from the Staten Island shore incorporate ancient West African drums and will complement the ongoing weekly drum circles in Tompkinsville Park.

Animal Cleats (left), 6’ long, 1’ 6” wide, 4’ tall
Created by Lina Montoya
Located on Bay St. between Hanna St. and Tappen Park
The dolphins made of re-used bottle caps connect the trail between Tompkinsville Park and Tappen Park.

Wind Chimes (left), 10’ long, 12’ tall
Created by DB Lampman in collaboration with students from PS 78
Located at Tappen Park
Wind will activate the hung wind chimes to create musical sounds.

Float, Float, Float On (left), 3’ in diameter, 7’ tall
Created by Arthur Simms
Located on the waterfront along Front Street
Dozens of nautical buoys, hammers and bells are attached together around a larger recycled buoy.
COURT YARD FRIDAYS CONCERTS

Worldtown Soundsystem
June 8, 2018, 5 pm
Opening band: Grounded4Life
Worldtown Soundsystem is a high-voltage live House/Techno music band that fuses the culture of electronic dance music with global rhythms from Africa, Latin America and the United States. The ensemble’s seven members have roots in three continents and their music is a celebration of sound from around the world. http://www.world.town/

Red Baraat
June 15, 2018, 5 pm
Opening band: Staten Island Steel Pan Orchestra (SISPO)
Red Baraat is an eight-piece band that brings a global blend of Funk, Dance Grooves and South-Asian Brangra. NPR has dubbed the group as “the best party band in years.” Red Baraat sold out rooms as diverse as the Luxembourg Philharmonic and New York City’s iconic Bowery Ballroom, and performed at the request of The White House, TED and Olympic Games. http://www.redbaraat.com/

Papo Vázquez
June 22, 2018, 5 pm
Opening band: Susan Wagner HS Jazz Band
Papo Vázquez is a trombonist, composer and arranger whose forty-year career spans jazz, Latin, Afro-Caribbean, classical music, and over fifty recordings. “If you examine the signal moments of Afro-Latin music in New York since the mid-1970s, you’ll often find the trombonist Papo Vazquez in the picture, brash and precise, helping to drive the music, giving it snap and ferocity (The New York Times).” https://www.papovazquez.com/

UTA All Stars
June 29, 2018, 5 pm
Opening band: Middle School Jazz Academy Brooklyn
Hailing from the Universal Temple of the Arts, UTA All Stars brings together the acoustic brilliance of Staten Island's Jazz community. http://www.utasi.org/

Future Culture: Connecting Staten Island’s Waterfront
Staten Island’s North Shore waterfront, home to hundreds of artists and arts organizations, is rapidly developing with residential, commercial and urban planning projects, such as the Empire Outlets, Lighthouse Point, New York Wheel, Urby, and the proposed Bay Street Corridor rezoning. In the midst of this change, Future Culture: Connecting Staten Island’s Waterfront, a project of Design Trust for Public Space in partnership with Staten Island Arts, supports and promotes the area’s cultural communities, develops art and cultural initiatives, and strengthens the relationship between the cultural sector and owners and stewards of property.

Design Trust and Staten Island Arts, working with local residents, artists, civic activists and small business owners, developed an initial set of design and policy recommendations outlining strategies for equitable neighborhood revitalization and sustainability, released in March 2017. In conjunction with the recommendations, Staten Island Arts issued a call for pilot projects to active and connect the publicly- and privately-owned common spaces in the North Shore. This call resulted in two pilot projects, Sonic Gates and Court Yard Fridays, which will encourage exploration of and enliven underused public spaces on the North Shore of Staten Island.

To download the Future Culture Initial Recommendations, visit http://designtrust.org/projects/future-culture/activities-and-outputs/

To learn more about the Future Culture project, visit http://designtrust.org/projects/future-culture/
**Staten Island Arts**
Staten Island Arts (formerly known as The Council on the Arts and Humanities for Staten Island, or, COAHSI) is Staten Island's arts council, a service organization that provides resources to individuals and organizations in the arts, cultural, and humanities sector. Our mission is to cultivate a sustainable and diverse cultural community for the people of Staten Island by: making the arts accessible to every member of the community; supporting and building recognition for artistic achievement; and providing artists, organizations, and arts educators the technical, financial and social resources to encourage cultural production. [http://statenislandarts.org/](http://statenislandarts.org/)

**Design Trust for Public Space**
The Design Trust for Public Space is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the future of public space in New York City. Our projects bring together city agencies, community groups and private sector experts to make a lasting impact—through design—on how New Yorkers live, work and play. Our work can be seen, felt and experienced throughout all five boroughs—from parks and plazas to streets and public buildings. The Design Trust saved the High Line structure, jumpstarted NYC's first custom-built Taxi of Tomorrow, developed the Community Design School for Flushing Meadows Corona Park, and created the city's first comprehensive sustainability guidelines that became the precursor to Local Law 86 and PlaNYC, now OneNYC. [http://designtrust.org/](http://designtrust.org/)

**Sonic Gates and Court Yard Fridays**
Community Partners:
- Brighton Heights Reformed Church
- The Burrito Shoppe
- Chang Noi Thai
- Fork & Grooves
- St. George campus of The College of Staten Island
- Curtis High School
- Enoteca Maria
- ETG Cafe & Neighborhood Stage
- Honor Wines
- Marie's 2
- Project Hospitality
- Projectivity
- PS 78
- Staten Island Chamber of Commerce
- Staten Island MakerSpace
- Staten Island Partnership for Community Wellness
- Transportation Alternatives
- Universal Temple of the Arts

**Sonic Gates and Court Yard Fridays** New York City Partners:
- Office of the Staten Island Borough President
- New York City Department of Administrative Services
- New York City Department of Transportation
- New York City Parks

**Sonic Gates and Court Yard Fridays**, pilot projects of the Future Culture initiative, are made possible through the generous support of: