



**TIMES
SQUARE
ARTS**

NEW YEAR 2017/2018



Times Square Arts collaborates with contemporary artists to experiment and engage with one of the world's most iconic urban places.

"Through the darkness of winter, Times Square remains a center of light and love, alive with history and dedicated to improving by conscious design. Light shines from the New Year's Eve Ball and from the hundreds of valentines who wed, propose or renew their vows on our iconic Red Steps.

Times Square Arts invites you to join us as we, too, renew long-term relationships. First we celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Times Square Valentine Heart Design Competition, through which New York City's most innovative architecture and design firms are challenged to reimagine a heart for Times Square. With returning curatorial partner Design Trust for Public Space, we invited firms to propose a heart to illuminate the theme "Labor of Love."

We're also reuniting with Clocktower. This relationship has grown from "After Hours" concerts on rooftop bars in 2014, through a one-night-stand featuring three ferocious bands at the AMC EMPIRE 25 multiplex in 2016, into a three-night festival of bands and beaming projections for 2018.

"Labor of Love" also happens to be an apt lens on the videos we're exhibiting on the day-bright electronic billboards in our nightly countdown to midnight. Each in its own way depicts an act of endurance that is personal, political - or simply human.

And speaking of #persisting: in August we installed *Word on the Street* protest-banner-inspired signage throughout the district in partnership with House of Trees. Those works will remain until March, when we'll introduce a new printing by another amazing group of citizen artists.

Until then, we wish you a bright new year and hope to see you in Times Square."

- Debra Simon, Director of Public Art



Times Square Arts projects are supported in part by the Times Square Advertising Coalition; the National Endowment for the Arts; by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council; and by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.



NEW YEAR SEASON

February

Aranda\Lasch + Marcelo Coelho, *Window to the Heart*

Presented with **Design Trust for Public Space**

The winning team of the 10th Annual Valentine Heart Design Competition will create the world's largest lens in a pioneering feat of engineering made possible only by cutting-edge 3D-printing technology. Optically bending light toward its center, the sculpture will focus our attention on love with its *Window to the Heart*.

“Times Square is a symbol for how we experience our world. It is a physical manifestation of our culture, one dispersed and absorbed through cameras and screens. And in this culture, to fall in love you must first fall through a lens.” – Aranda\Lasch + Marcelo Coelho

📍 Duffy Square

The diverse proposals from this year's invited finalists are available in brief at www.timessquarenyc.org/WindowtotheHeart

February 19, 20 & 21

UNDERVOLT & CO., *Interference AV*

Presented with **Clocktower**

Experimental video collective UNDERVOLT & CO. teams up with Clocktower to produce live projections on an epic scale for this three-night festival takeover of America's top-grossing multiplex. The movie theater-turned-concert stage will feature dynamic collaborations with momentous musicians and UNDERVOLT artists including Peter Burr and Sabrina Ratté. The party overflows to the popcorn lobby, where Clocktower curates DJs and a zine fair.

📍 AMC Empire 25

Check www.timessquarenyc.org/InterferenceAV for details and follow @TSqArts and @Clocktower_NYC for essential RSVP announcements for these free video concerts.



MIDNIGHT MOMENT

Midnight Moment is the world's largest, longest-running digital art exhibition, synchronized on electronic billboards throughout Times Square nightly from 11:57pm to midnight.

December

Trine Lise Nedreaas, *Pulse*

A hula-hooper uses her body as an axis to spin glowing LED hoops. Her gravity-defying work to maintain the rhythm suggests the human effort required to keep our world from collapsing. Exhibited nightly as Times Square prepares for New Year's Eve, the video may also evoke the perpetual turning of time.

January

FX Harsono, *Writing in the Rain*

Presented with **Asia Society Museum**

A seminal figure in the Indonesian contemporary art scene, Harsono has been deeply engaged with social and political issues, including the role of the artist in the recovery of repressed histories, cultures, and identities. *Writing in the Rain* is a stark depiction of the artist writing his name in Chinese characters with a brush as rain slowly washes the ink away.

February

Tali Keren and Alex Strada, *Save the Presidents*

Presented with **Socrates Sculpture Park**

For the month of Washington's and Lincoln's Birthdays, we present a "day in the life" portrait of 43 monumental stone busts of former American Presidents. Rescued from the site of a closing sculpture park near Williamsburg, Virginia by the entrepreneur who was hired to demolish them, the statues sit, damaged but steadfast, in the light of the sun and the darkness of night.



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Visit www.TimesSquareNYC.org/Arts for more information about our free public art programming and to sign up for our e-newsletter.

Image credits: Front Cover, FX Harsono, *Writing in the Rain*, video still courtesy the artist and Tyler Rollins Fine Art. Anne Carson + Amy Khoshbin, Wangechi Mutu, and Carrie Mae Weems, *Word on the Street*, images courtesy Maria Baranova. Aranda\Lasch + Marcelo Coelho, *Window to the Heart*, rendering courtesy the artists. Tali Keren and Alex Strada, *Save the Presidents*, video still courtesy the artists. Back Cover, image courtesy of Amy Hart for Times Square Alliance.