

THE SHED Press Release

THE **BLOOMBERG** BUILDING
545 West 30th Street
New York, NY 10001

The Shed to Reopen on October 16 with Solo Exhibition by Howardena Pindell



Photo: Timothy Schenck.

New York, NY, September 10, 2020 — The Shed announced today that it will reopen on Friday, October 16, with the new solo exhibition ***Howardena Pindell: Rope/Fire/Water***, examining the violent, historical trauma of racism in America and the therapeutic power of artistic creation. After closing on March 13 in response to New York City's efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19, The Shed will welcome back visitors, Thursdays through Sundays, with enhanced health and safety protocols, as well as free admission to the exhibition through October 31.

"We are very honored to produce and present Howardena Pindell's powerful and timely work as our reopening exhibition this fall, and to have commissioned her unrealized project of 50 years, *Rope/Fire/Water*. When we started planning an exhibition with Pindell in 2017, we could not have foreseen its resonance with this summer's profound call to dismantle systemic racism and to establish equality for Black lives," said **Alex Poots**, The Shed's Artistic Director and CEO. "We're so pleased to welcome our audiences and neighbors back to The Shed after closing our doors in March, less than a year after opening, and we've implemented thorough protocols to ensure a safe environment for all. As our city restarts, we continue in our commitment to supporting artists and providing a space where they can address the urgent issues of our time."

Safety Measures

Following the New York State and New York City guidelines, The Shed is implementing the following policies and procedures to ensure a safe visit for patrons and a safe work environment for staff:

- Requiring masks or face coverings for all staff and visitors
- Requiring visitors to maintain six feet of distance from others
- Timed ticketing and limiting visitor capacity to 25%
- Increasing disinfection practices throughout the building
- Monitoring air quality via highly rated MERV HVAC filtration system

THE SHED
THE BLOOMBERG BUILDING
545 West 30th Street
New York, NY 10001

- Temperature checks for all entering The Shed
- Coordinating with New York City and State contact tracers

The Shed's overall visitor experience policies have also been updated to better accommodate the new health and safety protocols, including:

- New exhibition operating hours: Thursday – Sunday, 11 am – 6 pm
- New entrance to The Shed through The McCourt on the east side of the building, offering direct entry to galleries and an expansive area for contactless ticketing, health screening, and restrooms (near the 7 train station at 34 St/Hudson Yards)
- A no-fee, flexible ticket exchange policy
- Digital exhibition guides and exhibition texts
- Complimentary masks and hand sanitizer

Please note that on-site public programs, tours, school groups, and group visits are suspended at this time in accordance with public health guidance on large gatherings. The coat check is closed and large bags are prohibited. Cedric's and McNally Jackson bookstore will open at a later date.

Additional information on The Shed's new health and safety policies and how to plan a visit is available at www.theshed.org or (646) 455-3494.

Howardena Pindell: Rope/Fire/Water

October 16, 2020, through April 2021

Level 2 Gallery

As previously announced for The Shed's 2020 season, *Howardena Pindell: Rope/Fire/Water* opens on Friday, October 16. In celebration of the reopening of The Shed, admission is free through October 31 by reserving tickets in advance.

Howardena Pindell: Rope/Fire/Water presents Pindell's first video work in 25 years, as well as new large-scale paintings, and several abstract paintings from earlier in her career.

Over her nearly 60-year career, Pindell has created richly textured abstract paintings while engaging with politics and the social issues of her time. The powerful new video *Rope/Fire/Water*, commissioned by The Shed, is a work that Pindell has wanted to create since the 1970s, inspired by a traumatic experience in her youth when she saw a shocking image of racial violence.

Pindell also will also debut a pair of large-scale paintings related to global atrocities of imperialism and white supremacy, and several abstract paintings that demonstrate a through line in Pindell's practice: after working on traumatic historical projects, the artist decompresses by creating meticulously produced, large-scale abstract works on unstretched canvas.

An online gallery of paintings in the exhibition with explanatory texts and a digital reading room of supplementary resources will be available online at theshed.org. Additional programs exploring themes of the exhibition will be announced.

Ticketing

Tickets for *Howardena Pindell: Rope/Fire/Water* are \$10 and available at theshed.org or (646) 455-3494 beginning on October 1. The exhibition is on view Thursday to Sunday from 11 am to 6 pm; all tickets will be issued via timed entry to limit admissions to 25% of capacity. Admission is free through October 31 and tickets must be reserved in advance. Members have early access to timed ticket reservations starting September 28.

THE SHED
THE BLOOMBERG BUILDING
545 West 30th Street
New York, NY 10001

Ticket Access Program

To date, over 4,000 individuals who are members of a partner organization—including children, seniors, and adults from New York City-based nonprofit, government, school, and social impact groups—have accepted our invitation to visit The Shed at low or no cost through our Ticket Access Program. For more information on tickets visit our [website](#).

Support

The creation of new work at The Shed is generously supported by the **Lizzie and Jonathan Tisch Commissioning Fund**, the **Shed Commissioners**, and the **Charina Endowment Fund**.

The Bloomberg Building is configured with a state-of-the-art fiber network and infrastructure to connect people to new cultural experiences, and a superior Wi-Fi service for audiences, artists, and staff. Providing The Shed with infrastructure and technical capability at an unprecedented scale is **Altice USA**, The Shed's exclusive connectivity provider.

M&T Bank is The Founding Bank of The Shed and has supported the organization since the beginning with crucial bridge financing that helped fund its design, planning, construction, and reopening operations.

Membership at The Shed is supported by **United Airlines**.

Civic and Ticket Access Programs at The Shed are supported by **TD Bank**, the **Shed Creative Council**, **Stavros Niarchos Foundation**, **Rockefeller Brothers Fund**, **Howard Gilman Foundation**, **David Rockefeller Fund**, and **Jody and John Arnhold | Arnhold Foundation**.

The Shed is supported, in part, by public funds from the **New York City Department of Cultural Affairs** in partnership with the **City Council**.

ABOUT THE SHED

Located on Manhattan's west side, The Shed commissions original works of art, across all disciplines, for all audiences. From hip hop to classical music, painting and sculpture to literature, film to theater and dance, The Shed brings together leading and emerging artists and thinkers from all disciplines under one roof. The building—a remarkable movable structure designed by Diller Scofidio + Renfro, Lead Architect, and Rockwell Group, Collaborating Architect—physically transforms to support artists' most ambitious ideas. Committed to nurturing artistic invention and bringing creative experiences to the broadest possible audiences, The Shed, led by Artistic Director and CEO Alex Poots, is a 21st-century space of and for New York City.

For more information, please contact:

Christina Riley

Publicist

(646) 876-6865

christina.riley@theshed.org