

**ACUTE  
ART**

**THE SHED**



## **Acute Art, The Shed and High Line Art Partner to Present Outdoor Augmented Reality Exhibition This Summer**

*The Looking Glass Features New Commissions by Precious Okoyomon, Julie Curtiss and KAWS*



**New York, June 1, 2021**—Acute Art, The Shed and High Line Art are pleased to announce [The Looking Glass](#), a free outdoor exhibition comprising seventeen augmented reality (AR) artworks staged on and around The Shed's plaza and on the High Line, July 3 through August 29, 2021. Artists unveiling new commissions include Julie Curtiss, KAWS and Frieze 2021 Artist Award winner Precious Okoyomon, whose debut AR work *Ultra Light Beams of Love* is presented alongside a new poem. Other participating artists are showcasing works for the first time in the U.S., including Cao Fei, Olafur Eliasson, Tomás Saraceno, Nina Chanel Abney, Koo Jeong A, Bjarne Melgaard, Darren Bader and Alicja Kwade.

Blue flower boxes marked with signage, including a QR code, will denote the artworks' location accessible via the Acute Art app on smartphones (available for free download [here](#)). In addition to the artworks activated on The Shed's plaza and the High Line, one will be hidden in a secret location in Manhattan for visitors to discover on their own.

The first chapter of *The Looking Glass* debuted to widespread acclaim on May 5 as part of Frieze's annual New York art fair.



**BLASIEHOLMEN**  
INVESTMENT GROUP

"We are delighted to partner with The Shed on this significant exhibition," said Daniel Birnbaum, Director of Acute Art. "Acute's mission is to work with artists and provide them a platform to create and present AR and VR works that push beyond the boundaries of their traditional practices. Our collaboration with The Shed enables us to share these new commissions and U.S. debuts with thousands of visitors throughout the summer."

"At The Shed we endeavor to work with new forms of artistic creation, and the intersection of art and technology plays an important role within that," said Emma Enderby, Chief Curator at The Shed. "This free public exhibition takes your phone as a looking glass, as a portal to a hidden world where the boundaries between the real and the virtual are obscured."

"We're excited about working with The Shed and Acute Art on this exhibition and offering an added experience to a visit to the High Line," said Cecilia Alemani, the Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art. "The AR artworks in the exhibition offer new, inspiring ways of engaging in the expanded field of public art."

*The Looking Glass* is presented with support from Blasieholmen Investment Group (BIG). Major Support for The Shed is generously supported by the Lizzie and Jonathan Tisch Commissioning Fund and the Shed Commissioners. The Shed is connected by Altice.

Image: KAWS, *HOLIDAY SPACE*, augmented reality, 2020. Courtesy KAWS and Acute Art.

## Notes to Editors

### About Acute Art

Acute Art brings together renowned international artists, new media and technology to produce and exhibit compelling, cutting-edge visual artworks in Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR) and Mixed Reality (MR). Works produced include those by [Marina Abramović](#), [Nathalie Djurberg & Hans Berg](#), [Olafur Eliasson](#), [Antony Gormley](#), [Anish Kapoor](#), [Bjarne Melgaard](#), [Jeff Koons](#), [KAWS](#) and more. The original digital artworks are accessible to everyone through Acute Art's free app and creative collaborations with public institutions worldwide.

Acute Art is directed and curated by Daniel Birnbaum. He was most recently Director of Moderna Museet in Stockholm before joining Acute Art in January 2019. Previously, Birnbaum curated the 1st Moscow Biennale (2005), "Airs de Paris" (with Christine Macel) at the Centre Pompidou (2007) the 2nd Yokohama Triennial (2008), and "Zero" (with Tijs Visser) at Martin-Gropius-Bau in Berlin (2015). In 2009 he was director of the 53rd Venice Biennale.

For more information, visit [www.acuteart.com](http://www.acuteart.com)

### About The Shed

The Shed is a new cultural institution of and for the 21st century. They produce and welcome innovative art and ideas, across all forms of creativity, to build a shared understanding of our rapidly changing world and a more equitable society. In their highly adaptable building on Manhattan's west side, The Shed brings together established and emerging artists to create new work in fields ranging from pop to classical music, painting to digital media, theater to literature, and sculpture to dance. The Shed seeks opportunities to collaborate with cultural peers and community organizations, work with like-minded partners, and provide unique spaces for private events. As an independent nonprofit that values invention, equity, and generosity, The Shed is committed to advancing art forms, addressing the urgent issues of our time, and making its work impactful, sustainable, and relevant to the local community, the cultural sector, New York City, and beyond.

For more information, visit [www.theshed.org](http://www.theshed.org)

### About High Line Art

Founded in 2009, High Line Art commissions and produces a wide array of artworks on the High Line, including site-specific commissions, exhibitions, performances, video programs, and a series of billboard interventions. Led by Cecilia Alemani, the Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art, and presented by the High Line, the art program invites artists to think of creative ways to engage with the unique architecture, history, and design of the park, and to foster a productive dialogue with the surrounding neighborhood and urban landscape.

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