



Media Announcement

New Mosaic Artwork by David Rios Ferreira at 7 Av Station Connects Past, Present, and Future



Landscapes adrift—cosmically woven and earthly bonded (2023) © David Rios Ferreira, NYCT 7 Av Station. Commissioned by MTA Arts & Design. Photo: Pedro A. Estevez

(NEW YORK, NY — December 14, 2023) MTA Arts & Design announces new mosaic artwork throughout 7 Av (F G) station by artist David Rios Ferreira. Titled *Landscapes adrift—cosmically woven and earthly bonded*, the mosaic features elements of science-fiction, the natural world, architecture, and history. Amalgamations of abstract and representational images of turtles, draw from a variety of interpretations found in scientific journals and Indigenous cultures.

Inspired by the station's proximity to Prospect Park, Ferreira drew inspiration from the snapping turtles and red-eared sliders that inhabit the park. These turtles hold significance in creation stories shared by Indigenous peoples such as the Lenape and those of the Northeastern Woodlands, as well as in Hindu and Chinese mythologies, where the earth is believed to be carried on the back of a giant turtle. These images intertwine with re-contextualized depictions of neighborhood maps, buildings, landmarks, and plants. Building upon this narrative and drawing from his own Taino heritage (the Indigenous people of the Caribbean), Ferreira's artwork seeks to bridge present-day concepts of home with a shared cultural connection to the planet across time.

“This gorgeous new mosaic artwork provides a meaningful visual journey for our riders,” said **Sandra Bloodworth, Director, MTA Arts & Design**. “David Rios Ferreira’s themes connect the station’s historic past and the expansive possibilities of the future with shimmering beauty.”

The vibrant backgrounds of the mosaics utilize iridescent glass, creating a captivating effect reminiscent of swirling algae in lakes, while also evoking a sense of the otherworldly and cosmic. Ferreira's artwork takes viewers on a fantastical journey that mirrors the experience of commuters traveling through the station. **Artist David Rios Ferreira** states, “These artworks remind us of the challenging and complicated dualities that come with change, progress, and reflecting on history. I hope my art pays homage to our complex past while providing thoughtful inspiration to those who pass it today and into the future.”

Fabricated by Miotto Mosaic Art Studios, the artwork totals approximately 700 square feet and is installed in twelve niches previously used for posting advertisements at each end of the station and a mural that measures over 77' long in the North Mezzanine Passageway. The 7 Av station received ADA accessibility upgrades including new elevators and other improvements.



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ABOUT DAVID RIOS FERREIRA

David Rios Ferreira has exhibited in galleries and museums in the US and abroad. He has held solo exhibitions at Wave Hill in Bronx, NY, Morgan Lehman Gallery in New York, NY, the Brattleboro Museum & Art Center in Brattleboro, VT, and the Utah Museum of Fine Arts in Salt Lake City, UT. Ferreira has been commissioned by organizations like BRIC in Brooklyn, NY, and Meta Open Arts, and has upcoming public art installations in New York debuting in 2023. Residencies include the Lower East Side Printshop, the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, and The Center for Book Arts, all located in New York, NY. He has also participated in professional development programs like Emerge 11 at Aljira in Newark, NJ, and the Artist in the Marketplace (AIM) program at the Bronx Museum in Bronx, NY. Awards include a New Jersey State Council on the Arts Fellowship and a National Association of Latino Arts & Culture Fund for the Arts grant. He has also been nominated for the United States Artists award and the Joan Mitchell Fellowship. David Rios Ferreira received a BFA from The Cooper Union.

ABOUT MTA ARTS & DESIGN

MTA Arts & Design encourages the use of public transportation by providing visual and performing arts in the metropolitan New York area. The Percent for Art program is one of the largest and most diverse collections of site-specific public art in the world, with more than 380 commissions by world-famous,

mid-career and emerging artists. Arts & Design produces Graphic Arts, Digital Art, photographic Lightbox exhibitions, as well as live musical performances in stations through its Music Under New York (MUSIC) program, and the Poetry in Motion program in collaboration with the Poetry Society of America. It serves the millions of people who rely upon MTA subways and commuter trains and strives to create meaningful connections between sites, neighborhoods, and people.

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