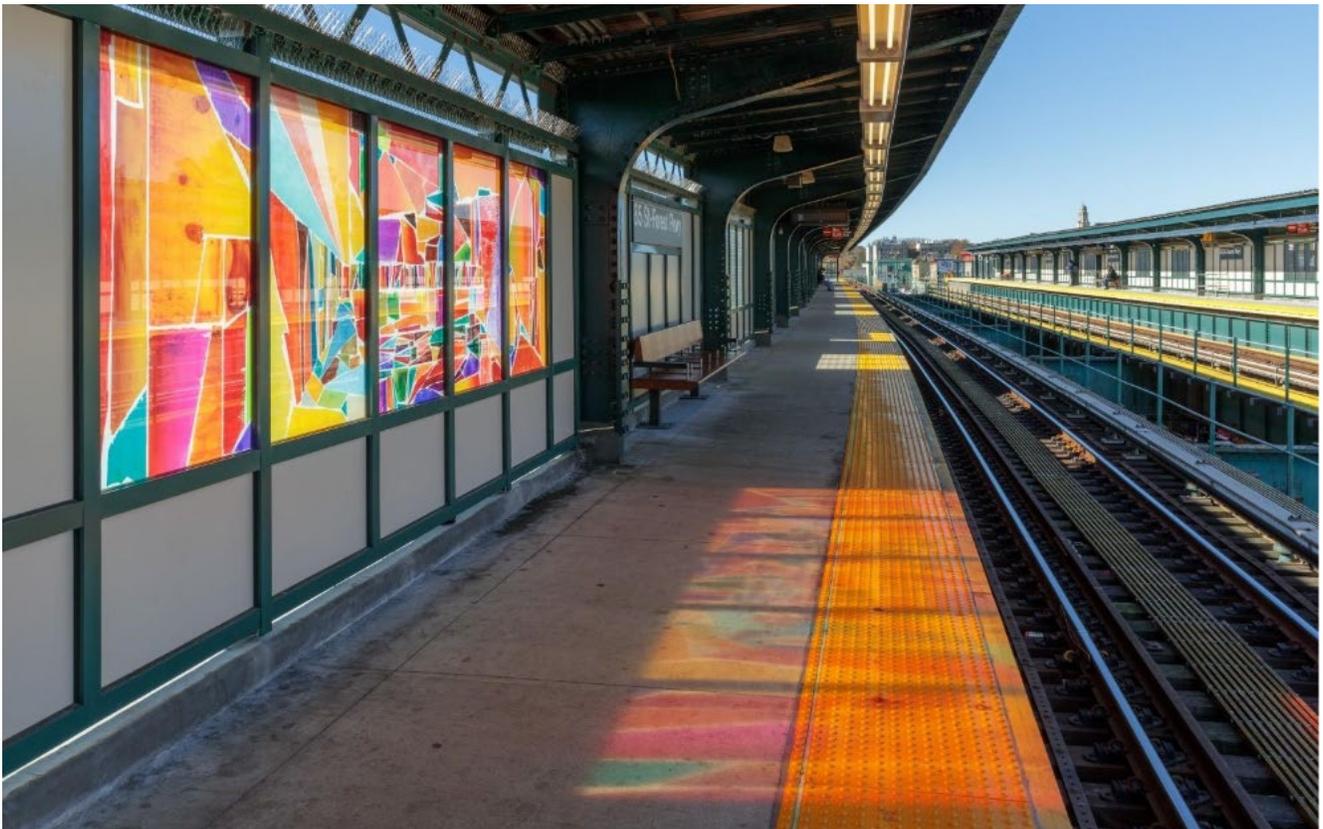




Media Announcement

MTA Arts & Design Unveils Three New Artworks Along the NYCT Jamaica Line (J,Z)



Perspective (2025) © Heejung Cho, NYCT 85 St-Forest Parkway Station. Commissioned by MTA Arts & Design. Photo: Jeanette May.

(NEW YORK, NY – December 11, 2025) MTA Arts & Design is pleased to announce the installation of three new permanent artworks at New York City Transit (NYCT) stations in Queens and Brooklyn, on the Jamaica line (J,Z). Artists **Tatiana Arocha** (Cypress Hills station), **Heejung Cho** (85 St-Forest Parkway station), and **Angie Drakopoulos** (75 St-Elderts Lane station) use natural forms — such as forests, wood fragments, celestial bodies, and microorganisms — to evoke a sense of connection between people and their surroundings, emphasizing the ways in which transit spaces can become sites of reflection, cultural identity, and transformation.

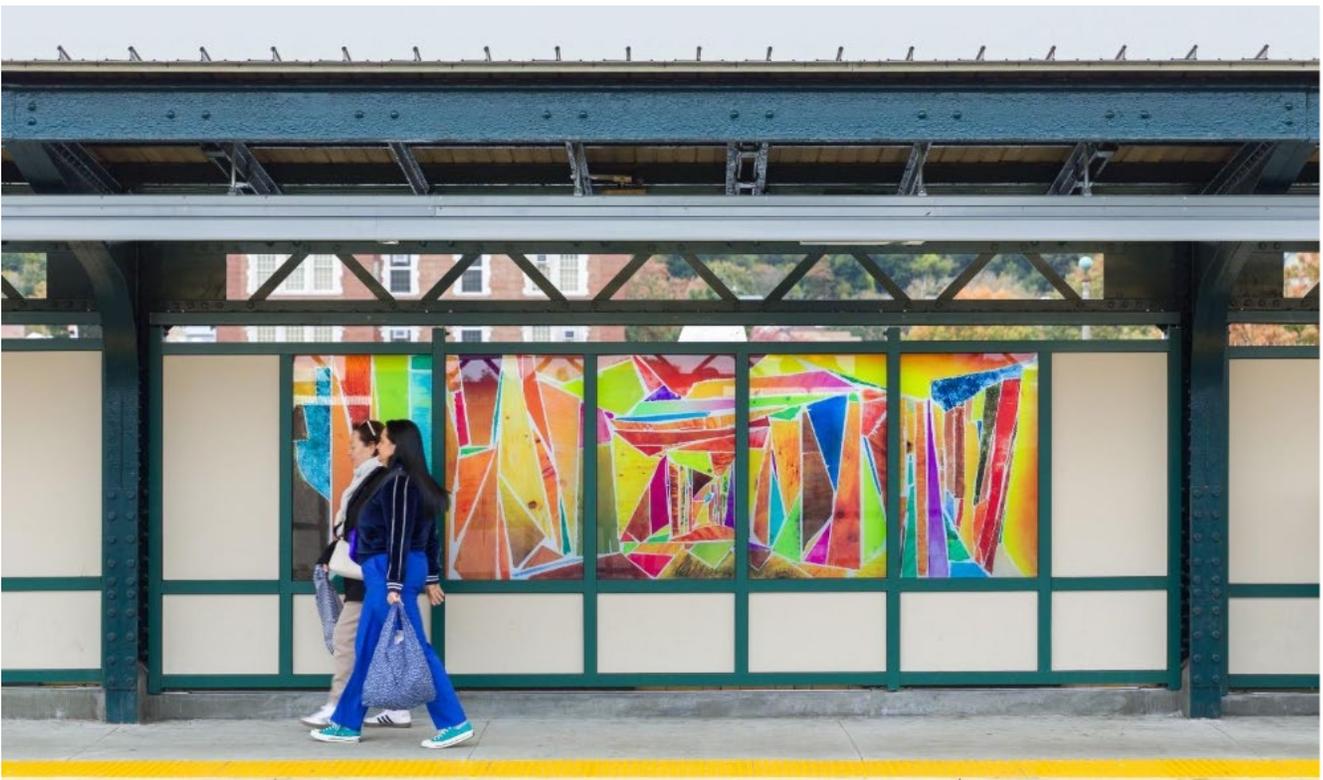
“These spectacular new commissions, located in Woodhaven and Cypress Hills, serve as a testament to the power of public art to reflect the vibrancy of these neighborhoods and the journeys we take through them,” said **Tina Vaz, Director, MTA Arts & Design**. “Each work invites riders to pause, connect, and see their daily commute in a new light.”



Selva adentro (2025) © Tatiana Arocha, NYCT Cypress Hills. Commissioned by MTA Arts & Design.
Photos: Etienne Frossard.

Cypress Hills Station (J): *Selva adentro*, by Tatiana Arocha

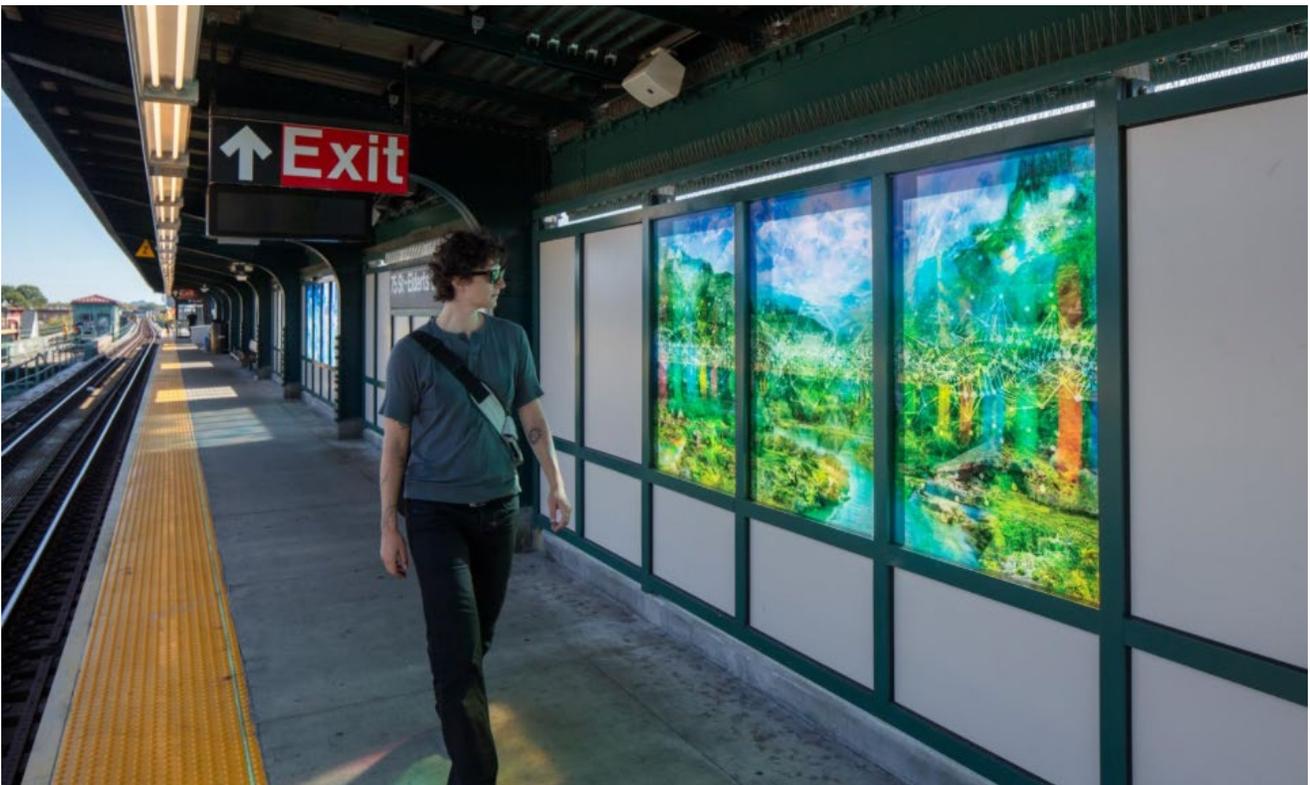
Tatiana Arocha's *Selva adentro* (*The jungle inside*) brings Colombia's biodiverse forests to Brooklyn's Cypress Hills. Drawing from extensive fieldwork, Arocha builds a visual archive of tree bark, seeds, and leaves, enriched by conversations with Indigenous communities. Her 24-panel glass installation, fabricated by Tom Patti Designs, transforms the subway platform into a monochromatic collage of tropical forests, animal life, and flowing gold-leaf rivers — symbols of environmental fragility and human impact. On the Queens-bound side, birds like egrets and herons soar through dense swamps; on the Manhattan-bound side, a fallen log surrounded by new growth evokes nature's cycle of decay and renewal. Smaller creatures — snakes, frogs, spiders — appear subtly throughout. Arocha sees the work as an act of care: "Bringing these ecosystems into the subway was... a gesture toward remembering the landscapes and communities that existed long before the city."



Perspective (2025) © Heejung Cho, NYCT 85 St-Forest Parkway. Commissioned by MTA Arts & Design.
Photo: Jeanette May.

85 St-Forest Parkway (J): *Perspective*, by Heejung Cho

Heejung Cho's *Perspective* celebrates the diverse communities of Woodhaven and Cypress Hills. Cho drew on her experience as a Korean immigrant as she explored these neighborhoods, observing the cultural mix along Flushing Avenue. Her 24-panel glass installation, fabricated by Depp Glass, uses vivid colors, abstraction, and natural materials to reflect this diversity. Cho collected found wood fragments from the area, each symbolizing individual people. Using woodblock printmaking, she created colorful imprints, assembling them into reimagined landscapes. Thin white borders separate each piece, illustrating unity through respect for difference. The murals' composition shifts from vertical fragments at the edges to dense clusters at the center, creating depth and challenging visual perspective. For Cho, *Perspective* is both a vibrant visual experience and a metaphor for inclusion.



Liminal (2025) © Angie Drakopoulos, NYCT 75 St-Elderts Lane. Commissioned by MTA Arts & Design. Photo: Nicholas Knight.

75 St-Elderts Lane Station (J,Z): *Liminal*, by Angie Drakopoulos

Angie Drakopoulos' *Liminal* explores how daily subway travel can inspire reflection and transformation. The title is inspired by the Latin word *limen*, meaning a space between one state and another, which reflects the unique position of the station as a threshold between Brooklyn and Queens. Installed in the platform windscreens, the 24-panel laminated glass piece, fabricated by Depp Glass, bridges earthly and cosmic realms. On the Manhattan-bound side, murals depict microscopic cellular forms, local greenspaces like Forest Park, and a visual journey from 75 St-Elderts Lane to Broad St, featuring landmarks such as the Franklin K. Lane Campus and the New York Stock Exchange. On the Queens-bound side, Drakopoulos shifts to the macro: a dark, pulsating universe and a snow-capped mountain range evoke vastness

and elevation. Her use of vibrant color and layered imagery invites viewers to reconsider their surroundings, suggesting that even familiar landscapes hold mystery. *Liminal* is a meditation on physical and mental transitions, encouraging ongoing observation and wonder.

About the Artists

Tatiana Arocha is a New York-born Colombian artist. Her art practice explores intimacy between people and land, rooted in personal memory and her immigrant experience, and centers on community through public art interventions and transdisciplinary knowledge exchange. Arocha was recently awarded a NYSCA Artist Grant, was a MacDowell Fellow in 2023, and was the recipient of the Annual Award for Excellence in Design by the Public Design Commission of the City of New York 2024—artist in residency at Residency Unlimited and Santa Fe Art Institute. Solo exhibitions include Newhouse Center for Contemporary Art, Sugar Hill Children’s Museum of Art & Storytelling, Queens Botanical Garden, and site-specific installations at Brooklyn Public Library, BRIC, Brookfield Place/Winter Garden, Goethe-Institut Kolumbien, and Hilton Bogota Corferias.

Heejung Cho is a mixed media artist based in Brooklyn, NY. Originally from Seoul, Korea, her artistic practice centers on constructing evocative spaces and figures, exploring the energetic connections between people and their environment through careful dismantling and abstraction of structure. Expanding her sculptural approach, Cho has developed a distinctive practice in woodblock monoprints through residencies at the Lower East Side Print Shop, the Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop, and the Women’s Studio Workshop. She earned her BFA in Sculpture from Seoul National University and an MFA in Visual Art from the Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University. Cho has held positions at the Museum of Arts and Design, the Newark Museum, and the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts. Her achievements also include an AIM Fellowship at the Bronx Museum of the Arts and participation in the NYFA IAP program.

Angie Drakopoulos is a New York–based interdisciplinary artist whose work spans mixed-media composition, digital process, and installation. Using symmetry and a systematic approach, she layers digitally modified natural and scientific forms to create abstractions that explore underlying structures, subtle perceptual shifts, and the relationships between microscopic and cosmic systems. Drakopoulos studied design at Vakalo Art & Design College in Greece, earned her BFA from The Corcoran School of Art in Washington, D.C., and received her MFA from the School of Visual Arts in New York. She has exhibited internationally, and her work is held in public and private collections. She is a recipient of an ArtOmi residency, the Special Editions Fellowship at the Lower East Side Printshop, and a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship in Painting.

About MTA Arts & Design

Since 1985, MTA Arts & Design has delivered innovative arts programming throughout New York’s transit system. Over four decades Arts & Design has built a collection of award-winning art that reflects the diversity of the New York City region and makes travel a more engaging experience for millions of riders every day. The program has commissioned more than 400 permanent artworks and activated subway and railroad stations, train cars, and bus depots

with Music Under New York performances, Poetry in Motion, posters, photography, digital art, and special events.

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