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Midnight Moment

A Decade of Artists in Times Square

Published in association with Times Square Arts, with texts by Jean Cooney and Charlotte Kent, PhD

The first and only book on Times Square's iconic Midnight Moment series, the world's largest and longest-running digital public art program

Presented nightly to millions of viewers each year, the Midnight Moment program showcases the work of contemporary artists on one of the most iconic public canvases—the electronic billboards of Times Square. Every night, just before midnight, nearly 100 electronic billboards synchronize to display an arresting 10 second countdown to a 2 minute and 50 second presentation of video art from a different contemporary artist each month. Published in association with Times Square Arts, *Midnight Moment: A Decade of Artists in Times Square* memorializes ten years of the more than 130 artists that have participated in the program. Midnight Moment is a program of Times Square Arts the public art program of the Times Square Alliance.

A celebration of this monumental platform for public art, this new book is a visual testament to how each Midnight Moment is a unique presentation. The featured projects include special adaptations of feature films, spliced scenes from music videos, remixes of multiple works, pairings of NFT art, kaleidoscopic images and colors, collaborations between international artists, live performances by dancers and musicians, and even coordinated public events like karaoke.

Featured artists include Jeffrey Gibson, Shantell Martin, Christian Marclay, William Kentridge, Rashaad Newsome, Nick Cave, Pipilotti Rist, Laurie Anderson, Yoko Ono, Tracey Emin, Björk, JR, Isaac Julien, Ryan McGinley, Alfredo Jaar, Charles Atlas, Marco Brambilla, Andy Warhol, Shahzia Sikander, Alex Prager, Sophie Calle, Chitra Ganesh, Peter Campus, Lucy Raven & 13BC, Allison Janae Hamilton, David Hockney, Studio DRIFT, Cory Arcangel, and Joan Jonas.

Accompanying the impressive imagery is a foreword by Jean Cooney, the Director of Times Square Arts, an essay by arts writer Charlotte Kent, and reflections from some of the program's most notable artists about their participation. The book also includes detailed behind-the-scenes information about how the program is coordinated, executed, and celebrated, and facts about the technology and creative collaborations that makes Midnight Moment possible.

Displayed in an extravagant package, *Midnight Moment: A Decade of Artists in Times Square* exhibits special design elements such as midnight blue pages throughout and matching painted edges that reflect the spectacular impact of its subject. The book's cover features holographic foil details—a design nod to Cory Arcangel's Midnight Moment from 2022, and internal pages are cleverly accented with text typeset in the style of classic Hollywood movie countdowns. A stunning visual testament to a monumental project, this book brilliantly captures the complex and immersive experience of public art in Times Square.

Midnight Moment: A Decade of Artists in Times



About the Authors

Jean Cooney is the Director of Times Square Arts and Vice President of Arts and Culture for the Times Square Alliance.

Charlotte Kent, PhD is an arts writer and Associate Professor of Visual Culture at Montclair State University.









About Time Square Arts

Times Square Arts, the public art program of the Times Square Alliance, collaborates with contemporary artists and cultural institutions to experiment and engage with one of the world's most iconic urban places. Through the Square's electronic billboards, public plazas, vacant areas and popular venues, and the Alliance's own online landscape, Times Square Arts invites leading contemporary creators, such as Charles Gaines, Joan Jonas, Jeffrey Gibson, Pamela Council, Mel Chin and Kehinde Wiley, to help the public see Times Square in new ways. Times Square has always been a cultural district and place of risk, innovation and creativity, and the arts program ensures these qualities remain central to the district's unique identity.

About Monacelli

As a leading publisher of illustrated books for more than twenty-five years, **Monacelli** has challenged the conventions of publishing to produce provocative, inspiring, and essential titles. Founded in 1994 by Gianfranco Monacelli, the organization has released nearly 600 books on architecture, art, interior design, landscape and gardens, photography, and the applied arts. Monacelli's books have been made in collaboration with prominent practitioners and scholars ever since its inaugural title, the groundbreaking *S,M,L,XL* by Rem Koolhaas and Bruce Mau. In 2015, the applied arts imprint Monacelli Studio was launched, adding elevated books on art instruction, photography technique, and crafts to the publisher's roster. In 2020, Monacelli joined the Phaidon family of companies.

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