

ART DAILY

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Jose Dávila, Untitled, 2021. Concrete, boulder and epoxy paint 55 8/16 x 29 15/16 x 40 1/16 inches © Jose Dávila. Photo: Agustín Arce. Courtesy: Sean Kelly, New York.

NEW YORK, NY.- [The Armory Show](#) and the United States Tennis Association (USTA) announce a special, inaugural partnership: Armory Off-Site at the US Open. An extension of Armory Off-Site, now in its second year, a selection of 2022 exhibitors will present large-scale outdoor sculptures by artists from underrepresented backgrounds at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center August 23–September 11, 2022, coinciding with both the tournament and fair.

A significant expansion of the fair's presence across the city, the debut program will present artwork by Gerald Chukwuma (Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery), Jose Dávila (Sean Kelly), Luzene Hill (K Art), Myles Nurse (Half Gallery), and Carolyn Salas (Mrs.).

"We are honored to partner with the United States Tennis Association (USTA) on this exciting new initiative which connects our two events for the first time," said Nicole Berry, Executive Director of The Armory Show. "This joint venture brings a piece of The Armory Show to the tournament and its visitors, promising to spark important conversations around the dynamic works on view. Armory Off-Site at the US Open further elevates September as the pivotal cultural moment for international audiences to be in New York City. We look forward to building upon this partnership for many years to come—providing a platform for artists as well as a rich experience for visitors to the US Open."

Building on the USTA's Be Open social impact campaign launched in 2020, the collaboration marks the first time in the US Open's history that contemporary galleries will present sculptural works at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center. Highlighting works by underrepresented artists from a wide range of backgrounds, the partnership is grounded in the USTA and The Armory Show's shared vision for creativity, inspiration, and equity.

"This is an exciting next step in the US Open's continuing integration of the arts," said Nicole Kankam, Managing Director, Pro Tennis Marketing, USTA. "The 'Be Open' campaign has been a platform for tennis and the US Open to champion diverse, creative voices, and a partnership with The Armory Show, one of New York's long-standing cultural institutions, will only expand the US Open's commitment to embodying those values."

Details of the projects include:

- A new work by Gerald Chukwuma, presented by Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, informed and inspired by the Uli art traditions of the Igbo people from south-eastern Nigeria. The work transforms found objects to examine the movements of people through voluntary and forced migration as a vital stage in the progress of our collective humanity.
- A recent concrete sculpture by Mexican artist Jose Dávila, presented by Sean Kelly, that investigates the notion of balance and estrangement, of sculpture and monument, of structural order and generative chaos, challenging the viewer to question how we understand the concept of the "natural" or the "modern" today.
- A site-specific work by Indigenous artist Luzene Hill, presented by K Art, consisting of 30–40 representations of metal letterpress type in the Cherokee language. The letters will be arranged in an undulating formation to suggest the lyrical rise and fall (and rise again) of Indigenous language, and an uneven push upward to reflect movement and natural growth.
- A site-specific steel figure by Myles Nurse, presented by Half Gallery, that depicts athleticism through sculptural form.
- A new sculpture by Carolyn Salas, presented by Mrs., that serves as a dialogue derived from ancient and art-historical cornerstones, while simultaneously engaging conflicting expectations of womanhood and presenting feminine identity as a balancing act: precarious and full of contrasting possibilities.