Governors Island Announces Immersive Public Exhibition by Artist Jacob Hashimoto

Two breathtaking installations composed of thousands of delicate, hanging rice paper kites, cubes and funnels to be displayed in historic St. Cornelius Chapel and Liggett Hall Archway

“The Eclipse” and “Never Comes Tomorrow” to open June 2-October 31

The artist’s first major public work in New York City to be displayed on Governors Island

April 26, 2018. The Trust for Governors Island today announced the next projects as part of its art commissions program. This June, the Trust will present an exhibition of two monumental works on Governors Island by New York based artist Jacob Hashimoto. Never before exhibited in the United States, *The Eclipse* and *Never Comes Tomorrow* collectively mark the artist’s first major installation of public art in New York City. The exhibition opens to the public June 2 and will be on display daily inside Governors Island’s St. Cornelius Chapel and outdoors in Liggett Hall Archway through October 31.

“Governors Island’s unique historic architecture coupled with its dramatic location in the Harbor is the perfect venue for New Yorkers to experience groundbreaking and free public art,” said Michael Samuelian, President of the Trust for Governors Island. “We invite all visitors to the Island to experience these inspiring and dynamic works and are so thrilled to be able to welcome New Yorkers into a transformed St. Cornelius Chapel for the first time in five years.”

Showcased in New York City for the first time, Hashimoto’s *The Eclipse* is a monumental work of thousands of delicate rice paper kites, enveloping viewers in a tangible, yet ever shifting fog. Originally installed at the Palazzo Flangini during the 57th Venice Biennale, the cloud-like work has been newly adapted for Governors Island’s St. Cornelius Chapel, winding, bending and at times consuming the architecture. St. Cornelius Chapel, owned by Trinity Church Wall Street, will open its doors for the first time since 2013 for visitors to delight in the piece.

Contrasting the installation in nearby St. Cornelius, Hashimoto’s *Never Comes Tomorrow* is a colorful, whimsical overhead outdoor installation adapted for Governors Island’s landmark Liggett Hall Archway. Constructed of hundreds of wooden cubes and massive steel funnels, this high energy sculptural installation plays with the architecture of the passageway, creating a virtual time tunnel or vortex between the Island’s Historic District and newly designed park with its colorful installation of forms. *Never Comes Tomorrow* merges Hashimoto’s interests in the systems of architecture, history and cosmology.

The exhibition is the first installation of works by Jacob Hashimoto on Governors Island and his first major public art exhibition in New York City. Using sculpture, painting and hanging installations, Hashimoto creates complex worlds from a range of modular components,
including bamboo-and-paper kites, model boats, even astro turf-covered blocks. Hashimoto has been featured in solo museum exhibitions at MOCA Pacific Design Center in Los Angeles, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Rome, Fondazione Querini Stampalia in Venice, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Schauwerk Sindelfingen in Germany and the Wäinö Aaltonen Museum of Art in Finland. He is a graduate of The School of Art Institute of Chicago and lives and works in Queens, New York.

“As a New York-based artist, the opportunity to develop a project on such an iconic and historic New York site with a quintessentially New York audience like Governors Island is an inspiring condition to work,” said Jacob Hashimoto.

This year’s commission is curated by Meredith Johnson, the Trust’s VP of Arts and Culture. Since joining the Trust in 2017, Johnson has overseen public programs, cultural partnerships and art commissions for Governors Island. The two works by Jacob Hashimoto are presented as part of the Island’s newly reinvigorated commissioning series, a program that presents public artworks responding to the Island’s unique history, architecture and geographic location in New York Harbor.

“Jacob’s delicate and dynamic works dramatically engage with the Island’s architecture in ways never before seen – providing contrastingly immersive experiences when navigating between the two sites,” said Meredith Johnson, The Trust’s VP for Arts and Culture. Marking the transition of time between old and new in Liggett Hall’s immense tunnel and signaling things to come in the ethereal naïve of St. Cornelius, this year’s exhibition is deeply rooted in the Island’s ever-shifting landscape in New York Harbor.”

Since opening to the public in 2005, The Trust has worked with dozens of artists and arts and cultural organizations from across New York City to bring a robust calendar of commissions, exhibitions and events to the Island’s diverse audience. The Trust’s commissioning program gives the opportunity for artists and audiences to engage in site-specific projects responding to the Island’s unique conditions. Previous commissions on Governors Island include Rachel Whiteread’s Cabin, a permanent work sited on Discovery Hill within the Island’s park space and Day is Done, a large scale instrumental sound installation by Susan Philipsz. 2017’s Trust commissioned Rock, Mosquito and Hummingbird, a winding sculptural installation by David Brooks that tells the story of the Island’s ‘pre-history’ through continuous rock core samples assembled in contrasting trajectories, will be on display in Fort Jay through the entire 2018 season.

Generous support for The Eclipse and Never Comes Tomorrow is provided by Bloomberg Philanthropies, Charina Endowment Fund and Trinity Church Wall Street.

Governors Island is open to the public seven days a week from May 1 through October 31 from 10 AM to 6 PM weekdays, until 10 PM on Fridays May 25-September 14 and weekends from 10 AM to 7 PM.

About The Trust for Governors Island
The Trust for Governors Island is the nonprofit corporation created by the City of New York that is responsible for the redevelopment and operation of 150 acres of Governors Island. The Trust’s mission is to transform Governors Island into a vibrant resource for New York City, making this island at the center of New York Harbor a destination with extraordinary public open space, as well as educational, not-for-profit and commercial facilities.
For more information, visit www.govisland.org.