

Stephen Friedman Gallery

The Spacer

Elmgreen & Dragset, Kehinde Wiley and Stan Douglas unveil installations at New York's Moynihan Station

Rosella Degori

January 2021

THE SPACES

Elmgreen & Dragset, Kehinde Wiley and Stan Douglas unveil installations at New York's Moynihan Station



Image: Nicholas Knight, courtesy Empire State Development and Public Art Fund, NY

A stained-glass triptych depicting the power of Black bodies, rendered in the style of classical European fresco, crowns SOM's newly opened Moynihan Train Hall in New York. Meanwhile, another hall has a crowded cityscape hanging from its ceiling. These are two of a trio of permanent art installations commissioned by Public Art Fund for the long-awaited 45,150 sqm Pennsylvania Station expansion, which opened to the public on 1 January 2021.



Image: Nicholas Knight, courtesy Empire State Development and Public Art Fund, NY

Kehinde Wiley designed his stained-glass installation using a foreshortening technique pioneered in 18th-century Europe to manipulate perception, giving the impression that his figures of Black and Brown people are ascending into heaven, mid-motion.



Image: Nicholas Knight, courtesy Empire State Development and Public Art Fund, NY

Stephen Friedman Gallery

The Spacer

Elmgreen & Dragset, Kehinde Wiley and Stan Douglas unveil installations at New York's Moynihan Station

Rosella Degori

January 2021

Mischievous art duo Elmgreen & Dragset have suspended a 1:1000 architectural model of a surreal international cityscape from the ceiling of the 31st Street Mid-block Entrance hall, with miniature skyscrapers and towers jutting down towards commuters

Finally, Canadian artist Stan Douglas pays homage to the original Beaux-Arts Penn Station designed by McKim, Mead & White, which was razed to make way for Madison Square Garden in 1963. Nine photographic panels reconstruct little-known moments from the building's 50-year history, using materials drawn from archives, restaged and photographed with actors in costume.

The works are on permanent display.



Image: Photography: Nicholas Knight, courtesy Empire State Development and Public Art Fund, NY



Image: Nicholas Knight, courtesy Empire State Development and Public Art Fund, NY



Image: Nicholas Knight, courtesy Empire State Development and Public Art Fund, NY