

In a city where many aspects of our social lives are shaped by real estate interests and economic forces, architecture can nevertheless play a vital role in fostering collective participation and a sense of belonging. *New York, New Publics* showcases twelve projects across the New York metropolitan area that critically engage with their material and social contexts to propose ways in which architecture can serve as a public amenity. In contrast to the violent and disruptive nature of large-scale infrastructure and urban renewal initiatives of the past century—which frequently prioritized cars and resulted in the displacement of low-income groups, particularly communities of color—recent design strategies present subtler, restorative interventions. Considering the city a fragile ecosystem in need of care, these inventive approaches envision a future in which architecture creates more accessible, sustainable, and equitable cities.

New York, New Publics brings together a wide variety of design proposals, ranging from waterfront parks, public pools, and cultural spaces to community gardens, subway stations, and virtual monuments. All either initiated or completed within the past three years, they reimagine civic infrastructure, redistribute private resources, and mine the potential of emerging technologies. Mirroring the experience of moving through a city, the exhibition is organized as a non-prescriptive sequence of alternating urban scenes that visitors are encouraged to freely wander. Models, sketches, drawings, and photographs appear alongside full-scale architectural components, prototypes, and an augmented-reality installation. Twelve new videos provide glimpses into the daily life of these architectures, which suggest novel and resilient ways for communities to thrive.

New York, New Publics is the inaugural installation of Architecture Now, an exhibition series that will serve as a platform to highlight emerging talent and foreground groundbreaking projects in contemporary architecture.

Organized by Evangelos Kotsioris, Assistant Curator, and Martino Stierli, The Philip Johnson Chief Curator, with Paula Vilaplana de Miguel, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Architecture and Design.

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