

MoMA PS1 LAUNCHES PLAZA MURAL PROGRAM ARTIST LADY PINK ANNOUNCED FOR INAUGURAL COMMISSION

LONG ISLAND CITY, New York, April 10, 2025—Building on past projects on the facade, MoMA PS1 is launching a new mural commissioning program in June 2025. The program will invite artists to create new works that face the public plaza at PS1's main entrance, welcoming visitors to the museum. Each year, an artist will be selected for a new commission through a selection process involving a jury of local cultural leaders including curators, organizers, and artists.

For 2025, the jury selected a proposal by graffiti artist and painter Lady Pink (Ecuadorian-American, b. 1964). Opening June 26 and on view through spring 2026, the mural weaves together imagery emblematic of Pink's practice—surreal brick structures, New York City skylines, and the 7 train—in an homage to 5Pointz and the history of New York as an embattled and complicated site of creative experimentation. Born in Ecuador and raised in Astoria, Queens, Lady Pink started writing graffiti as a teenager in 1979. One of the only women embraced by the graffiti scene at that time, she painted subway cars across the city with her signature tag: Pink. She also became deeply involved in 5Pointz, a contested building formerly located across Jackson Avenue from MoMA PS1, whose facade was an important site for graffiti art and muralism from the 1990s until 2013, when it was demolished to make way for a residential highrise. Lady Pink pays homage to this history in her new mural for PS1, which features a colossal foot built of stone masonry—an abridged portrait of the artist—emblazoned with the tags of iconic 5Pointz artists.

"For the inaugural MoMA PS1 Plaza Mural, we looked to New York-based artists with deep ties to Queens and our city," said Connie Butler, the Agnes Gund Director of MoMA PS1. "We're excited to see our neighborhood embedded in Lady Pink's stunning commission, which will engage both our community and passersby alike with its vivid imagery and synthesis of local histories."

To select this project, the MoMA PS1 curatorial team solicited artist nominations from over twenty community partners, city-wide arts organizations, and local practitioners. The resulting proposals were evaluated by a jury of Queens-based cultural leaders: Camila Palomino, writer and curator; Lindsey Berfond, Assistant Curator at The Queens Museum; and Isabella Bustamante, founder of Teen Art Salon in Long Island City. Community-involved mural projects were piloted in this space between 2020 and 2025 by artists Nanibah Chacon, Tatyana Fazlalizadeh, and Layqa Nuna Yawar, with local Queens community groups Transform America; Make the Road; and members of the Shinnecock, Unkechaug, and Matinecock Nation. To build on their participatory project, the museum has established this new program to activate the space with mural art on an annual basis.

Lady Pink is an artist who began writing graffiti in 1979. Pink painted subway trains from the years 1979–85, and starred in the film *Wild Style* (1982). In 1981, her earliest canvases were exhibited in *New York/New Wave* at PS1. Her work has been exhibited in solo exhibitions at Moore College of Art, Philadelphia, and is in the collection of the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; The Brooklyn Museum; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; and the Groningen Museum, The Netherlands. Pink's work is currently featured in *Above Ground: Art from the Martin Wong Graffiti Collection* at the Museum of the City of New York. She shares her 42 years of experience with teens by holding mural workshops and lectures globally.

The exhibition is organized by Jody Graf and Elena Ketelsen González, Assistant Curators, MoMA PS1.

ABOUT MoMA PS1

MoMA PS1 champions art and artists at the intersection of the social, cultural, and political issues of our time. Providing audiences with the agency to ask questions, access to knowledge, and a forum for public debate, PS1 has offered insight into artists' diverse worldviews for more than 40 years. Founded in 1976, the institution was a defining force in the alternative space movement in New York City, transforming a nineteenth century public schoolhouse in Long Island City into a site for artistic experimentation and creativity. PS1 has been a member of New York City's Cultural Institutions Group (CIG) since 1982 and affiliated with The Museum of Modern Art since 2000.

Hours: MoMA PS1 is open from 12 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Friday, Sunday, and Monday, and 12 to 8 p.m. on Saturdays. Closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Admission: \$10 suggested admission; \$5 for students and senior citizens; free for New York State residents and MoMA members. Free admission for New York State residents is made possible by The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation. Tickets may be reserved online at mo.ma/ps1tickets.

Visitor Guide: Discover even more from MoMA PS1 with the Bloomberg Connects app. Read wall text, hear directly from artists, and uncover the building's history with this multimedia visitor guide. This digital experience is made possible through the support of Bloomberg Philanthropies.

Directions: MoMA PS1 is located at 22-25 Jackson Avenue at 46th Ave in Long Island City, Queens, across the Queensboro Bridge from midtown Manhattan. Traveling by subway, take the E, M, or 7 to Court Sq; or the G to Court Sq or 21 St Van Alst. By bus, take the Q67 to Jackson and 46th Ave or the B62 to 46th Ave.

Information: For general inquiries, call (718) 784-2084 or visit moma.org/ps1.

Press Contacts: Julia Fesser, julia_fesser@moma.org

General Press Inquiries: press_momaps1@moma.org

For downloadable high-resolution images, visit moma.org/press