



**Inaugural Edition of Portal Art Fair Opens to Public May 4
At Federal Hall National Memorial**

**Organized by Nonprofit 4heads, Inc., Portal Offers New Platform for Emerging Artists,
And Invites Audiences to Rediscover Important Historic Landmark**

**Press Preview to be Held on May 2
Inaugural Reception on May 5**

New York, NY—April 26, 2016—The inaugural edition of Portal art fair will open to the public on May 4 at historic Federal Hall National Memorial at 26 Wall Street. Portal features approximately 30 artists, working across painting, photography, sculpture, installation, sound, and video, and builds on the organization’s mission to provide new platforms for emerging artists, while highlighting historically significant landmarks across the city. The fair marks the second major collaboration between 4heads, Inc. and the National Park Service, following the successful exhibition of artist installations in Fort Jay at Governors Island National Monument last fall, and coincides with the centennial celebrations of the National Park Service throughout this year.

The featured artists--the comprehensive list of which is included below--were selected through an invitational process led by fair co-founders Nicole Laemmle, Jack Robinson, and Antony Zito. Artists were selected based on submitted proposals that responded to and engaged with the distinct architecture of Federal Hall National Memorial; previous presentations at the 4heads-organized Governors Island Art Fair (GIAF); and to highlight the diversity of artists actively working in New York. The guiding vision for the fair is to break down the boundaries between art and the public, using the space to create an intimate and direct experience, and to uncover the vibrant artist community that frequently operates outside of the art world establishment.

Federal Hall National Memorial, which opened in 1842 as the United States Customs House, was designed by American sculptor John Frazee. Featured artists will install their work across three floors of Federal Hall National Memorial. Paintings, photographs, and two-dimensional mixed-media works will be showcased in the second-floor galleries, while sculpture, installations, and sound and video works will occupy the grand entrance rotunda, second-floor balconies, and lower-level rotunda. The fair will be curated by 4heads, Inc. leadership to inspire interest both in the range of work and the monumental architecture of the space.

Highlights from Portal to include:

- The installation of **Aaron Taylor Kuffner’s** fully robotic Gamelatron orchestra. The kinetic sculpture is made from traditional bronze, brass, and iron instruments from Indonesia’s gamelan

tradition, retrofitted with mechanical mallets on sculptural mounting systems. As part of the installation, Kuffner will create music inspired by Federal Hall National Memorial, which will play via the orchestra throughout the duration of the fair.

- Photographer **David Samuel Stern's** portraits, which he physically weaves together from two images of the same sitter. Printed on translucent vellum, the two photographs—now cut and re-stitched together—become physical objects that defy clear visual understanding.
- A new site-specific installation from **Becky Brown's** “Personal Effects” series. Made from everyday found objects, the discrete sculptures that comprise the installations take the idea of organization to absurd obsession, where castoff phones, printers, TVs, and books are fused together into compact configurations.
- Paintings by **Ronald Hall**, which explore themes relating to the historic and contemporary experiences of African-Americans. Hall incorporates images from books, newspapers, and movie clips into his oil on canvas paintings, exposing veiled realities about African-American life.
- Sculptures made from human hair by **Jayoung Yoon**. The works explore ideas of inward reflection and the passage of time. Human hair plays an important part in Yoon's immersive installations as symbols of decay and the ephemeral.

Portal builds on the mission of 4heads, Inc. to create new opportunities for emerging artists to develop and present their work. Following the success of the eighth edition of GIAF, 4heads decided to launch Portal to further nurture and support artistic talent, providing artists with a new platform to engage with collectors, arts professionals, and the public during a highly active moment in the New York arts calendar. While all but one of the confirmed artists live and work in New York, they are from a range of countries, including France, Hong Kong, Mexico, Poland, South Korea, the UK, and Uzbekistan, and highlight the diversity of artistic activity in the city.

The list of featured artists follows below.

Installations by:

Becky Brown
Maximus Clarke
Laurent Fort
George Kroenert
Aaron Taylor Kuffner
Taezoo Park
Megan Suttles

Painting by:

Emily Chatton
Michael Davis

Ronald Hall
Hannah Hill
Elizabeth Hoy
Marie Koo
Jackie Mock
Alexandra Pacula
Simona Prives
Alice Sfintesco
Margot Spindelman

Photography by:

Ed Grant

Laetitia Soulier
David Samuel Stern

Sculpture by:

Will Kurtz
Niki Lederer
Dong Hee Lee
Rodrigo Nava
Randy Polumbo
Jayoung Yoon

Video by:

Chin-Lung Chuang

Portal Inaugural Reception:

On May 5, 4heads, Inc., artists, partners, and supporters will celebrate the launch of the first edition of Portal with an evening reception. Held from 6:00 to 9:00 PM at Federal Hall National Memorial, the event will feature music, refreshment, and, most importantly, the incredible installations that comprise Portal. Experience the architectural splendor of Federal Hall after hours, and meet the incredible artists featured at the fair. Space is limited and RSVP is required. Please contact Alina E. Sumajin at alina@paveconsult, if you would like to attend.

Credits:

Portal is supported by a diverse range of partners, who share 4heads' mission to bring new art and artists to the fore, including Austin East Cider, Fulton Grand, Illy, Sugarburg, Insomnia Cookies, Kelso Beer, and The Sweet Beet.

About 4heads, Inc:

4heads is a non-profit organization run by artists for artists. It was launched in 2008, when artists Nicole Laemmler, Jack Robinson, and Antony Zito saw an opportunity to create a platform that would serve emerging artists and the local community through exhibitions, education programs, and artistic collaborations. The organization's DIY spirit inspires and excites its audiences, while catalyzing a dialogue between artists and people from all walks of life. Its diverse slate of initiatives includes Governors Island Art Fair, Portal art fair, arts-education initiatives for underserved communities, and an Artists in Residence program. 4heads is committed to shedding new light on hidden culture and bringing new life to unexpected and unique spaces across the city. www.4heads.org

About Federal Hall National Memorial:

For 17 momentous months, from 1789 to 1790, the location of Federal Hall National Memorial was the seat of the United States federal government under the new Constitution. Moving into the former New York City Hall, Congress passed many of the founding laws of the nation and approved the Bill of Rights for ratification by the states. The 1883 statue of George Washington commemorates where our first president took the oath of office on April 30, 1789. The original building, torn down in 1812, was also the site of the trial and acquittal of printer John Peter Zenger in 1735, and the location where the Continental Congress passed the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, which defined the process of creating new states. The current building, constructed in 1842 as the U.S. Customs House, is one of the architectural marvels of New York City. www.nps.gov/feha

Location, Hours, and Transportation:

Portal takes place at Federal Hall National Memorial, 26 Wall Street, New York, NY.

Open May 4-10, 2016

10am – 5pm

Admission is free.

A press preview will be held on May 2, at 11:00 am.

Federal Hall is easily accessible by bus and subway, in the hub of the Manhattan Financial District:

By Subway:

2, 3, 4, 5 to Wall Street

J, Z to Broad Street

By Bus - M5 to Rector Street
M15, M20 to South Ferry

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