

# The Museum of Modern Art

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PRESS PREVIEW:  
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PAINTING FOR CITY WALLS, an exhibition of outdoor murals at nine building sites in lower Manhattan, Brooklyn and the Bronx, shown in color transparencies, will be on view at The Museum of Modern Art from April 17 to June 16. Selected and installed in the Philip L. Goodwin Galleries by Arthur Drexler, Director of the Museum's Department of Architecture and Design, the exhibition contains works by four New York artists - Jason Crum, Allan D'Arcangelo, Robert Wiegand and Tania - as well as studies for future projects.

"The undistinguished buildings which constitute so much of the New York City environment have one advantage for the artist who wants to work at giant scale," says Mr. Drexler. "They often present vast blank surfaces which are passed, if not noticed, by thousands of people every day."

Assisted by David Bromberg, an urban planner, a group of artists persuaded landlords to let them use blank walls at several different sites. Perhaps the most startling results were obtained at 29th Street and Second Avenue, where Jason Crum transformed two walls on buildings adjacent to a playground (designed by Paul Friedberg) into colossal geometric patterns in red, yellow, blue and white. "Fed into the kaleidoscopic street scene of children at play, pedestrians and automobiles, architecture and non-architecture, these beautiful fragments have sometimes prompted the refurbishing of adjacent areas, but their purpose is community improvement in a deeper sense," Mr. Drexler notes.

Mrs. Doris Freedman, Director of New York City's Department of Cultural Affairs, who brought city sponsorship to three of these projects, observes that "these artists wish to establish direct lines of communication with the New York community and end their traditional isolation for the mainstream of civic activity."

The buildings in PAINTING FOR CITY WALLS are:

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| Jason Crum        | 233 East 29th Street (at 2nd Ave.)         |
| Jason Crum        | 529 2nd Ave. (at 29th Street)              |
| Jason Crum        | 140 Church Street (at Chambers Street)     |
| Jason Crum        | 187 3rd Ave. (at 17th Street)              |
| Jason Crum        | 324 East 9th Street (bet. 1st & 2nd Aves.) |
| Allan D'Arcangelo | 340 East 9th Street (bet. 1st & 2nd Aves.) |
| Tania             | Park No. 10, Evergreen Ave., Brooklyn      |
| Tania             | Park No. 4, Bryant Ave., Bronx             |
| Robert Wiegand    | 441 Lafayette Street (at Astor Place)      |

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Additional information and photographs available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, and Susan Bernstein, Associate Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. 245-3200.