



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Adelita Husni-Bey, *Postcards from the Desert Island*, 2010 – 2011. SD video, color, sound; 22 minutes, 23 seconds. Courtesy the artist and Kadist Foundation.

HIGH LINE ART PRESENTS

UNDISCOVERED WORDS

AN EXHIBITION IN VIDEO FORMAT ON HIGH LINE CHANNEL 14

FEATURING WORKS BY PATRICIA ESQUIVIAS, AURÉLIEN FROMENT, ADELITA HUSNI-BEY, AND AGNIESZKA POLSKA

**MARCH 12 – MAY 13, 2015, DAILY BEGINNING AT 5:00 PM
14TH STREET PASSAGE, ON THE HIGH LINE AT WEST 14TH STREET**

New York, NY (March 10, 2015) – Presented by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art is pleased to announce *Undiscovered Words*, an exhibition in video format that will be presented on High Line Channel 14 from March 12 to May 13, 2015, daily beginning at 5:00 PM. *Undiscovered Words* will feature works by four international artists, all focusing on informal histories and alternative modes of education. The four works examine ways in which words and traditions become canonized, and attempt to offer spaces for “undiscovered words” – a poetic idea introduced in Agnieszka Polska’s video – to expand our understanding of our habits and histories.

In her video *111-119 Generalísimo/Castellana* (2014), **Patricia Esquivias** (b. 1979, Venezuela) narrates the story of an apartment building in Madrid located on the stretch of Paseo de la Castellana named Avenida del Generalísimo during Franco’s dictatorship. Recounting the past of both a series of murals found in the building and of her





uncovering their origin, Esquivias weaves a highly personal and approachable chapter into the history of art, architecture, and politics in Madrid.

In the video *Second Gift* (2010 – 2012) by **Aurélien Froment** (b. 1976, France), *Inventing Kindergarten* author Norman Brosterman, teacher Tiffeni Goesel, and Froebel's Gifts manufacturer Scott Bultman discuss 19th Century German teacher Friedrich Froebel's Second Gift, a simple wooden toy that opened up immense educational opportunities, all embedded in the idea of seeing something as both a whole and a set of parts. Froebel introduced a series of instructive toys called "Froebel's Gifts" that have been deeply influential within the Kindergarten world and beyond.

Adelita Husni-Bey's (b. 1985, Italy) *Postcards from the Desert Island* (2010 – 2011) documents a three week experiment in self-guided children's education, following a class of children, ages 7 – 10, at the École Vitruve in Paris, as they are invited to build their own desert island, without direction from adults or the artist. The remarkable speed and insight with which the children approach complex issues such as the distinction between public and private, regulation and enforcement, and distribution of public resources and services suggests the powerful potential of radical education.

Agnieszka Polska's (b. 1985, Poland) hypnotic video *Watery Rhymes* (2014) wonders about the materiality of words, the ways in which the sharp edges of typed letters both cut through and compose our material experience. Floating in a sea of marbled colors, Polska's written and visualized poems feature the program's inspirational title: "you are, dear lover, built from words still undiscovered."

ABOUT HIGH LINE ART

Presented by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art commissions and produces public art projects on and around the High Line. Founded in 2009, High Line Art presents a wide array of artwork including site-specific commissions, exhibitions, performances, video programs, and a series of billboard interventions. Curated by Cecilia Alemani, the Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art, and produced by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art invites artists to think of creative ways to engage with the uniqueness of the architecture, history, and design of the High Line and to foster a productive dialogue with the surrounding neighborhood and urban landscape.

Major support for High Line Art comes from Donald R. Mullen, Jr. and The Brown Foundation, Inc. of Houston, with additional support from Vital Projects Fund, Inc. High Line Art is supported, in part, with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the New York City Council and from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

ABOUT THE HIGH LINE AND FRIENDS OF THE HIGH LINE

The High Line is an elevated freight rail line transformed into a public park on Manhattan's West Side. It is owned by the City of New York, and maintained and operated by Friends of the High Line. Founded in 1999 by community residents, Friends of the High Line fought for the High Line's preservation and transformation at a time when the historic structure was under the threat of demolition. It is now the non-profit conservancy working with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation to make sure the High Line is maintained as an extraordinary public space for all visitors to enjoy. In addition to overseeing maintenance, operations, and public programming for the park, Friends of the High Line works to raise the essential private funds to support more than 90 percent of the park's annual operating budget, and to advocate for the transformation of the High Line at the Rail Yards, the third and final section of the historic structure, which runs between West 30th and West 34th Streets.

For further information on High Line Art, please visit art.thehighline.org.



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