



MEDIA CONTACT: Rachel Lake  
617-603-7738  
rlake@rosekennedygreenway.org

## The Greenway Conservancy Commissions Shara Hughes as New Greenway Wall Artist

### Sixth Mural in Dewey Square Park the Result of a Partnership with deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum

May 14, 2018 – BOSTON, MA – The non-profit Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy ([rosekennedygreenway.org](http://rosekennedygreenway.org)) today announced a partnership with [deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum](#) for a new mural installation by internationally acclaimed artist [Shara Hughes](#) for the Greenway Wall this spring. Hughes' mural, a landscape titled, *Carving Out Fresh Options*, is currently scheduled for installation from May 18-24, 2018, and will be The Greenway's sixth mural on the building at Dewey Square Park across from South Station.

*"Shara's new approach in abstracted landscapes are unique, yet familiar,"* said Lucas Cowan, Public Art Curator for the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy. *"She allows the viewers to step away from the ordinary and into a phantasmal vista of hyper-saturated brushstrokes and invented terrains."*

The annual installation of the 70' x 76' mural on the air-intake structure is an award-winning focal point in The Greenway's contemporary public art efforts. Previous Greenway Wall murals *Seven Moon Junction* by Shinique Smith (2014) and *The Giant of Boston* by Os Gemeos (2012) were recognized by the Public Art Network as among the best public artworks in the country.

Hughes, who paints imagined landscapes rendered in vivid, hallucinatory colors, will reinvent the mural again. Her work is a bold amalgam of experimental painting techniques and an ecstatic interpretation of the natural world that only exists in the viewers' mind. Hughes hopes that viewers realize it is a purely fictional space once they try to piece together the different ecologies, land formations, and unnatural color combinations.

This is Hughes' first large-scale mural. To create the work she painted a diptych canvas, which will be on view at deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum from May 2018 - May 2019. Her final painting offers steeply receding perspectives and curvilinear passages that contrast with the urban geometries of architecture and roadways that surround this façade. Hughes' vision will be executed by professionally-trained muralists, [Overall Murals](#). The mural brings to downtown Boston a catalytic combination of art and nature; an outlook that follows the central mission of deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum.

*"A standout of the celebrated 2017 Whitney Biennial, Shara Hughes has pioneered new paths in contemporary landscape painting,"* said John B. Ravenal, Executive Director at deCordova. *"We*



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*are delighted to present her exuberant work on a monumental scale at Dewey Square. Partnering with The Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy on this commission underscores our shared commitment to creating exceptional and accessible presentations of art outdoors for a broad public."*

Hughes' mural will be the latest piece of rotating public art on The Greenway. In early May, The Greenway announced its 2018 season of public art, entitled *GLOW*, of light-based artworks.

Hughes' contemporary landscape adds to the varied works exhibited on the Greenway Wall since 2012. The first mural, *The Giant of Boston* (2012), was a colorful sensation followed by Matthew Ritchie's abstract, black-and-white *Remanence: Salt and Light (Part II)* (2013). These murals were both in partnership with the Institute of Contemporary Art. Shinique Smith's colorful, abstract 2014 mural *Seven Moon Junction*, came from a partnership with the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. It was followed in 2015 by Lawrence Weiner's conceptual *A TRANSLATION FROM ONE LANGUAGE TO ANOTHER*, in partnership with the MIT List Visual Arts Center. The most recent mural, Mehdi Ghadyanloo's surrealistic *Spaces Of Hope*, was self-curated by the Greenway Conservancy.

"We're excited to have Shara's vibrant contemporary landscape be the introductory view of The Greenway and Boston for visitors and commuters through South Station," said Jesse Brackenbury, Executive Director for the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy. "The diversity of our commissioned artworks, combined with our 400 free events, help showcase a 21st Century Boston."

Hughes' mural is funded exclusively through competitive grants and private sources from Doris and Robert Gordon, The Barr Foundation, The Boston Foundation, deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, Citizens Bank, The Marr Companies, Jane and Neil Pappalardo, and Goulston & Storrs. Permitting for the mural is handled by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the City of Boston's Art Commission.

A press event will be held in front of the Dewey Square Mural on May 23rd from 3:30-5pm. Artist Shara Hughes, Greenway Conservancy Curator Lucas Cowan and deCordova Curator Sarah Montross will be available for interviews and questions.

### [About Shara Hughes](#)

Shara Hughes (b. 1981 in Atlanta) is a Brooklyn-based artist who studied at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine and the Rhode Island School of Design in Providence, where she received a BFA in 2004. Her paintings combine elements of landscape, still life, and figuration to dizzying effects. She has had solo exhibitions around the world including Marlborough Chelsea, New York; Gallery Met, Metropolitan Opera, Lincoln Center, New York;



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Museum of Contemporary Art, Atlanta; Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, Atlanta; American Contemporary, New York; Rivington Arms, New York; Museum 52, London; Metroquadro, Rivoli; and Galerie Mikael Andersen, Copenhagen. She has participated in group exhibitions at Jack Hanley Gallery, New York; Romer Young Gallery, San Francisco; Coburn Projects, London; Salon 94, New York; Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich; Gredier Contemporary, Zurich; the High Museum of Art, Atlanta; and the Whitney Biennial, among others. Hughes is best known for her playful brushstroke and bold color, balancing abstraction and representation. Hughes is represented by Rachel Uffner Gallery in New York and Galerie Eva Presenhuber in Zurich.

### **About deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum**

Established in 1950 and located just twenty miles west of Boston, [deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum](#) is dedicated to fostering the creation and exploration of contemporary sculpture and art through a dynamic slate of rotating exhibitions, innovative learning opportunities, a constantly changing thirty-acre landscape of large-scale, outdoor, modern and contemporary sculpture, and site-specific installations.

### **About The Greenway**

The Greenway is a contemporary public park in the heart of Boston that is entirely managed by the non-profit [Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy](#). The Conservancy's Public Art Program displays temporary exhibits of contemporary public art and is funded by competitive grants and private sources.

The Greenway Conservancy Public Art Program has in recent years commissioned major new works by Janet Echelman (*As If It Were Already Here*) and Lawrence Weiner (*A TRANSLATION FROM ONE LANGUAGE TO ANOTHER*) and featured a 12-piece traveling work by Ai Weiwei (*Circle of Animals/Zodiac Heads*). Matthew Hoffman's *MAY THIS NEVER END* (2016) was the Fourth Greenway commission in five years to be recognized by Americans for the Arts' Public Art Network as among the country's best. Past exhibitions can be viewed on [The Greenway's website](#).

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