

## **Greenway Conservancy Announces 2019 Public Art Exhibit, *The Auto Show***

*For The Greenway's 10th Anniversary, The Auto Show recalls the demolished elevated highway*

**April 25, 2019 – Boston, MA** – The [Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy](http://RoseKennedyGreenway.org) today announced The Greenway's 2019 Public Art exhibition, titled "The Auto Show". The installation will consist of both loaned and commissioned works by nationally & internationally-renowned artists that explore the form of the automobile and the imaginative qualities of construction and movement through ideas of transportation. A major augmented reality experience and works from Erwin Wurm, Chris Labrooy, and others will all be installed by the end of May.

The Auto Show will help mark this year's 10th anniversary of the non-profit Greenway Conservancy's care and management of The Greenway by leading visitors to reflect on the former elevated Central Artery and the history of site as a transportation corridor. The exhibition will feature engaging works in a wide variety of media that explore the ways in which our automobiles and highways reflect our communal history, values, and perceptions of the world, including:

- an exaggerated Porsche 924 shaped to resemble a UFO by renowned Austrian artist Erwin Wurm
- an outdoor photo exhibit featuring hyper-real impossible compositions of twisting and contorting vintage vehicles by Scottish computer generated image artist Chris Labrooy
- a field of kinetic works inspired by the patterns and symbols of transportation and street markings; exploring our relationship with the symbolism of the automobile and road by Texas artist Julie Libersat
- an illuminated stained glass artwork that acknowledge and celebrate nature's' approach to building/making/construction and how those aspects influence applications in the human built environment by mid-West Artist Karl Unnasch
- an augmented-reality installation, in partnership with Boston Cyberarts, exploring the themes of transportation and the automobile superimposed with views of The Greenway, combining the past, future, and the present
- a live demonstration of auto pinstriping to occur in August



Courtesy of Artist Erwin Wurm

These projects represent an array of contemporary, perspectives, and artistic styles, appealing to a wide range of audiences in this free, accessible, and outdoor exhibit that stretches across a five-block section of The Greenway (from High to North streets).

“This exhibit responds to the ever-changing nature of what once was a major transportation corridor through downtown Boston, and invites the public to conceive new possibilities in reinterpreting our shared civic spaces,” said Lucas Cowan, Greenway Public Art Curator. “Each of the artists in this exhibit brings a unique perspective on how transportation can reimagine and transform our unique cities for the betterment, by placing these works in the contemporary landscape that is now The Greenway.”

[Erwin Wurm](#) (Austria) manipulates the forms of automobiles, rendering them fat, bent, or slanted, often as critiques societal values. He will contribute a loaned work to the exhibition, *UFO* (2006), a once ordinary car, reshaped into the iconic bulbous disk of the classic Sci-Fi alien spaceship.

[Karl Unnasch](#) (MN), has created a series of public artworks that tell the stories of local communities by illuminating the windows and panels of agricultural and antique vehicles with intricate stained glass designs. For his Greenway commission, he will create a 3-dimensional piece, based on a red dump truck that acknowledges and celebrates construction workers and laborers that help build our beautiful cities, bridges and park systems. This smaller utility dump truck has stained glass imagery installed in the cab windows and out-facing pockets along the sides of the dump box. A cascade of backlit chunk glass has the appearance of being dumped out the back of the truck bringing to mind a whimsical narrative vestigial/ghostlike “path” or “road” that extends away from the back of the truck and elicits the possibilities of design and construction

[Julie Libersat](#) (TX), creates immersive, interactive environments that engage viewers and elucidate ways in which space is socially and culturally produced. Libersat’s artwork installation is based on an interactive miniature urban landscape Inspired from the patterns in streets and highways. The project seeks to engage pedestrians and drivers to reconsider the everyday landscape traversed on their commutes through and on roads. Infrastructure projects, such as the Big Dig, create major transformations in space, community and access. *No Direction* (2019) invites play and physical interaction into an already bustling area of the city, creating a space for community and reconsideration of the contemporary urban landscape and historic precedents.

[Chris Labrooy](#) (Scotland) uses computer-generated imagery (CGI) to subvert and twist cars into new sculptural forms in connection with city and suburban architecture and roadsides. His Greenway exhibition will feature the first ever outdoor photo exhibition of 18 oversized prints, including two commissioned works based on Boston’s Brutalist architecture.

Through a curatorial collaboration with [Boston Cyberarts](#) and [Hoverlay](#), three artists, [Will Pappenheimer](#) (NY), [John Craig Freeman](#) (MA) and [Nancy Baker Cahill](#) (MA), will create



MEDIA CONTACT: Rachel Lake  
617-603-7738; [rlake@rosekennedygreenway.org](mailto:rlake@rosekennedygreenway.org)

augmented reality installations, viewable through the use of a free app downloaded to a smartphone or tablet. Visitors will also be able to see historical streetscape elements from various points in time prior to the construction of The Greenway, superimposed on their view of the real world, seemingly exhibited on one of the lawns of the Greenway's formal North End gardens.

Installations will occur over the next six weeks. Chris Labrooy's work was installed this week and is visible between North and Hanover streets in the North End. Stay tuned for further information as each artist's work is installed.

"These installations truly celebrate The Greenway's transformation from an elevated highway to a contemporary public park," said Jesse Brackenbury, Executive Director of the Greenway Conservancy, "We invite our everyone to come explore these contemporary artworks while on The Greenway."

In addition, the Greenway Conservancy is excited to announce the early-May painting of the Greenway Wall mural by Dutch street and gallery artist, [SUPER A \(Stefan Thelen\)](#). Super A is known for his hyper-realistic and ethereal depictions of metaphorical narratives. Juxtaposing real and surreal figures, Super A's work creates a strong critique of global and social issues. His work confronts viewers with the challenge, or even facade, of individual liberty in the face of injustice and oppression.

The Auto Show and new Greenway Wall will complement other art on display. To celebrate the Year of Pig, the Greenway commissioned sculptor [Elliott Kayser](#) to create [eight delightfully realistic ceramic pigs](#) currently on view along the length of The Greenway. Boston-based [Mia Cross's mural, \*We the People II\*](#), celebrates and explores the diverse community that lives, works, and visits Boston's Leather District. Art on The Greenway is funded exclusively through competitive grants and private sources, including in 2019 from The Barr Foundation, The Boston Foundation, Goulston & Storrs, Robert & Doris Gordon, New England Foundation of the Arts, CV Properties LLC, and Oxford Properties.

The Conservancy's contemporary public art is just one element of all the The Greenway has to discover, from [over 450 FREE events](#), open air beer and wine gardens, seven unique water features, and more! Organic lawns and gardens invite visitors to unwind, the [Greenway Carousel at The Tiffany & Co. Foundation Grove](#) is spinning daily with a host of native New England creatures, and our [free Wi-Fi network](#) continues to stretch the entire 1.5 mile length of The Greenway.



MEDIA CONTACT: Rachel Lake  
617-603-7738; [rlake@rosekennedygreenway.org](mailto:rlake@rosekennedygreenway.org)

The Auto Show is part of a year-long celebration of the 10th Anniversary of The Greenway. Other initiatives include Greenway street pole banners from the North End to Chinatown, stretching the entire 1.5 mile length of the park for the first time. Additionally, 10,000 new bulbs are blooming in the Carolyn Lynch Garden, a new 7000 SF wildflower meadow has been planted, and the Conservancy has installed the first beehives in a Boston public park. Other initiatives will be announced this summer.

**About The Greenway and the Greenway Conservancy ([www.rosekennedygreenway.org](http://www.rosekennedygreenway.org))**

The Greenway is the contemporary public park in the heart of Boston. The Greenway welcomes millions of visitors annually to gather, play, unwind, and explore. The Greenway Conservancy is the non-profit responsible for the management and care of The Greenway. The majority of the public park's annual budget is generously provided by private sources.

The Greenway Conservancy Public Art Program brings innovative and contemporary art to Boston through free, seasonal exhibitions, engaging people in meaningful experiences, interactions, and dialogue with art and each other. Over the past 6 years The Greenway has been awarded 7 Public Art Network Awards through the Americans for the Arts, placing the Greenway Conservancy in a preeminent position among nonprofits. Past Greenway exhibitions can be viewed on [the Conservancy's website](#).

###