



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA NOW OFFERS A FREE SELF-TOUR GUIDE TO WORKS OF ART ALONG THE METRO BLUE LINE

Have you ever wanted to sit on a spool of thread, travel through a light painting, join a giant game of hide-n-seek, maybe explore the South Central Codex, or chill to Godzilla, ET, or The Creature from the Black Lagoon? These are just a few of the ways in which you can discover a wide range of unique and exciting public artworks along the 22-mile Metro Blue Line.

A new colorful guide to these works, printed in both Spanish and English, is now available free of charge at all MTA Customer Service Centers or by calling 213-922-4-ART.

"Art brings a touch of humanity to the Los Angeles transit system and enhances the quality of the transit experience for hundreds of thousands of commuters each day," said MTA Metro Art Director Maya Emsden. "While many transit agencies and cities have artwork in their transit systems, Los Angeles is renowned for the incredible range and diversity of its artists, the integration of artwork into the station designs, and its innovative community outreach efforts."

The free Art Guide, produced by the MTA Metro Art Department, is designed to encourage and help people explore the various works of art located at stations along the Metro Blue Line.

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"We sought to capture the energy and talents of the Los Angeles creative community and to employ them in the development of the transit system," said Emsden. "There is something for everyone and plenty to provoke discussion along the way!"

Those who use the self-tour art guide will find a wide range of artistic styles that include abstract, figurative, and conceptual, as well as photographic imagery, mosaic, fiber-optics, and written text employed by nationally renowned as well as locally emerging artists.

The guide to public art on the Metro Blue Line is the first in a series of guides to artwork in the Metro Rail system. The guides are being produced in response to the overwhelming demand for tours and information on the artwork.

In addition, MTA Metro Art is also seeking volunteers interested in leading tours of MTA public art projects. Volunteers will be educated on various aspects of the agency's public art program including its history and role in the Los Angeles public transit system, the extensive and innovative community outreach efforts, the artist selection process, and biographical information on the artists. Those interested in volunteering can call MTA Metro Art at 213-922-2720.

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EDITORS NOTE: Photographs in black and white and color are available showing various art works at stations along the Metro Blue Line.

To request photographs, please contact Rick Jager, MTA Media Relations at (213) 922-2707.