

BravinLee Programs :: Offsite



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Why Public Art

Public art engages visitors when they least expect it. We are inspired by this element of surprise, where art meets viewers in their own world. Publicly sited art is crucial to a community's sense of well-being. By making it available and accessible, we are doing positive things for culture and community. BravinLee responds to all types of art that engage the wider public from individual sculptures to the more interactive and experiential. Social media has amplified the public art experience. Visitors insert themselves into the frame and the attention they pay to it in real time brings virtual viewers from all over to the site.

Public art educates, activates, entertains, enlivens and brings together community. It enhances a sense of place, and leads to conversation and communication.

Installation View: *Inhabiting Ten Eyck*

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About BravinLee Programs Offsite

Karin Bravin and John Post Lee run BravinLee programs. They specialize in public art installations, art advising, exhibition curation and the production of artist hand-knotted rugs. They work with established as well as emerging contemporary artists.

Bravin and Lee work hand-in-hand with clients to make their vision a reality. They tell their clients it isn't only what you think you are looking for, but what you hope to accomplish.

Karin Bravin focuses exclusively on BravinLee's off site program and is dedicated to producing ambitious and thought-provoking public projects. Bravin has extensive expertise in site-specific installations and large-scale public projects. She maintains a comprehensive inventory of artist proposals and completed projects. She has the vision to take an artist who works in 2D and help them dream bigger, scale up and translate their work to something suitable for the public. She can assist with cutting edge fabrication and sourcing materials whether it is steel, bronze, painted aluminum, 3D printed plastic or printed vinyl, as well as less traditional materials. Bravin responds to all types of art

Installation View: *Four Currents*, Painted Aluminum

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that engages the wider public, from individual sculptures to the more interactive and experiential and she has the vision to bring distinctive works to variety of environments. A large featureless wall can be transformed into a site-specific digital projection artwork. A darkened alleyway can be home for a light sculpture. An overlook might be the perfect spot for an augmented reality project. A long corridor can be the location for a sound installation.

Bravin has thirty years of logistical, managerial, and curatorial expertise. She visits sites, presents artists and visual concepts, works within limitations, prepares and revises timelines, oversees budgets, sources material, and manages projects from beginning to end. In 2006 and again in 2021 Bravin curated and produced elaborate three-month exhibitions of several art installations in Riverside Park for **The Riverside Park Conservancy** and **New York City Parks Department**. The projects were sited in unexpected places: under tunnels, on baseball backstops, in the Hudson River, and along the meandering paths. She selected the artists, worked with them to find their sites, sourced fabricators and researched different substrates. She created and successfully met the budget, fundraised for the project, secured a catalog donation, met with community boards and garnered great press. In 2021 Bravin created **Installation View: Efflorescence**, Lewes, DE

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community engagement programming in the park that included lectures, art classes, tours and performances.

From 2009 to 2013 Bravin was the consultant for the **Downtown Alliance**, where she selected and oversaw several art projects in lower Manhattan. The project, Re: Construction, was a ground-breaking initiative that helped transform unsightly construction barriers in the Wall Street area into large scale artworks.

Currently, Bravin is the curator and consultant for **The Public Arts Commission, Lewes, Delaware** where she has been helping to develop a comprehensive program that includes multiple art destinations. Since 2016, Bravin has been on the arts advisory committee for **The Stirner Arts Trail, Easton, Pennsylvania**, where she is currently co-curating a biennial exhibition about climate and ecology. She was instrumental in bringing ten pieces by artist Rachel B. Hayes to the trail in 2018.

Among many of her other projects, Bravin facilitated bringing Michael Somoroff's large scale sculpture to the grounds of the **Rothko Chapel**, worked with The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to bring artist Woolpunk's work to the transit lobby of 2 World Trade Center, **Installation View: Rhoman Votive Statue (Lisa)**, Reinforced Concrete

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curated several large-scale installations for an alternative space during **Bushwick Open Studios**, and curated multiple installations in the gallery and on the grounds of **Lehman College**, Bronx, New York.

Bravin has extensive knowledge of the contemporary art world, having worked at top galleries and museums since 1986, including White Columns, The Metropolitan Museum, Venice Biennale, Mary Boone Gallery, Tony Shafrazi Gallery, and Lang and O'Hara Gallery before opening her own space in 1991. Karin Bravin is a native New Yorker and a graduate of Dartmouth College.

Installation View: *Invasives*, Mountain Dew Bottles, Riverside Park

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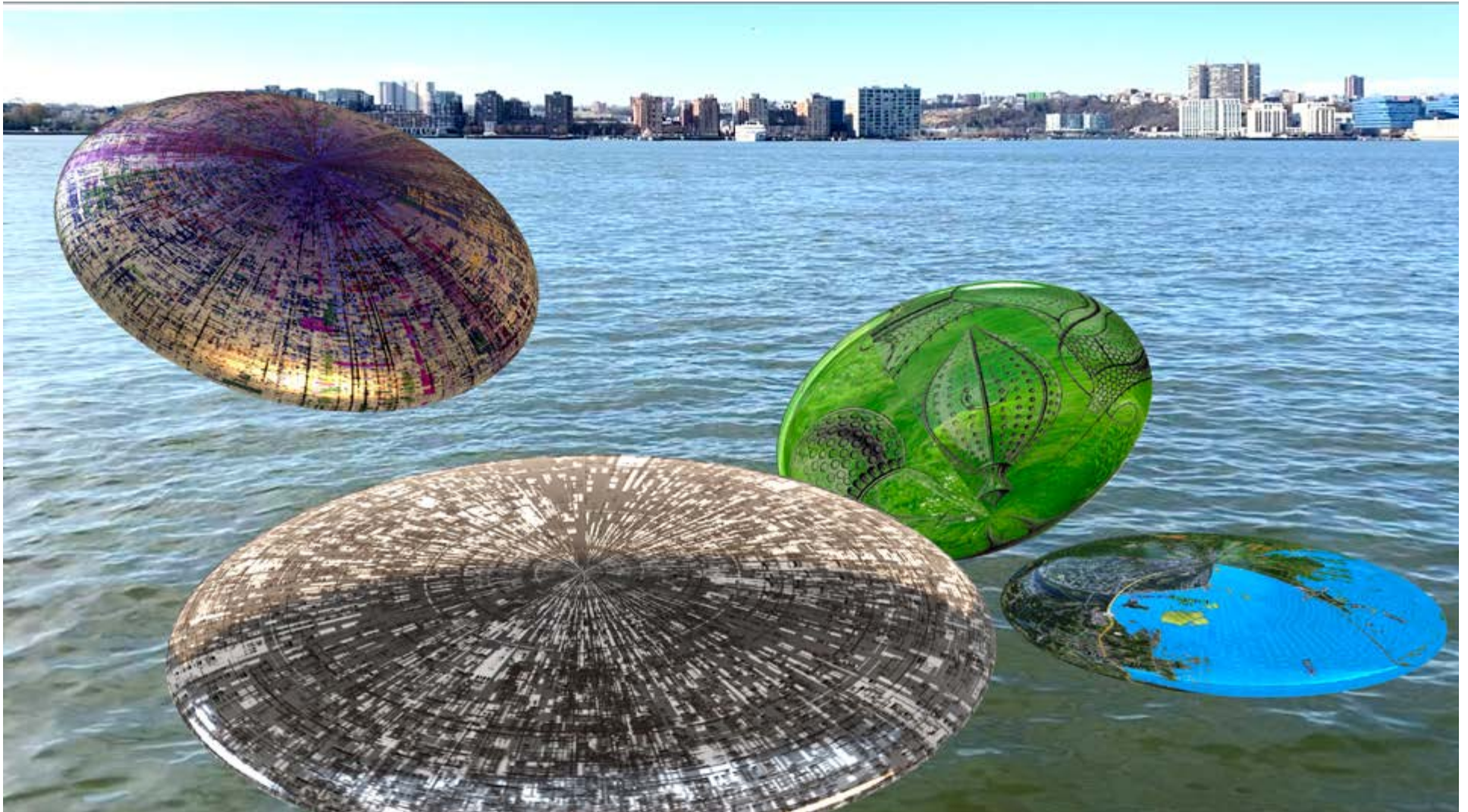
Installation View: *Riverside Park Conservancy*, Corten Steel

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Installation View: Hudson Beach, Foam, Polyurathane, Paint, Resin

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Installation View: *Upstream Down Stream*, Augmented Reality

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Installation View: *Moynehan Station*, 3D Printed Environmental Sculpture

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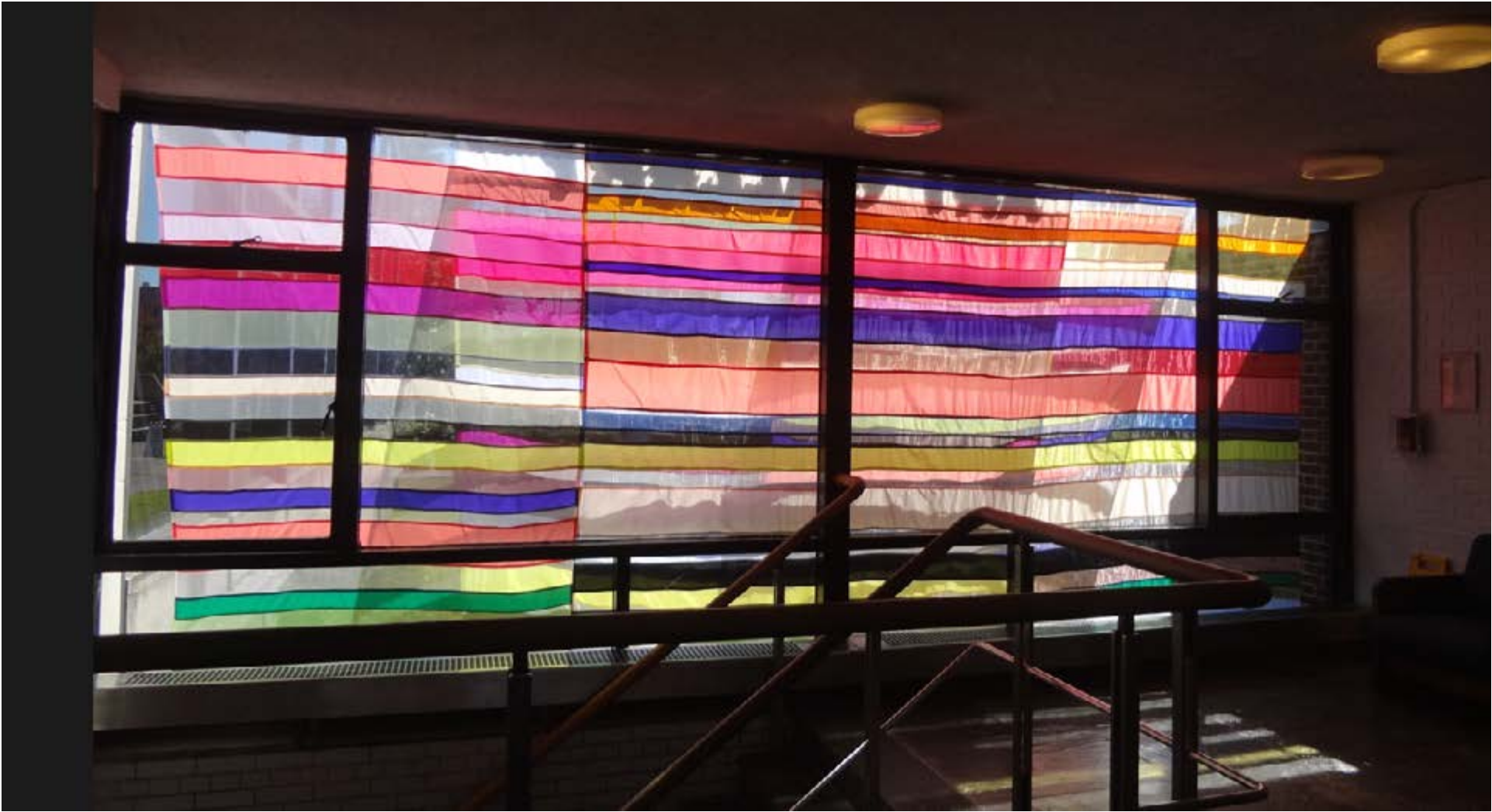
Installation View: *Studio In The Park*, Rock Climbing Rope

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Installation View: NYC Parks, Hand Dyed zip ties

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Installation View: *Lehman College*

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Installation View: 2 World Trade Center, Mixed media stitched onto vinyl

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Installation View: *Downtown Alliance BID*, Construction Barriers

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Installation View: Floating Opera Performance, Hudson River

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Installation View: NYC Parks, Wood, canvas, clay; Skate Park



Selected Press

[The New York Times](#), Art Blooms Alongside Nature in Riverside Park, June 3, 2021

[Gothamist](#), Riverside Park Unveiling Public Art This Summer, March

[Domus Web](#), With Re:Growth, New York Art Gallery Restarts Outdoors, July 2021

[West Side Rag](#), Riverside Park Offers Miles of Outdoor Art This summer That Surprises and Belongs, June 20, 2021

[The Morning Call](#), Artist Rachel Hayes Hangs 1000 yards of Fabric Along Karl Stirner Arts Trail in Easton, August 15, 2018

[The New York Times](#), Fuzzy Thinking Artist Designed Rugs, October 4, 2018

[Flavorwire](#), Exclusive Q & A With the Re:Construction Initiative's Karin Bravin, August 19, 2009

[New York Times](#), Bringing Whimsy to Construction Sites, January 14, 2010

[Hyperallergic](#), Adventures During Bushwick Open Studios, June 1 2014

[The Riverdale Press](#), Artistic Invasion of Lehman College Life, October 10, 2012

[The New York Times](#), In Riverside Park The Arts In Bloom, May 5, 2006

[The Hudson Reporter](#), HCCC Director of Cultural Affairs Commemorates 911, 12/2021

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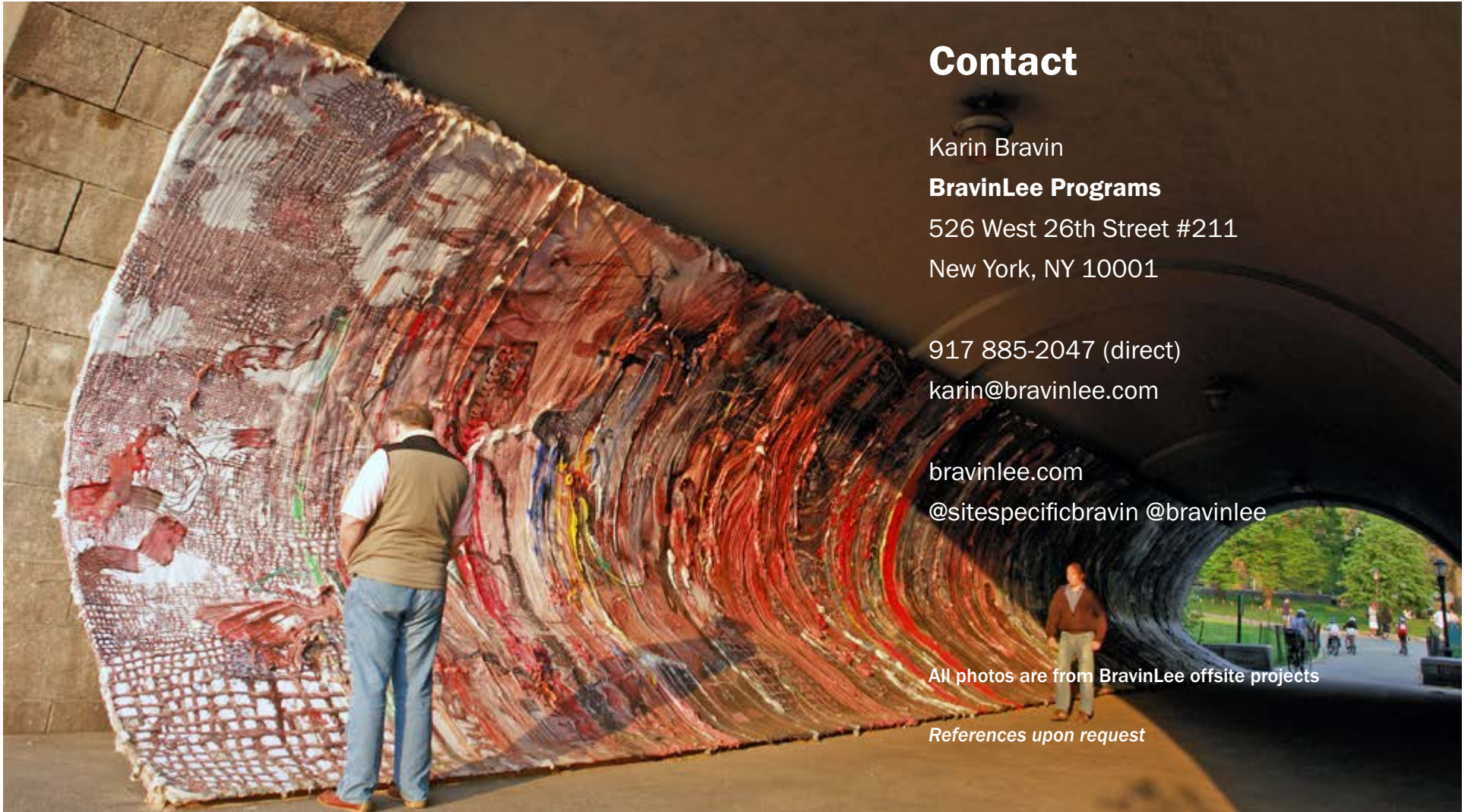
Things to Consider

- Temporary or permanent installation
- Overall budget
- Duration of show
- Scale of show
- Rotating exhibition or several works simultaneously
- Indoor or outdoor projects
- Style and visual approach
- Security
- Maintenance
- Educational and cultural programming

And always, safety

Installation View: *145th Street at Riverbank State Park*

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All photos are from BravinLee offsite projects

References upon request

Installation View: *Riverside Park Conservancy*