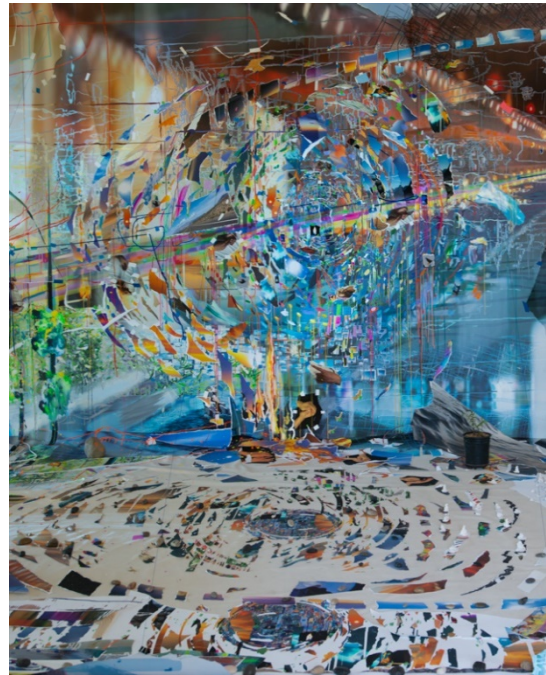


STORM KING ART CENTER

STORM KING ART CENTER TO UNVEIL TWO NEW ARTWORKS BY SARAH SZE

A permanent sculptural commission, *Fallen Sky*, will be inaugurated in tandem with *Fifth Season*, a multimedia installation conceived especially for Storm King's Museum Building

**Sarah Sze, *Fallen Sky* and *Fifth Season*
On view beginning June 26, 2021**



From left to right: (1) *Fallen Sky* (in progress) by Sarah Sze, 2021. © Sarah Sze Studio. Courtesy of Storm King Art Center. (2) *Fifth Season* (in progress) by Sarah Sze, 2021. © Sarah Sze Studio. Courtesy of Storm King Art Center.

New Windsor, NY, May 26, 2021—Storm King Art Center will unveil a permanent, site-specific commission by American artist Sarah Sze on view starting June 26th. *Fallen Sky* joins a historic series of site-specific commissions for Storm King's permanent collection, which also includes works by Maya Lin, Andy Goldsworthy, Isamu Noguchi, and Richard Serra, among others.

To inaugurate the commission, a special exhibition including a new, site-specific installation from the artist, entitled *Fifth Season*, will be on view in Storm King's Museum Building through November 8, 2021. Together, the exhibition and permanent commission explore landscape as both idea and aesthetic practice, building on the artist's ongoing preoccupation with themes of entropy, temporality, and subjectivity.

The permanent commission *Fallen Sky* consists of a 36-foot-diameter spherical cavity emerging from the earth—its mirrored stainless-steel surface reflecting its surroundings. The location of the sculpture—in a hollow near the base of Museum Hill, just below Storm King's 1935 Normandy-style Museum Building—was chosen by the artist in consultation with Storm King's curatorial team. Sited with consideration of both its immediate surroundings and distant views, the work is made up of 132 individual elements with reflective surfaces of mirror-polished stainless steel that are nestled into the hillside.

Sze described the ever-changing work as “filmic,” due to its dynamic nature and ability to reflect the passing time and seasons surrounding it. *Fallen Sky* collapses the horizon line by pulling the earth and air toward each other. Instead of marking the landscape, the work is visually merged with the landscape, reflecting and embedded in its surroundings. While looking at *Fallen Sky* and the natural environment around it, viewers simultaneously experience what is above: passing clouds and birds and variations in light, weather, season, and even the time of day.

The model for *Fallen Sky* was created through a process of erosion; the resulting work appears as a ruin, frozen in a state of partial deterioration. The sculpture, Sze said, “teeters between two extremes,” exploring the tension between material permanence and ephemerality. *Fallen Sky* conveys a sense of entropy, suggesting that the Earth is fragile and a place in flux.

Nora Lawrence, Senior Curator at Storm King, said: “*Fallen Sky* shares with other works in Storm King’s collection a grand scale and a union with nature, while also moving in a new and specific direction: toward ethereality and a deep responsiveness to subtle environmental change. *Fallen Sky* challenges the very idea of monumental sculpture.”

To accompany her outdoor commission, Sze has created an immersive, multimedia installation, running 50 feet in length and specifically designed to create an interior landscape as a visual portal within the museum. The work, *Fifth Season*, considers landscape as a timeless preoccupation of artists. In preparation, Sze studied the light in the gallery space using time-lapse cameras and projected the recordings onto the canvas, capturing momentary projections of light in paint. Projectors installed in the gallery layer the light recordings onto the painting, which visitors will experience alongside natural light filtering through the gallery’s windows. The effect is an interplay of natural light, video, images, and paint that calls attention to the ways in which we perceive and interpret nature.

Light and shadow process across painted surfaces in filmic sequences. A collage of fused images, photographs, and projections evokes landscapes of the interior, ones created through memories, imaginations, impressions, and reflections. Gleaning objects and images from worlds both physical and digital, Sze assembles them into this complex multimedia work that shifts scale between microscopic observation and macroscopic perspectives. A bricoleur, Sze moves across various media spanning sculpture, painting, drawing, printmaking, video, and installation while addressing the precarious nature of materiality.

Fifth Season refuses the impulse to present the natural world as comforting, coherent, or certain. Sze’s epic panorama gives a fractal view of nature and its beauty. The landscape appears to be reflective of the constant disorientation and reorientation one feels in nature, shifting between vast physical surroundings and small, individual moments of meaning.

Both *Fallen Sky* and *Fifth Season* are about the behavior of landscape—entropy, growth, transformation—not the representation of landscape. “The works reflect on the relationship of the human figure to nature as one that is fragile, in flux, and deeply intertwined” said Sze.

John P. Stern, President of Storm King, said: “Sarah Sze is one of the most important artists of our time. It has been a joy to work with her and to hear her speak of her many inspirations that led her to create *Fallen Sky*. Earth, sky, and sculpture are core to what makes Storm King unique and ever-evolving—and *Fallen Sky* will be beautifully linked to that tradition. We’re thrilled to unveil Sarah’s site-specific commission for Storm King’s permanent collection, as well as the captivating installation *Fifth Season*, in our Museum Building.”

Sarah Sze, *Fallen Sky* and *Fifth Season* are organized by Nora Lawrence, Senior Curator; David Collens, Director and Chief Curator; and Adela Goldsmith, Curatorial Assistant. Landscape architects RKLA worked in tandem with Storm King’s Facilities team, led by Mike Seaman, and the sculpture *Fallen Sky* was fabricated at UAP Foundry in Rock Tavern, NY. Capital support was provided by Market New York through I LOVE NY/ New York State’s Division of Tourism as part of the Regional Economic Development Council initiative.

-ENDS-

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Sarah Sze

Sarah Sze's immersive works challenge the static nature of art. Her work questions the way in which images and objects both ascribe meaning to the places and times we inhabit. Widely recognized for expanding the boundaries between painting, sculpture, video, and installation, Sze's work ranges from intimate paintings that collapse time and space to expansive installations that create complex constellations of materials and public works that scale walls and colonize architectures.

Sze represented the United States at the Venice Biennale in 2013, and was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship in 2003 and a Radcliffe Fellowship in 2005. Sze's works have exhibited in museums worldwide and are held in the permanent collections of prominent institutions, including The Museum of Modern Art, the Guggenheim Museum, and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; The Fondation Cartier, Paris; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles. Recent institutional exhibitions include *Infinite Line*, Asia Society Museum, New York (2011); *Sarah Sze: Fixed Points Finding a Home*, Mudam, Luxembourg (2012); *Triple Point*, United States Pavilion, 55th Biennale di Venezia (2013, traveled to Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, in 2014); Fabric Workshop and Museum, Philadelphia (2013); 56th Biennale di Venezia (2015); 5th Guangzhou Triennial, China (2015); *Sarah Sze: Timekeeper*, Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA (2016, traveled to Copenhagen Contemporary, Denmark, in 2017); ARoS Triennial, Aarhus, Denmark (2017); *Centrifuge*, Haus der Kunst, Munich (2017), and *Day into Night* (2020), The Fondation Cartier, Paris. Sze has conceived major public commissions, including for the Seattle Opera House and The Metropolitan Transportation Authority and The High Line in New York City. In June 2020, commissioned by LaGuardia Gateway Partners in partnership with Public Art Fund, Sze completed *Shorter than the Day* for LaGuardia Airport's Terminal B in New York City.

Sze received a BA from Yale University in Connecticut in 1991 and an MFA from New York's School of Visual Arts in 1997. Born in Boston in 1969, Sze presently lives and works in New York.

Project Support

The *Sarah Sze: Fallen Sky* commission and exhibition are made possible by generous major support from Janet Benton and David Schunter, Gagolian, Girlfriend Fund, Agnes Gund, the Hazen Polsky Foundation, the Ohnell Family Foundation, Thomas A. and Georgina T. Russo, and VIA Art Fund. Lead support is provided by Anonymous (2), Roberta and Steven Denning, the Ohnell Charitable Lead Trust, Samuel Freeman Charitable Trust, the Speyer Family Foundation Inc., Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, and Victoria Miro.

Additional lead support provided by Market New York through I LOVE NY/ New York State's Division of Tourism as part of the Regional Economic Development Council initiative.

About Site-Specific Commissions for Storm King's Permanent Collection

Storm King's site-specific commission program for its permanent collection has been active since 1972, with the commission of David von Schlegell's *Untitled*, followed by Robert Grosvenor's *Untitled* in 1974, and Patricia Johanson's *Nostoc II* in 1975. In 1977, Storm King's Founding Chair, H. Peter Stern, invited Isamu Noguchi to create a sculpture for the collection. The result was Noguchi's *Momo Taro*, completed in 1978. Other highlights of site-specific commissions for the permanent collection include Richard Serra's *Schunnemunk Fork* (1991), Andy Goldworthy's *Storm King Wall* (1998), and Maya Lin's *Storm King Wavefield* (2008).

About Storm King Art Center

Storm King Art Center is a 500-acre outdoor museum located in New York's Hudson Valley, where visitors experience large-scale sculpture and site-specific commissions under open sky. Since 1960, Storm King has been dedicated to stewarding the hills, meadows, and forests of its site and surrounding landscape. Building on the visionary thinking of its founders, Storm King supports artists and some of their most ambitious works. Changing exhibitions, programming, and seasons offer discoveries with every visit.

Website: stormking.org

Instagram: [@StormKingArtCenter](https://www.instagram.com/StormKingArtCenter) | **Facebook:** [Storm King Art Center](https://www.facebook.com/StormKingArtCenter) | **Twitter:** [@StormKingArtCtr](https://twitter.com/StormKingArtCtr)

2021 Season

April 7, 2021 – December 12, 2021

Opening Hours

Wednesday – Monday (closed Tuesdays)
10AM – 5:30PM

Member Mornings: Sundays 9AM – 10AM

Discounted Admission

Storm King is pleased to offer discounted admission for the 2021 season to the following visitors. Tickets using these discounts must be reserved by phone: 845.534.3115.

- Frontline healthcare professionals (doctors, nurses, hospital staff, EMTs, paramedics)
- Active military and their family via the Blue Star Program (May 15 – September 6 only)
- SNAP participants/EBT cardholders via Museums for All
- Storm King Partner School students, families, and educators
- Modern and Contemporary Reciprocal Membership Program (Mod/Co)
- American Association of Museum (AAM) Members
- International Committee of Museums (ICOM)
- Staff of other museums

Visitor Health & Safety

- Visitors are required to wear a mask/face covering during ticket processing, when interacting with Storm King staff, inside the Museum Building and restrooms, and in outdoor areas where a 6-foot distance cannot be maintained, such as narrow pathways, the elevator, and in the bike rental area.
- Some amenities remain on pause, including tram service and access to the on-site Museum Store.
- Guided tours and group visits remain suspended due to distancing guidelines.

Advance tickets are required. All ticket reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis and entry will not be permitted without an advance reservation. For the most up-to-date information on ticket availability, amenities, and hours, please visit stormking.org/visit.

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Press Visits

Advance reservations are required for all visitors to Storm King, including members of the media. Accredited members of the media may contact FITZ & CO to request a reservation. Please include your first and last name, phone number, media title and position, as well as details on any planned coverage as a result of your visit. If coverage is not currently planned, please provide some examples of recent, relevant articles as they appear in a media outlet or a valid press ID.