

The Artist and the Subway

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Abstract

For both the visitor and native, the geography of New York City can be challenging to navigate. Literally divided into dozens of islands, with its only mainland connection via The Bronx, the Five Boroughs present different kinds of landmasses that for millions daily are lived in, visited, escaped from, transited, and utilized. Not only has the Subway System become a key aspect and symbol of New York's culture, the Subway has also become infamous on a national scale. Uniting all since the early 1900's has been the Subway System, which continues to inspire, frustrate, challenge, alienate and envelop modern artists of every kind to his day. The Subway System has been depicted and interpreted in countless ways to communicate its promise, aesthetic, democratic spirit, kinetics and, of course, connectivity. Postwar artists Yoko Ono, Ellie Kayu Ng, Keith Haring, and James Yang have all been inspired by it in different ways.

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