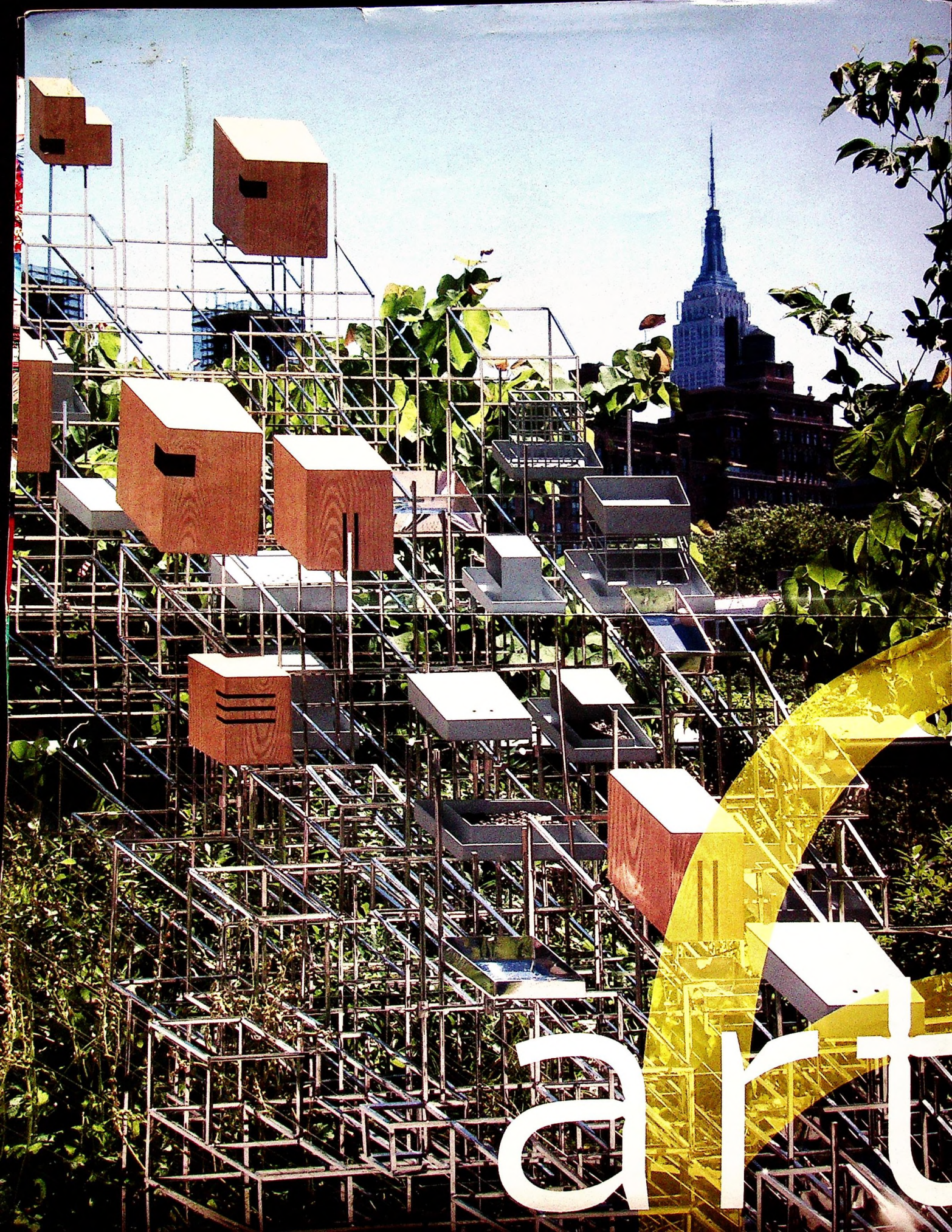




art



21

ART IN THE TWENT





TY-FIRST CENTURY



art21

Art21 is a non-profit organization

that illuminates the creative process of today's visual artists through the production of documentary films, interpretive media, and live programs that stimulate critical reflection as well as conversation. Art21 offers an independent, behind-the-scenes point of view on contemporary art and artists, producing historically relevant primary source materials of the highest quality, exemplified by the Peabody Award-winning documentary series, *Art in the Twenty-First Century*, now in its sixth season on PBS. Based in New York City but with a global reach on television and online, Art21's additional projects include the film series *New York Close Up* and *Exclusive*; the feature film *William Kentridge: Anything Is Possible*; workshops for teachers; public screenings and lectures; publications; and a blog and social media initiatives.

Executive Director/Series Executive Producer: Susan Solimine
Director, Curator: Susan Solimine
Managing Director/Series Producer: Eve Moros Ortega
Associate Curator: Wesley Miller
Director, Art21 Educators: Jessica Hamlin
Senior Education Advisor: Joe Fossard
Manager of Digital Media and Strategy: Jonathan Murai
Director of Development: Diane Vivona
Development Assistant: Heather Reyes
Development Associate: KC Forcier
Director of Production: Nick Ravich
Associate Producer: Ian Forster
Blog Editor: Claudine Ish

Art21 Series Contributors:
Consulting Directors: Charles Atlas, Catherine Tate
Series Editors: Lizzie Donahue, Mark Sutton

Major underwriting for Season Six of *Art in the Twenty-First Century* was provided by: the National Endowment for the Arts, the Public Broadcasting Service, Agnes Gund, Bloomberg, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, The Broad Art Foundation, the Japan Foundation, and Toby Devan Lewis. Additional funding was provided by members of the Art21 Producers Circle: Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Inc., James Cohan Gallery, The Pace Gallery, David Teiger, Lühring Augustine, The Greenwich Collection, The Robert Lehman Foundation, Andrea Rosen Gallery, Jack Shorrman Gallery, and Suzanne Weimert-Lee Los Angeles Projects.

Art21 Education and Public Programs Advisory Council: Christen Baker, YMCA of the USA, Laura Belles, Museum of Modern Art, Susan Chun, Cultural Heritage Consulting, William Crow, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Dotti Davis, New York University, Rosanna Flores, Educational Consultant, Tyler Green, Modern Art Notes Media, Olivia Guille, University of Illinois at Chicago, Jeanne Hoel, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, Elise Lertz, NYU, Kate Morgan, Private School Park Project, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Alan Tan, Southwest, Peter Vukobratovic

Education and Public Programs

www.art21.org | blog.art21.org | www.pbs.org/art21

Get Involved

Screenings

Art21 Access '12: Host a preview event for Art21's sixth broadcast season. Art21 offers preview DVDs and a screening toolkit containing a screening guide and publicity materials. Museums, schools, community-based organizations, libraries, cultural centers, and individuals are encouraged to host free events, inspire new audiences to engage with contemporary art, and alert local communities about the Spring 2012 PBS broadcast.

Independent Screenings: Art21 provides screening toolkits for every thematic episode presented in its six broadcast seasons. Toolkits support individual and institutional screening and discussion forums.

For more information about hosting a screening contact outreach@art21.org

Educator Workshops

Art21 Educators: A yearlong professional development initiative designed to cultivate and support K-12 educators interested in bringing contemporary art, artists, and themes into their classrooms.

Art21 Workshops: Art21 also presents workshops for teachers in partnership with schools, school districts, and museums. Workshops introduce multimedia resources and related strategies for bringing contemporary art, artists, and themes into classroom and community learning.

For more information about Art21 Educators and Art21 Workshops visit www.art21.org/teach/participate

Facebook, Twitter

Stay in touch with Art21 and join our active online communities. Tell us what you think, and share your ideas, artwork, and events on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.

Media

Online

www.art21.org The Art21 Web site presents original Art21 videos, full episodes of the PBS series, artist projects, editorial content, and educational resources. A stand-alone resource featuring more than 100 artists, hundreds of video clips and artist interviews, thousands of photographs of artwork and production stills, and interactive resources for educators, the Art21 Web site is a growing archive of multimedia content focused on contemporary art and artists.

blog.art21.org The Art21 Blog is a dynamic site presenting daily artist updates, weekly columns, exclusive videos, in-depth discussion features, art education, and much more.

www.pbs.org/art21 Art21 on PBS.org chronicles the television series, *Art in the Twenty-First Century*. The site presents the complete episodes of the PBS series and downloadable Educators' Guides for each season.

www.art21.org/films Beyond the television series, Art21 produces *New York Close Up*, an online documentary series that explores the lives of young artists living in New York City; *Exclusive*, a video series presenting singular aspects of an artist's process, significant individual works and exhibitions, provocative ideas, and biographical anecdotes; and film specials such as the Peabody Award-winning film *William Kentridge: Anything Is Possible*. Art21 videos can also be seen on Vimeo, iTunes, ArtBabble, Blip.tv, YouTube, Netflix, and Hulu platforms.

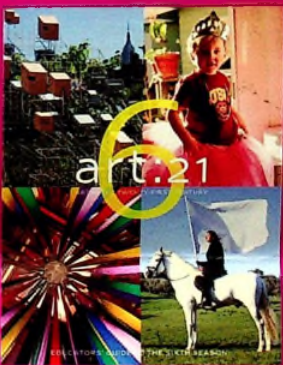
Audio/Visual

The *Art in the Twenty-First Century* television series is available on DVD from PBS Video and Davis Publications. To order from PBS, call 1-800-PLAY-PBS (1-800-752-9727) or visit www.shoppbs.org. To order from Davis Publications, call 1-800-533-2847 or visit www.davispub.com.

Print

Educators' Guides

A FREE 32-page Educators' Guide accompanies each season of the PBS series. Guides are designed as a resource for planning lessons, facilitating discussions, introducing related video content, and supporting further research and exploration of contemporary art and artists. Educators can use Art21 videos, Educators' Guides, and Web sites in tandem to integrate contemporary art into classroom learning and community dialogue.



Companion Books

Art21's richly illustrated companion books mirror series themes and artist interviews. Art21 books are available on www.art21.org and where books are sold.



season six

Where: Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) television stations nationwide

When: Premieres April 13, 20, 27, & May 4, 2012. Check local listings for dates & times.

Web Sites: www.art21.org | www.pbs.org/art21 | blog.art21.org

art:21

Contemporary art is relevant to all audiences, providing teachers and students with a rich resource through which to consider current ideas and rethink the familiar. The artists featured in the Art21 series demonstrate the breadth of artistic practice today and reveal a wealth of intergenerational and multicultural talent. Art21 presents artists speaking directly to the audience, and empowers educators, students, and

general audiences to articulate their own interpretations and ideas about art.

Four Themes

Each one-hour program has been loosely organized around a broad category, theme, or concept that can help audiences analyze, compare, contrast, and juxtapose the artists profiled.

Balance

Rackstraw Downes born 1939, Kent, England

Robert Mangold born 1937, North Tonawanda, New York

Sarah Sze born 1969, Boston, Massachusetts

In what ways can art convey equilibrium or disequilibrium? What is reality? How do artists perceive and express it? This episode features artists whose works explore the distinctions between balance and imbalance, and demonstrate that the smallest change in a line, a formal element, or a structure can be a radical proposition.

Often described as a realist, **Rackstraw Downes** prefers not to use that term. He views the act of seeing and the art of representation as culturally taught, with different cultures accepting different delineations of the world as realistic. With minimal means and classical restraint, **Robert Mangold** translates the most basic of formal elements—shape, line, and color—into paintings, prints, and drawings whose simplicity of form expresses complex ideas. **Sarah Sze** builds her installations and intricate sculptures from the minutiae of everyday life, imbuing mundane materials, marks, and processes with surprising significance.

Boundaries

David Altmejd born 1974, Montreal, Canada

assume vivid astro focus formed 2001, New York, New York

Lynda Benglis born 1941, Lake Charles, Louisiana

Tabaimo born 1975, Hyogo, Japan

Who and what limits our freedom of expression? In what ways do cultural differences affect our understanding of art and other forms of communication? How do an artist's process and choice of medium affect our perception of his or her work? This episode features artists who synthesize disparate aesthetic traditions, present taboo subject matter, discover innovative uses of media, and explore the shape-shifting potential of the human figure.

David Altmejd's sculptures, suffused with ornament, blur distinctions between interior and exterior, surface and structure, representation and abstraction. The collective **assume vivid astro focus** fuses sculpture, video, drawing, and performance into carnivalesque installations in which gender, politics, and cultural codes float freely. Sculptor **Lynda Benglis's** radical and pioneering invention of new forms with unorthodox techniques contains within it a reverence for cultural references that trace back to antiquity. **Tabaimo's** drawings and video installations



History

Marina Abramović born 1946, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Glenn Ligon born 1960, Bronx, New York

Mary Reid Kelley born 1979, Greenville, South Carolina

How do artists mine the past to explore the present? Why do some historical events shape the way we think today, and why have some been forgotten? In what ways do artists use their own histories to examine the human condition? In this episode, artists play with historical events, explore and expose commonly held assumptions about historic 'truth', and create narratives based on personal experiences.

A pioneer of performance as a visual art form, **Marina Abramović** has used her body as both subject and medium of her performances, testing her physical, mental, and emotional limits (and often pushing beyond them) in a quest for heightened consciousness, transcendence, and self-transformation. Painter and sculptor **Glenn Ligon** examines American identity through found sources—literature, Afrocentric coloring books, photographs—to reveal the ways in which the history of slavery, the civil rights movement, and sexual politics inform our understanding of contemporary society. In striking black-and-white videos and drawings filled with punning wordplay, **Mary Reid Kelley** presents her take on the clash between utopian ideologies and the realities of women's lives in the struggle for liberation and through political strife, wars, and other historical events.

probe unsettling themes of isolation, contagion, and instability that seem to lurk beneath daily existence in contemporary Japan.

Change

Ai Weiwei born 1957, Beijing, China

El Anatsui born 1944, Anyako, Ghana

Catherine Opie born 1961, Sandusky, Ohio

How do artists respond to a world in flux? In what ways do artists act as agents of change, and what kinds of aesthetic choices do they make to express it? This episode features artists who bear witness, through their work, to transformation—cultural, material, and aesthetic—and actively engage communities as collaborators and subjects.

Ai Weiwei infuses his sculptures, photographs, and public artworks with personal poetry and political conviction, often making use of recognizable and historic Chinese art forms in critical examinations of a host of contemporary Chinese social and political issues. In sculptures of clay, wood, and metal **El Anatsui** uses and explores materials and formal elements that relate to his aesthetic and cultural environment, exemplifying change and revealing the eternal cycle of all things—destruction, transformation, and regeneration. Working between conceptual and documentary approaches to image making, **Catherine Opie** investigates the ways in which photographs both document and give voice to social phenomena in America today.

season six

Viewing the PBS Series www.pbs.org/art21

Off-Air Taping Rights: Season Six premieres on PBS nationwide, April 13, 20, 27, and May 4, 2012. All four episodes can be recorded at the time of broadcast and used for educational purposes at no cost for one year from the date of first broadcast. Check your local PBS listings for exact dates and times.

Season Six DVDs: Spring 2012 Season Six DVDs are available from PBS Video and Davis Publications.

The Season Six episodes will also be available online.

Educators' Guide www.art21.org/guides

The Season Six Educators' Guide is FREE, available in early April 2012.

Host a Preview Event www.art21.org/access

To learn more about hosting a free preview event, please visit www.art21.org/access, or send an email with your contact information to access@art21.org

Companion Book www.art21.org/books

Art:21—Art in the Twenty-First Century 6 is the sixth volume in the series of Art21 companion books, available Spring 2012 on www.art21.org, and where books are sold.

Poster, clockwise from top left: **Sarah Sze**, *Still Life with Landscape (Model for a Habitat)*, 2011. Stainless steel and wood, 9 x 22 x 21 feet overall. Commissioned by the High Line. © Sarah Sze, courtesy the artist and Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; **Catherine Opie**, *Oliver in a Tutu*, from *In and Around Home*, detail, 2004. C-print, 24 x 20 inches. Edition of 5, 2 AP. Courtesy Regen Projects, Los Angeles, © Catherine Opie; **Marina Abramović**, *The Hero*, detail, 2001. Video, 14 min 19 sec. Courtesy Marina Abramović Archives and Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, © Marina Abramović; **assume vivid astro focus**, *anatata vuivui atoteki fukusayo*, 2007–08. *Space for Your Future: Recombining the DNA of Art and Design*, Museum of Contemporary Art (MOT), Tokyo. Courtesy MOT Museum, Tokyo, and Hiromi Yoshii Gallery, Tokyo, © assume vivid astro focus. Photo: Keizo Kikaku

