

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***National Museum of Women in the Arts commissions artist  
MISS CHELOVE to design four-story mural for museum's façade***

**On view beginning March 25, 2022, *Lookout: MISS CHELOVE* is the first  
of three public art installations planned through fall 2023**



**WASHINGTON**—The National Museum of Women in the Arts ([NMWA](http://nmwa.org)) has commissioned artist MISS CHELOVE to create a large-scale mural for the building façade. On view from March 25 through July 31, 2022, the installation *Lookout: MISS CHELOVE* will be the first in a series of three public art installations presented while the museum is temporarily closed for a major renovation. NMWA's *Lookout* series will debut powerful artworks across the building scaffolding through fall 2023, as the museum continues to promote art by women and signals the powerful transformation underway throughout the building.

"NMWA's commitment to public art positions us to fulfill our mission with enthusiasm and creativity," said NMWA Director Susan Fisher Sterling. "Using our façade as a 'canvas,' *Lookout* will offer a dramatic opportunity to view new works created by women artists, while keeping our community connected and looking ahead to the museum's future."

*Reseeded: A Forest Floor Flow*, by Washington, D.C.-based artist MISS CHELOVE, a.k.a. Cita Sadeli, will kick off the *Lookout* series. The artist's image of a woman immersed in botanicals native to the islands of Indonesia reflects on the resurgence of the natural world during the pandemic and the critical role of women in ecological activism. The four-story, 60-x-40-foot mural printed on mesh fabric will cover the scaffolding across the museum's west façade, at the convergence of New York Avenue, 13th Street and H Street NW, in Washington, D.C.

"Women are continuing to evolve their power as leaders and agents of change. The earth needs us, and we must strive to preserve the beauty on which we are privileged to stand," said MISS CHELOVE, whose vibrant work can be found throughout the D.C. metropolitan area and around the world. "When people see themselves reflected in the work, they feel connected to it."

#### **About MISS CHELOVE, a.k.a. Cita Sadeli**

MISS CHELOVE is an independent art director, muralist, designer and illustrator. Her practice is currently focused on mural projects. Deeply engaged in D.C.'s cultural life, MISS CHELOVE has created compelling, publicly accessible works on building exteriors and interiors including Charles Hamilton Houston Elementary School, Cloak & Dagger nightclub, Dua Coffee, Hotel Zena, Jefferson Middle School Academy, Signal House, Sonnie's Grocery and Unity Health Care's Upper Cardozo Clinic.

Combining local and biographical storytelling with the tools and methods of graffiti and street art, MISS CHELOVE explores themes including women's empowerment, nature, Indigenous cultures and music. She creates colorful, monumental murals that reflect her multicultural background rooted in the tropical mysticism of Java, Indonesia, as well as her formative years in the punk, go-go and graffiti-driven spaces of Washington, D.C., in the 1980s and '90s. When not scaling walls, she collaborates with clients such as &Pizza, Adobe, AFRO-PUNK, Apple, Patagonia, the Smithsonian Institution and Trillectro.

#### **About *Lookout***

Each iteration of *Lookout* will feature a large-scale original artwork suspended across or projected onto the museum's façade; two additional participating artists will be announced in 2022. Elevated just above sidewalk and soaring towards the sky, the murals will be viewable to downtown Washington, D.C.'s many visitors. With this unique opportunity to feature artworks that extend over multiple floors, *Lookout* will highlight works by women artists working on a monumental scale.

Akin to NMWA's New York Avenue Sculpture Project, which demonstrates the museum's lasting commitment to public art, *Lookout* reflects the museum's inclusive mission as it speaks directly to the Washington, D.C., community. The project will support NMWA's vital work to champion women artists and engage city residents and visitors—with a reminder to *look out* for the re-emergence of the new NMWA in 2023.

### **Programming**

In conjunction with *Lookout: MISS CHELOVE*, NMWA will present related programming including a self-guided mural tour of MISS CHELOVE's other public works in D.C., an interactive conversation with the artist as part of the museum's Women, Arts, and Social Change Fresh Talk series and a hands-on workshop for makers.

### **Sponsor Credit**

*Lookout: MISS CHELOVE* is supported by the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities. The project is organized by the National Museum of Women in the Arts.



DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

### **National Museum of Women in the Arts**

The National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) is the first major museum in the world solely dedicated to championing women through the arts. With its collections, exhibitions, programs and online content, the museum inspires dynamic exchanges about art and ideas. NMWA advocates for better representation of women artists and serves as a vital center for thought leadership, community engagement and social change. NMWA addresses the gender imbalance in the presentation of art by bringing to light important women artists of the past while promoting great women artists working today. The collections highlight painting, sculpture, photography and video by artists including Louise Bourgeois, Mary Cassatt, Judy Chicago, Frida Kahlo, Shirin Neshat, Faith Ringgold, Pipilotti Rist, Amy Sherald and Élisabeth Louise Vigée-LeBrun.

The museum building is closed for a major renovation, with plans to reopen in fall 2023. Visit [nmwa.org/renovation](https://nmwa.org/renovation) for more information. During the building closure, NMWA continues its mission-based work and engages supporters and friends through a [dynamic slate of online programs and events, off-site and virtual exhibitions, and digital content](#). For information, call 202-783-5000, visit [nmwa.org](https://nmwa.org), [Broad Strokes blog](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#).

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**Image**

MISS CHELOVE, *Reseeded: A Forest Floor Flow* (installation rendering), 2021; Printed mesh, 60 x 40 ft.; Commissioned by the National Museum of Women in the Arts with support provided by the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities; © MISS CHELOVE

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