

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

artnet® news

Exclusive: See the First Pictures of Rachel Whiteread's Governor's Island Installation

Eileen Kinsella



Photo by Timothy Schenck

A much anticipated highlight of the soon-to-be-completed new park on Governor's Island, the Hills, is a permanent, site-specific installation by British art star Rachel Whiteread.

Cabin, as the work is known, is a concrete reverse cast of a wooden shed which was installed on the island in 2015 and is set to debut to the public next month when the park opens. The park's completion date was bumped up from spring 2017.

Whiteread's cast sits on Discovery Hill, one of four hills in the park that are described as offering "lush rolling landscapes, grassy overlooks, exhilarating slides, [and] unforgettable views." First announced in April 2014, the project was initially set to be installed last summer.

Cabin will reportedly be surrounded by bronze casts of actual trash found on Governor's Island. The work continues Whiteread's theme of reverse casting large structures and objects, previously seen in what is perhaps her most famous work to date, *House* (1993), a reverse concrete cast of an entire condemned Victorian house in East London that was demolished after 11 weeks. The work scored Whiteread the Turner Prize that year.

The Governor's Island installation is Whiteread's first public art installation in New York since 1998, when *Water Tower*, a clear, resin cast of a signature Manhattan rooftop water tower was originally placed atop a roof in Soho.

This past fall, Whiteread had concurrent shows at the Bushwick and Chelsea branches of Luhring Augustine Gallery, which represents her.