



BAM Unveils Interactive Artwork *Arrivals + Departures*

Offers a poetic and political context to openly reflect on collective grief and the power of naming

Artists invite the public to make a live contribution to the artwork

Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Season Sponsor

Arrivals + Departures

YARA + DAVINA

US Premiere/BAM Debut

Board graphics and website design by Tom Merrell
Digital fabrication by Rob Prouse
3D design and construction by Other Fabrications (UK)
Production management by Steve Wald

Front of Brooklyn Borough Hall (209 Joralemon Street)

March 14 —April 11

Runtime: 24 hours

Free and open to the public

The Power of Naming

In conjunction with *Arrivals + Departures*

A virtual conversation with artist duo YARA + DAVINA and special guests

Moderated by Thomas Keenan

Tuesday, March 23

Free

“...a beautiful gesture to celebrate and commemorate.” — *Londonist*

March 17, 2021/Brooklyn, NY—BAM kicked off its spring 2021 season with the US premiere of *Arrivals + Departures*. Taking the form of a train station arrivals and departures board, signifying those who have been born (“arrived”) or passed (“departed”), the large-scale installation offers a powerful meditation on birth, life, death, loss, and collective grief through the simple, yet potent act of naming. View high-res images [here](#).

Created by British social practice artist duo Yara El-Sherbini and Davina Drummond, the public artwork offers a timely platform to engage with the effects of Covid-19 and the continuing racial

and social injustice within our communities. Through this political act of naming, the work questions and changes who is honored through public statues and memorials.

"We are creating space for naming someone as an acknowledgment, a public moment of reflection, marking people in your life," said creators YARA + DAVINA. "When we asked our friends and family to start submitting names, we found the simple act of asking them to submit a name invited them to think about the now. And question: who guides and shapes us? Who has profound effects on us and our own lives? Interestingly these ranged from people naming their children, to old teachers, dead socialists, environmental activists, grannies, and people who have died through acts of social injustice. Who knows what names the public will submit?"

The boards are accessible both in-person and virtually through April 11. The public is invited to submit names online at www.arrivalsanddepartures.net

Arrivals + Departures is a part of BAM's [spring 2021 season](#), featuring an ambitious mix of outdoor in-person programming and new virtual events—that is all about bringing live arts back to Brooklyn, and bringing Brooklyn's creative spirit to the world. The season spans theater, dance, music, talks, visual arts, community events, and its annual gala. BAM.org for more information.

YARA + DAVINA are a British artist duo who make ambitious and playful public artworks that respond to site, context, and audience. Unfailingly inventive, their artworks are rooted within the everyday, using formats from popular culture, such as mini-golf to jokes, to explore issues that touch on the human condition. They've created artworks for multiple world-leading art venues and public organizations across the world such as Tate Modern and Tate Britain, Venice Biennale, National Portrait Gallery, Studio Museum Harlem, The Victoria & Albert, London, ZKM (Germany), HIAP (Finland), Kaunas Art Biennial (Lithuania), Modern Art Oxford, National Maritime Museum, and the ICA. In 2021, they are working on several large-scale public artworks, including Kick Off, a project with the National Trust, UK that explores women's football and the power of communal crafting, and Local Tea, a long-term social practice artwork for the Museum of the Home, London.

Supported by Without Walls and commissioned by Artsadmin, Freedom Festival (Hull), and Norfolk & Norwich Festival. Funded through the Create To Connect > Create to Impact network supported by Creative Europe programme of the European Union and Arts Council England.

Development phase of *Arrivals + Departure* (2018) supported by In Situ Network through the Creative Europe programme of European Union, Without Wall's Blueprint programme, and Seedbed Residency at 101.

Press Contact: BAM and/or *Arrivals + Departures* Cynthia Tate at ctate@BAM.org

Credits

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