# Rockefeller Center 2022 Media Recap

Prepared by RUBENSTEIN

#### **Overview**

In 2022, as the world was introduced to a revitalized Rockefeller Center, RUBENSTEIN brought media along for the journey. The RUBENSTEIN team incorporated the narrative of the Center's revitalization into each announcement and programming moment, working with partners and collaborators as appropriate, and ensuring that the story of the new Rockefeller Center was embedded in media coverage throughout the year. This deck primarily describes coverage secured across leasing, programming, public art, retail, and holiday activations.

From the debuts of Flipper's Roller Boogie Palace and the quarterly Star Party series to the return of highly regarded programming such as The Flag Project, the Love Above All Ball, and Mexico Week, Rockefeller Center remained a central part of media conversations about the best things to do in the city and the revival of Midtown. The RUBENSTEIN team arranged tours of the reimagined campus for media and curated itineraries to showcase the Center's culinary, art, retail, and event offerings. An intensified focus on relationship cultivation with reporters and digital influencers began early in the year, familiarizing key figures with the Center and seeding the ground for coverage throughout 2022 and beyond.

2022 came to a close with an extremely successful holiday season. Iconic staples such as The Rink at Rockefeller Center Presented by Coach and the lighting of the 90th Annual Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree showed the world that Rockefeller Center can reinvent itself while continuing to deliver the city's–and the world's– most beloved holiday traditions.

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#### **Best of 2022**

Media coverage of Rockefeller Center was largely positive in tone this year, as reporters embraced the Center's reimagination. Journalists marveled at the redesign and new cuisine, and generated continuous positive coverage of the Center's events and programming.

Notable media moments include extensive features by Wallpaper\* and Surface about the Center's revitalization which explored the evolution of the campus' architecture, a glowing review of the Center's new dining landscape by The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal featured Rockefeller Center as a core element of Midtown's renaissance and highlighted Le Rock and Christie's, Business of Fashion featured the Center's influx of artisan brands in a trend article about the new era of retail shopping, and Architectural Digest produced a comprehensive video tour of the Center.

In addition, The New York Times featured the Earth Day-themed Spring Sunday as a recommended family activity in their highly sought-after weekend event roundup, and INSIDER ran a profile of head gardner Erik Pauze.

# Chrilliss.

"Rockefeller Center is waving goodbye to its reputation as a tourists-only attraction thanks to a massive revitalization project currently underway at the iconic Midtown destination."

## The New York Times

"Rockefeller Center Is the New York Restaurant Event of the Year...In a miracle off 49th Street, a complex where the food skewed corporate is suddenly a dining destination where chefs pursue their own ideas."

## Wallpaper\*

"Overseen by the real estate developer Tishman Speyer, which has held the keys since 1996, Rockefeller Center has majestically returned to its former glory, and then some."

#### SURFACE

"To anyone paying attention, a tectonic shift is taking place at Rockefeller Center."

# REAL ESTATE WEEKLY

"The Center is becoming the city's most dynamic destination for New Yorkers, and leading the reinvigoration of Midtown Manhattan."

## NEW YORK POST

"Tishman Speyer deserves credit for luring New Yorkers to this swath of Midtown with a growing slate of hip restaurants."

## Wallpaper\*

Rockefeller Center unveils new look in time for its Christmas tree lighting

A guide to the new Rockefeller Center: renovated buildings and new restaurants to discover in time for the Christmas tree lighting on 30 November



The recent revitalisation of Rockefeller Center has drawn visitors from both near and far to its well-honed curation of retail, culinary and design-savvy offerings.

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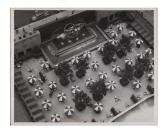
It's a revolution that has been quietly happening over the past few years, first with the transformation of a 1930s rooftop space, perched on top of Radio City Music Hall, into Radio Park – a half-acre garden and terrace available for business tenants to use – by the landscape design firm HM White in 2021, followed by the makeover the lobby in 50 Rockefeller Plaza by the New York design firm Studio Mellone, that was unveiled earlier this year. Even its iconic ice-skating rink enjoyed a new second life as the roller-skating disco, Flipper's Roller Boogie Palace, during summer 2022.

The new Rockefeller Center: a city within a city



In the months since, Rockefeller Center's redevelopment has hurtled into full swing, with the recent opening of several restaurants, bars and eateries that each rekindles the nostalgic glamour of classic New York while exuding the distinctive, thoughtful flair, characteristic of the dining scenes in Williamsburg and Tribeca. Overseen by the real estate developer Tishman Speyer, which has held the keys since 1996, Rockefeller Center has majestically returned to its former glory, and then some.

'The original vision for Rockefeller Center was as a "city within a city". We've built on that vision to make the center the most dynamic destination for New Yorkers right now and for generations to come,' says Rob Speyer, Tishman Speyer's CEO. 'Our goal is to ensure Rock Center is the place New Yorkers think of when they want an extraordinary meal, a fun day with family, a lovely place to shop for themselves or loved ones, or an after-work drink with a colleague.'



## SURFACE

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#### Can a Revamped Rockefeller Center Lure New Yorkers to Midtown?

Those behind the Art Deco landmark's recent refit by INC Architecture & Design are hoping new restaurants from the stars behind King, Olmsted, and Atomix, and a McNally Jackson flagship store, will convince New Yorkers and tourists alike to look forward to coming around.



To anyone paying attention, a tectonic shift is taking place at Rockefeller Center. It started when Ignacio Mattos debuted Lodi, a Milanese-style aperitivo bar and cafe at the New York landmark in September 2021. Opening a new restaurant is always notable for a chef and restaurateur of his caliber, but the fact that it was Mattos—a bellwether of downtown culture who dates the chef-turned-designer Laila Gohar and whose culinary prowess draws everyone from Chloë Sevigny to the fashion designer Emily Adams Bode Aujla to his restaurants—meant something big was happening.

Soon after Lodi opened, word spread of new restaurants from the chefs behind Atomix (a winner of two Michelin stars), King, and Olmsted. By early 2022, the New York Times had deemed Lodi "too good" for Rockefeller Center: an oasis of expertly pulled espresso and Italian pastry during the mornings, with a considered edit of lunch and dinner entrées and infallible martini service. In May, the nomadic Mexican gallery MASA Galeria made its <u>United States debut</u> as the kickoff to NYCxDesign, luring a crop of discerning aesthetes to the shuttered federal post office near the skating rink.

Then, as late July rolled around, Le Rock, a swanky Workstead-designed spot from Frenchette's Riad Nasr and Lee Hanson, threw open its doors across the plaza from Lodi and a McNally Jackson flagship, complete with a Goods for the Study stationary shop, was planned for somewhere between the two. Also nearby: cult-favorite record store Rough Trade, which migrated to the city from Williamsburg; Girl Knew York, a gallery and shop from artist Mira Mariah who has inked the likes of Ariana Grande with her signature style of tattoo line art; and Lingua Franca, the West Village's cashmere purveyor of choice.



The addition of Five Acres, from Olmsted chef and owner-operator Greg Baxtrom; Jupiter, from King's Jess Shadbolt, Clare de Boer, and Annie Shi; and Naro, from Aromix and Aroboy's Ellia and Junghyun "J.P." Park, stand to define a new era of the landmark's former concourse level, replacing the Sea Grill and a Starbucks kiosk. Rockefeller Center owner Tishman Speyer brought in INC Architecture & Design, whose stylish hotels and restaurants often embrace biophilic design, to remake the newly coined "Rink Level" into a destination for city dwellers whose presence there isn't office-mandated. And if anyone can pull it off, it's INC: together with Brooklyn Bridge Park, the firm's design of the nearby I Hotel played a considerable role in rejuvenating the Brooklyn Heights waterfront.

At the Rink Level, floor-to-ceiling windows flood the formerly dark, uninviting interior with ample natural light and democratize views of the skating rink—previously a perk limited to those paying a premium for a sit-down meal at the Sea Grill. Limestone, bronze, and glass finishes convey warmth and nod to the space's deco roots without feeling kitschy or period.

The firm is also behind Baxtrom's restaurant, Five Acres, which, save for the private dining room and kitchen, is wall-less and open to the Rink Level. "At the beginning, I was pretty skeptical about how it would play out," Baxtrom told Surface. The chef and owner-operator of Five Acres, Olmsted, Maison Yaki, and Patti Ann's hadn't previously worked with a design firm and admitted to a degree of uncertainty about the wall-free concept.

Seeing the Rink Level completed and the dining "room" full for mock service and friendsand family-dinners has brought the space to life for him. "It has an after-hours, 'night at
the museum' vibe," he says. It's also empowered him to cook more decadently than he does
in Brooklyn, where his other properties are. His Five Acres menu includes dishes like
lobster three ways, and a dramatically plated smoked oysters Vanderbilt, with the same
transformative attention to farmers market fare his Olmsted diners expect. "We're not
obnoxiously farm-to-table in the way that you're only going to like the dish if I give you a
five minute spiel about it. I cannot stand that, but we do cook the same way as some of
those restaurants. For us, it's enough that we know that all that work is going into that
rangoon, and you just need to think that it's something cheesy and fried."

## The New York Times

Rockefeller Center Is the New York Restaurant Event of the Year

In a miracle off 49th Street, a complex where the food skewed corporate is suddenly a dining destination where chefs pursue their own ideas



When the real-estate firm <u>Tishman Speyer</u> was trying to persuade chefs to join what was turning into a murderers' row of restaurants at Rockefeller Center, it used many of the deal-sweeteners that are standard in the trade: lower rents, prime locations, help with construction costs.

But the firm was also pitching a dream. "You can make Rockefeller Center the epicenter of food for New York City." one chef said he was told. Even if you account for standard real-estate hyperbole, it's still a pretty bold vision. For longer than anyone can remember, Rockefeller Center's place in the conversation about dining in New York was essentially nonexistent. A lot of people ate there, but nobody talked about it.

In the past three years, 12 sit-down restaurants and seven other places to eat and drink have opened in Rockefeller Plaza and in the concourse, a network of underground corridors beneath it. Four more are due to arrive next year.

The former dining tenants in the complex were a mix of national chains in the concourse and competent but corporate operations at the ground level. The newcomers have more boutique sensibilities. The larger restaurants bear the distinct imprints of the chefs who run them, and while there are still some chains in the concourse, they tend to be small, local ones like <a href="Ace's Pizza">Ace's Pizza</a> and <a href="Other Half">Other Half</a> <a href="Brewing">Brewing</a>. A similar change has been happening in the center's retail spaces, which now hold several shops with a distinctly non-chain sensibility, like the record and book store <a href="Rough Trade">Rough Trade</a>.

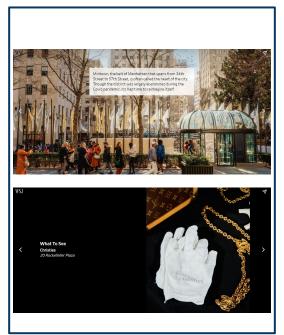
It is too soon to tell how many of the new places to eat will turn out to be important, or even good. But in one respect they have already succeeded: People are talking about them.



One of the less perceptive things you hear people say is that only tourists eat in Rockefeller Center. This is, in a word, wrong. Thousands of New Yorkers work in or pass through the complex every day. Some of us even look forward to it.

For starters, the architecture is one of the city's most reliable thrills. "The greatest urban complex of the 20th century," Elliot Willensky and Norval White called it in "<u>The AIA Guide to New York City</u>." At Rockefeller Center we see all the elements that give New York its character — the density, the grid, the crowds, the volume of the buildings and their incredible heights. All this has been emphasized, so we feel its power. At the same time it's been controlled, so we can actually enjoy it.





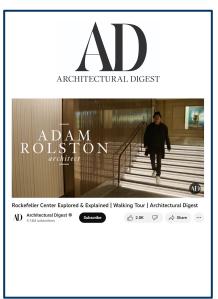


Best of 2022









# **Public Art**

#### **Art in Focus**

The 2022 season of the Art in Focus public art program, presented in partnership with Art Production Fund, featured the work of Max Colby, Hugo McCloud, Emily Mullin, Arghavan Khosravi, and Lorraine Nam.

The RUBENSTEIN team worked collaboratively with Art Production Fund to share the news of each installation with media in the metro area, in addition to arts press. Each installation was pitched as a "must-see" exhibition, creating a dynamic hook that complements the rest of Center's consistent slate of arts programming, solidifying it as a hub for public art. The installations were highlighted by key metro-area "things to do" sites Time Out New York and Untapped New York amongst the top installations on view, and were covered by respected trades including Artnet, Whitewall, Widewalls, and Artsy.

Beyond metro and art media communications, RUBENSTEIN developed a tailored media engagement plan for each installation based on its themes. Notably, the work of Arghavan Khosravi was on display during the onset of protests in Iran. Our team arranged an in-depth feature run by WNBC which allowed Arghavan to discuss the inspiration for the work and her unique perspective as an Iranian artist, while reflecting on the moment in history.











#### artnet

Editors' Picks: 8 Events for Your Art Calendar This Week, From Max Colby at Rock Center to Hugh Hayden's Outdoor Show



#### 1. "Art in Focus: Max Colby" at Rockefeller Center, New York

Max Colby, known for her highly embellished works exploring craft and themes of domesticity and gender, kicks off the Art Production Fund's 2022 exhibitions at Rockefeller Center. Three mirrored vitrines in the lobby of 45 Rockefeller Plaza will display 27 beaded and embroidered sculptures from the series "They Consume Each Other" on custom glass plinths. The campus-wide presentation will also include a 125-foot mural recreating 18th- and 19th-century Crewel embroidery works. "Popular in colonial America and Elizabethan and Victorian England, 'crewel' style is known for its pastoral floral imagery, bringing a connection between "natural history" and gendered labor and aesthetics," Colby said in a statement

#### untapped new york.

#### 12 NEW PUBLIC ART INSTALLATIONS IN NYC FEBRUARY 2022

3. Max Colby's Beaded Sculptures and 125foot mural at Rockefeller Center



To kick of the cazz Art in Focus public art program. Brooklyn artist Max Costby will present here new at installation exploring tradition agender role in a resire of brasided sculptures and a 125-foot mural. Located in the lobby of 45 Rockerfeller Plaza will be three custom installations of overline. Find programs provided the programs of the pr

#### WIDEWALLS

Rockefeller Center's Public Arts Program Kicks Off with Brooklyn Artist Max Colby



Rockefeller Center has announced the initial lineup of featured artists' exhibits for its campus location. The Art in Focus public art program opens with Max Colby, a Brooklyn-based artist who will present her new installation. The work, consisting of a 125-foot mural and a series of beaded sculptures, examines traditional gender roles.

Later in the year, artists <u>Hugo McCloud</u>, Emily Mullins, Arghavan Khosravi, and <u>Alex Prager</u> will also display site-specific works throughout public spaces of the Rockefeller Center campus.

#### GUEST of GUEST

Spring Has Sprung At Rock Center With A Colorful New Art Exhibition



This year's Art in Focus program, produced by Rockefeller Center and Art Production Fund, is off to a colorful start!

The first of five separate installations to be unveiled throughout 2022, Brooklyn-based multidisciplinary artist Max Colby's pieces are a breath of fresh air for the city center hub.

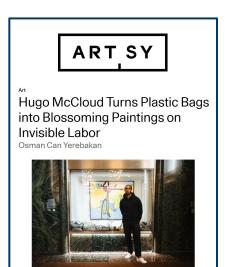
Art in Focus: Max Colby

#### whitewall



Hugo McCloud Captivates Rockefeller Center with Largest Plastic Painting Yet

he latest iteration of <u>Art Production Fund</u>'s Art In Focus program invited the artist <u>Hugo McCloud</u> to activate the public spaces at <u>Rockefeller Center</u>—an installation that debuted on April 11 and will remain open through June 10. Indicative of his greater practice, McCloud has filled the location's vitrines and vinyl spaces with colorful imagery, installations, and portraits that he has made using unlikely materials (particularly plastic bags), collected during the artist's travels.







#### Hugo McCloud at Rockefeller Center

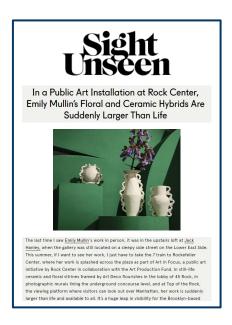
Rockefeller Center and Art Production Fund continue their Art in Focus partnership with a sitespecific public art presentation by acclaimed multidisciplinary artist HUGO MCCLOUD. Presented in multiple public locations throughout the Rockefeller Center campus, McCloud's installation will be on view until I lune 12th.

McCloud is a multidisciplinary artist and prollific crotor who is known for experimenting with mour traditional materials and developing a unique art - making technique. His neevest body of work incorporates traditional figurative vocabulary with an innovative process of layering plastic to croate visually rich and flought - provoking paintings. Plastic, an everyday material that is difficult to decompose, finde mel life in these paintings and encourages a discussion around sustainability. This body of work also continues McCloud's interest in finding beauty in otherwise overlooked materials.

In 6,5 Rockefeller Plaza, visitors will find McCloud's most monumental work to date, The Burden of Man. Vlaiding to Breathe displayed in the lower concourse. This is the first time that this significant artwork (produced by McCloud using single-use plastic bags during the Covid-19 pandemic) will be exhibited in the United States. This work intervowers enzaratives, referencing recent international crines both obloging and directly to address themes or imligation, borders, Dope, and directly conditions internationally endomine during the Covid-19 crisis. Epic in scale, the work offers the artist's unions contemporary take on the rich bisitoric traditions of Instruy and must jaminte.

The images McCood presents in the viny mural spaces (located at 10 Rochefeller Plaza, 30 Rochefeller Plaza, be netwerful explaned, be netwerful explaned, because the solid following the relief of \$2,00 feedberler Plaza, and Topo of the Roch feature individuals engaging in the practice of labor and the transportation of materials. Whether they are publing, carriying or simply returning alongishele new pools, McCoods's figures convey a sense of extreme effort, struggle and ultimately beauty through the handling of these found materials.

Art in Focus: Hugo McCloud







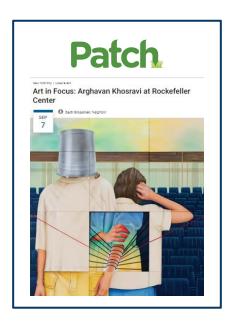


Art in Focus: Emily Mullin









Art in Focus: Arghavan Khosravi









Art in Focus: 2022 Holiday Map and Installation by Lorraine Nam

#### Art at Top of the Rock

Created by Kris Moran and Martin Duffy, Buildings and Blocks was designed to resemble children's building blocks, and invited visitors to sit or interact with the freestanding blocks while taking in the breathtaking skyline views of Manhattan.

The RUBENSTEIN team engaged in conversations about Buildings and Blocks with media in the New York area upon the installation's debut, and throughout the three months it was on display at Top of the Rock's The Weather Room. Highlights included an interview by Whitewall with the artists, and inclusion in Time Out New York's weekly roundup of the best things to do in the city for six consecutive weeks.

Over the summer, visitors to Top of the Rock were invited to experience Sarah Mehoyas' Dawn Chorus and Speculations. Dawn Chorus was an immersive, multi-sensory, augmented-reality (AR) experience. In addition, Speculations featured eight large-scale photographs in the form of vinyl installations on the glass panels overlooking the New York City skyline.

The RUBENSTEIN team pitched Dawn Chorus and Speculations as interactive experiences at Top of the Rock unlike anything else New Yorkers can experience in the city. The installations were announced to metro, arts, and parenting media with an invitation to a press preview that gave media the opportunity to speak with the artist and experience the installations. The announcement was covered by WNBC, Broadway World, amNewYork, and ArtDaily, and a reporter for New Yorkled ran a feature piece about the installations which included an interview with the artist.









#### whitewall



Building and Blocks: An Invitation to Play at Top of the Rock

ow on view at the Top of the Rock through March 13 is an exhibition entitled "Buildings and Blocks" by Kris Moran and Martin Duffy. Inspired by the skyline and shapes of New York City as viewed from the observation deck, the unforgetable installation features three 23-foot towers and 37 black-and-white striped spheres that resemble building blocks for kids.

Open to the public at no charge, the special 67th-floor space is adorned in simple, familiar design objects to transport us back to the moments of our childhood that have brought us jay. Whitewall spake with Moran and Duffy about creating a presentation that challenges perception, balances simplicity and sophistication, and sparks playful emotion.



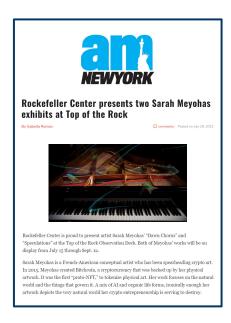
skyline views of Manhattan.



heart's content. BUILDINGS AND BLOCKS will be on display through March 13, 2022.

Admission is included for all Top of the Rock ticket holders.











## The Flag Project

Last spring, Rockefeller Center partnered with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Climate Museum for the third annual *The Flag Project*, a crowd-sourced art exhibition which invited the public to submit art for consideration to be displayed on one of the 193 flagpoles that surround the Plaza.

The global call for submissions asked for mixed-medium artwork that celebrated "Only One Earth," the theme for this year's World Environment Day, to showcase an appreciation for the environment and how to live sustainably and in harmony with nature.

The RUBENSTEIN team announced the theme for the 2022 installation and the call for submissions in February, which was covered by New York-based outlets, art media, and listing sites. The team also pitched a second round of outreach to encourage additional submissions during the last week of the open call for submissions. The flags were raised in the beginning of April, the start of Earth month, which broadcast and online media were invited to attend in celebration of the unveiling of the installation. Notably, the TODAY Show ran a segment which highlighted a young artist and documented the moment she raised the flag which featured her design.













9-year-old Ellie Levine and her mom join TODAY on the plaza to talk about the art Ellie designed for one of the 193 flags around Rockefeller Center that follows the theme, "One and Only Earth." "I hope I can inspire a lot of kids to take care of the environment," Levine says.







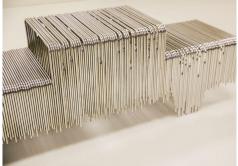
#### **MASA**

In another especially prominent art moment, Mexico City-based gallery MASA presented Intervención/Intersección, its first exhibition in New York City, throughout Rockefeller Center from May to June of 2022. The exhibition celebrated the best of contemporary Mexican artistry and featured the work of Mexico-based or Mexican artists, architects, and designers.

Works of art were on display at the Rink Level Gallery and on Center Plaza. Along the flagpoles surrounding The Rink, Camil's artwork Saca Tus Trapos Al Sol ("Air Out Your Dirty Laundry") flew a multi-strand clothesline of over 700 items of used clothing donated by Mexico City residents.

The RUBENSTEIN team worked collaboratively with MASA to pitch the exhibition, handling metro, broadcast, Spanish language, and "things to do" media. RUBENSTEIN also helped to coordinate and invited select media to a press preview during which design media on site were given a first-hand look at the artwork with commentary from the gallery. The exhibition was covered by top design outlets including Surface, Dezeen and Design Bloom, and coverage by Spanish language media included pieces by Telemundo 47 and Impacto Latino. In addition, New York Magazine ran a feature article about the exhibit and deemed it "highbrow brilliant" in their approval matrix.













A Mexico City Gallery Takes Over a Former Rockefeller Center Post Office 'Intervención/Intersección' celebrates creative kinship.



an the 1930s, imma Nogochi kala an affiir with Frick Alabi e while he was living and wenting in Mexico (VI).
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"This is really the centerpiece of the show," says Su Wu, the curator of the exhibition. "We're highlighting the power of gossip and love affairs — the role that all of these things, which are seriously nonacudemic, play in creating what we mean by art or design history. We're finding space for intimacy and private stories."

#### **HYPERALLERGIC**

Mexican Artists and Designers Take Over Rockefeller Center



Most New Yorkers aren't fazed by much. But when Brian Thoreen told a group of locals that he and a crew of construction folks were hoisting and foisting with forklifts smack in the center of Rockefeller Center, they gasped. On Tuesday, May 10, the artist and design dealer stayed up until 4am hanging the clothes lines of Pia Camil's new work "Saca Tus Trapos Al Sol (Air Out Your Dirty Laundry)" on the 193 flagpoles surrounding the Rink (you know, where Jeff Koons and Kaws oversized statutes often loom).

Camil's site-specific intervention is a brazen public-facing commentary that strings together over 700 items of used clothing, collected by Camil from donations in Mexico City and still soaked in the humanness of their previous owners. It's part of a show called Intervención, limitersección, the latest venture

#### designboom®

mexico city's nomadic gallery MASA comes to rockefeller center for NYCxDesign



#### MASA GALERIA IN NEW YORK CITY

For the first time, MASA Geleria arrives in New York City, kidding off NYCDoelign at the Rivie Gallery in Rockelferic Centeric. The traveling gallery displays works of scipature and Internative by Moscio-based artists, architects, and designers, alongside influential historical works throughout the local concourse. So far the gallery has presented works in far-fetched locations across the world, including a ruinous mansion in Moscio City, a healthcare clinic in Quosca, and an empty skyrazper in Roma.

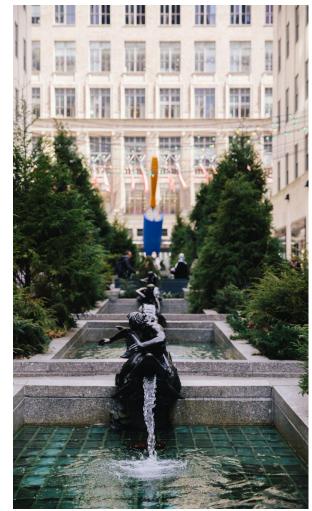
Taken together, the contemporary and historical works in the show, titled Intervendinf. Intersection, extend the conversation abour place, friendship, and creative poroally explored in the inaugural MASA exhibition in Mexico Cipi, in 2017, also curated by Su Wu. In the long continuum of asteritic, technical, and intellectual movement between Mexico and the United States, MASA's exhibition identifies endinging moments of crossed paths, crossed wires, and star-crossed lives that transcended borders and citizenship, in the objects that spirionship entage where we come from and where we have chosen to be.

The show has opened today, May 5th and will be on view until June 24th, 2022. Reserve a time to visit the gallery here.

#### Plantoir, Blue

Plantoir, Blue, a sculpture by Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen, was displayed this spring at the Fifth Avenue entrance to the Channel Gardens, the original location of the Elgin Botanic Garden, established in 1801 as the first botanic garden in the United States. This was the first public installation of work by Oldenburg and van Bruggen in New York since a version of Plantoir in red was displayed on the roof of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 2002.

Following the announcement of the sculpture as a feature article by *Artnet*, the RUBENSTEIN team shared the news with wire, online, print and broadcast media in the area as well as arts publications. *Plantoir*, *Blue* was covered by the premiere "things to do" outlets in the area – *Time* Out New York, Secret NYC, Untapped New York, and 1010 WINS – and was highlighted in *Artnet* as one of the best news items in the art world the week of its unveiling. *Plantoir*, *Blue* was also included in articles honoring the life and legacy of Claes Oldenburg upon his passing in July.





## artnet

A Jumbo Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen Gardening Tool Will Be Their First Public Artwork in New York in 20 Years



This spring, a massive trowel will touch down in the middle of the Channel Gardens inside Rockefeller Center.

The cerulean blue *plantoir* is the work of Claes Oldenburg and his late wife, Coosje van Bruggen, and will be the couple's first public installation in New York City in more than 20 years.

In 2002, a red version of the work was on view as part of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's exhibition "Oldenburg and Van Bruggen on the Roof."







# Jeppe Hein's Changing Spaces

In one of the year's major art moments at Rockefeller Center, Jeppe Hein presented *Changing Spaces*, an interactive water-based sculpture, on Center Plaza during the summer months. Visitors were encouraged to move within the structure as the artwork continually changed shape, creating a playful and interactive environment for adults and children alike.

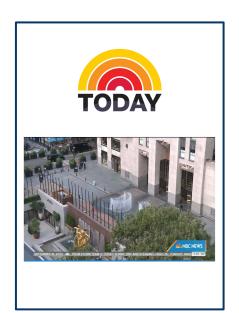
The RUBENSTEIN team pitched *Changing Spaces* to a wide range of metro, lifestyle, art, and parenting outlets and it was continuously highlighted as one of the top things to do in the city by *Time Out New York*, *Untapped New York*, and *Secret NYC*. In the midst of a heat wave, *Changing Spaces* received a second wave of coverage as a way to cool down in the city. Images of the installation, which featured elated children as well as adults, were widely distributed over the wire. An additional round of coverage came with the extension of the installation, and notably, an image of CJ playing in the water sculpture was included in the *New York Daily News*' 'Top Photos of the Year.'

















# Derrick Adams' Funtime Unicorns

Derrick Adams' Funtime Unicorns, an interactive sculpture meant for social engagement and play at the Channel Gardens, offered visitors an unexpected take on the iconic and mythical unicorn. Funtime Unicorns invoked the idea of Blackness as magical, colorful, mystical, free-spirited, and deserving of protection.

The RUBENSTEIN team coordinated with Derrick Adams' team and Art Production Fund to unveil the interactive sculptures across national and local media, including art, design, parenting and social justice reporters. A special friends and family unveiling also included wire photo agencies who disseminated the images globally. In addition to feature articles by WWD, Hypebeast, and Whitewall, Artnet named the installation one of their editors' 'picks of the week' upon its debut.





#### whitewall

Derrick Adams Celebrates Blackness and Play with Funtime Unicorns



he Art Production Fund and Rockefeller Center present
"Funtime Unicorns," an interactive sculpture show by
New York-based visual artist Derrick Adams set in Channel
Gardens and on view through September 9. Adams's multi-

## **WWD**

Artist Derrick Adams Brings Some Magic to Rockefeller Center With 'Funtime Unicorns'



The unicorns have arrived at Rockefeller Center for their summer residency.

Last week Derrick Adams was on hand for the unveiling of his delightful public art installation, "Funtime Unicorns," located within Rock Center's Channel Gardens. The work spoke to an eager and younger demographic than most of his gallery exhibitions: children.

"It was so exciting when I walked over and saw kids patiently waiting for the barricades to be removed so they could run over and get on [the unicorns]" says Adams of witnessing the initial reception to his functional sculptures, manifested as playground objects and placed in collaboration with the Art Production Fund.

"Funtime Unicorns" marks the launch of Derrick Adams Editions, a venture for the artist to reach new audiences and experiment with different formats. "When I'm making work, sometimes I say to myself, why can't this be a real object? I pose that question to myself and then I start thinking about the possibilities," says Adams.

#### artnet

Editors' Picks: 11 Events for Your Art Calendar This Week, From Derrick Adams's Unicorn Playground to Kiki Kogelnik's Portraits



5. "Derrick Adams: Funtime Unicorns" at Rockefeller Center, New York

Derrick Adams looks to bring Black joy to the heart of Midrown Manhattan with his new Art <u>Production Tuniq</u> public installation furtume unicrosm, seaturing interactive black unicorn sculptures-cum-playground toys. The figure of the black unicorn first appeared in Adams "Floriser" painting series, of portratis of Black people resting on pool floats that the artist later fabricated as actual inflatables. Now, kids will be able to play on a coiled spring playground rocker version of the colorif figure, for a project that pushes back against the narrastive that Black art needs to foreground pain and suffering, rather than joy and play.

#### **HYPEBEAST**

Derrick Adams Unveils 'FUNTIME UNICORN' in New EDITIONS Venture



Derrick Adams is broadening his artistic practice through a new venture eponymously dubbed DERRICK ADAMS EDITIONS. Launched yesterday, the first release on the site draws from his *Floater* series of paintings, by bringing the black unicorn character to life

FUNTIME UNICORN continues on Adams' portrayal of Black people in various states of rest and play atop a pool float.

#### Derrick Adams' Funtime Unicorns

#### Jenny Holzer x PEN America

On five nights in September, artist Jenny Holzer celebrated PEN America's century-long defense of freedom of expression with a powerful new series of light projections that illuminated three buildings on the Center's campus.

Each evening, the facades of 30 Rockefeller Plaza and 610 and 620 Fifth Avenue were lit with selected passages from gifted writers and artists who have supported PEN America's vital work to protect free expression.

The RUBENSTEIN team pitched the installation to art media as part of a roundup of fall art installations at Rockefeller Center. As the installation was illuminated in the aftermath of the attack on former PEN America's President Salman Rushdie, outreach was limited to select arts reporters to avoid becoming a part of controversial conversations. Pitching efforts were done collaboratively with Jenny Holzer's team and the team at PEN America which resulted in the installation being mentioned in a Vogue profile of the artist.







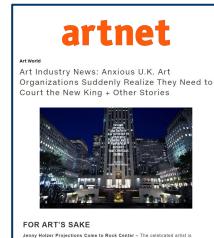
#### **VOGUE**

#### On the Street, in the Studio, and at Home with Artist Jenny Holzer

Her newest exhibition, "Demented Words," on view at Hauser & Wirth in New York from September 8 through October 29 (alongside an outdoor light projection for PEN America at Rockefeller Center), highlights both Holzer's versatility with new media and her unique passion for intimate and beautiful forms-all this at a moment when the "B" word has been mostly derided as the aesthetic residue of an outdated, masculinist politics. See, for example, one of Holzer's earliest installations. The Blue Room (1975), an entire studio interior painted white and covered with a blue wash to create a fantasy of pure surface; or her later, more spectacular, illuminated text projects, which have appeared throughout New York City and the world since 1982's Messages to the Public blinked across the Spectacolor billboard in Times Square. For Holzer, it is not enough to merely read these texts, which often scroll down the vast masonry of skyscrapers and historical landmarks; rather, the mix of shadow and light, softness and hardness, collective and individual perceptions, produces a total experience of beauty. Such attention to vividness of landscape, space, and resolution is also reflected in her abstract paintings, a collection of which are included in "Demented Words." Their leafed surfaces, hard-edged lines, and occasional bits of text capture in intimate miniature Holzer's desire for both the ineffable and concrete.

# Amanpour & Co. WRITING MAT GENERAL STATE OF THE PROBLEM TO SHARE STATE OF THE PROBLEM TO SHARE





September 18. (TAN)

teaming up with PEN America for a series of projections that will illuminate the

facade of 30 Rockefeller Center. Beginning at 8 p.m., quotes by famous figures

including Salmon Rushdie, Pussy Riot member Nadya Tolokonnikova, and Margaret

Atwood will appear in Holzer's signature font. The project, titled SPEECH ITSELF

(2022), aims to address mounting threats to freedom of speech. It runs through

# **Special Events**

#### Love at the Center

Rockefeller Center's campus-wide Valentine's Day celebration included heartwarming activations and giveaways as well as limited-edition items and edible treats throughout February. On Valentine's Day, famed botanical artist Lewis Miller presented two iterations of his Flower Flash on the Plaza and at Top of the Rock

The RUBENSTEIN team worked to amplify these themed offerings by engaging with broadcast media, online media, and social media influencers. Media coverage focused on all aspects of Love at the Center, including the wedding that took place at Top of the Rock on the morning of February 14.

As the two Flower Flash installations were the most festive and visual elements of the celebration, the RUBENSTEIN team invited influencers to view the floral installations on the Plaza and at Top of the Rock. These efforts resulted in hundreds of thousands of views across Instagram and Tik Tok. Images were also shared on the social media pages of publications that covered the festivities.

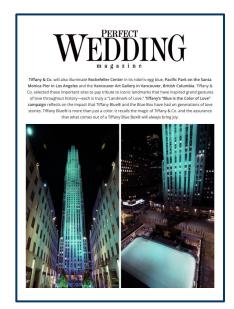


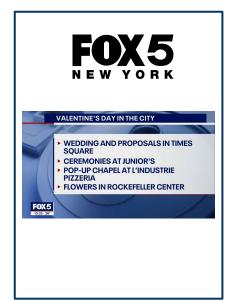














Love at the Center

#### Pride at Rockefeller Center

The Love Above All Pride celebration returned in 2022 with a month-long schedule of Pride activations, including exclusive retail, decor, and the epic Love Above All Ball, which benefitted Broadway Cares/Equity Fights Aids.

The RUBENSTEIN team pitched a comprehensive announcement which featured all of the elements of the Center's 2022 Pride celebration. As a result, both the visual and programming elements of this year's Pride celebration were included in broadcast and online coverage of Pride-themed festivities in the city. Notably, NBC News NOW featured the Love Above All Ball as a recommended Pride event, and Playbill covered the announcement that Alex Newell would perform at the Ball. T Magazine's Kurt Soller and IndieWire's Vincent Perella attended the Ball at the invitation of the RUBENSTEIN team.









#### PLAYBILL\*

Alex Newell Set to Perform at Rockefeller Center's Love Above All Ball



Rockefeller Center will host the 2022 Love Above All Ball at the Rainbow Room June 24 to benefit Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS.

Headlines include <u>Alex Nevell</u>. Novem for portraying Unique Adams on the Fox musical comedy feels and making his Boodway debut as Assais in the Tony Avendwrining revised of Ponce on This Island. RPAINUS Drag Race winner Jinks Monsoon and DJ Matthew Mazur, who will lead a cabaret in page 100 per 10

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

The ball has been on hiatus for the past two years following its launch in 2019. The event's debut welcomed performances by pop singer MARINA, singer-songwriter Betty Who, and drag queen Shangela, with benefits going to the Born This Way Foundation.

For more information and tickets, visit RockefellerCenter.com





Love Above All Ball at Rockefeller Center's Rainbow Room

A glam-and-glitz night to benefit Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS is raising the Pride weekend curtains at the perfectly titled Rainbow Room. Since 1998, the beloved theater industry-based nonprofit has raised over \$300 million for essential services for people living with HIV/AIDS, struggling with COVID-19 or other illnesses across the U.S., thanks to contributions from people like you. Celebrity chef Andy Baraghani will curate the evening's menu, and performances will include a cabaret singalong led by "RuPaul's Drag Race" season five winner — and masterful Judy Garland impersonator — Jinxx Monsoon. \$375, 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. 30 Rockefeller Plaza 6-th floor. Manhattan.





The Rockefeller Center Plaza has 193 flagpoles surrounding their <u>rink area</u>, most of which now feature the vibrant rainbow Pride flag.

2019 was the first time the Rockefeller Center had decided to dress 109 of those flagpoles with the Pride flag in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising, and they've raised the flags again in honor of this year's theme, 'Unapologetically Us'





#### Mexico Week: Día De Muertos at Rockefeller Center

For the second consecutive year, Mexico Week: Día De Muertos at Rockefeller Center was held in celebration of Mexico's heritage and culture. The weeklong celebrations kicked off with the opening of an exhibit in the lobby of 10 Rockefeller Plaza featuring the work of Mexican artist José Guadalupe Posada, and also featured an open air market, a tianguis, and an ofrenda on Center Plaza. Additionally, Menchaca's catrinas—elegantly dressed skeleton figures synonymous with the Day of the Dead—appeared as Mexican and American superstars throughout the campus.

Media was invited to attend an opening ceremony with Mayor Adams on the Plaza with the backdrop of the *ofrenda* and *alebrijes*. Images and video footage of the celebration, including interviews with spokespeople in English and Spanish, were widely distributed and utilized by online and broadcast media regionally, nationally and internationally.

Highlights included coverage on the TODAY Show, Univision, Telemundo (both national and local), and nearly every major metro news outlet. Notably, a reporter for the arts outlet Hyperallergic attended the opening ceremony and received a tour of the works of art which resulted in a full feature article about the art on display that mentioned each of the artists and included breathtaking images of the pieces. This article was shared by Hyperallergic on Twitter and Instagram, and was included in Surface Magazine's coveted Design Dispatch newsletter.

















Mexico Week: Día De Muertos at Rockefeller Center

#### **HYPERALLERGIC**

Mexican Artists Take Over Rock Center For Day of the Dead



Mesico Week kiched off ar Rochefeller Center yesterday morning, October 27, inaugurating several days of cultural activities, artistie exhibitions, and a food and artisan market. The event, which takes place for the second consecutive year, coincides with Dia de Muertos (Day of the Dead), the Mesican holiday typically celebrated on November 1 and commemorating loved ones who have passed away, it is co-organized by a group of Mesican public institutions — the Consultate General of Mesico in New York City, the Mesican Cultural Institute, and the Museo de Arte Moderno in Mesico City — in connect with Rochefeller Center.

#### **Forbes**

El Día de Muertos llega una vez más al corazón de Nueva York



El Día de Muertos, una fiesta cultural y ancestral celebrada a los difuntos en México, llega con ofrendas y un tianguis de comida y artesanías a instalarse por segundo año consecutivo en el Rockefeller Center, el corazón de Nueva York.



Fun Festivities for Celebratir
Day of the Dead in NYC



With festivities that often span from October 27 to November 6, Día de Muertos, or Day of the Dead—which lands on Wednesday, November 2 this year—is a Mexican holiday honoring the spiritual afterlife of those who have physically passed.

Tracing its origins back thousands of years to the Indigenous cultures of the Aznec and Mexica peoples of Mexico, this sacred observance is rooted in joy and includes a special emphasis on the importance of family. Distinct from the spooky and haunted themes of Halloween, Day of the Dead also revolves around the notion of the heavens opening up to allow deceased ored ones to visit the land of the living once a year.



Mexico Week returns to Rockefeller Center for Day of the Dead



Rockefeller Center is hosting its second annual Mexico Week, a celebration of Mexican heritage and Día de Los Muertos, or Day of the Dead. Over the course of the weeklong event, New Yorkers can experience Mexican art, food, music, and culture across the campus. Mexico Week kicks off this Thursday and runs through November 2.

Mexico Week: Día De Muertos at Rockefeller Center

#### **Star Party**

In celebration of the spring equinox, Rockefeller Center hosted the first-ever *Star Party* at Top of the Rock on the evening of March 19th into March 20th. An overnight musical experience, *Star Party* was a new quarterly event that was timed to seasonal equinoxes and solstices.

The inaugural Star Party featured an overnight durational performance by songwriter and sound designer Emily A. Sprague. The series continued with the celebrations of the summer solstice and fall equinox which featured the music of Mary Lattimore and Shigeto, respectively.

The initial announcement was covered by Time Out New York, Thrillist, Secret NYC, and more. The event was attended by two reporters (one freelance contributor for The New York Times and Pitchfork, and another staff writer for Pitchfork) and a micro influencer with strong followings on TikTok and Instagram.

Notably, the RUBENSTEIN team invited the new "things to do" editor at Time Out New York to experience the fall Star Party. In addition to running an additional feature piece about Star Party, Time Out New York included the event in their list of recommended activities that weekend, and the editor highlighted Star Party in a WCBS segment she was a guest on to discuss things to do in the fall.











The British may gather at Stonehenge to mark the solstice, but New Yorkers have their own very

In celebration of the fall equinox, an overnight Star Party at Top of the Rock's The Weather Room will

feature an eight-hour exploration of ambient and environmental sound by Shigeto to complement the

Manhattan way to mark the changing of the seasons this fall.

visual splendor of the nighttime skyline transforming into day.







# Racquet House at Rockefeller Center

Racquet House at Rockefeller Center invited New Yorkers and visitors to celebrate the US Open in the heart of the city.

The festivities at Rockefeller Center included a full-size pink tennis court on north side of the Plaza, which was open for the weekend leading up for the opening day of the US Open, and a court at Radio Park. Throughout the weekend, professional tennis players were spotted volleying on the court on the Plaza. In addition, an event was held at Radio Park to celebrate the launch of the Rothy's X Evian collection which transformed 72,000 water bottles from the 2021 US Open into a collection of tennis gear.

The RUBENSTEIN team pitched the iconic tennis court on the Plaza to metro and broadcast media in the city as a way to celebrate the US Open. The public was invited to stop by for the chance to see some of the world's best tennis players play on the Center's historic campus. The court was covered by Vogue, People and The Cut, as well as broadcast coverage by WNBC.









#### **VOGUE**

Rothy's x Evian Kick Off the US Open 2022 With a Tennis Takeover at Raquet House Rockefeller Center

On Friday night, a stylish group of tennis stars and fins gathered together atop the roof of Rockefeller Center and Rockefeller Plaza to celebrate the launch of Rothy's and Evian's newest collaboration rooted in sustainability—a limited-edition, tennis-inspired capsule collection made with repurposed Evian water bottles. The collection, which includes slipon sneakers, duffel bags, and hats, came about in the aftermath of last year's U.S. Open, when over 70,000 plastic Evian bottles were collected from the event. To kick off the U.S. Open 2022, beginning on Monday, the both brands' hope is that this year, sustainability is top of mind for all.





#### **Bloomberg**

#### usiness

Sustainable Fashion Comes to US Open With Rothy's x Evian Collection

Tennis grand slam attracts splashy product line made from 72,000 water bottles

Evian, a division of France's Danone SA and a US Open sponsor, contacted Rothy's last year about a potential partnership, Rothy's interim Chief Marketing Officer Tom Herbst said in an interview. "It was a really good fit for us," he said. "It just so happens that we're launching this collection when tennis is having a moment."

"During the pandemic, we saw a re-emergence of the sport as it was something people could do outdoors from a distance," Herbst said.

The US Open will take place Aug. 29 through Sept. 11. Although Rothy's isn't an official sponsor of the tournament, the company is planning a splashy launch event on Aug. 26 to showcase the collection on the rooftop of Rockefeller Center. Tennis players Emma Raducanu, Stan Wawrinka and Tommy Haas are expected to be in attendance. Herbst said.

#### indieplaza

Rockefeller Center and Rough Trade presented the inaugural *indieplaza*, a two-day festival celebrating independent music, on the Plaza in September.

The RUBENSTEIN team pitched the announcement of the inaugural festival, as well as subsequent pitching as additional participants were confirmed. The announcement of the festival was covered by *Variety*, *Pitchfork*, *Brooklyn Vegan*, and more. The event was also highlighted as a recommended event in the city by metro outlets including amNewYork, Thrillist, and Our Town.













'Indieplaza' Music Festival to Take Over New York's Rockefeller Plaza This Weekend



It's surreal enough that the legendary Rough Trade record store—an indierock meca that was born in punk-ere London and opened a sprawling location in Brooklyn's hipster heaven Williamsburg in 2013 that sadly did not survive the pandemic—is now located in Rockefeller Plaza in the heart of Middown Manhattan, literally in the same building as NBC.

Things will get even more surreal this weekend, when "Indieplaza 2022" — a free music fewirul co-presented by Rocksfeller Center and Rough Trade featuring a bevy of up-and-coming acts — will take over Rockefeller Plaza on Saturday and Sunday. Highlights include an hour-long Di set from Ali Shaheed Muhammad of A Tribe Called Quest, singer-songwriter Claud, rapper-singer Yaya Bey, rockers Horsegirl and Steve Gunn, and many more (the full lineup and set times appear below).



Favorite Vegetable, plus Rough Trade vinyl bins, live screen printing from Upstate Merch, live art

demonstrations from prolific painter and Pavement / Apples in Stereo album cover designer Steve

Moog Fest that will present "hands-on music making."

Keene (whose book is out now), and more. There will also be a Music Maker Fair from the folks behind



INDIEPLAZA—Ready to experience a free two-day lineup of indie music, hands-on workshops, a band merchandise market and spectacular food and drink? Head over to the Rockefeller Center this weekend for the inaugural INDIEPLAZA. Headliners include all Shaheed Muhummad, Claud, Horsegirl, and Sessa. Other highlights include live art demonstrations, screen printing, artist signings, DIY family fun and games. 45 Rockefeller Plaza, Manhattan

Free roller skating in the park- Love to skate? Love free events? Skates in the park is for you! The event takes place every. Skaturdy and is open to skaters of all skill levels. Loaner skates are available on a first-come, first-serve basis, but beginners are encouraged to take the free class from 3 to 4 p.m. and to bring safety equipment. Reserve dates ahead of time at eventbrike com. Rocadela 153:52 1441, Queens



Rough Trade to Launch Free Festival Indieplaza at New York's Rockefeller Center



Rough Trade has curated a new—and free—festival called <u>Indisplans</u>, coming to the plans at New York's Societies Centers on Speciment 17 and 18, For the insugural bill, the mentals a trace and label relected A Tribe Called Quest's Ali Shaheed Muhammad to headline, with Yaya Bey, Mary Lattimore, Claud, Horseptif, Automatic, King Hannah, They Hate Change, and Cola among the others set to Resize Nation of Lengage will play a Dis-

The festival—co-presented by Rough Trade and Rockefeller Center—will also include a band merchandise market, music-making workshops, and food and drink from local businesses, according to a press release.

#### Glass Reimagined

To celebrate the 85th birthday of Philip Glass, Rockefeller Center and Pomegranate Arts presented a two-show concert featuring performances by longtime Glass interpreters, the Kronos Quartet and electronic composer Jlin, at the Rainbow Room.

The RUBENSTEIN team invited key art and music reporters to the performances as an opportunity to showcase the Rainbow Room as a modern performance space that is deeply rooted in its rich history. Notably, The New Yorker ran a listing for the event in their highly regarded "Goings on About Town," and a prominent reporter for Artnet News attended the first performance of the evening.









#### NEW YORKER

#### CLASSICAL MUSIC

"Glass: Reimagined"

Back in January, New Yorkers convened at Rockefeller Center's ice rink to mark Philip Glass's eighty-fifth birthday, eating cupcakes and skating to an all-Glass playlist. The festivities return to 30 Rock this month: the Kronos Quartet and the electronic producer Jlin pay tribute to Glass's versatility amid the city vistas of the Rainbow Room, on the building's sixty-fifth floor, with new arrangements of some of his coruscating works for solo piano, including Étude No. 6 and "Mad Rush." An enthusiastic proselytizer for new music, the Kronos Quartet also performs two pieces from "50 for the Future," a collection of scores that it commissioned and made free to download on its Web site, as a kind of contemporary-music lending library.

— Oussama Zahr







Glass: Reimagined

# Retail

#### Retail

Rockefeller Center welcomed a wide array of new retailers to campus in 2022. From homegrown NYC staples like McNally Jackson and Apotheke, to nationally-recognized brands such as Alo Yoga, the Center proved that it is the arbiter of taste by providing a home to these new and exciting brands.

The RUBENSTEIN team supported Rockefeller Center retailers by coordinating lease announcements and working with the retailers' in-house PR teams to provide support throughout their opening processes.

The RUBENSTEIN team also encouraged cross-collaboration and partnerships across Rockefeller Center, providing access to other spaces on campus for their special guests, press and influencers like Top of the Rock, The Rink or suggested dining options. Press and publicity strategy for the brands was three-fold: focused on real estate press for lease announcements, business of fashion and New York trends, and things to do in New York.

The RUBENSTEIN team also created talking points for CEOs, founders and designers to use for press interviews, advised on meaningful relationships they could develop with fellow retailers, and identified key events taking place at Rockefeller Center that might affect foot traffic or in-store displays.

# TODD SNYDER

HILL HOUSE

HOME

OF THE CLOTH

BEMBIEN

/RM/ND@/BR/L

AnotherTomorrow





McNALLY JACKSON

APOTHEKE TAK GRAMS

#### The New Hork Times

#### Online Brands Try a Traditional Marketing Strategy: Physical Stores

As digital advertising costs rise, more direct-to-consumer retailers are opening shops, leasing turnkey options or securing short-term spaces in other stores.

The same held true for Todd Snyder, a men's wear designer who started his namesake line in 2012. He opened his first store near Madison Square Park in Manhattan in 2016. Rather than a quick rollout of subsequent stores, however, Mr. Snyder took a deliberate approach, choosing locations with special appeal. These included a former liquor store in TriBeCa, a century-old building in which he has retained the original fixtures.

He has also opened in stores in Rockefeller Center; East Hampton, N.Y.; and Greenwich, Conn. The rents vary, but there are no bargains. Rather, he said, the square-foot price is generally "more expensive than it was two years ago."

Mr. Snyder, whose company is now owned by American Eagle Outfitters, envisions running 20 stores nationwide, but he does not anticipate that in-store purchases will exceed more than 20 percent of his revenue.





#### Hill House Home Opens Store in Rockefeller Center



Nap Dress maker Hill House Home opened a 1,300-square-foot shop at Rockefeller Center on Friday morning, in time for the busy Christmas season.

A line formed outside the door before the 10 am. opening, with many eager shoppers wearing the brand. Current, Hill House Home has two brick-and-mort ar stores, the first on Nantucket, which started as a pop-up and is now a permanent location. The brand also opened as mail store on Bleecker Street in New York, which opened in 2017, but outgrew the space and closed in January 2020. Last December, the brand had a holiday pop-up for one month in Suffo.



#### Independent bookstore McNally Jackson to open new flagship location at Rockefeller Center

Bookworms will soon have a new reason to visit Reckefeller Center. This December, belowed independent bookstore McNally Jackson will open a new flagship location at the iconic commercial complex in McMorum. Tehrama Speyer amounced this month. The new bookstore will measure 7,000 square feet and include McNally Jackson's stationary store, Good Exr. This Nationary Store, Good Exr.

McNally Jackson opened its first location on Prince Street in 2004. The shop faced a major rent hike in 2018 and almost had to close its Soho location. But not only did it manage to remain open, but the bookshop was also able to expand to Williamsburg, Downtown Brookfun, and the South Street Seasont.

Expected to open in time for the holidays, the new Rockefelier Center flagship will be the largest of McNally Jackson's five stores. The location "pays homage to the rich history of bookselling in Manhattan's midtown and marks a reemergence of independent booksellers in the ern of Amazon," according to a press release.

The new bookstore comes as part of an ongoing revitalization of Rockefeller Center, which includes improvements to the complex's public realm. New retailers include Brooklyn-based Rough Trade, Afro-centric shoe and accessories designer Armando Cabral, and clothing and flower shoo Linqua Franca.

"Many of our downtown neighbors are opening [there], it has become a very recognizable homey place for us," founder and owner Sarah McNally said. "This is a chance to bring a grand bookstore back to Midtown, in the tradition of Brentano's and Scribner's."

# COMMERCIAL OBSERVER

#### McNally Jackson Plans Rockefeller Center Store

McNally Jackson is heading to Rockefeller Center.

The local independent bookstore chain inked a deal for 7,000 square feet at **Tishman** Speyer's 1 Rockefeller Plaza, according to the landlord.

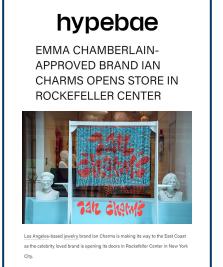
The store, which will be McNally's fifth outpost in New York City, is set to open this winter. It will join McNally Jackson locations in Downtown Brooklyn, SoHo, Williamsburg and the South Street Seaport. Tishman didn't disclose details about the lease, including asking rent, or the brokers.

Originally founded on Prince Street in 2004, McNally Jackson has spread across the city in the past few years. Its two newest stores — at City Point in Downtown Brooklyn and the Fulton Market Building in the Seaport — both opened early in the pandemic in 2020.

Other recent retail additions to Rockefeller Center include record shop Rough Trade, shoe and accessories designer Armando Cabral, and clothing paper flower shop Lingua Franca. The relaxes from Tishman Speyer noted that the addition of McKally Jackson comes "on the heels of a push to revitalize the Center," which has included the opening of a public park on top of Radio City Music Hall and a roller rink on the site of the Rockefeller Center ice rink.







# **Office Customers**

# **Customer Announcements**

Leasing is the 'why' for so much of Rockefeller Center's decision-making around what it offers to New Yorkers. Especially in the RTO era, it's strategically imperative that news is shared when blue-chip companies and organizations elect to move to the Center.

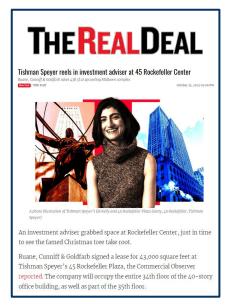
In 2022, RUBENSTEIN worked with customers to highlight leasing announcements and what it's like to have an office at Rock Center, tying it back to the concurrent news of major improvements that have made the Center the greatest place in the city to go to work.















### World Monuments Fund Leaves Empire State Building for Rockefeller Center

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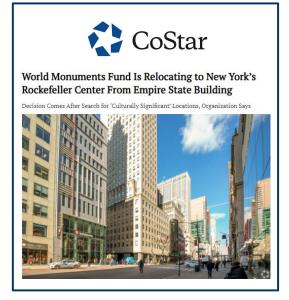
World Monuments Fund (WMF), a nonprofit dedicated to preservation of historic sites around the globe, is relocating from the Empire State Building to Rockefeller Center. Commercial Observer has learned.

The organization will leave the 24th floor of the Empire State Building for 7,981 square feet on the entire 25th floor of Tishman Speyer's 600 Fifth Avenue, according to the landlord. A Tishman Speyer spokesperson declined to comment on the asking rent of the 10-year lease.

WMF has raised hundreds of millions to preserve more than 700 historic sites in 112 countries, including Angkor Wat in Cambodia, the moal statues on Easter Island, and Bears Ears National Monument in Utah.

JRT Realty Group represented the tenant in the lease negotiations, while Tishman Speyer handled negotiations in-house. JRT didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

"As an organization dedicated to safeguarding heritage sites, we are excited to be moving to Rockefeller Center, a campus with incredible history and one of the most vibrant areas of New York City," said VMF's president and CEO, Beneficite de Monthaur. "The amenities for all those who work at the center, the carefully considered retail and dining offerings, and of course the artworks and architecture make this a perfect home for VMF."





#### World Monuments Fund Moves to Rockefeller Center's 600 Fifth Avenue

APRIL 24, 202



After 12 years at the Empire State Building, WMF's Global Headquarters Move from One Iconic Building to Another

World Monuments Fund (WMF) announced the relocation of its global headquarters to Rockefeller Center's 600 Fifth Avenue.

Since 2010, WMF, the world's leading independent

organization dedicated to cultural heritage preservation, has been headquartered on the 24th floor of Empire State Building.

After a thorough search for a new space at culturally significant locations across the city, WMF signed a 10-year lease for a 7,981 square foot space which spans the entire 25th floor of Rockefeller Center's 600 Fifth Avenue. An equally iconic Art Deco building, Rockefeller Center, owned by Tishman Speyer, will open a new chapter in WMFs history.

"As an organization dedicated to safeguarding heritage sites, we are excited to be moving to Rockefeller Center, a campus with incredible history and one of the most vibrant areas of New York City. The amenitles for all those who work at the Center, the carefully considered retail and dining offerings, and of course the artworks and architecture make this a perfect home for WMF," said WMF President and CEO, Behedicte de Montlaur.

World Monuments Fund

#### **COMMERCIAL OBSERVER**

#### How One Manhattan Firm's Office Reflects Big Changes in the Legal Industry

Firms have more work and are locked in a war for talent. Not everyone's coming in every day



One could be forgiven for thinking the workplace of Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP was a restaurant rather than a law office.

The 140,000-square-foot space - all of the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and 10th floors, and about two-thirds of the ninth at 50 Rockefeller Plaza - boasts a warming kitchen, where one can get everything from a cup of coffee to a full meal, not to mention plenty of places to sit down and eat with your food, both inside and out, plus grab-and-go pantries on each practice floor. The offices, designed to serve the needs of some 160 attorneys as well as staff, represent corporate legal representation at its most up to date. The Chicago-based firm moved in April from offices on East 57th Street and Madison Avenue, where it had been for more than 50 years.

"We still don't know - we, the industry, not just this firm - what the future of Manhattan office work is going to be," said Chris DiAngelo, managing partner of Katten's New York office who was instrumental in placing the firm at 50 Rockefeller.

For the legal industry, one of Manhattan's historically largest users of office space, it's been one thing after another, the sleepy transition from one 15- or 20-year lease to the next being anything but in the past several years. First there was the technological revolution, which made spacious law libraries a thing of the past, and then computers, including laptops, that made dragging small mountains of briefs into court obsolete. Then, as soon as the industry got used to that new normal, along came COVID-19, thus making even coming to work something that couldn't be 100 percent assured.

Row upon row of attorney offices in the Katten space offer mute testimony to the uncertain world law offices now live in. Lawyers, unlike other professionals, demand their own offices - some things don't change - but at 50 Rock, every office is the same size. Some are strewn with paper awaiting someone who is in every day. Others are clean and neat, assigned to an attorney who might come in once a week, if that often.

At Katten's new offices, there's an emphasis on conference space, where the firm can conduct panels for audiences to listen in on, and conference rooms where attornevs can gather around big tables to strategize, or to negotiate with outsiders.

The legal industry is up against some rapid wholesale changes, according to brokerage Cushman & Wakefield's latest Bright Insight report on the industry, issued in June. One change is due to the industry's own success. Many firms are trying to get bigger and take on even more work, even as they are trying to reduce their space per attorney and take advantage of less need for space. Every firm on American Lawyer's annual ranking of the 100 highest-grossing firms reported increased revenue in 2021, and 14 percent reported revenue jumps of at least 31 percent.

Among firms surveyed, 37 percent said they didn't anticipate things getting back to normal until the second half of this year, and another 26 percent said it wouldn't happen until the first half of next year. And normalization doesn't mean everyone returning to the office every day. It means what staffers decide to do on an individual case-by-case basis.



Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP

# Redevelopment

#### Redevelopment

While Rockefeller Center's recent revitalization began before 2022, several elements saw completion during the year, including redone lobbies, the redeveloped Rink Level, and the opening of Flipper's Roller Boogie Palace. A separate document will capture the full breadth of RUBENSTEIN's strategic storytelling around revitalization leading into and including 2022; select key hits are presented in the following slides.













# Wallpaper\*

Studio Mellone transforms lobby of iconic art deco building in Rockefeller Center

The elegant 50 Rockefeller Plaza lobby by Studio Mellone features furniture by Green River Project and lighting by Apparatus

O O O O Spring to contractions



Midtown Manhattan may not exude the same allure today as it did in the mid-20th-century, but a quiet revamp of one of its hallmarks is set to restore some of its long-lost glamour. Famed for its art deco architecture and signature plaza, Rockefeller Center has been an enduring destination for visitors – appealing to both design buffs and tourists alike. 50 Rockefeller Plaza is one of the area's most attractive strongholds, not only for its mammoth, <a href="Isamu Noguchi">Isamu Noguchi</a>-sculpted façade, but its recently opened roof terrace, just a modest seven storeys up, which now offers a unique vantage point of the surrounding area at select times, as well as private events.

50 Rockefeller Plaza: lobby design by Studio Mellone



On the ground floor, the building has revealed a newly transformed lobby designed by the New York-based interior design firm Studio Mellone. Sumptuous, elegant and well-appointed, the evocative space looks more like it would belong to a hotel or luxury residence than an office building.

Tishman Speyer, the developer that now owns Rockefeller Center, has been making a move towards giving the buildings' lobbies a hospitality feel and turning them into spaces that people want to be at and enjoy, not just like a mausoleum stone box where you check in and then just go upstairs,' says Andre Mellone, the firm's principal and founder. 'This renovation is part of a larger project to revamp Rockefeller Center and make it more for New Yorkers, not just a tourist destination.' With plans to elevate the retail offering and food and beverage assortment available in the vicinity – signs of which have already become evident during the last year – the area is poised for revival.

Originally built in 1938, 50 Rockefeller Plaza was once home to the Associated Press, and comes with a storied legacy of the city's rise and fall since that time. While many other aspects of the Rockefeller Center are under historical landmark protection, this lobby was notably not, allowing Mellone to undertake a complete renovation of the space.





50 Rockefeller Plaza is Getting a Stylish New Makeover

Under the eye of designer Andre Mellone, the Iconic midtown Menhatten tower now pairs the contemporary with

With its striking façade that includes a ten-ton stainless panel by the celebrated American sculptor Isamu Noguchi, <u>50 Rockefeller Plaza</u> is one of Rockefeller Center's most notable buildings. Built in 1938, the 16-story Art Deco tower was originally the headquarters for the Associated Press and now counts the law firm Katten and CPA company Citrin Cooperman among its tenants. But even the most elegant grand dame can always use a freshening-up— and 50 Rock is no different. Over the past two and a half years, the building's interior spaces have been given an inviting new look.

Most of the recent transformation happened in the lobby and was led by the celebrated interior designer <u>Andre Mellone of Studio Mellone</u>. The project is part of a larger hospitality initiative by <u>Tishman Spever</u>, the owner of Rockefeller Center, to make its commercial buildings more residential-feeling and welcoming. According to a spokesperson, the initiative started well before the pandemic as part of its portfolio-wide focus on hospitality. It seems particularly prescient at a time when landlords are trying to find creative ways to bring people back to the office. Their lobby re-imaginations, introducing designer furniture and music, are at the heart of the mission to make these spaces less functional and more user-friendly.

In its new iteration, walking into 50 Rockefeller Plaza is akin to entering a chic boutique hotel. A signature scent of white tea and thyme wafts through the lobby and eclectic pop music, in a playlist curated by the London-based NTS Radio, invites people to settle in. Stylish furniture by Green River Project and aged brass lighting fixtures by Apparatus Studio add to the stay-a-while feel as does the gold and dark green Art Deco-inspired rug.



Art is a feature, too, and gives the lobby a hip gallery vibe. Colorful pieces by prominent contemporary artists Florian Schmidt, Alexander Ross, and Axel Gris are all part of the display.

While the entrance to the lobby is the most visible to anyone who enters, Mellone also got creative in rethinking its rear area, set off by the elevators. This back-alley of sorts looks like a café with its sleek wood tables and chairs and mirror with brass rosettes. Already, according to a spokesperson, people are lounging and chatting in this space instead of simply hurrying through.



























#### Flipper's Roller Boogie Palace

Flipper's Roller Boogie Palace at The Rink at Rockefeller Center opened on April 15, 2022, marking the first time that Rockefeller Center has offered roller skating in the warmer months since a short season in 1940.

To announce the opening of Flipper's to the world, the RUBENSTEIN team worked in collaboration with DLX (on behalf of Flipper's). The RUBENSTEIN team pitched New York metro reporters, in addition national reporters across broadcast, photo, arts and culture, travel, and things to do. RUBENSTEIN coordinated a targeted press preview ahead of opening day, as well as a day of media call targeting broadcast and photo. The news that Flipper's would open at Rockefeller Center broke through two exclusive feature articles: one by The New York Times and the other by WSJ Magazine. The announcement was then covered by nearly every major New York-based news outlet and broadcast station, with national coverage including articles by Forbes, Vogue.com, People, and Conde Nast Traveler.

Three events were held in the days leading up to the opening of Flipper's. There was a preview event for media, a high-profile opening celebration, and a media-call on the day of the opening which invited media to interact with skaters and share the excitement of the opening day with their audiences. In addition to media, the RUBENSTEIN team invited select influencers to the preview event to get a first-look at the new rink. The influencers invited were chosen due to their expertise in video content so they would be able to share the high energy of the new rink.

Notably, the RUBENSTEIN team coordinated segments with the hosts of the TODAY Show on opening day which included interviews with the co-founder of Flipper's, Liberty Ross. Flipper's Roller Boogie Palace has continued to grow in popularity, and was included in roundups of things to do in the city consistently while it was open.







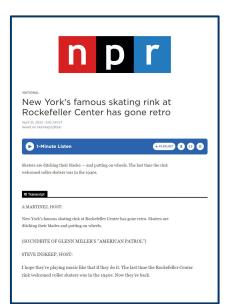


















# Christmas at Rockefeller Center

#### The 2022 Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree

The 2022 Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree from Queensbury, New York earned local, national, and international coverage from the day its location was announced through the lighting and beyond. On the days of the tree cutting, arrival, and lighting, the RUBENSTEIN team helped arrange media interviews for Neil Lebowitz and Erik Pauze.

The RUBENSTEIN team also worked to coordinate additional specialty interviews and experiences for outlets such as NBC Nightly News, Insider, and Highlights for Children.

For the first time, select content creators were invited to attend the lighting. Feedback on the experience was overwhelmingly positive from all who attended.

This year's holiday media coverage included 16,000+ media stories across TV, print, online and social media, with a potential audience reach of over 8.9 billion.











Rockefeller Center has selected its 2022 Christmas tree – and it's huge!



The best time of the year is finally here!

On Tuesday, Nov. 1, Rockefeller Center unveiled its new Christmas tree, which will be sitting in the middle of the plaza above the iconic skating rink.

The Norway Spruce is 82 feet tall, 50 feet wide and weighs 14 tons. It's also approximately 85 to 90 years old. This year, the tree was found in Queensbury, New York. Last year, it hailed from Maryland and was a mere 79 feet tall.

#### Daily **Mail**.com

Rockefeller Christmas Tree unveiled: 90-year-old Norway Spruce - standing 82-feet-tall - will be chopped down and transported 200 miles from upstate New York to Manhattan where it'll be adorned with 50,000 lights and topped with a Swarovski crystal star



In a return to tradition this year's Rockefeller Christmas tree will come from Queensbury in upstate New York, around 40 miles north of Albany.

The 90-year-old Norway Spruce stands 82-feet tall, 50 feet in diameter and weighs 14 tons, Rockefeller Center said.

The tree will be cut down in the coming days before being driven just over 200 miles south to Manhattan on a 125 foot telescoping trailer.









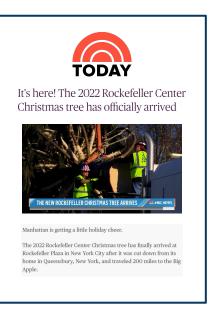






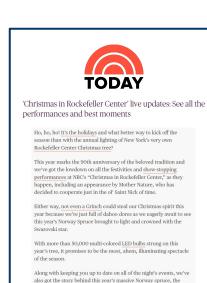












fascinating history behind the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree, and everything else you want to know about this iconic celebration.



#### All the Celebs Going to the 2022 Rockefeller Center Tree Lighting—Including Blake and Gwen

The 2022 Schodelist Center Christians the slighting corecordy is alreg Wednesday, Nevember St., and you work to first so on one of the best ways to perform the best best spice and or the Christians and Recheditive Center special on NEC. the event will be hosted by NEC News TOOM'res anchors Sourman Kodiffers, incide Kodiff. Center special on NEC, the event will be hosted by NEC News TOOM'res anchors Sourman Kodiffers, incide Kodiff. Center Sourman Kodiffers, incide Kodiff. In Consideration of the Consideratio

#### Which celebrities will be at the 2022 Rockefeller Center tree lighting?

Celebs set to make an appearance are as follows: Jimmie Allen, Andrea Bocelli, Mattee Bocelli, Mignia Bocelli, Beatt Edredge, David Foster and Katharina McPhee, Mickey Guyton, Alica Keys, Army Poehler, Radio City Bockettes, Maya Rudolph, the Muppets of Sesame Street, Dan + Shay, <u>Bulke Shelton</u>, The Shindellas, <u>Gwen Sefani</u>, Louis York, and more will be there. Let the counddown begin!

And to make things even sweeter: Husband and wife duo and fellow <u>The Voice</u> Coaches Shelton and Stefani will get together for a duet performance of their holiday single, "You Make it Feet Like Christmas." (The two goggeously performed the heartwarming song on The Voice back in Season 20.)

#### How do I watch the 2022 Rockefeller Center tree lighting?

The Rockefeller Center Christmas tree lighting will be broadcast during the Christmas at Rockefeller Centerspecial, airing Wednesday, November 30 from 8-10 p.m. ET on NBC.

















### The Rink

The Rink at Rockefeller Center Presented by Coach opened on November 5, 2022 to great fanfare and excitement. Information about the opening day, ticket sales and invitations to attend were sent to local and national media.

TODAY did a live hit from *The Rink* to celebrate its opening. Hoy *Día* (Telemundo National) also filmed a profile on Nelson Corporan, *The Rink*'s longtime Olympia driver.

The Rink continued to make roundup lists from outlets across the metro area of the best things to do in New York City this winter!



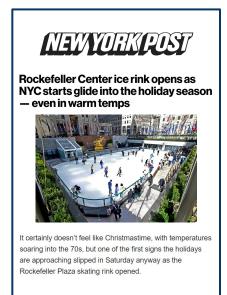


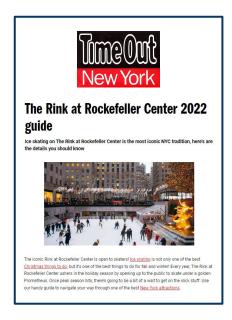




# Media Highlights









### **Tuba Christmas**

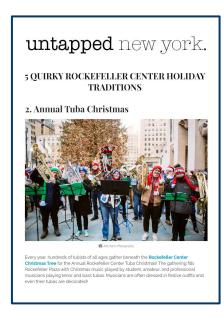
The 49th annual *Tuba Christmas* was held at Rockefeller Center and, per tradition, featured hundreds of tubists of all ages as they filled the Plaza with holiday classics while dressed festively for the occasion.

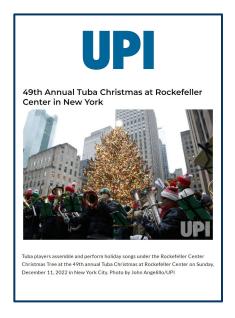
Despite inclement weather, there was a strong turnout by both the performers as well as media. The event was attended by several photographers and local camera crews, as well as content creators.

Several media attendees shared that they look forward to this annual event each holiday season, and already have plans to cover next year's 50th anniversary performance. The event was also pitched in advance to metro area media as well as event listing sites to boost attendance.



# Media Highlights









# **Content Creators**

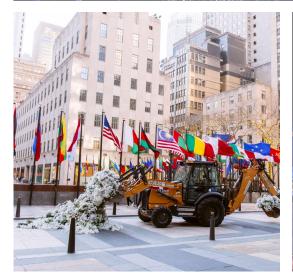
### **Content Creators**

As part of the effort to both open up coverage streams and and cultivate ongoing relationships, the RUBENSTEIN team began incorporating influencers into the media strategy this year at a larger scale than ever before. Influencers were chosen based on the event and their specific niche, with a focus on inviting influencers who create New York-centric content.

Select content creators were invited to events such as Love at the Center, Philip Glass' Birthday Party at The Rink, Star Party, the Love Above All Ball, and more. The culmination of influencer work this year was the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree Lighting, where influencers we have built a relationship with throughout the year (Friends of Rockefeller Center) and new influencers were invited to watch the Tree Lighting and create content to share with their followers. We also began to coordinate curated experiences for influencers that incorporated all aspects of the campus, beginning with a specially customized experience for Eva Chen, Director of Fashion Partnerships at Instagram.











**Eva Chen**Instagram: @evachen212
Followers: 2.2M



Instagram Stories



Mickey Blank
Instagram: @mickmicknyc
Instagram Followers: 124K





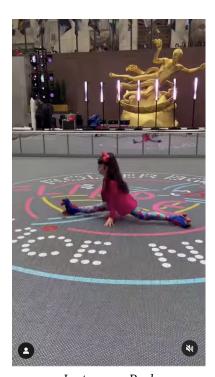
#### Kiara Di Paola

Instagram: @newyorkcity4all

Followers: 101K Friend of Rockefeller Center



Instagram Reel



Instagram Reel



Conor McKenzie Instagram: @conor\_mckenzie



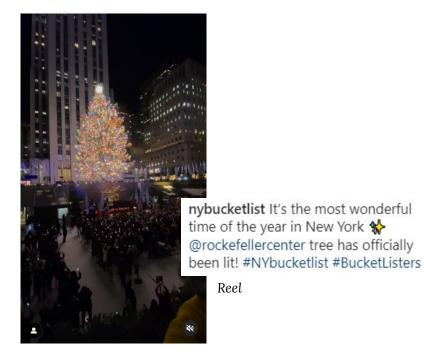
Instagram Reel



Instagram Feed Post

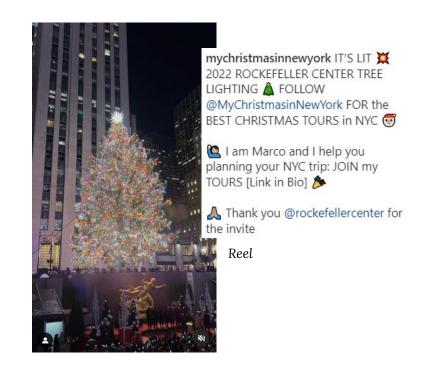


New York Bucket List Instagram: @nybucketlist Followers: 1.5M





**My Christmas in New York** Instagram: @mychristmasinnewyork Followers: 194K





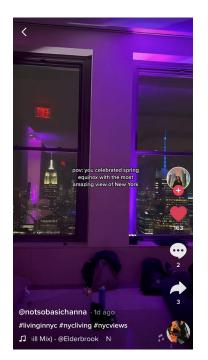
**Mickey Blank**TikTok: @mickmicknyc

Followers: 803.7K Friend of Rockefeller Center





**Hanna Nesterova** TikTok: @notsobasichanna

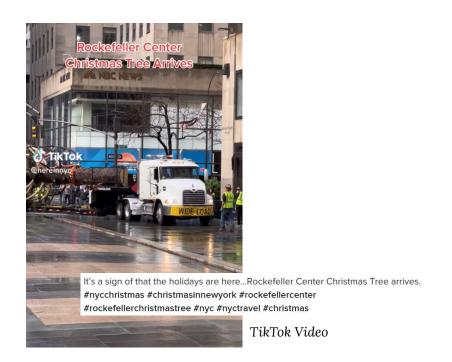




TikTok Video



John Friia
TikTok: @hereinnyc
Followers: 204K
Friend of Rockefeller Center





Megan Marod
TikTok: @themegandaily
Followers: 133.8K
Friend of Rockefeller Center



TikTok Video

# **Impressions Index**

Title	Total Impressions	
Public Art		
Art in Focus - Max Colby	3,789,141	
Art in Focus - Hugo McCloud	12,758,111	
Art in Focus - Emily Mullin	63,411	
Art in Focus - Arghavan Khosravi	14,444,642	
Art in Focus - Lorraine Nam	141,183,695	
Buildings and Blocks	79,418,740	
Dawn Chorus and Speculations	79,418,740	
The Flag Project	40,587,386	
MASA	60,357,731	
Plantoir, Blue	61,389,298	
Jeppe Hein's Changing Spaces	951,702,197	
Derrick Adams' Funtime Unicorns	11,598,406	
Jenny Holzer X PEN America	24,977,324	
Special Events		
Love at the Center	9,826,337	
Pride at Rockefeller Center	57,772,632	
Mexico Week: Día De Muertos at Rockefeller Center	281,681,830	
Star Party	95,393,525	
Racquet House at Rockefeller Center	162,851,682	
indieplaza	40,815,066	
Glass: Reimagined	11,823,414	

Title	Total Impressions
Tenant Announcements	
Ruane, Cunniff & Goldfarb	3,041,087
World Monuments Fund	771,965
New Additions	
Redevelopment	592,680,768
Flipper's Roller Boogie Palace	2,644,153,128
Christmas at Rockefeller Center  Tree Appouncement	275 172 107
Tree Announcement Tree Cutting	375,172,197
-	463,794,101
Tree Arrival	912,226,488
Tree Lighting	1,187,383,329
Tree Removal	34,795,252
General Tree	4,310,504,672
The Rink	1,238,685,121
Tuba Christmas	7,849,627