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FALL ARTS PREVIEW

10 Public Art Installations To See In Greater Boston This Fall

Amelia Mason | September 27, 2018

Boston is in the midst of a public art boom. Right now, the city is host to sculptures made of fog, an exhibit of vintage neon signs, and a big orange net designed to raise awareness of climate change. Not to mention the murals that pop up seemingly every week.

Boston, it appears, has begun to shake the puritanical attitude toward street art that resulted in the 2009 arrest of the artist Shepard Fairey — known for his famous "Hope" poster of Barack Obama — on the way to the opening of his own exhibit at the ICA. (Although graffiti taggers still sometimes find themselves on the wrong side of the law.) Instead, investment in and enthusiasm for public art around Boston is on the rise. Nonprofits, real estate developers, public parks, universities, government agencies — all are getting in on the action. With new works cropping up all the time, it's worth taking stock of the latest public art projects around town.

'All is One' | 1350 Boylston St.

The Harlo, a new luxury apartment building in the Fenway neighborhood of Boston, just unveiled a mural by the Mexican-born, New York-based artist Raúl de Nieves called "All is One." The piece is based on the myth of Saint George and the Dragon, and it's one of the few new mural works in Boston not rooted in a tradition of street art or graffiti. Instead, it recreates a watercolor by de Nieves in which the dragon and Saint George appear as fragmented abstractions in a pixilated riot of greens and blues.



Raúl de Nieves' "All Is One" in the Fenway neighborhood. (Robin Lubbock/WBUR)