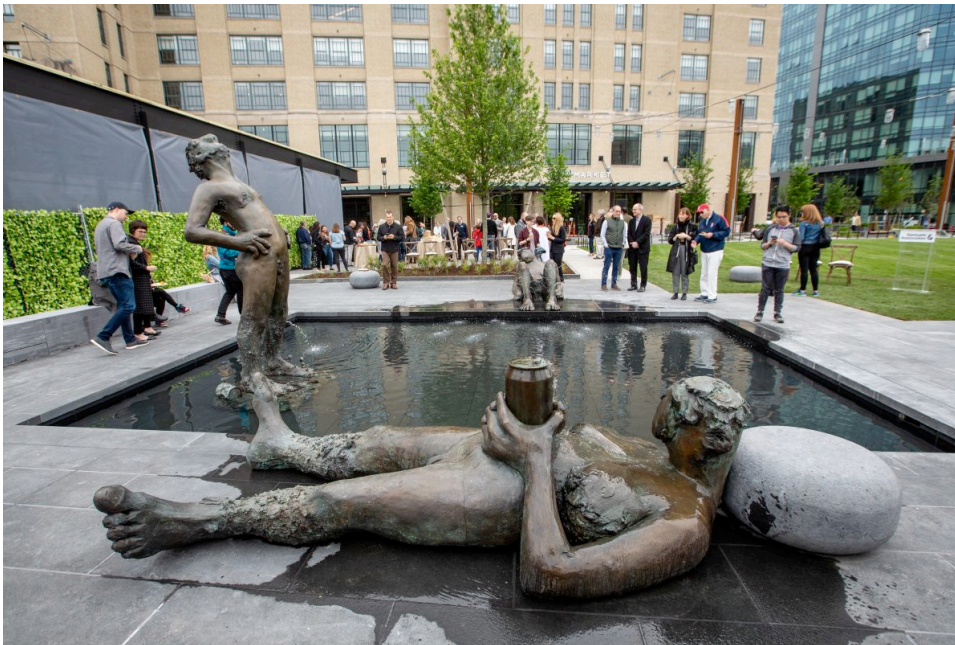


## ARTnews

### The Most Important Artworks of the 2010s

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BY THE EDITORS OF ARTNEWS



Nicole Eisenman, *Sketch for a Fountain*, 2017, installation view at 401 Park, Boston. ARAM BOGHOSIAN/COURTESY THE ARTIST AND ANTON KERN GALLERY/©NICOLE EISENMAN

#### 9. Nicole Eisenman, *Sketch for a Fountain*, 2017

Having long been known best as a painter, Nicole Eisenman has recently [become one of our finest sculptors](#). Her characteristically playful five-part sculpture *Sketch for a Fountain*, which was first presented at the Skulptur Projekte Münster in 2017, is an ode to leisure and quiet contemplation. The artist's bronze and plaster figures, situated beside a small water feature, enact their own idiosyncratic modes of relaxation, with one lying on its back, enjoying a large beverage, and another standing, with its head tilted gently skyward. Reimagining the format and social function of sculptural fountains, Eisenman invites visitors to engage in a moment of rest alongside her characters. And engage people did—though not always in positive ways.

Visitors to the display in Münster, Germany, beheaded one of the figures and painted a swastika on another. In the end, however, the residents of the city fell in love with the work, along with the slew of critics, curators, and dealers who came by to see it, and locals even began to fundraise to keep it in 2018. Versions of the sculpture have since found permanent homes at the Nasher Sculpture Center in Dallas and a park in Boston. —*Claire Selvin*