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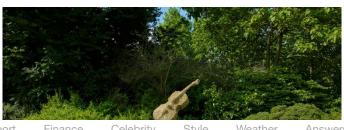
Y Ella Phillips
Town&Country 4 July 2019



Photo credit: Photo by Stephen White. Courtesy of Stephen White/Frieze

From Town & Country

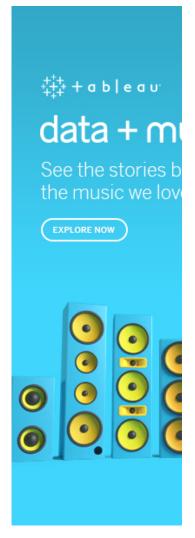
The capital's elite art crowd decamped to NW1 on a sunny July evening for the opening of Frieze Sculpture, a mainstay in the British summer season now in its third year in residency at the English Gardens in Regent's Park. Running from 3 July to 6 October, the annual sculpture exhibition is a free public art display in central London, showcasing the work of 23 artists of 17 nationalities, where an estimated 1 million visitors will view the exhibition during its three-month residency.



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Clare Lilley, the director of programme at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, hand-picked each artist for Frieze Sculpture, and together with Frieze London's artistic director Jo Stella-Sawicka, has succeeded in securing a selection of established and emerging artists and their supporting galleries from all over the world. Among the 23 artists in the exhibition are sculptors from South Korea, Iran, Colombia, Poland and Canada, highlighting the diversity and energy of contemporary sculpture. Female artists feature heavily in Frieze Sculpture 2019, including the Pakistani-born Huma Bhabha, whose work, according to Lilley, "takes human actions to the very edge of plausibility and acceptability"; and the Scottish-born Turner Prize nominee Lucy Skaer, whose three limestone blocks are a more conceptual reference to the traditional practice of lithographic stone printing, inciting viewers to consider how objects have changed their meaning by being seen in different contexts.



Photo credit: Photo by Stephen White. Courtesy of Stephen White/Frieze

Lilley designed the thoughtful arrangement of each sculpture around the English Gardens. Certain pieces are deliberately placed in strategic locations to display them at their best. For example, Emily Young's 1.6m-wide solidonyx disc is eastward-facing to allow the morning light to create a beguiling illuminating effect on the stone, while Robert Indiana's momentous work 0-9 (Frieze's largest exhibited sculpture to date) has been positioned in a circle, enabling viewers to physically enter the space created inside the work and engage with it. Similarly, Lilley has displayed four works by female artists in close contact as a kind of monument to female strength and prominence in contemporary sculpture.

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