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HYPERALLERGIC

Battery Park City Authority Introduces a Glass House to Belvedere Plaza

On view through spring 2022, Mildred Howard's "The House That Will Not Pass For Any Color Than Its Own" builds on the public art legacy of Manhattan's Battery Park City.

by [Battery Park City Authority](#)
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The mirrored surfaces of the glass panels that make up "The House That Will Not Pass For Any Color Than Its Own" reflect the work's red steel frame. Openings in the roof and walls reveal views of the sky and surroundings and subvert traditional function of a house, spurring questions about the meaning of home and homeland (image courtesy Will Dintenfass Photography)

The Battery Park City Authority (BPCA) has introduced a new public art installation by artist Mildred Howard at Belvedere Plaza, just north of the North Cove Marina in

Battery Park City. The piece, titled “The House That Will Not Pass For Any Color Than Its Own” (2011), is constructed of automotive steel and laminated glass. It is on loan from the Sacramento County Department of Airports and will be on view at Belvedere Plaza through spring 2022.

“The House That Will Not Pass For Any Color Than Its Own” is an interactive glass house-sculpture that three or four people may enter at one time. The purple glass panels that make up the structure are partially mirrored, allowing those inside to see themselves reflected in a different hue. The house is specifically positioned in a waterfront location that guides visitors to view the Statue of Liberty through its threshold and within.

“It is exciting and deeply moving to be able to frame the Statue of Liberty through the doorway of my art,” says Mildred Howard. “As Americans experience reckonings on race and the mistreatment of immigrants, does the refuge and safe haven symbolized by Lady Liberty seem more of a dream than a reality?”

“The House That Will Not Pass For Any Color Than Its Own” is the latest temporary art installation in Battery Park City, following the recent launch of the [Poetry Path](#), Muna Malik’s [“Blessing of the Boats,”](#) *Raining Poetry*, and [“Sunrise, Sunset \(Revolution\)”](#) by Autumn Ewalt & Dharmesh Patel. This summer Battery Park City hosted the first-ever, [all-virtual Battery Dance Festival](#), and is also home to a celebrated permanent [public art collection](#) as well as various [museums and memorials](#) located throughout its 92-acre site.

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Visitors are encouraged to enter and explore “The House” and experience how the artwork interacts with their image and their surroundings (image courtesy Will Dintenfass Photography)

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The world appears in a range of royal purple tones through the colored glass. As visitors enter, they too are cast with purple hues that change in relation to light, weather, and surface colors (image courtesy Will Dintenfass Photography)

“The House That Will Not Pass For Any Color Than Its Own” is on view in Belvedere Plaza (just north of the North Cove Marina in Battery Park City, Manhattan, NY) through spring 2022. Visit bpca.ny.gov to learn more.