



Community Culture

Optical Illusion Art Added to The Greenway Near Hanover Street

By Chris Romano · Tue, May 30, 2017 796 2

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Meredith James' false perspective piece titled, "Far from this setting in which we now find ourselves," is on the Greenway near Hanover Street.

Earlier this month, the **Greenway Conservatory** announced that three artists' work will be installed on the Greenway throughout the Summer. Each artist is contributing art related to the theme of "Playful Perspectives."

One of the three artists, **Meredith James**, has contributed her piece, *Far from this setting in which we now find ourselves*, to the Rose Kennedy Greenway's award-winning public art program. The optical illusion piece sits at the top of Hanover Street.



Looking through the small hole allows a viewer to see a distorted perspective. A Worker finishes the final touches of the piece.

James' piece is called an Ames room. This three-walled trapezoidal room has been built with a false perspective. When standing back from the three walls, it appears even and square. However, when you walk onto the art piece, the floor slants downward. Looking through the viewfinder allows one to see people grow or shrink depending on where they stand in the room.

The Ames room is surrounded by green walls holding live plants. This garden-like imagery and the title of the art piece reference the Alain Resnais 1961 film, *Last Year at Marienbad*. The film features the Nyphenburg Palace garden near Munich, Germany. James adapted the garden to create her Ames room that now sits on the Greenway.

Throughout the Greenway, two other artists, **Mark Reigelman** and **Aakash Nihalani**, will be installing their artwork as well as James. These pieces will complement the preexisting artwork already on the Greenway.

James' art piece is 34 feet long and approximately 450 square feet. For more information on the Summer art installations, visit **The Rose Kennedy Greenway** website.