

GLADSTONE GALLERY

Carol Vogel, "Rockefeller Art Resumes," *The New York Times*, March 1, 2013, p. C24.

Inside Art

Carol Vogel

Rockefeller Art Resumes

Rockefeller Center has been the backdrop for Jeff Koons's giant terrier puppy, fashioned from 70,000 flowering plants; Louise

Bourgeois's nine-ton bronze spider; and Takashi Murakami's 30-foot Buddha-like figure with multiple arms and pointed head. It has also been home to a 61,000-pound fountain made of steel, neon tubing and 3,390 LED bulbs by the British artists Tim Noble and Sue Webster. These artworks — and many more — have been popular attractions for the thousands of people who pass through Rockefeller Center every day. In 2008, when the economy soured, the art stopped, and people noticed.

"We were working on major restorations inside many of the buildings, like the murals at 30 Rockefeller Center," said Jerry I. Speyer, chairman and co-chief executive of Tishman Speyer Properties, owners of Rockefeller Center. "Back then the mood was not so great, and a lot of people felt that using money for public art wasn't the right thing to do."

"It's a much more optimistic time now," Mr. Speyer said. So this spring art will be back where the Christmas tree stands every year. The first exhibition, "Human Nature," organized with the assistance of the Public Art Fund,

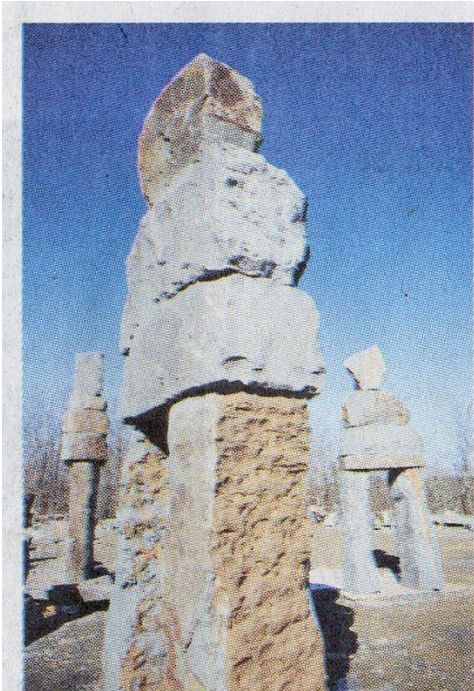
GLADSTONE GALLERY

Carol Vogel, "Rockefeller Art Resumes," *The New York Times*, March 1, 2013, p. C24.

will be an installation of nine human-shaped sculptures by the Swiss artist Ugo Rondinone, on view from April 23 through June 7.

The sculptures, 16 to 20 feet tall, are made of bluestone from a quarry in Pennsylvania, the same region that supplied many of the stone sidewalks around Rockefeller Center. Mr. Rondinone purposely left the stone as he found it, with the surfaces rough and weathered, scored by quartz veins. He then cut them into slabs and blocks, which he formed into human figures. "These are my first standing figures," Mr. Rondinone said.

Nicholas Baume, director of the Public Art Fund, called it a "site-responsive" project, adding, "Ugo spent a lot of time at Rockefeller Center and has created what will be a forest of giants."



JASON WYCHE/PUBLIC ART FUND, NEW YORK

Drawings by Matthew Barney, including the one above, will be exhibited at the Morgan Library & Museum; left, part of "Human Nature," by Ugo Rondinone, which will be shown at Rockefeller Center.