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Hermann Park installs 'billowing' sculpture by internationally known artist

By Carol Christian | April 14, 2015



Photo By Cody Duty/Houston Chronicle

Crew members with TYart prepare to install Wind Sculpture IV by London-based artist Yinka Shonibare, at Hermann Park, Tuesday, April 14, 2015, in Houston. The sculpture, which is nearly 20 feet high and 11 feet wide at its widest point, captures the movement of a billowing bolt of fabric, the ripple seemingly paused in time. Wind Sculpture IV is one work in Shonibare's series inspired by ship sails. (Cody Duty / Houston Chronicle)

As day was breaking Tuesday, a crew of workers began installing a 20-foot-tall sculpture in Hermann Park.

Entitled "Wind Sculpture IV," the towering work by London-based artist Yinka Shonibare is scheduled to remain in the park until February.

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The sculpture, which has also been displayed in museums in Chicago, London and Germany, captures the movement of a billowing sail, said Lea Weingarten of the Weingarten Art Group, who was on hand for the installation.

Weingarten said Shonibare, who was born in Nigeria and now lives in London, explores the themes of colonialism and globalism in his art.

Last year, as part of the park's centennial celebration, a series of eight art pieces were installed at various spots and were well received, Weingarten said.

"There was so much momentum that the park decided to continue the program," she said Tuesday. "This is the first (installation) since the centennial ended. Yinka Shonibare is a treat of an artist to have in Houston."

Built of steel covered with fiber glass, the Shonibare piece stands at the park entrance, on the median adjacent to the Sam Houston monument. It's on the same spot where an installation by artist Yvonne Domenge, entitled "Wind Waves," was taken out in January.



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Photo By Cody Duty/Houston Chronicle



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Photo By Metro Video

Workers install a new, 20-foot public art piece in Houston's Hermann Park on Tuesday morning, April 14, 2015. The work, "Wind Sculpture IV," was created by London artist Yinka Shonibare.



Photo By Metro Video



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