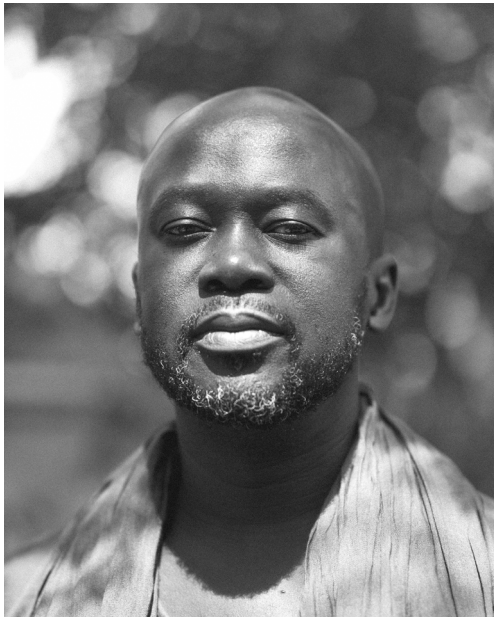


Noguchi Museum Hosts Annual Benefit

Live virtual gala on Monday, November 16, 8 pm EST

Evening includes a celebration of 2020 Isamu Noguchi Award honorees Sir David Adjaye and Cai Guo-Qiang, and the unveiling of Isamu Noguchi Way



Sir David Adjaye OBE. Photo: Chris Schwagga

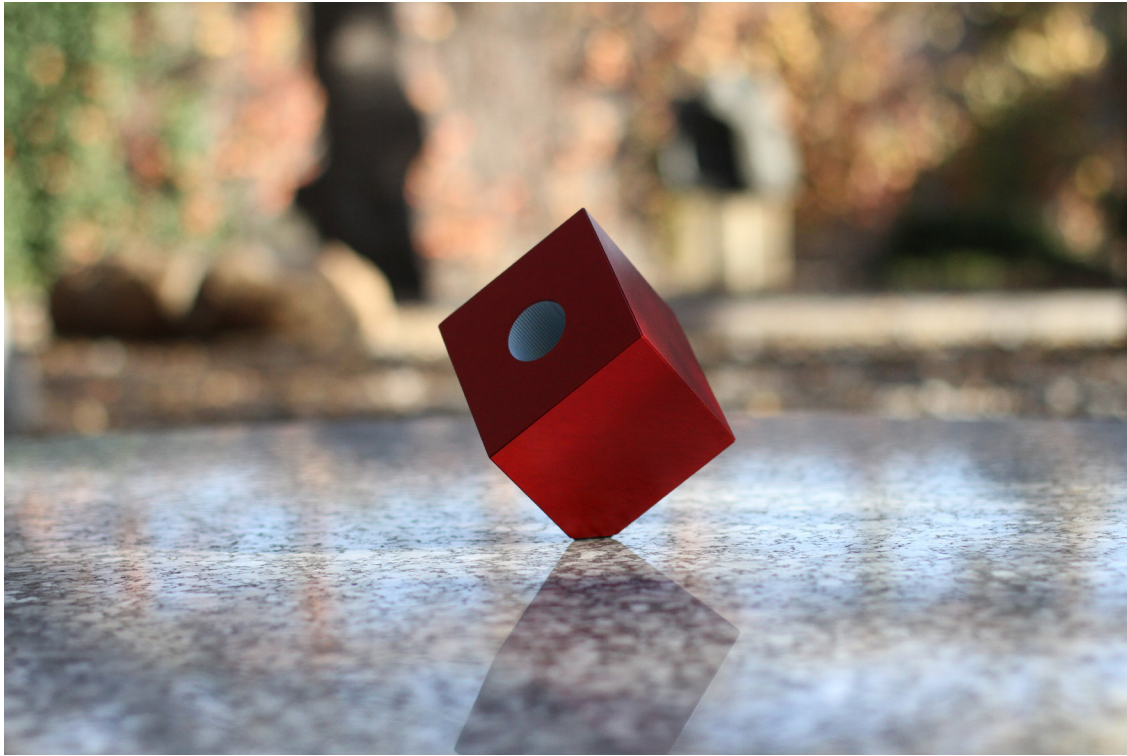


Cai Guo-Qiang. Photo: Lin Yi, courtesy Cai Studio

New York, NY (November 13, 2020) – The Noguchi Museum will present the 2020 Isamu Noguchi Award to architect **Sir David Adjaye OBE** and artist **Cai Guo-Qiang** in a virtual celebration on Monday, November 16, 2020, at 8 pm EST. In its seventh year, the Isamu Noguchi Award is conferred on individuals who share Noguchi's spirit of innovation, global consciousness, and commitment to Eastern and Western cultural exchange. Event supporters giving any donation amount will receive access to the virtual event. Details and registration: noguchi.org/benefit.

2020 ISAMU NOGUCHI AWARD

Celebrating the 2020 Isamu Noguchi Award honorees, the event program will include the screening of exclusive films with remarks by architect **Lord Norman Foster**, Founder and Executive Chairman, Foster + Partners, and 2014 Isamu Noguchi Award honoree; **Thelma Golden**, Director and Chief Curator of the Studio Museum in Harlem; and **Alexandra Munroe**, Senior Curator, Asian Art and Senior Advisor, Global Arts, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum.



The Isamu Noguchi Award. Photo: Evan Scott

The virtual format, unique to 2020, offers the opportunity to share extended conversations with the honorees to reflect on their own work and profound connections with Isamu Noguchi. These video interviews will be shown in full. In October, Littman visited Cai at his Frank Gehry-designed studio and home in Chester, New Jersey, for the artist's first interview held at his property since the pandemic. Cai shares reflections on his years of living in Japan and how he sees the influence of the country in his own work and Noguchi's, his multidisciplinary approach, and experiences of working during the pandemic. In November, writer, editor, and Noguchi Museum trustee **Spencer Bailey** sat down in the Museum's galleries for a long-distance conversation with Sir David Adjaye. Joining from Accra, Ghana, Adjaye reflects on relationships between sculpture and architecture, his own formative experiences in Japan, geography and climate, materiality, and memory. noguchi.org/award

ISAMU NOGUCHI WAY

The event will also include the official co-naming of **Isamu Noguchi Way** with Deputy Leader of the New York City Council **Jimmy Van Bramer** and **Brett Littman**, Director of the Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum. Marking the block between Isamu Noguchi's former studio and the Museum, 33rd Road between 9th and 10th Streets will be co-named Isamu Noguchi Way.

Council Member Van Bramer states, "It is an honor to join the Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum in co-naming 33rd Road 'Isamu Noguchi Way.' Isamu Noguchi made a profound impact in the world of arts and design from this studio in Long Island City, and now this street will continue to celebrate his legacy as an artist and thinker."

Isamu Noguchi (1904–1988) came to Long Island City in 1961, establishing his studio on 10th Street at 33rd Road. In 1974 he purchased the industrial building across the street, which would later become his eponymous museum.

Littman states, “Isamu Noguchi and the museum he founded have a nearly sixty-year history in Long Island City, and specifically on this block of 33rd Road. We are grateful to Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer and to the New York City Council for recognizing Noguchi’s important relationship with, and contribution to, this neighborhood.”



L: Isamu Noguchi, *Linga*, 1987 (fabricated 1988).
Muntz metal
Unique AP
Starting bid: \$125,000

R: Isamu Noguchi, *Messenger 2B*, 1960–87 (fabricated 2020)
Silicon bronze plate, constructed
Number 2 in an edition of 6
with 2 APs
Starting bid: \$90,000

Photos: Nicholas Knight.
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BENEFIT AUCTION

Each year, the Noguchi Museum holds an auction as part of its annual benefit. The event and auction raise critical funds to support the Museum’s operations, programming, and care of its renowned collection. This year, two exceptional works by Isamu Noguchi, *Linga* (1987, fabricated 1988) and *Messenger 2B* (1960–87, fabricated 2020) are offered. The works come from a series of constructed metal editions that Noguchi, nearing the end of his life, conceived in part as a means to help support his foundation and museum. The auction takes place online from Monday, November 9, at 8 am EST, and closes during the live event on Monday, November 16, at 8:30 pm EST. noguchi.org/auction

ABOUT THE NOGUCHI MUSEUM

Founded in 1985 by Isamu Noguchi (1904–1988), one of the leading sculptors and designers of the twentieth century, The Noguchi Museum was the first museum in America to be established and designed by a living artist to show their own work. Among the artist’s greatest achievements, the Museum comprises ten indoor galleries in a converted factory building and a serene outdoor sculpture garden. Holding the world’s largest collection of Noguchi’s works, his archives, and catalogue raisonné, the Museum serves as an international hub for research and appreciation for Isamu Noguchi’s work and his enduring legacy as an innovator.

noguchi.org | [@noguchimuseum](https://twitter.com/noguchimuseum)

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