

Proposal for Temporary Installation – Alex Strada at Lt. Petrosino Square

Artist(s): Alex Strada
Sponsoring Organizations: Department of Cultural Affairs PAIR Program, NYC Department of Homeless Services, Storefront for Art and Architecture
Title: *Public Address*
Site: Lt. Petrosino Square, Manhattan
Dates: October 2025 – December 2025
Material: Aluminum with ink jet print, steel posts, concrete, metal brackets
Dimensions: Variable
Weight: 500- lbs. (sculpture plus supports)

Summary of project:

Public Address is a socially engaged public artwork that is the result of artist Alex Strada's Public Artist in Residence position with the NYC Department of Homeless Services (DHS) and the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCLA), with support from the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Storefront for Art and Architecture.

Since 2022, Strada has worked with over 500 people living and working in shelters to write log entries that address misperceptions about the experience of homelessness. All participants signed a release form drafted by the DHS and DCLA legal teams and have the option to contribute to the project anonymously. This public artwork aims to debunk harmful stereotypes and encourage the public to consider addressing homelessness as part of their civic responsibility. *Public Address* has many potential impacts, including making neighborhoods more amenable to shelters and see them as part of their community. Most importantly, the project gives the participants an unprecedented space for their voices to be centered and heard.

Handwritten log entries and drawings will be printed in collaboration with the DOT sign shop. The DOT printmakers will coat the prints with a sealant to protect from UV rays, weather, and graffiti. There will be a total of 10 sculptures that vary in size and installation method. The larger pieces will have two steel structural columns securely anchored into concrete footings. These pieces will be freestanding and will not require anchoring. A series of smaller pieces will be bracketed onto existing fencing. Working with an experienced highway sign installer DHS clients with experience in construction will be hired to assist with building, installing, and deinstalling the sculptures and site remediation.

Proposed Site and Artwork















