



Liftoff

A NEW PUBLIC ART PROJECT BY ALICE AYCOCK

Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation proudly presents Alice Aycock's vibrant and inspirational sculpture, *Liftoff*. The artist created and precisely engineered this sculpture to embody the forces of nature. Aycock's sculpture evokes currents of air, especially ones that could lift us beyond the earth — in our imaginations as well as physically. Painted a dazzling white, *Liftoff* catches the light that, like air, is constantly moving and changing. The sculpture honors the late Johnny Danos, a community leader in Greater Des Moines.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Alice Aycock is a pioneering American artist who has created artwork since the early 1970s.

Over the course of Aycock's decades-long career, many of her works of art have been inspired by science. The physics of fluid dynamics has been of particular interest to the artist. The prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award in Contemporary Sculpture by the International Sculpture Center in 2018 acknowledged Aycock as a master sculptor. She also received the Academy of the Arts Achievement Award in Visual Arts in 2019.

Since 1983, she has had four international retrospective exhibitions of her drawings and sculptures. Museums around the world have collected her art including the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum, the Brooklyn Museum, the Metropolitan Museum in New York, The National Gallery of Art, the Sprengel Museum in Hanover, Germany and the Louis Vuitton Foundation in Paris, France, to name a few.

Aycock is well known for public art installations, including at 14 different universities and major US airports. In 2014, a series of seven sculptures entitled *Paper Chase* was installed on Park Avenue in New York City.

Alice Aycock (American, born 1946)

Liftoff 2021 / Powder coated aluminum and steel

H. 21', 3" x Dia 21', 9" (H. 6m, 43cm x Dia 6m, 63cm)

Commissioned in 2020 by Greater Des Moines Public Art

Foundation in honor of Johnny Danos; Greater Des Moines

Public Art Foundation, 2021.1 / Renderings courtesy of the artist



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