

Janet Echelman Announced as Artist to Create Monumental Sculpture for 2014 TED Conference

Original sculpture by Echelman to premiere at the TED Conference milestone 30th Anniversary in new Vancouver location

Yesterday at the 2013 TED Conference in Long Beach CA, TED Curator Chris Anderson shared the news that Janet Echelman will create a [monumental aerial sculpture](#) to celebrate TED's 30th anniversary next year in Vancouver.

Anderson's goal is to "create a new type of theater space" by inviting back "some of TED's greatest design talents." Echelman aims to achieve this by mediating architectural scale and human scale with a lightweight sculpture made entirely of soft materials.

Echelman will suspend the sculpture between a 30-story skyscraper and the Vancouver Convention Center where the conference will be held – challenging the artist to work on her most ambitious scale yet.

Echelman's studio is collaborating with design software company Autodesk, who have developed custom engineering software to make this effort possible, and are sponsoring the sculpture. The project is intended to be a temporary installation designed to travel among cities after its premiere at TED, calling to mind the TED concept of "an idea worth spreading."

"Janet's vision for the sculpture is absolutely spectacular. We can't think of a better celebration of TED's 30th anniversary and so appreciate Autodesk making it possible," commented Anderson.

For the 30th Anniversary conference, themed "The Next Chapter," TED will invite back 100 of the best TED speakers of all time, and Echelman will share her story. The artist has made bold innovations in public art with her living, breathing sculpture environments, transforming urban space throughout the globe.

"I believe that public space should be intentional: it should be obvious that you belong," said Echelman, whose billowing, voluptuous sculptural forms invite us to linger beneath them.

Echelman's [most recent sculpture installation](#) premiered in Amsterdam suspended from City Hall over the famous Amstel River, headlining the 2012-2013 Amsterdam Light Festival.

Recent prominent works include: Her Secret is Patience spanning two city blocks in downtown Phoenix, Water Sky Garden which premiered for the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics, She Changes on the waterfront in Porto, Portugal, and Every Beating Second in San Francisco Airport's new Terminal Two. Echelman was named a 2012 [Architectural Digest Innovator](#), selected as one of eight global design leaders "challenging received wisdom and conjuring a bold new world."

Follow Studio Echelman on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/studioechelman>

For additional information regarding Studio Echelman's sculpture, contact Melissa Henry, [melissa\(at\)echelman\(dot\)com](mailto:melissa(at)echelman(dot)com).



Studio Echelman

Studio Echelman explores the cutting edge of sculpture, public art, and urban transformation.

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