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Jeff Chien-Hsing Liao's New York: Assembled Realities Opening at the Museum of the City of New York

Wednesday, October 15, 2014

Retrospective of Large-Scale Photographs Spanning 10 Years Showcases Energy and Diversity of New York City's Five Boroughs



72nd Street by Jeff Chien-Hsing Liao

(New York, September 22, 2014) - The Museum of the City of New York presents Jeff Chien-Hsing Liao's New York: Assembled Realities, featuring more than 40 large-scale panoramic photographs of the City's urban landscape by Taiwanese artist Jeff Chien-Hsing Liao, who came to New York to study photography in 1999 at the age of 22. Pushing the boundaries of traditional documentary photography, Liao (b. 1977) creates large-scale panoramas by combining multiple exposures of the same location taken over the course of several hours. The resulting composite photographs are often fantastical-complex, hyper-real views that no single shot-or the eye-could capture. Liao has spent the past decade honing his distinctive style, making images of his adopted city from the Grand Concourse to Coney Island, the old Shea Stadium to the 72nd Street Subway. *Jeff Chien-Hsing Liao's New York: Assembled Realities* opens on Wednesday, October 15 and remains on view until Sunday, February 15, 2015.

"Jeff Liao's personal take on New York City's five boroughs is more than a retrospective of a photographer's work. With his mixed interest in architecture and human interaction, it is a visual documentation of the city's immense energy and diversity on any given day." says Susan Henshaw Jones, the *Ronay Menschel Director* of the Museum of the City of New York.

Since 2004, Liao has carefully observed New York City neighborhoods, street corners, and human movement, scouting the perfect sites for his unconventional shoots. After selecting a location, Liao returns with a large-format film camera in tow, capturing multiple shots from the same viewpoint and photographing the changing human landscape and light conditions. He then uses digital technologies to transform these photographs into a single finished image-an enormous, detail-driven panorama of social or urban scenery. As a result, Liao's photos of quintessential New York City areas, such as Citi Field, Green-Wood Cemetery, and Staten Island, emanate a visual sweep often associated with cinema, encompassing the viewer and providing a strong sense of place.

The accompanying catalog *Jeff Chien-Hsing Liao: New York* by Justin Davidson, Sean Corcoran and Jeff Chien-Hsing Liao will be released by Aperture in October 2014.

The exhibition is made possible by the generous support of the Taipei Cultural Center of TECO in New York; Deutsche Bank; Merrilou and Justin Hillenbrand; Ellen and Bob Grimes; J. Ira and Nicki Harris Foundation; and Ronay and Richard L. Menschel. Additional support is provided by Hilary Ballon and Orin Kramer, Leslie and Mark Godridge, Susan Griffith and David Neill, Mary Ann and Bruno A. Quinson, Ann and Adam Spence, and Marcy Syms.

About the Museum of the City of New York

The Museum of the City of New York celebrates and interprets the city, educating the public about its distinctive character, especially its heritage of diversity, opportunity, and perpetual transformation. Founded in 1923 as a private, nonprofit corporation, the Museum connects the past, present, and future of New York City. It serves the people of New York and visitors from around the world through exhibitions, school and public programs, publications, and collections. For more information, visit <u>www.mcny.org</u>.

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