

STREET ART IS COMING TO LARCHMONT

Larchmont NY - October 11th, 2018 - This fall, the village of Larchmont is bringing back its forgotten history with beautiful and inspiring street art murals. A group of prominent, international street artists, under the production and curation of Street Art for Mankind, will be painting eye-catching murals of Larchmont's vibrant history on several buildings in the Village of Larchmont. Once completed, the *Larchmont Historical Murals* will set the course for a contemporary Art Walk that will capture Larchmont's pioneering history and highlight influential, past residents.

Inspired and moved by the book "Larchmont, NY: People and Places", by Larchmont historian, Judith Doolin Spikes, Street Art for Mankind (SAM) co-founders Thibault and Audrey Decker have initiated the *Larchmont Historical Murals* project to highlight Larchmont's rich and inspiring history. Each mural will pay a tribute to some of the families and individuals that established the village. Well known residents include the Palmers, pioneer farmers; the Motts, feminists, abolitionists ahead of their time and founders of the largest flour-milling industry of its time; and Edward Knight Collins, naval architect and shipping tycoon.

A team of international street artists from France, Mexico, Portugal, Poland and Spain will be painting the murals around town from October 29th to November 4th. The line up of artists includes Btoy, Iljin, Jo Di Bona, Kinmx, Victor Ash, and Loic Ercolessi. After their stop in Larchmont, the muralists will be participating in another Art for social change event from SAM at the United Nations that will also involve painting murals in the Wall Street neighborhood of Manhattan.

An augmented reality app, called "Behind the Wall", will allow visitors to listen to an audio guide of the murals and discover the amazing 300-year history of the Village of Larchmont. The Behind The Wall app, which will be available for free on Apple Store and Play store on November 3rd, 2018, will enable visitors to scan murals, read or listen to the stories behind each painting, discover and hear the artists talk about their art, and make creative selfies with the artwork.

The *Larchmont Historical Murals* project is possible thanks to the support from the Village of Larchmont, the Larchmont Historical Society, the Larchmont Arts Committee and with the efforts and mobilization of its local community and businesses: Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Westchester Properties, DeCicco & Sons, Foley Hardware, Mobile Rescue, The Corner Store, Longford's Ice Cream, Post Wine & Spirits, Villa Maria Pizza, Village Paint Supply, Residence Inn by Marriott New Rochelle, Radisson Hotel New Rochelle, USA Stage Associates and Tequila Sunrise.

The murals project will be the first of its kind in Westchester County. Mayor Lorraine Walsh is very enthusiastic about the murals, and believes it will create an exciting atmosphere and increase foot traffic as residents and visitors explore the *Larchmont Historical Murals*.

Details of Event: The murals will be inaugurated by Mayor Lorraine Walsh on Sunday, November 4th, at 2:00pm with a ceremony at the Larchmont train station, parking lot 3. From 2:30 to 4:00pm, visitors can follow the course of the Art Walk to view the murals and meet the artists. The Westchester Children's Chorus will perform. At 4:00pm a closing reception will be held at Larchmont's Village Center (behind the library). Larchmont historian Judith Doolin Spikes, honoree guest and inspiration of the murals of Larchmont will be there to discuss and answer questions on the History of the village. Sponsors will also be there to explain what the *Larchmont Historical Murals* represent for them.

About Street Art for Mankind (SAM): SAM is a 501c(3), non-profit organization working with prominent street artists from all around the world to raise awareness on child slavery through the power of art. SAM curates and produces innovative festivals, live performances, exhibitions, murals and art classes in NY and across the world. All art pieces created are for sale, and their proceeds help fund raid & rescue programs to free children from slavery. The founders of the organization, Audrey and Thibault Decker, live with their children in Larchmont.

Quotes:

Mayor Lorraine Walsh, Village of Larchmont: “I would like to thank Street Art for Mankind for bringing the history of Larchmont to life for our residents and visitors. We also believe that these interactive murals, to be created by renowned street artists, will bring a distinction to our small village’s downtown, creating an exciting atmosphere and increased foot traffic as people do the “Art wall walk”... We believe this project will provide a significant addition in support of our downtown revitalization efforts”.

Audrey & Thibault Decker, SAM: “It is not every day that you discover that you live in a very special place with such an extraordinary History that very few people are aware of... And, when you already dedicate your life to Art for social change, you simply want to share the positive values you discover with your community. The Larchmont Historical Murals are about a community proud of its past, its values and looking to show the world how ahead of its time it has always been....”

SAM Contacts:

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More on SAM: Website: StreetArtMankind.org --- Facebook & Instagram: [@StreetArtMankind](https://www.instagram.com/StreetArtMankind)

Next events:

UN-JI exhibition at the United Nations in NYC. Premiere, open to the press, on November 12th 2018.

About the UN-JI exhibition:

A very creative exhibition, immersing visitors in a “Street Art Jungle” where they will have to find their path in an interactive and polysensorial exhibition to become change makers. The exhibition will be connected to murals painted in the meaningful lower Manhattan area...!