

### Communications

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### For Immediate Release

## The Metropolitan Museum of Art Oscar L. Tang and H.M. Agnes Hsu-Tang Wing

<b>Project Description:</b>	Developed to address critical institutional, programmatic, and visitor needs, the new Oscar L. Tang and H.M. Agnes Hsu-Tang Wing creates a dynamic new home for The Met's modern and contemporary art collection and program. Designed by architect Frida Escobedo, the five-story Tang Wing will increase gallery space, enhance accessibility and sustainability, and foster connections with other spaces and collections within the Museum. Escobedo's design draws inspiration from the Museum's varied architectural styles, diverse art holdings, and setting within Central Park.
<b>Project Milestones:</b>	Expected to begin construction in 2026 for anticipated reopening in 2030
<b>Design and Engineering Team:</b>	<b>Frida Escobedo Studio</b> , Lead Design Architect <b>Beyer Blinder Belle Architects &amp; Planners</b> , Executive Architect <b>Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects</b> (terraces) <b>Kohler Ronan</b> <b>Thornton Tomasetti</b> In collaboration with <b>Central Park Conservancy</b> (landscape)
<b>Met Leadership:</b>	<b>Max Hollein</b> , Marina Kellen French Director and Chief Executive Officer <b>Brett Gaillard</b> , Head of Capital Projects <b>David Breslin</b> , Leonard A. Lauder Curator in Charge, Modern and Contemporary Art

**Total Square Footage of the Tang Wing:**

Approximately 126,000 square feet

Current wing's total square footage is approximately 123,000 square feet. The new wing will remain within the existing building's footprint.

**Gallery Square Footage of the Tang Wing:**

Approximately 71,000 square feet

Current wing's gallery square footage is approximately 48,000 square feet.

**Project Features:**

- **Ceiling heights varying between 11 and 22 feet** allow for the display of large-scale installations in dialogue with more intimate spaces.
- **Approximately 18,500 square feet of outdoor space** with iconic views spread across fourth- and fifth-floor terraces
  - On the fourth floor, The Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Roof Garden will expand from 7,500 to nearly 10,000 square feet.
  - The fifth floor will feature an outdoor landscape designed by Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects as well as an indoor 1,000-square-foot cafe offering refreshments.
- **Dynamic “celosia” facade comprised of latticed limestone**, designed to control sunlight throughout the day, allows visitors to enjoy views of Central Park while minimizing overexposure in the galleries.
- **Improved visitor accessibility** through the addition of a second elevator core, ramps, more entry points, and better circulation routes that offer equal access to all floors
- **Enhanced sustainability** via controlled daylight, improved thermal performance, on-site stormwater retention, a green roof, and a consolidated below-ground mechanical space; project is targeting LEED Gold

- **Landscape restorations and improvements**—designed by the Central Park Conservancy, in coordination with the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation (“NYC Parks”) and The Met—bring the green spaces immediately around the building up to the impeccable standards set by Central Park, including replacing the adjacent lawn with canopy trees, low shrubs, grassy areas, and other plantings.

**Funding:**

The Met has raised more than \$550 million in private donations to fund the project, with a lead gift of \$125 million from Oscar L. Tang and H.M. Agnes Hsu-Tang.

**Review and Public Process:**

The Met is collaborating closely with NYC Parks and the Central Park Conservancy as NYC Parks advances the project through an environmental review. The Met, together with the Central Park Conservancy for the landscape, is working toward the public review process at the Landmarks Preservation Commission, followed by the Public Design Commission, in 2025.

**About The Met:**

The Metropolitan Museum of Art was founded in 1870 by a group of American citizens—businessmen and financiers as well as leading artists and thinkers of the day—who wanted to create a museum to bring art and art education to the American people. Today, The Met displays tens of thousands of objects covering 5,000 years of art from around the world for everyone to experience and enjoy. The Museum lives in two iconic sites in New York City—The Met Fifth Avenue and The Met Cloisters. Millions of people also take part in The Met experience online. Since its founding, The Met has always aspired to be more than a treasury of rare and beautiful objects. Every day, art comes alive in the Museum’s galleries and through its exhibitions and events, revealing both new ideas and unexpected connections across time and across cultures.

Originally planned in 1871, The Met’s campus in Central Park has evolved into one of the most iconic and important New York landmarks over the last 150 years. The location of the Museum within Central Park was part of the park’s early design by its famed architects Frederic Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux and reflects their complementary missions to provide a source of respite and inspiration for all New Yorkers and visitors within the larger city. Over the years, the Museum has

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continued to renovate within its designated footprint, allowing a wide array of architects and architectural styles to work in harmony to house one of the most prominent and expansive art collections in the world. Today, it consists of 21 structures that operate as a single building within Central Park, spanning five floors in addition to mezzanines and basements.

### **About Frida Escobedo**

#### **Studio:**

Frida Escobedo established her eponymous studio in Mexico City in 2006. The studio's reputation—initially built on the strength of a series of competition-winning projects in her native country, including the renovation of the Hotel Boca Chica (2008), the El Eco Pavilion (2010), and the expansion of La Tallera Siqueiros in Cuernavaca (2012)—has achieved global scope since 2018, when she received the prestigious appointment to design the annual Serpentine Pavilion in London's Kensington Gardens, becoming the youngest architect at the time to undertake the project. Following her appointment as the Design Architect for the Tang Wing at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Escobedo opened a studio in New York City in 2022 and is working on other New York-based projects, such as Ray Harlem, a mixed-use development in Harlem in collaboration with Handel Architects that includes the permanent new home for the National Black Theatre (NBT).

### **About Beyer Blinder**

#### **Belle:**

Founded in 1968, Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners (BBB) is an award-winning architecture, planning, and interiors practice with 190 professionals in New York City; Washington, D.C.; Boston; and Miami. The firm's multifaceted portfolio encompasses adaptive reuse and restoration, urban design, and new construction across a wide spectrum of building typologies and sectors, including cultural, civic, educational, residential, and commercial projects. BBB has long been recognized for the revitalization of nationally celebrated buildings and urban sites, including such cultural institutions as The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Smithsonian Institution, the New York Public Library, Lincoln Center, The Kennedy Center, the Rubell Museum DC, the Frick Collection, and the Morgan Library. BBB specializes in adapting existing structures for new uses and in sensitively integrating contemporary building systems within historic contexts.

### **About Nelson Byrd**

#### **Woltz Landscape**

#### **Architects:**

Nelson Byrd Woltz (NBW) is an internationally recognized landscape architecture firm with studios in New York City and Charlottesville, Virginia. Dedicated to aesthetic and environmental excellence, social justice, and design innovation, NBW designs major public landscapes in

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the United States and abroad, applying two-and-a-half decades of design innovation in service to the public realm. NBW's research-driven design process unfolds at the intersection of natural and engineered systems and between science, history, and art. Recent projects include Memorial Park, the Rothko Chapel, and the Ismaili Center in Houston, and Hudson Yards, the Brooklyn Naval Cemetery, and Frederic Church's Olana in New York. The firm's work has been featured in numerous national and international publications, and its latest monograph, *The Land Is Full*, was recently published by Monacelli Press.

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