

Rachel Corbett, "New York's Public Art Fund to Show Tino Sehgal, Carol Bove in City Hall Park," *Blouin Art Info*, September 19, 2016

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Carol Bove's "Lingam," 2015, will be on view this summer in Manhattan's City Hall Park. (Courtesy the artist, Maccarone New York/Los Angeles and David Zwirner New York/London)

Tino Sehgal's first and only public work will go on view this summer in Manhattan's City Hall Park as part of a group show looking at the non-written, non-spoken side of language. "The Language of Things," organized by the Public Art Fund, was inspired largely by a 1916 Walter

Benjamin essay, "On language as Such and on the Language of Man." It's a "really bizarre text that talks about how there's nothing animate or inanimate within nature that doesn't partake in language. It's always trying to communicate its being outwards," said co-curator Emma Enderby.

Each day throughout the duration of the show, June 28-September 29, a female vocalist will serenade park goers as part of Sehgal's work "This You," 2006. "They'll feed off interactions and people they witness and sing a song that represents that moment," said Enderby. The songs might range from folk ballads to pop hits.

Elsewhere in the show, Claudia Comte's seven marble sculptures will examine the letter "U" through the lens of abstract modernism, while the late "Language poet" Hannah Weiner's "Code Poems" from the 1960s, structured out of Morse code and semaphores, will be displayed on panels throughout the park.

Carol Bove will mount a column of petrified wood alongside three steel beams, "Lingam," 2015, a title that refers to the phallic representation of the Hindu god Shiva used in worship. Four speakers will play the wildlife recorder Chris Watson's 90-minute sound installation of a flock of starlings. The work, "Ring Angels," will invite listeners to stand in a circle and enjoy the birds' sunset songs. "It's very peaceful," Enderby said. "It sounds like waves crashing against the shore."

That will no doubt register in sharp contrast to the usual sounds of this heavily trafficked park. "When I was there the birds were always squawking and people were moving. It's a passageway and a place where people eat their lunch," said Enderby. "What resonated with me in these bustling busy places is that everything around you is always communicating to you and distracting you. What was also interesting was bringing multiple different mediums into that discussion."