

# SEANKELLY

Weaver, Shaye. "Three 'astonishing' works of art are inside the new Moynihan Train Hall."  
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## TimeOut



© Kehinde Wiley. Photographer: Nicholas Knight. Image courtesy of the Artist, Sean Kelly, New York, Empire State Development and Public Art Fund, NY

In true New York style, the [new Moynihan Train Hall at Penn Station](#), which opens Friday, has been decked out with incredible art.

Penn Station's \$1.6 billion Moynihan Train Hall features a spacious, light-filled atrium with a 92-foot-high glass skylight and soaring ceilings honoring the design of the original Penn Station, but as with any new transit hub, whether it's a new subway station, airport terminal or a passenger hall like this one, New York calls on its amazing artists to decorate the walls, halls and floors and inspire travelers passing by.

On Wednesday, the [Public Art Fund](#) announced that Stan Douglas, artist duo Elmgreen & Dragset, and Kehinde Wiley were commissioned to create works for Moynihan that would offer a fresh perspective on the history and grandeur of the original Penn Station and James A. Farley Post Office and "a sense of wonder and humanity" that would evoke civic pride and delight for generations to come.

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"Nothing could be more fitting for a great metropolitan transit hub than three astonishing works of art that stop us in our tracks," said Nicholas Baume, Director & Chief Curator of Public Art Fund. "Each one dazzles with its sheer beauty, epic scale, and technical mastery. Collectively, they also remind us that great art comes from great ideas. Each artist has thought deeply about the history, context, significance, and future of this newly transformed place, creating brilliantly innovative works of art that allow us to see ourselves—past, present, and future—in a truly civic space."

Below are the three artworks you'll see inside Moynihan.

On view on the 33rd Street midblock entryway ceiling, Wiley's vivid, handpainted artwork is a backlit, stained-glass triptych that's inspired by Renaissance and Baroque paintings. It's a modern take on Giovanni Battista Tiepolo's 18th-century ceiling frescoes, but features young, Black New Yorkers in poses inspired by breakdance. The subjects inhabit the sky alongside clouds, pigeons, and a jet plane, using the urban setting of New York City to "create a surrealist dreamscape that advances a narrative of buoyancy, possibility, and survival," the Public Art Fund says.

## **Go by Kehinde Wiley**

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