

DONUM

GIFT OF THE LAND

The Donum Collection acquires *Rehearsal* by El Anatsui



El Anatsui, *Rehearsal*, 2015, Aluminum and copper wire, 405 x 465 cm. © The Donum Collection and the artist. Photo by Robert Berg



El Anatsui.
Photo Aliona Adrianova, 2019

SONOMA, California (14 December 2021): Donum, one of the leading California Pinot Noir producers, has installed *Rehearsal*, a monumental wall hanging sculpture by El Anatsui.

Created out of aluminum liquor bottle caps, joined together by copper wire, the 4-metre artwork hangs within the white cube conservation space at the Donum Estate that houses *Crouching Spider* by Louise Bourgeois.

Placed within one of Donum's bespoke architectural facilities, *Rehearsal* joins The Donum Collection, a growing collection of monumental sculptures that live harmoniously across the 200-acre Carneros Estate nestled between Napa and Sonoma wine regions.

Mei and Allan Warburg, Owners of The Donum Estate, said: *We have been looking for the right Anatsui work for many years. We have seen many of his works around the world, one of the first being in Hong Kong nearly a decade ago. We were delighted to find Rehearsal this summer and love the way it hangs in dialogue with our Bourgeois sculpture.*

The amazing thing about working with these metallic 'fabrics' is that the poverty of the materials used in no way precludes the telling of rich and wonderful stories. I believe that an artwork is something that the viewer, too, should play some positive role in shaping. I appreciate the juxtaposition of Rehearsal with Crouching Spider by the late Louise Bourgeois. I'm delighted to have my work enter the Collection and I look forward to visiting soon. Added **El Anatsui**

Donum is very much about community, and we bring people together with shared passions for fine wine, cultural arts and sustainability. **Commented Angelica de Vere-Mabray, Chief Executive Officer of The Donum Estate added.** *From accessing the Donum Collection of renowned global art to enjoying our fine wines to learning about our biodynamic farming practices, each guest of the Donum Estate experiences a safe and unique opportunity to*

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discover these complementary elements that have made our Carneros property an international destination.

The Donum Estate has one of the largest accessible, privately-owned outdoor sculpture experiences in the world that has made it an international destination. In Spring 2022, Donum will unveil a landmark new pavilion by Studio Other Spaces, the office founded by artist Olafur Eliasson and architect Sebastian Behmann.

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Stroll down for installation images. The complete set of images along with the electronic press kit can be viewed and downloaded via this [link](#).

For more information and to book a tour please visit www.thedonumestate.com

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Images



Foreground, *Crouching Spider*, 2003 by Louise Bourgeois



El Anatsui, *Rehearsal*, 2015, detail



El Anatsui, *Rehearsal*, 2015, detail

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Notes to editors

The Donum Collection

Founded in 2011, The Donum Collection is one of the largest accessible private sculpture collections in the world. More than 50 monumental works, including open-air sculptures are placed on The Donum Estate, a leader in single-vineyard, single-appellation Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from Sonoma in Northern California. Dotted throughout, each piece plays with scale, nature, and imagination. This evolving collection brings together a global community of artists, including works from leading practitioners from 18 nations, across six continents including Ai Weiwei, Ghada Amer, Doug Aitken, Lynda Benglis, Louise Bourgeois, Keith Haring and Subodh Gupta. Donum brings to life a delicate balance among wine, land and art that has made it an international destination.

Learn more at <https://www.thedonumestate.com/art>

The Donum Estate

Celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year, Donum's terroir-driven wines reflect the energy and complexity of some of most celebrated regions in Northern California including the Russian River Valley, Carneros and Anderson Valley. Founded in 2001, the Donum Estate is located in the acclaimed wine region Carneros nestled between Napa and Sonoma Counties. Donum includes a state-of-the-art winemaking facility, an organic farm, contemporary hospitality experience and one of the largest accessible private sculpture collections in the world. Donum brings to life a delicate balance among wine, land and art that has made it an international destination. For the past two decades, sustainability has been at the forefront of the Donum Estate vision—Donum, in fact, is Latin for Gift of the land. Its biodynamic and organic farming practices create environments in which the vines can thrive and produce the highest-quality fruit as possible. Learn more at <https://www.thedonumestate.com>

El Anatsui (Ghana, 1944)

El Anatsui is one of the most exciting contemporary visual artists of our time. Emerging from the vibrant post-independence art movements of 1960s and '70s West Africa, he has gone on to receive widespread international acclaim for his sculptural experiments with media, form and tradition.

Throughout a distinguished forty-year career as both sculptor and teacher – as Professor of Sculpture and Departmental Head at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka – El Anatsui has addressed a vast range of social, political and historical concerns, and embraced an equally diverse range of media and processes. Making use of tools as diverse as chainsaws, welding torches and power tools as well as developing a range of processes such as the intricate and meditative 'sewing' process of his later work, he has shaped found materials that range from cassava graters, railway sleepers, driftwood, iron nails and obituary printing plates, aluminum bottle-tops, etc. to create a wide variety of novel sculptural forms.

El Anatsui's iconic "bottle-top installations" have provoked a frenzy of international attention between 2002 and the present, with institutions queuing to acquire these mesmerizing works. Created from many thousands of aluminum bottle-tops wired together with copper, these magnificent wall sculptures continue to excite and amaze audiences wherever they are exhibited. His sculptures have been collected by major international museums, including the British Museum, London, the Centre Pompidou, Paris, the de Young Museum, San Francisco, the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, the museum Kunst Palast, Düsseldorf, and many other prestigious institutions besides. One of El Anatsui's shimmering bottle-top wall-hangings, *Fresh and Fading Memories* (2007), caused a quiet sensation when, during the 2007 Venice Biennale, it transformed the historic Palazzo Fortuny when draped upon its outer facade. The Dubai Art Fair, 2010, presented another large-scale masterpiece - *In the World, but Don't know the World* (2009), - to great acclaim, and the works have continued to expand in size, of late, and have been used to adorn the outside walls of various museums and galleries around the world. These larger external installations include: *Ozone Layer and Yam Mound* on the Old National Gallery of Berlin (2010), *Broken Bridge I*, on the Musée Galliera, Paris (2012), *Broken Bridge II* on the High Line, New York, (2012/13) and *TSIATSIA – searching for connection* (2013), El Anatsui's largest bottle-top work to date. This shimmering tapestry of light embellished the façade of the Royal Academy of Arts, London, during its 245th Summer Exhibition.