

Sanford Biggers' Monumental Sculpture 'Oracle' to Join The Donum Collection® in June 2025

The 25-foot-tall bronze sculpture, previously exhibited at Rockefeller Center and the Hammer Museum, finds its permanent home among The Donum Estate's world-class collection of site-specific art.



From L to R: The Sensory Garden at The Donum Estate and 'Oracle' by Sanford Biggers, courtesy of The Donum Estate

(Sonoma, CA – April 2025) – The Donum Estate announces the permanent installation of 'Oracle' (2020), a monumental bronze sculpture by interdisciplinary artist Sanford Biggers, in June 2025. Standing 25 feet tall and weighing over 15,000 pounds, the highly anticipated addition to The Donum Collection® joins more than 60 large-scale artworks that explore the universal human experience, cultural exchange, and site-specific engagement with nature.

Commissioned by Art Production Fund in partnership with Marianne Boesky Gallery, 'Oracle' was first installed at New York's Rockefeller Center from May to June 2021, and later traveled to the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles, where it was on view from March 2023 through July 2024. Its arrival at The Donum Estate marks the final chapter in its journey. Originating as a public artwork, 'Oracle' bridges the urban and nature, enriching the collection's ongoing dialogue between global perspectives and local terroir.

Part of Biggers's acclaimed 'Chimera' series, 'Oracle' blends African and Greco-Roman influences to address historical revisionism, the "whitewashing" of Classical sculptures, and the ways European ideals shaped 20th-century aesthetics. The seated figure is inspired by the renowned statue of Zeus at Olympia, while the head combines features drawn from African masks and busts from various regions around the continent. By merging these elements, 'Oracle' challenges cultural assumptions and reveals the intricate histories embedded in its design.

The sculpture's throne is adorned with lotus blossom silhouettes, a nod to Biggers' 2007 sculpture Lotus, a glass etched flower whose petals echo the cross-section of a slave ship—a recurring motif in Biggers's practice that speaks to the legacies of colonialism and displacement. Through this layered iconography, 'Oracle' invites reflection on cultural memory and the shaping of historical narratives and exchanges.

Born in Los Angeles in 1970, Sanford Biggers is known for remixing classical forms to interrogate dominant cultural narratives. Working across sculpture, textiles, video, performance, and music, he draws from African American folk traditions, Los Angeles graffiti, Buddhism, and both African and European sculptural legacies. His work is held in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, Tate Modern, and the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

"I am thrilled that 'Oracle' has joined the incredible collection at Donum Estate. The work offers viewers opportunities to ask questions and seek answers, which Donum so graciously extends to their visitors. 'Oracle' has been such a monumental piece in my career and I look forward to seeing it live on in its new home" said Sanford Biggers.

Notes to Editors

About Sanford Biggers

Born 1970, Los Angeles, CA

Conceptual artist Sanford Biggers examines the inherent tensions of history and culture, of language and symbol, of myth and narrative. In a practice that encompasses painting, sculpture, video, photography, mixed media, music, and performance, Biggers positions himself as an artistic intermediary, continuously interrupting established narratives, intervening directly into historical forms, and remixing recognizable cultural symbols and signifiers to complicate, question, and, ultimately, offer new understandings of collective mythologies and traditions.

sanfordbiggers.com

About The Donum Estate

Donum is a leader in single-vineyard, single-appellation Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from Northern California. Founded in 2001 in the acclaimed wine region of Carneros, the Estate features a winemaking facility, a contemporary hospitality experience, an organic farm and The Donum Collection®—one of the world's largest private sculpture collections, showcasing over 60 monumental artworks created by a global community of artists and leading practitioners from 18 nations across 6 continents, including Ai Weiwei, Ghada Amer, Doug Aitken, Lynda Benglis, Louise Bourgeois, Keith Haring and Subodh Gupta.

thedonumestate.com/art

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