

For Immediate Release

June 2013

New York based sculpture supply company **The Compleat Sculptor, Inc.** works with **Hudson Square Connection** on an art project carving **5000lb. blocks of granite** located on the pedestrian plaza owned by the NYC Department of Transportation.

As part of their short - term improvements to Hudson Square the Hudson Square Connection, a New York not for profit corporation, is working with the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) which has constructed five pedestrian plazas with plantings and granite traffic barriers within the Hudson Square BID in September 2012.

The Hudson Square Connection will take advantage of opportunities to implement **local art** in these pedestrian plazas by working with the Compleat Sculptor, an art school and sculpture supply store located in the Hudson Square BID, as **sculptors from The Compleat Sculptor transform the centered three of the five granite traffic barriers into sculptural art pieces.**

The sculptor, **Gina Miccinilli in collaboration with Marc Fields of The Compleat Sculptor**, aim to make the three centered granite blocks that line the pedestrian plaza on Varick Street between Broome and Watts Streets aesthetically pleasing without compromising their function as traffic barriers.

"In an ever changing city, we are in constant motion; whether progressing or retreating, moving through or crossing over. Motion and progress, intersect and bind us together in infinite measure.

Intersections serve as the inspiration for the proposed granite designs adjacent to the entrance of the Holland Tunnel. Visitors can sit on these mammoth forms as countless solitary drivers pass the sight every day.

The three granite blocks would reflect a series of intersecting courses each unique to its original form. Due to the irregularities of the original slabs, the impression of symmetry and balance are juxtaposed reinforcing the dynamic tension between the organic & inorganic. The very polished raised lines in the work infer; intersection and through the double helix, infinity. Formally, the highly polished raised lines will be accentuated in contrast to the roughly hewn stone. Further accentuating a visual tension, the "intersecting ropes" on the surface will serve to bind each stone. It is both restraining it as well as reinforcing it." – **Gina Miccinilli**

TCS is providing all the necessary power and hand sculpting tools and artistic labor to transform the 5000lb. granite blocks into functional art.

The project began mid-May and is scheduled to be completed in the course of 3 - 5 weekends by June 30, 2013.

Please feel free to contact Marc Fields of The Compleat Sculptor by email at marc@sculpt.com or by phone at (212) 367-7561, with any questions or for additional images of the project.



The concept design.

Actual site & materials