

# SITE SANTA FE

## SITE SANTA FE PRESENTS *HELEN PASHGIAN: PRESENCES*

November 19, 2021 - March 27, 2022

Opening Events: November 19-20, 2021



Helen Pashgian, *Untitled*, 2012–2013, formed acrylic, dimensions variable, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, purchased with funds provided by Carole Bayer Sager on the occasion of the 2014 Collectors Committee, installed in *Helen Pashgian: Light Invisible* at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, March 30–June 29, 2014, art © Helen Pashgian, photo © Museum Associates/LACMA

Santa Fe, NM, September 2, 2021 — SITE Santa Fe presents *Helen Pashgian: Presences*, the first solo presentation of Los Angeles-based artist Helen Pashgian in New Mexico. The exhibition (November 19, 2021-March 27, 2022) celebrates the artist's five-decade career and her contributions to the Light and Space movement.

Illuminating the breadth and depth of Helen Pashgian's work, the exhibition centers on her critically acclaimed large-scale sculptural installation, *Untitled* (2012-13), which premiered at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art in 2014, a selection of spheres and lenses, some newly commissioned, that will take viewers on a journey through poetic investigations of light and space.

Throughout her career, Pashgian has employed light as both medium and message. Using cast resin material, she explores light in solid form, creating immersive viewing experiences to investigate illusion and perception. As a child, Pashgian was immersed in the landscape of Southern California and played in tidal pools, which influenced her understanding of light as a living entity. Much like reflecting and refracting light on water, Pashgian's sculptures subtly shift as the viewer moves around and through them.

*Helen Pashgian: Presences* coincides with several exciting events featuring Light and Space, an exhibition at [Copenhagen Contemporary](#) (November 25, 2021-September 9, 2022), *Spheres and Lenses* at [Lehmann Maupin](#) in New York (November 4-December 8, 2021), *Spheres* at [Charlotte Jackson Fine Arts](#) (December 3, 2021-January 3, 2022), and the release of a new publication by [Radius Books](#), titled *Helen Pashgian: Spheres and Lenses*, a full-color book documenting the artist's work from the 1960s to the present. The book will be available for purchase at [curated: The Store at SITE Santa Fe](#).

### About Helen Pashgian

Born in 1934 in Pasadena, California, Pashgian is a pre-eminent member of the 1960s Light and Space movement in Southern California. Over the course of her career, Pashgian has produced a significant series of sculptures composed of vibrantly colored columns, discs, and spheres that often feature an isolated element that appears suspended, embedded, or encased within.

*Helen Pashgian: Presences* is organized by SITE Santa Fe and curated by Brandee Caoba.

### Thank You

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### About SITE Santa Fe

SITE Santa Fe opened in 1995 to present what was then the only international biennial of contemporary art in the United States, and one of only a handful of biennials around the world. From the very beginning, SITE Santa Fe established a commitment to a risk-taking and visionary perspective that continues to drive its programs today. Year-round exhibitions and educational programs encourage the creative and intellectual potential of the audience and uphold the region's tradition of fostering avant-garde art.

As an institution with a year-round contemporary art program, SITE Santa Fe hosts an Art & Culture series of lectures and performances, as well as an extensive education and outreach program for local schools, all of which attract over 20,000 local, national, and international visitors annually. Since its launch, SITE Santa Fe has presented over 100 exhibitions—including ten biennials—of works by over 750 international artists.

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