



Norwegian Consulate General

New York

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NYC DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS, NORWEGIAN CONSULATE GENERAL, AND NYC PARKS CELEBRATE THE COMPLETION OF LINA VISTE GRØNLI'S *PEACE CLOCK* SCULPTURE IN TRYGVE LIE PLAZA

New York – The NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, the Royal Norwegian Consulate General in New York, and NYC Parks today celebrated the completion of Lina Viste Grønli's *The Peace Clock* in Trygve Lie Plaza on Manhattan's east side. The Peace Clock is an abstract kinetic sculpture that functions as a clock on which only the hour hand moves, forming the peace sign twice a day at 4:30. The plaza, named for the first Secretary General of the United Nations, is located across First Avenue from the UN Headquarters.

"Situated across from the United Nations building, Lina Viste Grønli's *Peace Clock* reminds us that peace is not something we can take for granted," said **Cultural Affairs Commissioner Tom Finkelpearl**. "Thanks to our partners in the Norwegian Consulate and NYC Parks, this tribute to the visionary UN leader Trygve Lie will serve both as a powerful symbol for international collaboration, and an urgent call to action for everyone who encounters it."

"We are so proud to of this beautiful and thoughtful piece of Norwegian public art on Manhattan. Honoring the UN - and it's first Secretary General Mr. Trygve Lie - *The Peace Clock* by Lina Viste Grønli is a great symbol of the world's constant struggle for peace," said **Norway's Consul General in New York, Elin Bergithe Rognlie**.

"As a pertinent reminder of humanity's pressing need for harmony, justice, and understanding, the *Peace Clock* is a fitting tribute to Trygve Lie's contributions to the United Nations, New York City, and the world. As the stewards of our city's public spaces, NYC Parks is honored to provide New Yorkers and visitors alike this site of reflection on the legacy of a great social justice leader," said **NYC Parks Commissioner Mitchell J. Silver, FAICP**.

"The Peace Clock is an attempt to translate the elusive nature of peace into a graspable form that can survive and hold true now and into an ungraspable future," said **artist Lina Viste Grønli**.

The sculpture, commissioned by DCLA's Percent for Art program, was honored at the Thirty Second Annual Awards for Excellence in Design in 2014, hosted by Mayor Bill de Blasio and the Public Design Commission. For more information about the Percent for Art program, visit www.nyc.gov/percent.

About the artwork

Located across First Avenue from the United Nations headquarters, Lina Viste Grønli's sculpture celebrates the legacy of Trygve Lie, the first Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Peace Clock is a 17-foot-diameter brass kinetic sculpture that also is a fully functioning clock. Twice a day, the hands of the clock form the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament Symbol-more colloquially known as the Peace Sign. Inspired by the history of the UN's formation and Lie's dedication to peace and fundamental human freedom, Grønli's clock stands as a reminder that time is both fleeting and infinite, always offering the opportunity to achieve world peace.

Location

Trygve Lie Plaza, First Avenue between East 41st Street and East 42nd Street, Manhattan

Project partners

A project of the Department of Cultural Affairs' Percent for Art Program, the Department of Parks & Recreation, and the Royal Norwegian Consulate General in New York

Lina Viste Grønli.