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Inside Art

Puryear in a Park

Next May, Martin Puryear's largest sculpture to date, 40 feet high, 38 feet across and 10 feet deep, will command Madison Square Park in New York like a kind of Trojan horse. Known for his allusive abstract works that fuse organic and geometric forms, Mr. Puryear will employ rough-hewed versions of his signature materials that nod to urban life. A model of the piece, "Big Bling," shows a plywood grid, with a curvilinear outline suggestive of an animal's silhouette, and an amoeboid shape cut out of the interior. Its plywood tiers will be wrapped in chainlink fencing. "It becomes a barrier - people can't ascend," said Brooke Kamin Rapaport, senior curator at the Madison Square Park Conservancy, which commissioned Mr. Puryear, 74. The work will be crowned by bling: a bright gold shackle, "a beacon that you can either say adorns or restrains," Ms. Rapaport said depending on your New York story. HILARIE M. SHEETS