



# Torbjørn Rødland Featured Artist in the Whitney's Outdoor Art Series

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by Hamptons Art Hub Staff

On Tuesday, a photograph by [Torbjørn Rødland](#) will become the next featured art work in the [Whitney Museum of American Art's](#) series of public art installations. The series presents work by key American artists on the facade of 95 Horatio Street, located across from the Whitney art museum and the southern entrance to the High Line.

*Blue Portrait (Nokia N82)*, 2009–16 by [Torbjørn Rødland](#) will be unveiled on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 and will become the fourth art work in the series. Past installations have showcased art by [Alex Katz](#) (2014); [Michele Abeles](#) (2015); and [Njideka Akunyili Crosby](#) (2015–2016).

The installation is organized by Whitney assistant curator Elisabeth Sherman. The outdoor art series was initiated by the Whitney in partnership with [TF Cornerstone](#) and [High Line Art](#).

## ***Blue Portrait (Nokia N82)***

In *Blue Portrait (Nokia N82)*, Rødland uses his camera to create a mysterious, even perplexing combination of images, juxtaposing—among other things—a Nokia mobile phone and a portrait of Anne Frank. While often using images and objects from history and politics, Rødland insists on the openness of meaning in the photographic image. His approach is part intuitive and part intellectual, inviting personal and individual interpretations of material resonating with broader cultural meanings.



“Blue Portrait (Nokia N82)” by Torbjørn Rødland, 2009–16. Collection of the artist; courtesy of Eva Presenhuber, STANDARD (OSLO), David Kordansky and Greenspon.

Rødland's carefully composed photographs convert seemingly everyday scenes into something more heightened than their status in ordinary life. His meticulous attention to color, texture, and the quality of light elevates otherwise mundane subjects into beautiful and seductive images. Yet his juxtaposition of disparate objects and heraldic lighting makes his scenes not only alluring, but also unsettling and uncanny. Rødland's photographs are conceptually based; he chooses objects

and settings for their cultural connotations and psychological potential, charging each image with seemingly incompatible references and unexpected emotional impact.

## Torbjørn Rødland

Torbjørn Rødland (b. 1970, Stavanger, Norway) is a photographer based in Los Angeles and Oslo, Norway. He studied Photography at the National College of Art and Design in Bergen, Norway, and Cultural Studies at the Rogaland University Centre in Stavanger, Norway.

Rødland has had solo exhibitions at venues including Henie-Onstad, Oslo, Norway (2015); Albus Greenspon, New York, U.S. (2015 and 2013); Kunsthall Stavanger, Stavanger, Norway (2014); Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, Hiroshima, Japan (2010); Contemporary Art Museum, St. Louis, U.S. (2010); and [P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center](#), New York, U.S. (2006).

Rødland's work is in the permanent collections of the [Whitney Museum of American Art](#); Fonds National d'Art Contemporain; Stedelijk Museum; Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago; and the Cincinnati Art Museum.

Forthcoming exhibitions include [MANIFESTA 11](#), Zurich, Switzerland (June 2016), the 9th [Berlin Biennial](#) (June 2016); and a solo exhibition at [Galerie Eva Presenhuber](#), Zurich (June 2016).

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**BASIC FACTS:** The [Whitney Museum of American Art](#) is located at 99 Gansevoort Street, New York, NY 10014. For current exhibitions, click [here](#). [www.whitney.org](http://www.whitney.org).

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