

Forbes

Desert X 2021: What To See

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Serge Attukwei Clottey - The Wishing Well DESERT X

Head to the Coachella Valley before May 16, 2021 to check out Desert X, a biennial outdoor art experience unlike any other. This year the exhibition explores the desert “as both a place and idea, acknowledging the realities of people who reside here and the political, social, and cultural contexts that shape our stories.” Here you’ll find the works of 12 artists spread out through the rugged landscape, enticing you with giant installations and thoughtful pieces reflecting on issues like migration and human rights.

After 2020 was spent mostly indoors, Desert X is the perfect way to spend the weekend outdoors immersing yourself in the works of world-renowned artists. To ensure visitors' health and safety, some art works have timed entry to adhere to social distancing. Make sure to book in advance so you don't miss out.



'ParaPivot (Sempiternal Clouds)' by Alicja Kwade DESERT X

What to See at Desert X

After a challenging yet rewarding ten-minute uphill walk, you will find 'ParaPivot (Sempiternal Clouds)' by Alicja Kwade. It's a giant structure of interlocking metal frames topped with seemingly floating white marble blocks. This installation toys with our concept of time, illusion, and space. Ghanian artist Serge Attukwei Clottey's covered large-scale cubes in yellow plastic jerrycans (also known as Kufuor gallons) to reflect on themes of environmental justice and migration. 'The Passenger,' by Eduardo Sarabia is a triangular maze which takes visitors on a journey thereby looking at the

challenges and rewards of journeys taken. Not all of the exhibits are remote large-scale art works — Xaviera Simmons's 'Because You Know Ultimately We Will Band a Militia' lives on a series of billboards showcasing radical responses to commonly accepted narratives in (white) America.

Keep the weather in mind when you explore Desert X — mornings and afternoons are ideal to see the pieces and midday may be scorching.