

GRAY

JAUME PLENSA

FIELD OF DREAMS, PARRISH ART MUSEUM





The Parrish Art Museum's exhibition *Field of Dreams* debuts four bronze portraits by Jaume Plensa: *Carlota (oak)*, *Julia (oak)*, *Laura Asia (oak)*, and *Wilsis (oak)*. Assembled together in the Great Meadow, the four sculptures welcome visitors to walk among them. By depicting his subjects with closed eyes, Plensa seeks to evoke a sense of silence and stillness—a concept central to the artist's practice. For the artist, the installation is only complete when a viewer enters the wide open space of the Great Meadow and walks amidst the sculptures in a moment of quiet reflection.

Standing over nine feet tall, these totemic works are the first in a new series of portraits carved directly into tree trunks then cast in bronze. The volume and grain of the wood itself was integral to Plensa's process: as the artist recalls, "When I found those beautiful oak trunks in France, I immediately thought it was beautiful to find the portrait each were hiding inside." By including the trunks as part of the sculpture, Plensa draws the connection between humanity and nature. The wood acts as both the medium and subject of the sculpture while the irregular surfaces, scattered splinters, and cracks in the wood are captured in bronze, evoking the artist's wistful movements between ephemerality and permanence.

This installation is organized in partnership with Galerie Lelong & Co., New York.



Laura Asia (oak), Wilsis (oak), Julia (oak), Carlota (oak), 2019
Bronze
Four figures, approximately 110 inches (280 cm) high each

“Sculpture is, I think, the relationship between the material and the immaterial. It is what creates a bridge between our tangible humanity and our intangible spirit. A good image of sculpture would be when you try to hold water in your hands and it runs away between your fingers.”

JAUME PLENSA

Julia (oak) [detail], 2019
Bronze
107 3/8 × 28 5/8 × 30 5/8 inches (273 × 73 × 78 cm)





Laura Asia (oak), Wilsis (oak), Julia (oak), Carlota (oak), 2019
Bronze
Four figures, approximately 110 inches (280 cm) high each

“The main intention of a sculptor is
to share your dreams with others.”

JAUME PLENSA

Laura Asia (oak), Wilsis (oak), Julia (oak), Carlota (oak), 2019
Bronze
Four figures, approximately 110 inches (280 cm) high each



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Over the past thirty-five years, Spanish artist Jaume Plensa (b. 1955) has produced a multifaceted body of work creating sculpture that speaks to the capacity and beauty of humanity, often bringing people together through the activation of public spaces. His celebrated public projects, such as the iconic *Crown Fountain* in Chicago and *Echo* in Seattle's Olympic Sculpture Park, are landmarks in cities across the world, including in Calgary, Chicago, San Diego, Montréal, London, Paris, Dubai, Bangkok, Shanghai, and Tokyo. Most recently, installations of his monumental sculptures include *Behind the Walls* at historic Rockefeller Center in New York City and the Museo Nacional de Arte in Mexico City, *Julia* in Plaza de Colón in Madrid, and *Voices* permanently installed at 30 Hudson Yards in New York City.

The winner of many national and international awards including the Honorary Doctorate from Univeritat Autònoma de Barcelona in 2018 and the 2013 Velazquez Prize awarded by the Spanish Cultural Ministry, Jaume Plensa has had solo museum exhibitions at the MACBA: Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona, Spain; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid Spain; MAMC–Musée d'art moderne et contemporain Saint-Étienne Métropole, Saint-Étienne, France; Max Ernst Museum Brühl des LVR, Brühl, Germany; The Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, Ohio; Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Yorkshire, England; and Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas, Texas. He lives and works in Barcelona.