

Dia:



Walter De Maria
The New York Earth Room, 1977
141 Wooster Street
New York, New York

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An interior earth sculpture.

250 cubic yards of earth (197 cubic meters)
3,600 square feet of floor space (335 square meters)
22-inch depth of material (56 centimeters)
Total weight of sculpture: 280,000 pounds (127,300 kilos)

This is the third Earth Room sculpture executed by the artist, the first being in Munich, Germany, in 1968. The second was installed at the Hessisches Landesmuseum in Darmstadt, Germany, in 1974. The first two works no longer exist.

The New York Earth Room has been on view to the public since 1980. This work was commissioned and is maintained by Dia Art Foundation.

Walter De Maria was born in 1935 in Albany, California, and studied history and art at the University of California, Berkeley. In 1960 he moved to New York City, where he lived and worked until the end of his life. De Maria's early work of the 1960s included music, performance, and writing as well as sculptural and conceptual works. With Robert Whitman in 1963, De Maria founded a gallery at 9 Great Jones Street in New York and exhibited his sculptures there later that year. He also performed as a jazz percussionist with other musicians and joined the band the Primitives, which later evolved into the Velvet Underground. After his first solo gallery exhibition in 1965, De Maria's work was included in the 1966 *Primary Structures* exhibition at the Jewish Museum in New York. He began to create work outside the traditional gallery space, presenting his *Mile Long Drawing* in 1968 in California's Mojave Desert. Beginning in the mid-1970s, Dia commissioned some of the artist's most significant site-specific works, including *The Lightning Field* (1977) in western New Mexico, and *The New York Earth Room* (1977) and *The Broken Kilometer* (1979) in New York City. Dia continues to maintain these long-term installations as well as De Maria's *The Vertical Earth Kilometer* (1977) in Kassel, Germany, which is the companion piece to *The Broken Kilometer*. De Maria died in July 2013.

The Broken Kilometer is open Wednesday–Sunday, 12–3 pm, 3:30–6 pm.

An additional work of art by the artist, *The New York Earth Room*, may be seen at 141 Wooster Street, New York.



Dia Art Foundation is committed to advancing, realizing, and preserving the vision of artists. Dia Beacon in Beacon, New York, presents Dia's collection of art from the 1960s to the present as well as special exhibitions, new commissions, and public programs. Dia Chelsea in New York, New York, presents temporary exhibitions, new commissions, performances, lectures, and readings. Dia also maintains several long-term sites, including Walter De Maria's *The New York Earth Room* (1977) and *The Broken Kilometer* (1979), Max Neuhaus's *Times Square* (1977), Joseph Beuys's *7000 Eichen* (*7000 Oaks*, which was inaugurated at Documenta 7 in 1982), all of which are located in New York City; Dia Bridgehampton, the Dan Flavin Art Institute (established in 1983), in Bridgehampton, New York; De Maria's *The Lightning Field* (1977) in western New Mexico; Robert Smithson's *Spiral Jetty* (1970) in Great Salt Lake, Utah; and De Maria's *The Vertical Earth Kilometer* (1977) in Kassel, Germany.

Dia Beacon

Riggio Galleries
3 Beekman Street
Beacon, New York
Friday–Monday, 10 am–5 pm
(November–February, closing at 4 pm)

Dia Chelsea

537 West 22nd Street
New York, New York
Wednesday–Saturday, 12–6 pm

Dia Bridgehampton

The Dan Flavin Art Institute
23 Corwith Avenue
Bridgehampton, New York
Friday–Sunday, 12–3 pm, 3:30–6 pm

Cover: Walter De Maria, *The New York Earth Room*, 1977. Long-term installation, 141 Wooster Street, New York, New York. Photo: John Cliett