

# W H I T E   C U B E

## Press Release

David Hammons and Jannis Kounellis  
May 1 – June 13, 2026  
White Cube New York

### **Press Preview:**

Exhibition Tour with White Cube Global Directors, Mathieu Paris and Sukanya Rajaratnam  
Thursday, April 30, 10.30am–11.30am

Marking the first joint presentation of their works in over 30 years, White Cube is pleased to announce an exhibition featuring African-American artist David Hammons (b.1943) and the late Greek-Italian artist Jannis Kounellis (1936–2017).

Bringing together key works by Hammons and Kounellis from the 1950s onwards, White Cube's presentation reflects upon the artists' shared material intelligence and poetics of resistance at this important juncture in time. Further to locating the artists in ideas of displacement, vulnerability and fragmentation, the exhibition offers a re-appraisal of Conceptualism and Arte Povera as artistic strategies capable of engaging urgent, critical readings of the wider world.

Celebrating the significance of their work and friendship, the presentation will feature an array of renowned works and series, including Hammons' 'Body Prints' and video work *Phat Free* (1995–99), and Kounellis' 'Alphabet' paintings and signature sculptures wrought from humble, elegiac materials.

The show revisits their initial encounter in 1993, when they exhibited together at the American Academy in Rome, a moment that ignited a lifelong friendship. Hammons and Kounellis's shared exhibition at the institution's Villa Aurelia consisted of two military tents erected in the garden, in which each artist was commissioned to create a singular, site-specific work.

As Martha Boyden, Curator of the American Academy in Rome exhibition, remarked: 'This show was a small jewel, a pearl, sitting within a Roman garden on the Gianicolo Hills. It was not only the first time these two artists exhibited and shared time together, but it was also the first time that these gardens were opened to the Roman public, free of charge, adding a welcoming democratic spirit to art viewing.'

'David Hammons and Jannis Kounellis' is on view at White Cube New York from May 1 through June 13, 2026.

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**For additional information, interview requests or press images, please contact:**

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Notes to Editors:

- David Hammons’s permanent public art installation ‘Day’s End’ (2014–21) is currently on view at Hudson River Park, across from the [Whitney Museum of American Art in New York](#).
- White Cube’s exhibition programme extends across locations in London, Hong Kong, Paris, New York, Seoul and online. Since its inception in 1993, the gallery has exhibited the work of many of the world’s most highly acclaimed contemporary artists.
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