



Second Avenue Subway art, including work by Chuck Close, is unveiled

It's the state's largest permanent public art installation

BY **TANAY WARERKAR** DEC 19, 2016, 3:15PM EST



All photos courtesy of [Governor Andrew Cuomo's Flickr](#)

In the early part of 2014, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority **revealed** that it would liven up stations along the first phase of the Second Avenue Subway line with tons of public art. Now less than two weeks from the **line's opening**, Governor Andrew Cuomo is showing off the finished products on **his flickr page**.

The expansive and mesmerizing installations are the largest permanent public art installation in New York State history, and dozens of works spread out over the four stations along the extension.

"The Second Avenue subway provides New Yorkers with a museum underground and honors our legacy of building engineering marvels that elevate the human experience," Cuomo said in a statement. "Public works projects are not just about function—they're

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an expression of who we are and what we believe. Any child who has never walked into a museum or an art gallery can walk the streets of New York and be exposed to art and education simply by being a New Yorker. That is where we came from and that is what makes New York special."



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↑ At the 63rd Street station, artist Jean Shin has used archival photos of the Second and Third avenue elevated trains to create images in ceramic tile, glass mosaic and laminated glass. All the scenes are a throwback to the time when those trains were in operation.

Cuomo is confident that the Second Avenue Subway will have its inaugural run on New Year's Eve, so here's hoping we can all catch a glimpse of these works (and ride the train too) very soon.