

People & Places



In this video image provided by CMT, Jon Randall, (from left), Miranda Lambert and Jack Ingram perform 'Tequila Does' at the CMT Music Awards, airing on June 9. (AP)



H.E.R., (left) and Chris Stapleton perform 'Hold On' at the CMT Music Awards at the Bridgestone Arena on June 9, in Nashville, Tenn. (AP)



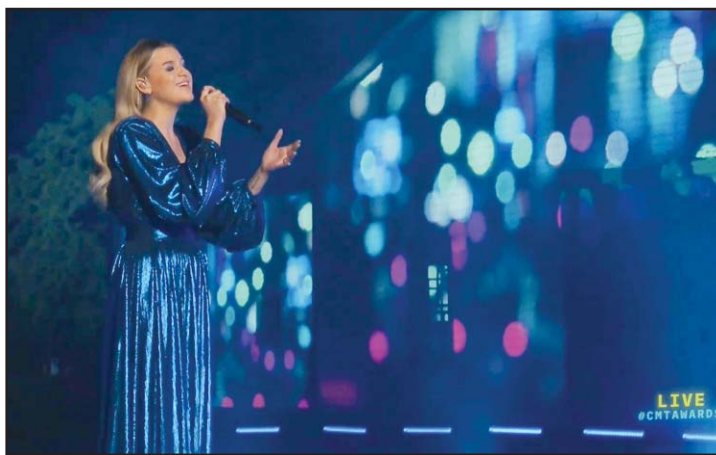
Kane Brown, (left), and Chris Young perform 'Famous Friends' at the CMT Music Awards. (AP)



Luke Bryan performs 'Down to One' at the CMT Music Awards on May 12, 2021, in Nashville, Tenn. (AP)



Thomas Rhett performs 'Country Again' at the CMT Music Awards at the Bridgestone Arena, June 9. (AP)



Kelsea Ballerini performs 'I Quit Drinking' at the CMT Music Awards. (AP)



Charles Kelley, (left), and Hillary Scott of Lady A perform 'Like A Lady' at the CMT Music Awards. (AP)



Carrie Underwood accepts the award for video of the year for 'Hallelujah.' (AP)



Dylan Scott accepts the award for breakthrough video of the year for 'Nobody.' (AP)



Kane Brown accepts the award for male video of the year for 'Worship You.' (AP)



Iliza Shlesinger presents the award for collaborative video of the year at the CMT Music Awards. (AP)



Mickey Guyton presents the Equal Play award at the CMT Music Awards.



Trace Adkins, (left), and Victoria Pratt arrive at the CMT Music Awards. (AP)

Massive exhibition, a bright beacon of hope for arts

Everything in New York is bigger, even its Van Gogh exhibit

NEW YORK, June 10, (AP): A massive, immersive exhibition celebrating artist Vincent van Gogh has leaned on some Broadway talent for a little razzle-dazzle during its visit to New York City.

Producers of "Immersive Van Gogh" have tapped Tony- and Emmy Award-winning set designer David Korins for creative help after they secured a jaw-dropping 70,000-square-foot venue for their exhibit in lower Manhattan, easily the biggest space the exhibit has landed.

"They wanted something bigger, fancier, deeper," said Korins, who has designed sets for "Hamilton" and "Dear Evan Hansen" and is a lifelong fan of Van Gogh. "I wanted to really try and find a way to help people in 2021 see him more as a human."

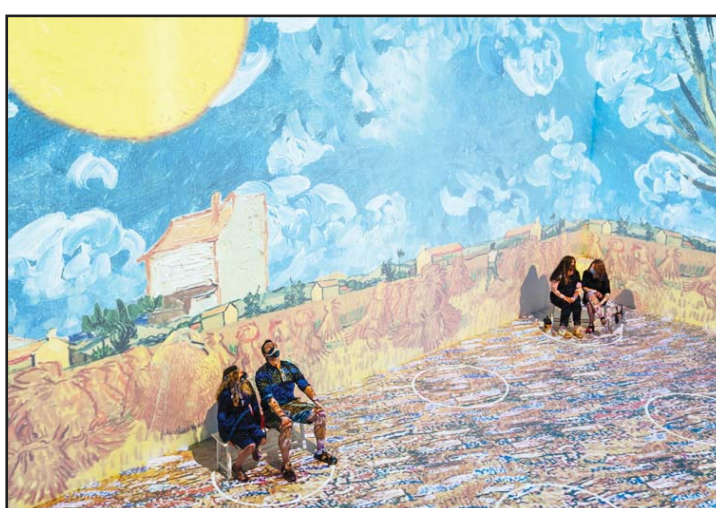
Korins has added a ceiling installation that uses almost 8,000 paint brushes to thrillingly reproduce "The

Starry Night," a station that uses artificial intelligence to give visitors an individualized letter from Van Gogh, a chance to co-create a work with him on their phones, and booths that explore the artist's synesthesia.

Corey Ross, the lead producer of "Immersive Van Gogh," said the show leans into every place it lands in and New York was the biggest challenge of any city the show has visited.

"The question was, really, how do we bring in the essence of New York?" he said. "And of course, David Korins is someone whose work I love and he's the top guy. So he was the first call."

Some elements of Korins' work are expected to be added to upcoming visits to other cities. The exhibition has already been presented in San Francisco, Chicago, Toronto and Paris and plans are to expand to



Projections of selected works of celebrated painter Vincent Van Gogh are displayed at a preview of the Immersive Van Gogh exhibit at Pier 36, June 4, in New York. (AP)

more than a dozen cities across North America, including Los Angeles, Dallas, Denver, Las Vegas, Minneapolis and Pittsburgh.

The heart of the show is the same in each city - a 38-minute digital film projected across the hulking space that dynamically and elegantly weaves images from Van Gogh's paintings on the walls and ground to a soundtrack of gentle electronic music and ethereal piano. Those parts were designed by Massimiliano Siccardi, with original music by Luca Longobardi.

The show's arrival in New York comes as the city emerges from a lockdown that shut down cultural events and art crowds. "I feel like this is a huge, bright beacon of hope for arts in New York," said Korins.

All visitors must wear masks and social distancing cues are sprinkled throughout the exhibit. Korins made

sure nothing needed to be touched, perhaps except for visitors' cell-phones. He said it's fitting that Van Gogh was often isolated: "He is a perfect artist and this is a perfect time because we've all been wrestling with isolation."

There has lately been an explosion of renewed interest in the Dutch post-Impressionist artist, and "Immersive Van Gogh" is just one of several traveling exhibits that marry his work with technology. There's even a rival in New York just a few miles away, "Van Gogh: The Immersive Experience."

Producers of "Immersive Van Gogh" in New York had so much space - the location on Pier 36 was once home to 25 basketball courts - that they've designed three galleries, each larger than the next, which viewers can wander about or sit on benches and watch Van Gogh's work float by.