

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 5, 2026



**PRESS CONTACT**

Erin Bird

720-865-3552

[erin.bird@botanicgardens.org](mailto:erin.bird@botanicgardens.org)

**JAUME PLENSA: A NEW HUMANISM**

**April 18 – September 7, 2026**



Jaume Plensa's monumental figurative sculptures have been displayed across the globe for over four decades, serving as tributes to both individuality and shared humanity. Among his best-known works in the U.S. is *Crown Fountain*, the immense digital portrait fountains in Chicago's Millennium Park. *Jaume Plensa: A New Humanism* is the first U.S. retrospective of the internationally acclaimed artist's work and explores his 40-year, career-long engagement with themes of personal introspection and collective harmony. The exhibition is on view April 18 – September 7, 2026, and is included with general admission.

*A New Humanism* features a selection of Plensa's towering portrait sculptures outside in the gardens along with his iconic seated figures and portrait busts in the Freyer – Newman Center galleries. The exhibition presents 28 artworks, including *Talking Continents*, a 19-piece indoor installation made of steel letters drawn from eight different alphabets from around the world that are welded together to create human figures floating atop cloud-like forms. Large drawings on paper with graphite and ink are also presented.

Based in Barcelona, Spain, Jaume Plensa's work is found in public spaces and major museum collections worldwide, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Art Institute of Chicago and the Nasher Sculpture Center in Dallas, Texas. Plensa has received numerous honors for his contributions to contemporary sculpture, including the International Sculpture Center's Lifetime Achievement Award. The exhibition is organized in partnership with Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park in Grand Rapids, MI.

**RELATED PROGRAMS**

**[Curator Conversations](#)**

Thursday, April 23, 10-11 a.m.

\$22, \$15 member, \$10 student

Join a curatorial staff member on a deep dive into the development, design and installation of current art exhibitions in the Freyer – Newman Center art galleries.

**[Painting the Garden in A New Light](#)**

Four-class series: Fridays, April 24, May 1, 15, 22, 1 - 4 p.m.

\$315, \$265 member

Using the forms of sculptures nestled within the Gardens' landscape, learn to deconstruct these artworks into simple shapes and fluid lines using layers of drawing and acrylic paint. Create geometric interpretations that blend organic forms with structured abstraction to create a dialogue between art and nature.

### ***Jaume Plensa: Can you Hear Me Screening***

Thursday, August 20, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

\$15, \$12 member

The 2020 documentary explores the work and personality of Jaume Plensa. The film visits some of his most representative pieces, sited in public spaces in Spain, France, Sweden, the U.S., Canada and Japan. A Q&A with local curators, artists and scientists follows the screening. Run time: 75 minutes. The artist will not be present.

### **Garden to Gallery**

Various dates, 6-7:30 p.m.; select dates 10-11:30 a.m.

\$40, \$30 member, \$10 student

What do gardeners and artists have in common? More than you might think. Experience a selection of Jaume Plensa's iconic sculptures on this 90-minute stroll through the gardens and into the galleries, where unexpected connections emerge. We'll pause, look closely, ask questions and discover together how both nature and art remind us of what it means to be human. Plus, you'll take home a little something special to remember the experience

### **Art at the Gardens Tour**

Various dates and times

\$20, \$12 member, \$10 student

Explore current art exhibitions in accessible and entertaining ways, whether you are an avid art-lover or simply looking for an inspiring indoor activity.

### **Visitas guiadas: arte**

Varias fechas y horarios

Registro gratuito, incluye entrada general

Disfrute las exposiciones de las galerías en el edificio FNC con un guía. Los Jardines Botánicos de Denver es líder en exposiciones de arte que destacan escultura, pintura, ilustración botánica y más. Con su guía compartirán historias acerca de las obras expuestas.

Images: Jaume Plensa, *Awilda and Irma*, steel, 2014. © 2025 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York / VEGAP, Madrid. Photo courtesy of Cheekwood Estate & Gardens. Jaume Plensa, *Talking Continents*, steel, 2013. © 2025 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York / VEGAP, Madrid. Jaume Plensa, "Julia (Oak)," (detail), bronze, 2019. Installation view, Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, New York, "Field of Dreams," 2020. Artwork © Jaume Plensa. Photo by Timothy Schenck, courtesy of GRAY Chicago/New York.

###

**About Denver Botanic Gardens:** Green inside and out, Denver Botanic Gardens celebrates its 75th anniversary in 2026 and is considered one of the top botanical gardens in the United States and a pioneer in water conservation. Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, and the American Public Gardens Association, the Gardens has a robust living plant collection, natural history collection and art collection along with temporary art exhibitions. The Gardens' Denver location features a 24-acre urban oasis in the heart of the city, offering unforgettable opportunities to flourish with unique garden experiences— as well as world-class exhibitions, special events, education and plant conservation research programs. Additional sites extend this experience throughout the Front Range: Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms is a 700-acre native plant refuge with an active farm in Jefferson County; Mount Goliath is a high-altitude trail and interpretive site on the Mount Blue Sky Scenic Byway. The Gardens also manages programming at Plains Conservation Center in Aurora. For more information, visit us online at [www.botanicgardens.org](http://www.botanicgardens.org).