



Washington, D.C., is home to a new monument that honors the health-care professionals who worked on the frontlines during the early days of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. A creation of artist William Cochran, **PILLAR OF FIRE** is a looming tower of solid glass that seems to twist around as it soars into the sky; it is illuminated from both inside and out, adding beauty and drama to D.C.'s nighttime skyline.

Cochran was inspired by a fabled pillar of ancient times that was said to have been engulfed by fire at night and consumed by clouds during the day so that it served as a constant beacon for the lost. Health-care providers for HIV/AIDS patients in the 1980s labored in the face of official silence, lack of funding, and broad social and institutional discrimination. This new sculpture serves as their beacon, offering recognition and gratitude for the jobs they undertook with little guidance and less support. *Photo courtesy William Cochran, Cochran Studio.*



Established in 2010 as a forum for exploring problems facing the city of Atlanta, **LIVING WALLS, THE CITY SPEAKS** has become an annual conference on street art and urbanism. The 2012 conference was held in August and featured 26 female artists from across the globe (from corners as distinct as São Paulo, Berlin, and Brooklyn); it was the world's first all-female street art conference. The weeklong event, which was free and open to the public, featured film screenings, lectures, block parties, gallery exhibits, and bike tours. The murals created during the conference (like Hyuro's work above) still dot the city, and a map to all the painted walls is available through the Living Walls website ([livingwallsconference.com](http://livingwallsconference.com)). This year's conference spawned a secondary "expansion organization"—Living Walls Concepts, which aims to provide more public art programming year-round. Its stated goal is "to create a more intimate relationship between the invited artist and the community receiving his or her art." *Photo courtesy Hyuro.*



**ARTLANTIC: WONDER** is the first of five installations that will make up the *Artlantic* project (2012–2016), a series of temporary, interactive art installations in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Curated by Lance Fung of Fung Collaboratives, the project aims to provide new creative spaces that function as public meeting places, fostering social interaction and reinvigorating the community. Installed this past November and situated on two separate sites across the city, *Artlantic: Wonder* includes illuminated text pieces by Robert Barry; an interactive pirate ship by Ilya and Emilia Kabakov; a garden and sculpture by Kiki Smith; and John Roloff's *Étude Atlantis*, an illusionistic performance space. The works are situated among earth sculptures, designed by Balmori Associates Inc., and Cairone & Kaupp, Inc., that evoke both an infinity sign and the iconic roller coasters of Steel Pier, a local amusement park. Referencing the city's past and present, *Artlantic: Wonder* is a beautiful and welcome addition to a city still recovering from the devastation of Hurricane Sandy. *Photo by Layman Lee.*