

AAA WORLD

JULY/AUGUST 2013

NEW MUSEUM EXAMINES THE SOCIAL AND SPIRITUAL
STRUGGLES THAT FUELED THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG

Duty and Devotion

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A DISNEY 'FANNIVERSARY'

THIS SUMMER, August 9–11, thousands of Disney devotees from across the globe will converge on Anaheim, California, for the third D23 Expo, billed as “The Ultimate Disney Fan Event.”

The biannual convention premiered in 2009 as an offshoot of D23, the first official Disney fan club. The D



stands for Disney, and the 23 represents the year—1923—Walt Disney founded his studio.

“D23 allows us to celebrate our fans’ love of all things Disney,” says Steven Clark, vice president of Corporate Communications for the Walt Disney Company and head of

D23. “The D23 Expo is an opportunity for every part of the Walt Disney Company to give back to our fans in a really special way.”

Held at the Anaheim Convention Center, located directly across the street from the Disneyland Resort, this year’s expo is expected to draw upwards of 45,000 fans and promises a long weekend filled with Disney-themed events, ranging from appearances by and meet-and-greets with the stars of Disney movies and TV shows; a collectors forum; a fan art gallery; a costume contest; sneak peeks at upcoming Disney movies; and costumes, props and set pieces from throughout Disney’s history.

“The D23 Expo is the only way you can really get a chance to see what makes this place tick,” says Clark. “It’s a fantastic experience and one not to be missed for anybody who really loves Disney entertainment.”

The D23 Expo is open to Disney fans of all ages, both D23 members and nonmembers alike. For more information or to purchase tickets, go to d23expo.com.

New Parks Bring Public Art to Atlantic City

HISTORICALLY, Atlantic City has never been known as a cultural destination. But thanks to a new project by the Atlantic City Alliance, a nonprofit entity devoted to revitalizing Atlantic City’s reputation and to broadening its appeal beyond gaming, the city is taking big steps to re-imagine itself while beautifying its vacant spaces.

Known as ARTLANTIC, the five-year, \$13-million multiphase public project is taking empty lots and turning them into green spaces and giant works of art. The first phase, *ARTLANTIC: wonder*, opened on the boardwalk at two different sites on April 9.

The first installation, on the site of the former Sands Casino between South Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and South Indiana Avenue, is a seven-acre park comprising two terraced hills. At one end, surrounded by a

garden of red foliage, is *Her*, a bronze statue by acclaimed feminist artist Kiki Smith; at the other end is a partially submerged nearly life-size wooden pirate ship designed by Ilya and Emilia Kabakov, Russia’s most significant living

PETER TOBIA FOR ATLANTIC CITY ALLIANCE



artists. Surrounding the park is an illuminated text-based work by conceptual artist Robert Barry. Three new commissions will be installed later this summer, including a piece by land art pioneer Peter Hutchinson.

The second installation, *Étude Atlantic* by John Roloff, on an 8,500 square-foot lot located between South California Avenue and South Belmont Avenue, features a wooden-walled stage painted with bold, illusionistic strips, fronted by a water feature.

“We want you to think and to experience the art, to decide what you like and don’t like and why, and to understand how the pieces interact with the energy of Atlantic City,” says Lance Fung, an internationally known freelance curator who designed ARTLANTIC. “All of the works of art are commissions, so the artists came to Atlantic City, researched Atlantic City and did projects about or for Atlantic City.”

New installations at different locations throughout the city and featuring works by different artists will follow every year through 2016. To learn more, visit artlanticblog.com.