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3 Outdoor Art Shows and One Trusty Dog (With Tricks!)

By Nancy Princenthal

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MAREN HASSINGER Marcus Garvey Park

There are fewer tourists in <u>Marcus Garvey Park</u> than along the High Line, but this Harlem agora, dedicated to the Jamaican-born black nationalist who envisioned a global, Africa-centered community, is enormously active, with basketball courts, a pool and sprinklers for toddlers. The eight "Monuments" that the esteemed sculptor (and Harlem resident) <u>Maren Hassinger</u> has placed around this park honor its rich sociability as well as its history and, not least, the big, grand trees that shade its varied topography.



One of Maren Hassinger's "Monuments," bundled branches shaped into geometric and organic forms, at Marcus Garvey Park in Harlem. Credit George Etheredge for The New York Times

Made of bundled branches shaped into alternately geometric and organic forms, the "Monuments," <u>a project of the Studio Museum in Harlem</u>, converse easily with elements of the park. They include a generously scaled ring near a big swimming pool, and a substantial standing cube, its surfaces a checkered weave of horizontally and vertically placed branches, near chess tables and patterned pavers. A surging river of branches is nearly camouflaged by the curving stone wall it hugs; a low, sloping form emerges from the grass like an outcropping of schist.



Ms. Hassinger has returned to gathered tree limbs, the material she first worked with 40 years ago. Credit George Etheredge for The New York Times

Through June 10, 2019, at Marcus Garvey Park, along Madison Avenue between 120th and 124th Streets, Manhattan; studiomuseum.org.