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PAY PHONES TURNED INTO PUBLIC ART, IN “TITAN”

In 2021, New York City’s phone booths will be removed to make way for Wi-Fi kiosks. Meanwhile, a dozen artists, including Glenn Ligon and Patti Smith, are making creative use of them.

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Photograph by Chris Maggio for The New Yorker

New York City’s pay phones are obsolete, and, by early next year, they will also be history—removed to make way for Wi-Fi kiosks. Through Jan. 3, a dozen artists (including Glenn Ligon, Patti Smith, and Jimmie Durham, whose contribution is pictured above) are making creative use of phone booths along Sixth Avenue, from Fifty-first to Fifty-sixth Streets. The project, called “**Titan**,” was co-curated by Damián Ortega and Bree Zucker, in collaboration with the Kurimanzutto gallery.