

Inside Art

Carol Vogel

Playful in Brooklyn

For 17 years now the Public Art Fund has been responsible for the

changing landscape of the commons that surround the Metro-Tech Center, the complex of corporate offices in downtown Brooklyn that are home to Forest City Ratner Companies, JPMorgan Chase and the Polytechnic Institute of New York University.

In the past the exhibitions there have been a diverse lot, some including emerging artists, others with more seasoned names. This year's show, "Double Take," will be composed entirely of commissions — site-specific installations by six young artists. Two of the fund's project managers, Jesse Hamerman and Elizabeth Linden, have organized the exhibition, which will be on view from Nov. 11 through next September.

"This is giving young artists a chance to show new work in public spaces," said Nicholas Baume, the new director and chief curator of the fund, a nonprofit organization that presents art around the city.

The show's theme — "Double Take" — gives a hint that nothing is as it seems. "There is a lamppost that is bent over kissing the ground as though there were a dance between lamppost and landscape," Mr. Baume said, describing the work of the Chicago collaborators Matt Irie and Dominick Talvacchio. Another artist, Christian de Vietri, has fashioned individually cast aluminum branches and logs nearly six feet tall and set up as though they were ready to be lighted for a

bonfire. And the Brooklyn artist Michael DeLucia has made a fence consisting of 13 panels of standard-gauge chain-link formed into 12-foot-square Minimalist cubes. The overlapping layers produce a pattern, Mr. Baume said, adding, "It plays with optical effects, transparency and density."