ACCESSIBILITY in the Art Museum

MIT Ideas Fair 2021
Smithsonian Guidelines for

Accessible Exhibition Design

Smithsonian Accessibility Program
Accessibility in the Art Museum

MIT Ideas Fair 2021

- Objects above headroom clearance cannot protrude any amount.
- Protruding objects cannot reduce the minimum width of accessible routes.
- Objects with leading edges within cane sweep cannot protrude any amount.

Area of Cane Detection

80” min

27” max

4” max (4 1/2” max for handrails)

cane rail
Accessibility in the Art Museum

Pompeii, Italy
Performance artwork by Panteha Abareshi, commenting on the prevalence of ableism in contemporary art.
ACCESSIBILITY HALL OF SHAME
Olafur Eliasson
Doug Aitken
Accessibility in the Art Museum

Urs Fischer
Accessibility in the Art Museum

Do Ho Suh
Accessibility in the Art Museum

Jenny Holzer

Martin Creed
(lights turn on/off every 5 seconds)
Accessibility in the Art Museum

Nam June Paik
Accessibility in the Art Museum

James Turrell
Accessibility in the Art Museum

Ann Hamilton

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WHAT TO DO?
Protest against the inaccessible design of The Vessel, a structure composed of 154 interconnected staircases, designed by Thomas Heatherwick. Hudson Yards, New York, NY.