

TITLE: MARTIN PURYEAR BIG BLING, 5'

DIRECTOR: Ian Forster

KEY CAST: Martin Puryear

OVERVIEW: "There's a story in the making of objects," says internationally acclaimed sculptor Martin Puryear. "There's a narrative in the fabrication of things, which to me is fascinating." This short documentary film, produced by the Peabody Award-winning arts organization ART21, explores the fabrication and installation of Puryear's monumental public sculpture "Big Bling" (2016). Because Puryear could not produce the colossal 40-foot sculpture in his studio, he worked with a team of expert manufacturers to realize his vision. At Unalam, a specialty lumber fabricator in Sidney, New York, glulam wood beams were bent to create the tight curves specified by his design. Jon Lash of Digital Atelier explains how materials such as chain link fencing were chosen to create an industrial-looking surface, which contrasts with the golden "bling" at the sculpture's peak. "Big Bling" is on view in Madison Square Park in New York City through January 8, 2017. Martin Puryear (1941-present) was the recipient of a MacArthur Foundation "genius" award in 1989 and was the subject of a major retrospective at The Museum of Modern Art, New York in 2007.

DIRECTOR: Ian Forster is a producer for the internationally acclaimed contemporary art organization Art21, creating documentaries for the Peabody Award-winning PBS broadcast series "Art in the Twenty-First Century" and for the online projects "Extended Play" and "Artist to Artist."

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