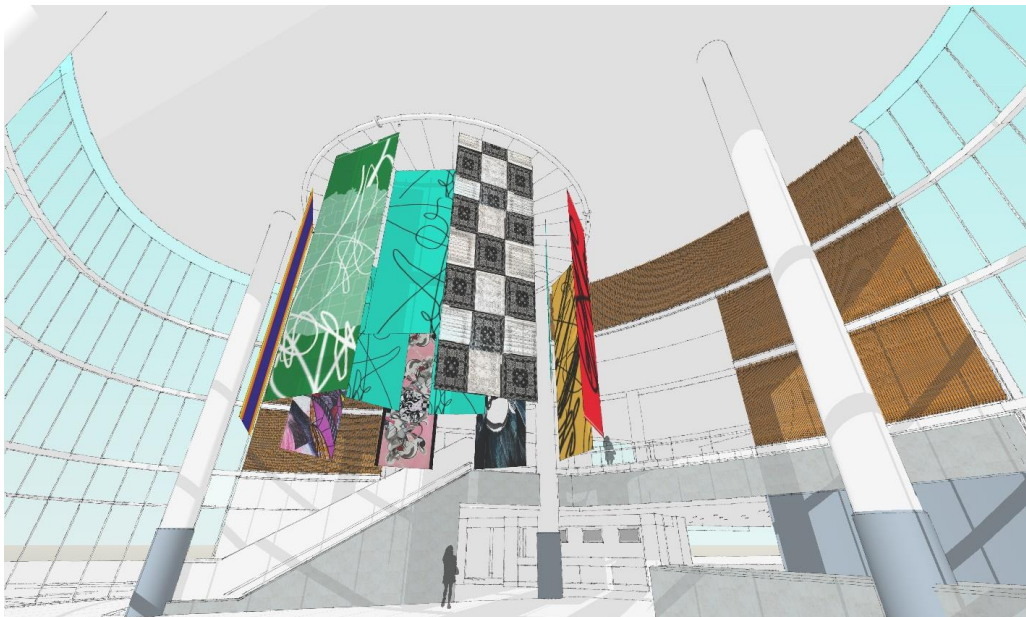




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Images available upon request.

Newfields to Debut Shinique Smith's *Torque* Opening July 19
Exhibition will welcome guests in the Efromyson Family Entrance Pavilion



INDIANAPOLIS, June 24, 2024 — In the year of the 100th anniversary of the first Gold and Glory Sweepstakes race, [Shinique Smith is exhibiting *Torque*](#), an ambitious display of textiles, calligraphy, sculpture and sound that will occupy and activate the space in the Efromyson Family Entrance Pavilion. Starting July 19, Newfields visitors will be welcomed by the exhibition as soon as they step into the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

In *Torque*, Shinique Smith brings to light a lesser-known history of racing in Indiana. "Within these flags, I am thinking of speed, patterns and motion of historical tensions, and the Gold and Glory Sweepstakes was a spark that fueled my ideas," Smith expressed. The Gold and Glory Sweepstakes race, held at the Indiana State Fairgrounds from 1924 to 1936, provided an important platform for African American motorsports drivers, mechanics and fans during an era of pronounced segregation. This multi-sensory exhibition amplifies the legacy of the Gold and Glory Sweepstakes while acknowledging the evolving history, inspirational nature and far-reaching impact of Indiana racing.

"Shinique Smith's remarkable work exemplifies the use of layers of vibrant fabrics to symbolize complex, parallel and intertwined histories," stated Belinda Tate, The Melvin & Bren Simon Director of the Indianapolis Museum of Art. "Adding depth to her beautiful design and soundscape are the notable celebrations of the 100th anniversary of the Gold and Glory Sweepstakes race and the profound significance of racing culture as integral to every corner of Indiana's rich heritage."

Based in Los Angeles, Smith's expertise spans several different media including sculpture, performance, public art and painting. Her artistic prowess has been recognized with awards from the Joan Mitchell Foundation, the Tiffany Foundation, Anonymous Was a Woman and the American Academy of Arts and Letters, among others. Newfields is the latest on the list of distinguished institutions in which she has shared her work, including the Baltimore Museum of Art, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York, Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, the Ringling Museum and many more.

On July 19, Smith will be on-site for the opening celebration of *Torque*. Refreshments courtesy of Newfields culinary staff will be available for all who attend. The celebration will continue at the National Bank of Indianapolis Summer Nights Film Series with a racing movie selected by Smith, *Gran Turismo* (2023). The exhibition will be on view through June 2025 and is curated by Dr. Michael Vetter, Associate Curator of Contemporary Art.

Image Credit: Shinique Smith, USA, 1971, Rendering of *Torque*, 2024. Commissioned by the Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields. © Shinique Smith/SAS Studio LLC.

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About Newfields:

Newfields offers dynamic experiences with art and nature for guests of all ages. The 152-acre cultural campus features art galleries, lush gardens, a historic home, performance spaces, a nature preserve and sculpture park. From inspiring exhibitions in the IMA Galleries, to concerts in The Tobias Theater, to a stroll through The Garden with a glass of something cold, guests are invited to interact with art and nature in exciting new ways. Newfields is home to the Indianapolis Museum of Art, among the ten largest and ten oldest general art museums in the nation; the Lilly House, a National Historic Landmark; The Garden, featuring 40 acres of contemporary and historic gardens, a working greenhouse and an orchard; and The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park, one of the largest art and nature parks in the country. The Newfields campus extends outside of Indianapolis with Miller House and Garden in Columbus, Ind. — one of the nation’s most highly regarded examples of mid-century Modernist architecture. For more information, visit [DiscoverNewfields.org](https://www.discovernewfields.org).

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