

RxART

RxART Announces Sculptural Installation by the Haas Brothers at Children's National Hospital



© Haas Brothers, *Tree To Be Me*, 2022. Courtesy Children's National Hospital, Washington, D.C. Photo: Rebecca Drobis

Washington, D.C. – May 9, 2022 – RxART is proud to announce the completion of a sculptural installation by the Haas Brothers at Children's National Hospital. *Tree To Be Me* is a 14-foot palm tree that is host to a brilliantly-colored, hand-beaded monkey. The sculpture – RxART's first sculpture project and fourth installation at Children's National – is situated in the hospital's newly renovated entrance. The Haas Brothers worked with women artisans in South Africa and in Central California, who call themselves the Haas Sisters, to lovingly create the intricate beadwork that covers the trunk, branches, and leaves of the tree and the monkey.

"Kids don't deserve pain or anxiety or any of the things that might be happening when they enter a hospital," the Haas Brothers shared in a joint statement speaking about their project. *"I had to bring my son to get surgery when he was 2. Humor and fun were the only two things that cheered him up so that's what we tried to do here. Make something fun and silly but with real artistic practice behind it."*

"Children's National Hospital is thrilled to collaborate with RxART on this sculpture installation by the Haas Brothers," says Martha Parra, M.S.N., R.N., Vice President of Clinical Support Services at Children's National. *"We believe that art has the unique ability to bring joy to any setting, and this incredible sculpture promises to be a source of inspiration and wonder for all of our patients, families, and employees."*

RxART produces every project at no cost to the hospital and provides the commissioned artist an honorarium. The Haas Brothers Project for Children's National was produced thanks to generous underwriting from The Rallis Foundation. Artwork: Haas Brothers, *Tree To Be Me*, 2022. Glass beads, marble, steel, and fabric.

About the Haas Brothers

The Haas Brothers (b.1984; Austin, TX) create work that surpasses arbitrary artistic boundaries and hierarchies, creating their own playful and provocative world that merges art, fashion, film, music, and design. Their work explores aesthetic themes related to nature, science fiction, and psychedelia in materials that range from brass, porcelain, beads, and wood to highly technical resins and polyurethane. The Haas Brothers work is held in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and the Rhode Island School of Design Museum. They live and work in Los Angeles, CA.

About RxART

The mission of RxART is to help children heal through the extraordinary power of visual art. RxART commissions established contemporary artists to transform children's hospital settings into engaging and inspiring healing environments full of beauty, humor, and comfort. From murals, wall covering designs, and CT Scan wraps, to privacy curtains and hospital-grade pajamas, RxART has now completed 56 projects with 65 artists in 36 hospitals across 20 cities in the U.S. since it first launched in 2000. As of 2022, RxART Projects have reached over 2 million patients throughout the United States. Every project is produced at no cost to the partner hospitals and the commissioned artists are provided with an honorarium and the chance to inspire children as they heal. For more information, visit www.rxart.net

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