

Exhibition: *Tavares Strachan: The Day Tomorrow Began*

Dates: October 12, 2025–March 29, 2026

Location: BCAM, Level 2



(Image captions on page 5)

(Los Angeles, CA—August 12, 2025) The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) presents *Tavares Strachan: The Day Tomorrow Began*, the artist's first major museum exhibition in Los Angeles. Introducing more than 20 new works—including the artist's most expansive neon piece and one of his largest sculptures to-date—this multi-sensory exhibition spotlights Strachan's excavation of histories that have been rendered invisible within mainstream narratives, particularly in relation to the Black diaspora. Weaving together sculpture, painting, text, and music, *The Day Tomorrow Began* transports visitors to unique environments ranging from uncanny everyday spaces to surreal landscapes. In these immersive spaces, Strachan invites his audience to rethink the ways in which we represent and discuss history, and more significantly, what histories we lionize.

LACMA's presentation of *The Day Tomorrow Began* is curated by Diana Nawi, Curator of Contemporary Art at LACMA, and co-organized with the Columbus Museum of Art. The exhibition is made possible by The Hyundai Project at LACMA, part of the museum's ongoing partnership with Hyundai Motor Company. Launched in 2015, this initiative is the longest and largest programmatic commitment from a corporate supporter in LACMA's history.

"This exhibition is an opportunity for viewers to not only engage with the diversity of concepts and hybrid approaches that animate Tavares's practice, but also to experience his attention to the craft of object-making and the importance of world building," said Nawi.

"Tavares is one of the most innovative and experimental artists working today. *The Day Tomorrow Began* reconsiders how institutions engage Black diasporic histories and brings forward new ideas and perspectives, complicating and expanding the stories they center," said Michael Govan, LACMA CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director. "Hyundai Motor's commitment to contemporary artists, like Tavares, and to LACMA, has led to a meaningful collaboration that spans more than a decade. The Hyundai Project at LACMA has opened up so many possibilities for artists and we are grateful for their support of Tavares's first solo museum exhibition in Los Angeles."

"The Hyundai Project at LACMA continues to support artists working across disciplines to transcend conventional boundaries," said DooEun Choi, Art Director of Hyundai Motor Company. "Through our partnership with LACMA, we are honored to be part of the journey of Tavares Strachan, who invites us to reflect on the potential of narratives as a lasting force for inclusivity and transformation."

Exhibition Highlights

The exhibition evokes a barbershop, a laundromat, a field of Indian Rice Grass, and other scenes across seven galleries. Highlights include:

Encyclopedia of Invisibility (2018) is Strachan's take on the Britannica encyclopedia. With more than 2,000 pages and an amalgamation of over 17,000 entries, this artwork relays information about people, places, events, and stories that the artist feels have been rendered "invisible" in mainstream narratives.

A **new body of work** brings the craft of ceramic pots together with the iconography and history of Black haircare, a recurrent theme in the artist's practice.

ENOCH (2018) and ***Robert*** (2018) highlight the artist's longstanding engagement with space exploration, and in particular the story of Robert Henry Lawrence Jr., the first Black astronaut in the United States. *ENOCH*, a canopic jar that features a sculpted portrait of the astronaut, emerged from the artist's participation in LACMA's Art + Technology Lab, presented by Hyundai Motor, through which he collaborated with SpaceX to launch this artwork into orbit around Earth.

A **new large-scale neon** meditates on two quotes from renowned American authors and thinkers James Baldwin and Mark Twain. Mirroring each other, both excerpts address our aspirational impulses and the possibility of recognizing our own potential and shared humanity.

A collection of new bronze sculptures addresses the form and the role of public monuments, not only asking who we choose to commemorate, but also interrogating our broader impulse to laud individual figures. The series installation includes ***Flip Monument (Christophe x Napoleon)*** (2025), a towering 16.5-foot-tall resin icon engineered specifically for LACMA's galleries.

Publication

LACMA has worked closely with the artist to produce a publication that accompanies this exhibition. Rather than adhering to a traditional catalogue format, the book reflects Strachan's interest in annotation over explanation. It brings together interviews and first-person writings that range in topic from the artist's personal biography to a discussion with the leader of a Junkanoo group in Nassau, to a meditation on the contemporary relevance (or irrelevance) of public monuments. Each of these speak to facets of the artist's work, revealing the breadth and unlikely combination of influences that come together in his practice. Taken together they also suggest the myriad ways culture is produced, preserved, and challenged. Contributors include the artist's mother, the leader of the One Family Junkanoo group, and the director of Monument Lab, among others. This compendium is co-published by LACMA and Delmonico Books/D.A.P.

About Tavares Strachan

Tavares Strachan's artistic practice activates the intersections of art, science, and politics, offering uniquely synthesized points of view on the cultural dynamics of scientific knowledge. The artist was born in 1979 in Nassau, Bahamas, and currently lives and works between New York City and Nassau. He received a BFA in glass from the Rhode Island School of Design in 2003 and an MFA in sculpture from Yale University in 2006. He draws on both the resources and community of his birthplace, dividing his time between his studio in New York and Nassau, where he has established an art studio and scientific research platform B.A.S.E.C. (Bahamas Aerospace and Sea Exploration Center). He has been the recipient of numerous awards including the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation fellowship (2022), Artist in Residence at the Getty Research Institute (2019–20), Frontier Art Prize (2018), the Allen Institute's inaugural artist-in-residence (2018), Tiffany Foundation Grant (2008), Grand Arts Residency Fellowship (2007), and Alice B. Kimball Fellowship (2006).

The Day Tomorrow Began is the latest chapter in a decade-long partnership with LACMA. Strachan was a recipient of LACMA's 2014 Art + Technology Lab Artist Grant, which facilitated his 3U satellite project, *ENOCH*. On December 3, 2018, the work was launched into space via Spaceflight's SSO-A: SmallSat Express mission from Vandenberg Air Force Base on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket. With support from LACMA's engineering team, *ENOCH* circled Earth for three years, orbiting approximately five times daily, before returning in 2021. The project was included in LACMA's exhibition *Black American Portraits* (2021–22). Strachan has also contributed to shows including *View From Here: Recent Acquisitions* (2020–21); *Mapping the Infinite: Cosmologies Across Culture*, as part of PST ART: *Art & Science Collide* (2024–25); and *Imagining Black Diasporas: 21st-Century Art and Poetics* (2024–25).

Credit: *Tavares Strachan: The Day Tomorrow Began* was co-organized by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Columbus Museum of Art.

Presented by



This exhibition is part of The Hyundai Project at LACMA, a joint initiative between Hyundai Motor Company and LACMA since 2015.

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About LACMA: Located on the Pacific Rim, LACMA is the largest art museum in the western United States, with a collection of more than 150,000 objects that illuminate 6,000 years of artistic expression across the globe. Committed to showcasing a multitude of art histories, LACMA exhibits and interprets works of art from new and unexpected points of view that are informed by the region's rich cultural heritage and diverse population. LACMA's spirit of experimentation is reflected in its work with artists, technologists, and thought leaders as well as in its regional, national, and global partnerships to share collections and programs, create pioneering initiatives, and engage new audiences.

About Hyundai Motor Company: Established in 1967, Hyundai Motor Company is present in over 200 countries with more than 120,000 employees dedicated to tackling real-world mobility challenges around the globe. Based on the brand vision 'Progress for Humanity,' Hyundai Motor is accelerating its transformation into a Smart Mobility Solution Provider. The company invests in advanced technologies such as robotics and Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) to bring about revolutionary mobility solutions while pursuing open innovation to introduce future mobility services. In pursuit of a sustainable future for the world, Hyundai will continue its efforts to introduce zero-emission vehicles with industry-leading hydrogen fuel cell and EV technologies. More information about Hyundai Motor and its products can be found at: <https://www.hyundai.com/worldwide/en/or> [Newsroom: Media Hub by Hyundai](#)

About Hyundai Motor's Art Projects: For over a decade, Hyundai Motor Company has deepened its partnerships with global museums and cultural organizations, including the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea (MMCA), Tate, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Korean Pavilion at the Venice Biennale. *Hyundai Translocal Series* is a new partnership initiative that roots itself in fostering dialogues and exchanges among art institutions in Korea and across the globe. Hyundai Motor's own art-initiatives include open call programs such as the VH AWARD, the Hyundai Blue Prize+, and Artlab Editorial, a digital platform dedicated to art writing by transnational voices. These ongoing collaborations embrace the complexities of the cultural landscape by exploring new ideas and perspectives within

and beyond the art ecosystem. For further information, visit artlab.hyundai.com or follow [@hyundaiartlab](https://twitter.com/hyundaiartlab) [#HyundaiArtlab](https://www.instagram.com/hyundaiartlab).

Location: 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA, 90036. lacma.org

Image caption: Tavares Strachan, *Six Thousand Years*, 2018, © Tavares Strachan, courtesy of the artist and San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, photo by Frazer Bradshaw

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