



A Chance to Respond to All That's Happened in 2020



["We Respond"](#) is a new digital art piece showing at ZAZ 10 Times Square through November and December 2020. It presents over a thousand quotes from all over the US on monitors in Times Square; each quote comes from one-on-one interviews asking people to respond to the last year.

The rhythm of our lives has been interrupted, and we've started to see things differently as a result. At the beginning of the year, it was because of the COVID pandemic, then it was our reckoning with racial injustice and, most recently, political chaos because of the presidential election. In the midst of change, how do we move forward? What do we hold on to? How can our new perspective shape a better country? The defiant and vulnerable voices of a nation come together to suggest an answer in "We Respond 2020."

Based on an initial concept conceived by physician Marsha Gordon and Broadway producer Susan Gallin, artist Janaki Ranpura and theater director Katherine Wilkinson conducted over one-hundred and forty extended interviews throughout the year. From those, Ranpura and Wilkinson pulled quotes that express a range of deeply felt and sometimes humorous reactions. People express grief, and they also express growth. Many talk about ways they have changed and what they hope to bring forward into the future. They talk about vows made for their personal lives and fears for the planet. They share their feelings while on a journey through a new landscape.

This pandemic is lasting longer than we imagined, and we need stamina to stay optimistic in the months ahead. "We Respond 2020" is an art piece to help manage the difficult emotions we're all experiencing in these times.



Creative Team

Janaki Ranpura is an American artist who frames social and ecological traumas through participatory installations. Her practice is centered in technology and community. She has exhibited at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, amongst others. She is a Macdowell fellow. Her training is in interdisciplinary strategies for creative work, with degrees from Yale University and Imperial College London. www.janakiranpura.com

Katherine Wilkinson is a Brooklyn based director & writer. Katherine has spent the last decade creating new ensemble-driven performances throughout the US and abroad. She uses imagination, creative communication, intuition, and chest-pounding-jump-squatting-energy to build both trusting communities and invigorating transformative experiences. She has an MFA from Columbia University. www.katherinewilkinson.com

Susan Gallin has been producing theater On and Off Broadway and the West End for over thirty years. She presents work that sparks audiences to re-examine their ideas and perceptions. A career highlight was being part of the original Angels in America producing team, a play that proves theater can change lives. She is the first recipient of the Robert Whitehead Award for Outstanding Producing.

Marsha Gordon, MD, is a physician and art lover living and working in Manhattan. She is interested in how various art forms including music, theater, and the visual arts affect health and wellness. She believes that compassionate listening may play a role in healing. She is working to promote awareness for the urgent need of federal funding to support research on viruses.

Website: werespond2020.com | Instagram: [@werespond2020](https://www.instagram.com/werespond2020)

About [ZAZ10TS](#)

ZAZ10TS is an ongoing cultural initiative that integrates art into the office building at 10 Times Square. Conceived by Tzili Charney, the ZAZ10TS gallery space employs the building's façade, LED billboard, lobby interior, and immediate environment to bring art and culture to the building's community, visitors, and passersby. ZAZ10TS takes pride in scouting and showcasing the gamut of talent ranging from established artists to young and emerging talent, as well as special needs artists, as part of its programming. In addition, ZAZ10TS partners with other organizations nationally and internationally to support art.

Media Contact: Limei Wang, Director, ZAZ 10TS

e: limei@zaz10ts.com t: 646 517 4333

More info

werespond2020.com

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