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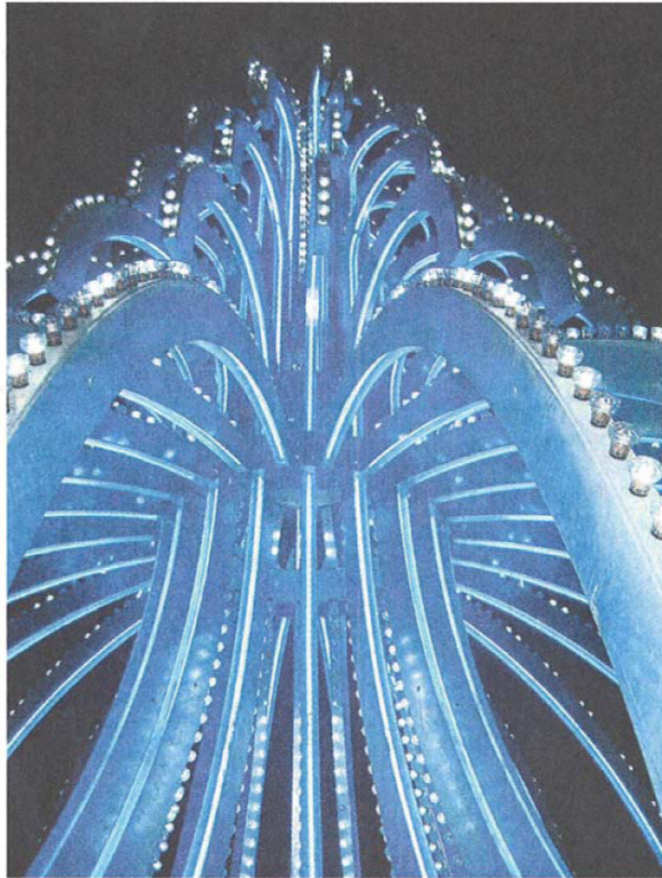
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WEEKEND Arts FINE ARTS
LEISURE

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Inside Art

Carol Vogel



ART PRODUCTION FUND

"Electric Fountain," sans water, will visit Rockefeller Center.

A Plugged-In Fountain

A giant fountain created from 1,729 feet of neon tubing and 3,390 LED bulbs will transform the plaza at Rockefeller Center next month into a light-show spectacle. "Electric Fountain," a 35-foot-tall work by the British artists Tim Noble and Sue Webster that is their first public artwork, will be on view from Feb. 27 through April 4.

"The fountain is one of the earliest forms of public art," said Jerry I. Speyer, chairman and chief executive of Tishman Speyer Properties, an owner of Rockefeller Center. "Another reason the artists chose a fountain is because it represents a place where people gather."

It took three years to plan and design the project; given the season, issues like wind and snow had to be considered.

"It is like building a small building," said Doreen Remen, a co-founder of the nonprofit Art Production Fund, which organized the exhibition. "It has been fabricated like the most intricate, refined jigsaw puzzle."

Made in Aachen, Germany, the fountain was also designed to be energy efficient. The LED bulbs will use about 70 percent less energy than tungsten bulbs, Ms. Remen said.

The lights, which mimic flowing water, will probably be turned off from midnight to 6 a.m., she added, unless there is a special event.