

# arts+ ENTERTAINMENT



## WHO ARE YOU

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Just when we thought we may have heard it all ... *bathroom art!*

The Cyclorama at Boston Center for the Arts now houses a public art exhibition called *Who Are You?*—featured on the walls, stalls and urinals of both the women's and men's restrooms.

Artist Douglas Kornfeld says this is "certainly the most unusual location" he's worked in. As a large-scale sculptor, he is no stranger to creating and installing atypical art in city buildings like the Civic Center Bus Station in Denver, and the Central Artery in downtown Boston.

For *Who Are You?*, he uses vinyl and acrylic visual interpretations of the global icons used on restroom signage to represent "male" and "female." He's interested in the way these industrial icons have meshed with the social vernacular, but also wonders about the

extent to which they restrict how men and women view themselves. The graphics behind and around the men's urinals feature black stick-figure-ish "everymen"—one broad shouldered, one quite tall and thin, the other rounded. In the ladies' room, the graphics also showcase different kinds of "everywomen" in white.

Kornfeld deliberately decided to leave some urinals and stalls without art, allowing for the possibility that some users may not want to interact with the installation. "By placing my art in public places," he explains, "visual comparisons will be made between my work and the people with whom we meet each day."

Kornfeld's future projects include a permanent work in Jamaica Plain entitled *Reach*, which depicts a 25-foot-high steel arm and hand symbolizing the immigrant experience in America.

[*Who Are You?* in the Cyclorama restrooms, Boston Center for the Arts. Until Sun 1.2.11. 539 Tremont St., Boston. 617.426.5000. Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm/free. [bcaonline.org](http://bcaonline.org)]