

THAT PLAYFUL DUO RETURNS

By CAROL VOGEL

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The British duo Gilbert and George like creating work that turns heads. Often laced with politics — economic, social, sexual — their art has embraced subjects ranging from pornography to pandemic diseases, vaudeville to scatology.

Always eager for the unexpected, Cecilia Alemani, director of the [High Line](#)'s art program, asked the artists to come up with the next image for a 25-by-75-foot billboard at West 18th Street and 10th Avenue, in a parking lot next to the elevated walkway.

The artists suggested reviving a work they created three decades ago. Titled “Waking,” it is a photo piece from 1984 that belongs to the Guggenheim Bilbao in Spain and depicts the artists standing amid a bevy of attractive young men. It will be on view from Sept. 3 through Oct. 1.

“With all the talk today about urban life and gay marriage,” Ms. Alemani said, “it seems even more appropriate now.”