New High Line installation is an ode to the Statue of Liberty

The vibrant installation can be found at 22nd Street and will remain in place until next year

By Ameena Walker | Mar 16, 2018, 2:33pm EDT

A new large-scale art installation has taken shape on the High Line and the mural, entitled “I Lift my Lamp Beside the Golden Door,” tackles immigration head on.

Artist Dorothy Iannone didn’t craft the mural as an intentional response to the turmoil surrounding immigration these days, but wanted to create something that functioned as an ode to the Statue of Liberty and the message it bears emblazoned on the bronze plaque that is mounted within the statue. Her installation, located at 22nd Street along the High Line, features three colorful renditions of the statue of liberty along with Lady Liberty’s message and the last line of Emma Lazarus’s poem, “The New Colossus” that states, “I lift my lamp beside the golden door.”

As the press release for the installation puts it, “Iannone’s vibrant Liberties bring a bit of joy to an often exhausting and demoralizing political debate.” It’s a simple reminder that New York City, and the United States as a whole, has always been an open and welcoming place for those in need of asylum with promises of freedom for all.

The installation will remain on display until March 2019. Below, is a cool time-lapse video showcases the installation process, which involved removing Henry Taylor’s mural the floaters, and getting Iannone’s artwork in place.