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Contemporary artwork to be part of landscape at Cowboys Stadium

By Jeff Mosier

Arlington's newest stadium is also Arlington's newest museum.

The Dallas Cowboys unveiled plans Friday to fill the team's new stadium with the works of contemporary artists. The Dallas Cowboys Art Program will start with 14 commissioned pieces from internationally known artists, including Lawrence Weiner, Teresita Fernández and Olafur Eliasson.

Cowboys officials were unavailable for comment Friday afternoon about the initiative. Owner Jerry Jones previously mentioned that he intended to incorporate art into the new stadium, but this is the first detailed description of that effort.

Most of the art is expected to be in place for the team's first regular season game Sept. 20 against the New York Giants. The works will be installed in high-profile locations, including entrances and concourses.

Jones and his family have also assembled a council of experts to recommend artists. That council includes officials with the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth and the Dallas Museum of Art in addition to Texas-based art collectors Howard Rachofsky and Gayle Stoffel.

In a news release, Jones' wife, Gene Jones, compared this effort to the ancient Greeks and Romans incorporating art into their stadiums.

This program is also expected to include art tours and education programs. Details of those were not immediately available.