



*Jean-Marie Appriou*  
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(author: Johanna Fateman)



## ART

### Jean-Marie Appriou

Three mammoth horses haunt the southeast entrance to Central Park in this French artist's Public Art Fund commission—benevolent, dispassionate, and disintegrating. None of the cobbled-together, cast-aluminum creatures is entirely whole. One sits watchfully, earless; another stands, its chest sliced through horizontally, creating a flat surface; the elongated torso of the third is bent into an archway. Facing Appriou's poignant sentinels from inside the Park offers a glimpse of Augustus Saint-Gaudens's gilded-bronze statue of William Tecumseh Sherman, in Grand Army Plaza, where the Union general rides a horse led by a winged goddess—a very different kind of equestrian sculpture. Appriou's horses, whose pedestal-free forms allow pedestrians to wander underneath and around them, seem like anti-monuments in contrast with that lofty symbol of official

glory—perhaps the artist is even paying respect to the humble, hardworking carriage horses perpetually waiting nearby, on Fifty-ninth Street.—*Johanna Fateman (Doris C. Freedman Plaza)*