

John F. Simon Jr.: Points, Lines, and Colors in Succession
Intersections Contemporary Art Project

AUDIO TOUR

My name is John F. Simon Jr. and I'm here at The Phillips Collection for my exhibition, an Intersections project called *Points, Lines, and Colors in Succession*. It's on exhibit here at The Phillips Collection from October 17, 2013, to February 9, 2014. The show consists of four of my own works from the last 10 years and Kandinsky's *Succession*, which is a piece that I've always looked up to.

When I toured the building of The Phillips Collection I was trying to decide a location where an Intersections project would be interesting and maybe an underutilized space, and I looked a lot at the Music Room. But then I saw the grand staircase in the house, and especially I noticed the symmetrical carved wood pattern at the bottom of the stairs. I decided that it would be very interesting for two reasons to have the show in that area of the stairwell. One is the frame of the new work that I designed for the show, which you see in the very large piece on the back wall of the staircase. The frame of that is the same pattern—I used the same pattern of the staircase. So you can stand at the bottom of the staircase and compare. And the other is that when you move from the bottom of the staircase past the *Endless Bounty*, the computer screen piece, and you go up the stairs and up again you actually trace with your own motion—with your own walking—that serpentine pattern. So I could echo the sort of unifying pattern of the whole show also in the motion that every visitor has to take to move through it.