

*WORK* is an exhibition by the artist and Prime Minister of Albania, Edi Rama. This is his first solo museum exhibition in the United States. The exhibition features a series of drawings Rama creates on documents and notes during his official meetings and phone calls, as well as ceramic sculptures and a floor-to-ceiling wallpaper that emulates the wallpaper in the Prime Minister's Office in Tirana, Albania.

Rama's drawing practice has developed in close parallel with his career as a politician. He views art as an essential element in a functional society. A clear example of this is his civic initiative to paint the facades of decaying communist bloc buildings after he was elected Mayor of Tirana in 2000. Rama has described this undertaking as "a political action with colors." In the Small Works Gallery adjacent to this gallery, visitors can find further information about this project.

Rama lives and works in Tirana, Albania. A former professor of painting at the Academy of Fine Arts and author of several books, his works have been exhibited in numerous solo, two-person, and group exhibitions. He began his political career in Albania as the Minister of Culture in 1998. He was the Mayor of Tirana from 2000-2011. Rama was elected Prime Minister of Albania in September 2013, following a landslide victory in the general elections, and his government has since embarked the path of reform that aims to bring Albania closer to the European Union. He is currently serving his second term as Prime Minister.