

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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February 21, 2008

**Extended Through October 12, 2008**

## **“MARK DI SUVERO/MILLENNIUM PARK”**

### **Five Mark di Suvero Sculptures to Remain in Millennium Park All Summer Long**

The five large-scale sculptures by artist Mark di Suvero that have graced Millennium Park's outdoor Boeing Galleries since last April will now stay on view through October 12, 2008. Previously announced to be in Millennium Park through April 1, 2008 only, these soaring sculptures will again enhance one of Chicago's most popular public spaces during the busy summer season.

“Chicago has fallen in love with the art of Mark di Suvero,” said Lois Weisberg, Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs. “His striking pieces of sculpture have captivated the imaginations of Chicagoans and visitors alike, who can be found interacting with his work, just as they do with the Crown Fountain and Cloud Gate in Millennium Park.”

**Mark di Suvero/Millennium Park** is presented by the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, Millennium Park, in cooperation with Millennium Park, Inc., and is sponsored by The Boeing Company with support from the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation. The sculpture is available for all to enjoy free of charge.

A prolific sculptor, di Suvero's works have punctuated landscapes and urban environments for half a century. His arresting pieces have consistently drawn critical acclaim, confronting audiences with their audacious colors and shapes, and mesmerizing even the casual passer-by with their subtle energy and intricate proportion.

Two Mark di Suvero works can be found in Millennium Park's North Boeing Gallery and three are on display in the South Boeing Gallery. The largest, *Orion*, a bright orange sculpture, measuring 53 feet high and weighing close to 12 tons, sits in the North Boeing Gallery along with *Johnny Appleseed*, a 23'6" foot high structure with two large steam shovels intersecting its steel base. In the South Boeing Gallery are the two kinetic steel pieces, *Shang*, a 25 foot tall sculpture, and *Yoga*, a 29'6" tall sculpture. Visitors enjoy climbing on the suspended steel beam in *Shang* that acts as a swing and everyone can see *Yoga*'s graceful movements as it turns in the wind. The bright red *Rust Angel* sits between *Shang* and *Yoga*.

“Boeing is proud to play a role in bringing innovative and interesting art to Chicago’s citizens and its international visitors,” said Rick Stephens, senior vice president, Boeing Human Resources and Administration. “With our investments in Millennium Park with the Boeing Galleries and our contribution toward an endowment to help fund visual arts and sculpture

exhibitions in the space, The Boeing Company has created resources for art exhibitions that Chicago and its visitors can enjoy well into the future.”

Mark di Suvero was born in Shanghai, China in 1933, where his father became part of the Italian consular service. At the outbreak of World War II, his family moved to San Francisco and he became a U.S. citizen. In New York in 1957, di Suvero began using scrap from demolished buildings to create what he called “cubist, open spatial sculptures.” In 1960, he was injured in an accident at a day job which left him paralyzed. Confined to a wheelchair for a year, di Suvero learned to use an electric arc welder and began to show his first stainless steel work in a New York gallery. In the 1960’s, he mastered the use of the crane, acetylene torch and welder, then, bought his own crane and began to use it to bend and assemble steel for his art. In the late 1960’s, di Suvero worked on and off for over two years making sculpture in the Chicago area, creating several of his significant works from that period. Di Suvero’s sculpture has been shown widely in the United States and Europe. He currently divides his time between large industrial studios in California, New York and Chalon-sur-Saone, France.

Millennium Park is located in the heart of downtown Chicago. It is bordered by Michigan Ave. to the west, Columbus Dr. to the east, Randolph St. to the north and Monroe St. to the south. The Boeing Galleries are located along Millennium Park’s mid-level terraces, just east of Michigan Avenue. Millennium Park is open every day from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Millennium Park is an award-winning center for art, music, architecture and landscape design. The result of a unique partnership between the City of Chicago and the philanthropic community, the 24.5-acre park features the work of world-renowned architects, planners, artists and designers. Among Millennium Park’s prominent features are the Frank Gehry-designed Jay Pritzker Pavilion, the most sophisticated outdoor concert venue of its kind in the United States; the interactive Crown Fountain by Jaume Plensa; the contemporary Lurie Garden designed by the team of Gustafson Guthrie Nichol, Piet Oudolf and Robert Israel; and Anish Kapoor’s hugely popular Cloud Gate sculpture. Since its opening in July 2004, Millennium Park has hosted millions of people, making it one of the most popular destinations in Chicago.

For more information about **Mark di Suvero/Millennium Park**, call 312.742.1168 or visit [www.millenniumpark.org](http://www.millenniumpark.org).

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Note to Press: Electronic Images Available Upon Request