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“MARK DI SUVERO/MILLENNIUM PARK”

**Five Mark di Suvero Sculptures to Grace Millennium Park April 17, 2007—April 1, 2008
Companion Exhibition June 8—Oct. 1 at the Chicago Cultural Center**

One additional piece of sculpture by abstract expressionist sculptor Mark di Suvero will grace Millennium Park’s Boeing Galleries beginning April 17, 2007, joining the four large-scale metal works previously announced to be on view through April 1, 2008. Framing the dramatic art and architecture of Millennium Park and juxtaposed against the stainless steel lines of the Frank Gehry-designed Jay Pritzker Pavilion and Great Lawn, these soaring sculptures will enhance one of Chicago’s most popular public spaces—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 dynamic 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.



In Millennium Park, two pieces will be placed in the North Boeing Gallery and three in the South Boeing Gallery. The largest, *Orion*, a bright orange sculpture, measuring 53 feet high and weighing close to 12 tons, will sit 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 will be two kinetic steel pieces, *Shang*, a 25 foot tall sculpture, and *Yoga*, a 29’6” tall sculpture. Children are invited to climb 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* will sit between *Shang* and *Yoga*.

“Mark di Suvero was invited to be the first sculptor to exhibit his work in the Boeing Galleries, given his reputation as one of America’s most influential artists,” said Helen Doria, Executive Director, Millennium Park. “Visitors can interact with his work just as they do with the Crown Fountain and Cloud Gate—the permanent art in the Park. That connection to the art has become part of the essential spirit of Millennium Park, making visitors want to return again and again.”

"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."

The public is encouraged to learn more about Mark di Suvero and his work. Staff members from Millennium Park and the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs will offer free tours of the sculpture every Monday at 12:15 p.m. from June 11 through August 13, 2007. The tours will start in the North Boeing Gallery and will last 45 minutes.

On view at the Chicago Cultural Center's Chicago Rooms, located across the street from Millennium Park at 78 E. Washington Street from June 8 through October 1, 2007 will be **Mark di Suvero: Works and Protest**, which will include an exhibition of photography of di Suvero's sculptures throughout the world, taken by the legendary art dealer, Richard Bellamy. Also on view will be "Peace Tower," a 20 foot high tower designed and built by di Suvero, featuring artwork about peace and protest by regional artists, activists, and veterans. Viewing hours at the Chicago Cultural Center are Mondays through Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Fridays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Chicago Cultural Center is closed on holidays. Admission is free to the exhibition.

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,

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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. For more information about **Mark di Suvero: Words and Protest** at the Chicago Cultural Center, call 312.744.6630 (TTY: 312.744.2947) or visit www.chicagoculturalcenter.org.

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Note to Press: Electronic Images Available Upon Request

Caption for photo on front page:

Mark di Suvero
"Shang," 1985
25 x 19 x 21.5"
courtesy of the artist