

Sculpturesite & San Francisco Celebrating Contemporary Sculpture, Public Art and Public Art Preservation

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Kimberly HATHAWAY

San Francisco's arts community was taken by storm August 11. The City's only gallery devoted entirely to sculpture opened its doors at Convention Center Plaza. To the delight of all, Mark di Suvero, was in attendance, flanked by admirers throughout the evening. Other attending artists included Bruce Beasley, San Francisco's own Peter Schiffrin, Bret Price, William Wareham, London's John Atkin, Jeffery Laudenslager, Nina Lyons,

Hans Van De Bovenkamp, Royden Mills, Ryan McCourt, Jane Johnson, Archie Held and Venezuelan sculptor Jorge Blanco. [www.sculpturesite.com/sf/artistinfo]

"We are warmed by the response of the community to Sculpturesite Gallery," said co-founder and exhibiting artist John Denning. "The pulse of the San Francisco art community surrounds us at this venue; we look forward to exposing these works to a huge international audience." Denning's

comment arises from the fact that SFMOMA and the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts are literally on neighboring blocks of Sculpturesite Gallery. The gallery is unique in that the collection includes both emerging and well-established artists. The exhibition will run through October 8 and includes the late Clement Meadmore's *Upbeat*, *Wall for Bojangles*, *Emanation*, *Lowdown* and *Upright*.

OUR CITY'S COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC ART PUBLIC SCULPTURE PRESERVATION

"The San Francisco arts community welcomes the addition of a world-class sculpture gallery, just a stone's throw from SFMOMA and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts," said PJ Johnston, president of the San Francisco Arts Commission. "The public plaza exhibition, featuring the works of internationally renowned and emerging sculptors, will be a terrific draw for locals and visitors alike, and a great addition to the City's cultural landscape."

San Francisco's rich cultural assets include an impressive collection of public art, from its celebrated murals to its sculpture placed in public parks, along sidewalks and on the waterfront. Unfortunately, several of San Francisco's cherished public sculptures are in need of urgent restoration. On September 15, 2005, Sculpturesite Gallery and the San Francisco Arts Commission announced a Public Sculpture Preservation Project.

The City of San Francisco and Mayor Gavin Newsom proclaimed September 15th "Save Our Sculpture Day", as Sculpturesite Gallery and the San Francisco Arts Commission announced the launch of their partnership program: the San Francisco Public Sculpture Preservation Project, "Save Our Sculpture."

"SAVE OUR SCULPTURE" PROCLAMATION

1. Whereas Sculpturesite Gallery and the San Francisco Arts Commission believe that public sculpture reflects the cultural vitality of our City and;
2. Whereas Sculpturesite Gallery and the San Francisco Arts Commission are henceforth committed to the collaboration, "Save Our Sculpture," in the City of San Francisco with the purpose of preserving the City's diverse collection of public sculpture and;
3. Whereas Sculpturesite Gallery and the San Francisco Arts Commission recognize the need for ongoing maintenance and restoration of these cherished public sculptures and;
4. Whereas Sculpturesite Gallery and the San Francisco Arts Commission are launching a partnership program, "Save Our Sculpture," to restore and preserve public sculpture in San Francisco and;
5. Whereas Sculpturesite Gallery and the San Francisco Arts Commission are joining together in an effort to raise funds for the conservation and preservation of the City's cultural assets so that they may be enjoyed for generations to come. ←

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Clement MEADMORE,
Up Beat, 299,7 x 167,6
cm. Painted aluminum.
Photo: courtesy of the
Sculpturesite Gallery.

Jeffrey LAUDENSLAGER,
Helix 2. Photo: courtesy
of the Sculpturesite
Gallery.

