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**THREE WORKS BY THE CELEBRATED SCULPTOR MARK DI  
SUVERO NOW ON VIEW AT THE MORGAN LIBRARY & MUSEUM**

**New York, NY, June 16, 2010**—In the first exhibition of contemporary sculpture ever held at The Morgan Library & Museum, three works by the celebrated sculptor Mark di Suvero are now on view in the museum’s lobby and multi-story, glass-enclosed atrium designed by architect Renzo Piano. The exhibition is on view through September 12.



*Homebody*, Collection of the artist. Photography by Graham Haber, 2010.

The works include one large piece, *Homebody*, created in 2004, and two smaller works, *Heraldic Bourgogne* (1995) and *Sandwich 1* (2007). All were created using Mr. di Suvero's signature medium—steel and stainless steel.

Mr. di Suvero and Mr. Piano are longtime friends and in May 2009 participated in a discussion panel at the Morgan on the relationship of art and architecture. Shortly after the completion of Mr. Piano's expansion of the Morgan in 2006, the architect suggested that one day he would like to see how sculpture by Mr. di Suvero would look in the new atrium. The sculptor and the architect, along with Morgan curators, selected the three works and chose the locations for installation.

”The Morgan is delighted to exhibit these extraordinary works by Mark di Suvero,” said William M. Griswold, director of the museum. “He is among our greatest contemporary sculptors and a friend of the Morgan. Since our reopening in 2006, the institution has made a commitment to exhibit works by modern and contemporary artists and this show is an extension of that

effort. Moreover, the involvement of both the architect and the artist adds an unusual and distinctive element to the installation, which is, in effect, a 'conversation' between the two men and their aesthetic choices.”



Sculptor Mark di Suvero directing the installation of three of his works at The Morgan Library & Museum.

”From the time the addition I designed for the Morgan opened in 2006, I thought that an installation of sculpture would look fantastic in the new central court,” Mr. Piano said. “And I thought that Mark di Suvero's sculpture would be best of all. I have known and admired Mark’s work for many years. I think that the more formal steel and glass construction of the court provides a perfect setting for Mark's highly expressive, powerful pieces.”

According to Mr. di Suvero, “The major aesthetic problem of art and architecture is the unity and integration of a work of art and a building. Nowhere is this more evident and more necessary than the relation between a museum and sculpture. To create a radical open-space welcome to art as a part of the complex function of a building is an immense problem which Renzo Piano has spent a lifetime solving. To unite art and architecture is the huge challenge that this project confronts.”

Mark di Suvero was born in Shanghai, China, in 1933. He immigrated to the United States in 1941 and received a B.A. in Philosophy from the University of California, Berkeley. Having worked in construction for a time, he later learned arc welding. Mr. di Suvero gravitated in his art towards sculptures made of wood and metal. He began showing his works in the late 1950s and is one of the most important artists to have emerged from the Abstract Expressionist era. His large, bold pieces of heavy gauge metal, which often incorporate moving parts, have been exhibited the world over. In 2000, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award in Contemporary Sculpture from the International Sculpture Center. In 2005, he was given the Heinz Award in Arts and Humanities for his commitment to aspiring artists.



*Homebody* and *Heraldic Bourgogne*, Collection of the artist. Photography by Graham Haber, 2010.

Renzo Piano was born in Genoa in 1937 into a family of builders. He graduated from Milan Polytechnic University in 1964 and began to work with experimental lightweight structures and basic shelters. In 1971, he founded the studio Piano and Rogers with British architect Richard Rogers, and together they won the competition for the Centre Pompidou in Paris, where Mr. Piano now lives. From the early 1970s to the 1990s, he collaborated with the engineer Peter Rice, forming Atelier Piano and Rice between 1977 and 1981. Later in 1981, he established the Renzo Piano Building Workshop, and today employs one hundred architects and support staff working in Paris, Genoa, and New York. He is a recipient of the Pritzker Prize in Architecture, the AIA Gold Medal, the Kyoto Prize, and the Sonning Prize. In addition to the renovation of The Morgan Library & Museum, Mr. Piano also designed the new headquarters of the New York Times Company.

The Mark di Suvero works on view at the Morgan from June 16 to September 12 include:

*Heraldic Bourgogne*, 1995  
steel  
78" x 85 ¾" x 89 ¾"

*Homebody*, 2004  
stainless steel, steel  
13' 10" x 15' 3" x 8'

*Sandwich 1*, 2007  
Steel  
35" x 65" x 32"

This installation is made possible through the generosity of Richard and Ronay Menschel.

## **PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

### **Films**

*North Star: Mark di Suvero*  
(1977, 54 minutes)

Director: François de Menil; Music: Philip Glass

This compelling documentary follows the construction and installation of di Suvero's works during the 1970s. Courtesy of the Menil Archives, Houston, Texas.

Followed immediately by:

*Mark di Suvero: Storm King*  
(1987, 20 minutes)

Director: Dirk Van Dall

This short film features the installation of di Suvero's work at Storm King Art Center, New York. A Dreamtime Production.

**Friday, June 18, 7 PM**

**Friday, July 30, 7 PM**

### **The Morgan Library & Museum**

A complex of buildings in the heart of New York City, The Morgan Library & Museum began as the private library of financier Pierpont Morgan, one of the preeminent collectors and cultural benefactors in the United States. Today, more than a century after its founding, the Morgan serves as a museum, independent

research library, musical venue, architectural landmark, and historic site. Located at Madison Avenue and 36th Street, with a world-renowned collection that ranges from Rembrandt to Picasso, Mozart to Bob Dylan, Dickens to Hemingway, and Gutenberg Bibles to Babar the elephant, The Morgan Library & Museum maintains a unique position among cultural institutions in New York, the nation, and the world.

**General Information**

The Morgan Library & Museum

225 Madison Avenue, at 36th Street, New York, NY 10016-3405

212.685.0008

[www.themorgan.org](http://www.themorgan.org)

**Hours**

Tuesday–Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; extended Friday hours, 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Mondays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day. The Morgan closes at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve.

**Admission**

\$12 for adults; \$8 for students, seniors (65 and over), and children (under 16); free to Members and children, 12 and under accompanied by an adult. Admission is free on Fridays from 7 to 9 p.m. Admission is not required to visit the Morgan Shop.