

For Immediate Release

April 9, 2014

# Mark di Suvero

## *The Imagination of Steel*

April 24 through June 14, 2014

Opening Reception for the Artist: April 24, 2014, Thursday, 5-7 pm

Venue: James Cohan Gallery Shanghai

Address: 1F, Building 1, Lane 170 Yue Yang Road, by Yong Jia Road



MARK DI SUVERO 马克·迪·苏沃尔

*Untitled 无题*, 2013

Steel, stainless steel and bronze 39 x 54 x 35 inches; 99.1 x 137.2 x 88.9 cm

©Mark Di Suvero. Courtesy Paula Cooper Gallery, New York,  
and James Cohan Gallery, Shanghai.

Photo: JSP Photography

James Cohan Gallery Shanghai is pleased to present an exhibition by the internationally acclaimed American sculptor **Mark di Suvero**. This is the artist's first exhibition of his works in China, and in the city of Shanghai, where the artist was born in 1933.

Di Suvero's parents fled the growing turmoil of the Fascist regime in Italy and came to China, living first in Shanghai and then Tianjin, until immigrating to the United States in 1941 during the outbreak of World War II. The family settled in California where di Suvero later studied philosophy and sculpture at the University of California at Santa Barbara and at Berkeley before moving to New York City in 1957. Di Suvero had his first solo exhibition in 1959 and is considered one of the most influential artists to have emerged from the Abstract Expressionist era. Known for his monumental, architectural-scale sculptures, which incorporate salvaged steel and

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steel I-beams, often brightly painted and ranging from 20 to 60 feet tall (6 to 18 meters), di Suvero's sculptures can be seen in over 100 museum collections, public parks, university campuses, and urban plazas throughout the United States, Europe, and Australia. Like the Constructivists artists of the 1920s and the Abstract Expressionists of the 1950s, di Suvero's sculptures thrive on geometric forms. He continues to hold a singular position in contemporary art and is widely recognized as a pioneer in the use of steel and is without peer in the exhibition of public sculpture worldwide.

The exhibition at the gallery features tabletop-scale works made from steel, stainless steel, and titanium, or a combination of these metals. Several mid-sized sculptures will also be presented in the gallery's garden. Di Suvero's tabletop sculptures are not models or maquettes for his monumental works. He does not make preliminary designs or drawings, but directly improvises compositions from an intuitive process, creating an intimate genre all its own. The results are often calligraphic in form, exploring balance, shape, gravity, and mobility. "I'm always conscious of balance and gravity's center point," di Suvero says, "like a dancer or acrobat, I'm feeling that invisible point. Gravity is about space and is an enabling force." Di Suvero's unparalleled skills of bending, welding, cutting metals--the control of metal in three-dimensional space and the balance of it--instills an immediate sense of humanity and the natural world in these smaller scale works. The gestural movements and dynamic forms also invite the viewer's touch and active participation. His large-



MARK DI SUVERO 马克·迪·苏沃尔  
*Titanium Landscape* 景观·钛, 2002  
Stainless steel, steel, titanium  
19 1/2 x 37 x 32 inches; 49.5 x 94 x 81.3 cm  
©Mark Di Suvero. Courtesy Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, and James Cohan Gallery, Shanghai.



MARK DI SUVERO  
马克·迪·苏沃尔  
*Ghost Guest* 不速之客, 2002  
Stainless steel, steel  
69 x 52 x 55 inches;  
172.5 x 130 x 137.5 cm  
©Mark Di Suvero. Courtesy Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, and James Cohan Gallery, Shanghai.  
Photo: Osamu Nishihara

scale sculpture have incorporated swings and steel plates inviting viewers to sit, climb, and engage with his works. His sculptures communicate unique ideas of mass, mobility, weightlessness, and the spontaneity of the imagination. Since the beginning of his career historians and critics have cited various sources of inspiration and influences in di Suvero's work by Western Modernists artists. But China and Chinese culture, with its indelible, lasting impressions from the artist's early childhood, have long held a significant and deeply ingrained place in the artist's life and work. This is clearly evident in several sculptures in this exhibition, including *Steel Cloud (for Po Chu Yi)*, a reference to the Tang Dynasty poet also known as Bai Juyi, or in *Titanium Landscape*, which features an architectural element resembling a Chinese moon gate, or in a recent *Untitled* (2013) sculpture in which a small gong is suspended that can be struck with a rubber mallet, delighting the viewer with its gentle and sonorous tone.

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Among the many exhibitions throughout his life and career, di Suvero is the first living artist to exhibit in Le Jardin de Tuileries and Les Esplanades des Invalides in Paris and at Millennium Park-Chicago. His works are included in the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, New York, National Gallery of Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Walker Art Center, and Storm King Art Center where he has had three major exhibitions. A lifelong activist for peace and social justice, di Suvero has demonstrated a generous commitment to helping artists. In 1962, he co-founded Park Place Gallery, the first artists' cooperative in New York City. In 1977, he established the Athena Foundation to assist artists to realize their ambitions. And in 1986, he established Socrates Sculpture Park at the site of a landfill on the East River in Queens, New York. Through his leadership a 4.5 acre of land was transformed by a coalition of artists and community members into an open studio and exhibition space. To date the park has hosted the work of over 900 artists.

Di Suvero has received numerous awards, most recently in 2013 the Gold Medal for Sculpture from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. In 2010 he was the recipient of the Smithsonian Archives of American Art Medal, as well as the Lifetime Achievement Award in Contemporary Sculpture from the International Sculpture Center in 2000, and in 2005 the Heinz Award for Arts and Humanities. Currently, and coinciding with the artist's eightieth birthday, the Museum of Modern Art in San Francisco in partnership with the National Park Service and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, has organized a yearlong exhibition of eight monumental sculptures by the artist at historic Crissy Field, situated beside San Francisco's picturesque Golden Gate Bridge ( [http://www.sfmoma.org/about/press/press\\_exhibitions/releases/947](http://www.sfmoma.org/about/press/press_exhibitions/releases/947)). Set against the backdrop of Golden Gate Bridge, which celebrates its 76th anniversary since its completion in 1937--four years after di Suvero's birth--is a structure that has inspired di Suvero throughout his career. The exhibition brings together works from prominent collections, dating from 1967 to 2012, celebrating five decades of work by the acclaimed artist.

For further information or image requests please contact Angela Li at [ali@jamescohan.com](mailto:ali@jamescohan.com) or contact the gallery at +86 21 54660825. Gallery hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Monday by appointment.

# 马克·迪·苏沃尔

## 想象钢铁

2014年4月24日至2014年6月14日

迎接艺术家及展览开幕酒会：2014年4月24日，周四，晚5-7点

上海 James Cohan 画廊

地址：徐汇区岳阳路170弄1号楼1楼，近永嘉路



MARK DI SUVERO 马克·迪·苏沃尔

*Grape Arbor* 葡萄亭, 2002

Stainless steel 不锈钢

120 x 95 x 84 inches; 300 x 240 x 200 cm

©Mark Di Suvero. Courtesy Paula Cooper Gallery, New York,  
and James Cohan Gallery, Shanghai.

Photo: JSP Photography

James Cohan 画廊荣幸带来享誉世界的美国雕塑艺术家**马克·迪·苏沃尔**的展览。艺术家生于1933年，上海。此次展览作品是艺术家在中国，以及他的出生地上海的首次献礼。

上世纪三十年代，迪·苏沃尔的父母为了逃避法西斯政权不断膨胀纷争，从意大利来到了中国，并先后旅居上海和天津，直到1941年二战爆发举家移民到美国。苏沃尔一家最后安顿在加利福尼亚州，迪·苏沃尔则在加州大学圣芭芭拉分校和伯克利分校学习哲学和雕塑，之后他于1957年搬至纽约。迪·苏沃尔的首次个展举办于1959年，随即惊艳四方被认为是抽象表现艺术年代里突现出来的最具影响力的艺术家之一。迪·苏沃尔的雕塑以其巨大的如纪念碑或建筑物般的规模为人所知，高度从20到60英尺（6到18米），作品结合了废弃的钢材和工字梁金属，表面时常涂以鲜亮醒目的色彩。他的雕塑作品展出并收藏于世界各地100逾家美术馆、博物馆、公共花园、大学校园和城市广场，遍布美国、欧洲以及澳大利亚。如同二十世纪20年代的结构主义艺术家和50年代的抽象表现艺术家，迪·苏沃尔的雕塑在几

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何形式上十分多变，如同在空间中作画。当代艺术领域中，他的非凡独特一直无可取代，被广泛认为是一位在钢材运用上的先驱者，他的公共雕塑四海之内一时无两。

此次画廊的展览包括了一些台置的作品，由钢材、不锈钢、钛或者几种混合金属的组合制作而成；以及几件中型作品，将置于画廊花园中向公众展示。虽年已八旬，迪·苏沃尔仍旧坚持用手工制作；台置雕塑不是他大型作品的模型或者初稿--因为艺术家从不制作任何初步设计计划或画稿--相反地，他从一个由直觉主导的过程里去随性地构想结构，创造出一种浑然天成的独有的私密感，其结果常与书法神似仿佛：探索着平衡、形体，重力和流动性。“我对于平衡和重力的中心点总是很敏感，”迪·苏沃尔说到，“如同一个舞者或是杂技演员，我在感受那个无形的中心。重力是关于空间的，那是一股能动的力量。”迪·苏沃尔无与伦比的弯曲、锻接和裁剪金属的技巧--对于金属在三维空间的控制和平衡--在这些略小型作品中，突如其来地注入一种人性和自然界的感官，肢体类的运动和流动的线条同样吸引着参观者去触摸和积极地参与其中。他的大型的作品加入了秋千和钢制转盘，让观者或坐或爬或卧，与他的作品互动。他的雕塑表达了在质量、流动性、无重感和想象的自发性上独特的观点。自他艺术生涯的初期，艺术史学家和批评人在迪·苏沃尔的作品里索引各种西方现代艺术家的灵感和影响的源头。但中国和中国文化，以其在艺术家童年中留下的不可磨灭的长久印象，真正是在艺术家的生活和创作中占据了重要的根深蒂固的位置。这在此次的展览的几件雕塑作品中可以得到十分明显的印证：《云（致白居易）》，是一个对于唐代诗人白居易的致敬，《景观·钛》，展现了中国建筑上月亮拱门的元素，再或是近期的《无题》(2013) 中，其中有一只锣被悬挂着，可以被橡胶鼓锤敲打，即报以观者以一种温和而浑圆低沉的鸣响。



**MARK DI SUVERO 马克·迪·苏沃尔**  
*Steel Cloud (for Po Chū-Yi) 云 (致白居易), 2010*

Steel, stainless steel 钢, 不锈钢  
60 x 32 x 51 inches; 152.4 x 81.3 x 129.5 cm  
Top element: 32 x 48 x 54 in.  
(81.3 x 121.9 x 137.2 cm)

©Mark Di Suvero.  
Courtesy Paula Cooper Gallery,  
New York, and James  
Cohan Gallery, Shanghai.  
Photo: Jeffrey Price



**MARK DI SUVERO 马克·迪·苏沃尔**  
*Meru 弥须山, 2007*  
Stainless steel 不锈钢  
29 x 36 x 22 inches; 73.7 x 91.4 x  
55.9 cm

©Mark Di Suvero. Courtesy  
Paula Cooper Gallery, New  
York, and James Cohan Gallery,  
Shanghai. Photo: Jeffrey Price

迪·苏沃尔是首位被邀请在法国荣军院，卢浮宫杜伊勒花园和芝加哥世纪公园举办展览的健在艺术家。他的作品被赫希洪博物馆和雕塑园、大都会博物馆、纽约现代艺术博物馆、美国国家博物馆、惠特尼美国艺术博物馆、沃克艺术中心展出，纽约暴风国王艺术中心为其举办过三次大型展览。同时，作为毕生致力于和平事业和社会公正的活动家，迪·苏沃尔对艺术家的慷慨帮助支持。在1962年，他协助创办了 Park Place 画廊，第一个在纽约的艺术家合作社。1977年，他成立了雅典娜基金会用来帮助艺术家实现他们的梦想。1986年，在纽约皇后区东河的一个废弃地，他开创了苏格拉底雕塑公园。在他的组织下，一批占地 4.5 英亩的地块被联合的艺术家和社区成员由垃圾填埋场建成了一个公开的创作和展览空间。至今，这个公园已收藏展示了超过 900 位艺术家的作品。

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迪·苏沃尔一生获奖无数，最近一次是由美国艺术和人文协会于 2013 年颁布的雕塑金奖。2010 年，他被授予史密斯森文献馆的美国艺术勋章，2005 年他获得全球亨氏艺术人文奖，2000 年，他为国际雕塑中心荣誉颁发的当代雕塑终身成就奖获得者。正逢艺术家迎来他 80 岁生日之时，旧金山现代艺术博物馆联合国家公园和金门大桥国家管理机构，为艺术及举办了具有特殊历史意义的为期一年的个展，由艺术家八件大型作品组成，置于旧金山金门大桥与海峡之畔，景色壮观的克里斯场公园

([http://www.sfmoma.org/about/press/press\\_exhibitions/releases/947](http://www.sfmoma.org/about/press/press_exhibitions/releases/947))。以金门大桥为展览的幕布背景，庆祝艺术家生日及大桥竣工第 76 个纪念日---1937 年大桥建成，在迪·苏沃尔出生四年后；而在迪·苏沃尔艺术生涯里，金门大桥的金属结构所赋予的灵感在他的艺术创作中贯穿始终。本次展览将艺术家五十年来知名的作品聚集在一起，集中展现从 1967 年到 2012 年倾心创作，恭祝献礼这位世纪艺术家与时代。

更多的信息和图片，请联系 Angela Li: [ali@jamescohan.com](mailto:ali@jamescohan.com) 或画廊 +86-21-54660825。画廊工作时间：周二至周六，早十点至晚六点，周日中午 12 点至晚 6 点，周一请预约。