



CITYCENTER TO FEATURE UNPARALLELED FINE ART COLLECTION

Ambitious Fine Art Collection to Feature Groundbreaking Works By International Artists Including Maya Lin, Jenny Holzer and Nancy Rubins

LAS VEGAS – In December, [CityCenter](#) will present the first major permanent collection of art in Las Vegas to be integrated into a public space, and one of the world’s largest and most ambitious corporate art collections in existence today. The CityCenter Fine Art Collection will feature works by acclaimed artists, sculptors and visionaries including Maya Lin, Jenny Holzer, Nancy Rubins, Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen, Frank Stella, Henry Moore and Richard Long, among others.

Validating CityCenter’s status as a cultural destination of worldwide significance, the Fine Art Collection is designed to become a benchmark for enlightened corporate involvement with the arts on a global level. As if in a strolling gallery, guests will happen upon works by world-renowned artists as they walk through CityCenter’s walkways, hotels and residences. From vibrant and ornate to intimate and serene, these works are strategically placed to reveal a world of fascinating experiences that unfold around every corner. The artwork has been paired with CityCenter’s unique architecture to create a sensory journey that presents the works in a never-before-seen fashion.

“CityCenter will be an international architectural achievement that integrates the talents of world-renowned artists, [architects](#) and designers in one development; it will be a landmark of global taste and style,” said Jim Murren, Chairman and CEO of [MGM MIRAGE](#). “The Fine Art Collection will be the first initiative of its kind to merge public and corporate interests on this grand scale, and we’re proud to deliver this prominent force in contemporary art and culture to Las Vegas.”

The Fine Art Collection will encompass a multitude of styles and media – ranging from sculptures and paintings and other works of art including large-scale installations – engaging visitors on both a visual and intellectual level. Some will be existing pieces, carefully chosen for their artistic value and cultural significance; others will be site-specific installations for which the artist has been invited to command their vision over the space.

“This venture marks the only corporate collection ever to join such a multitude of media, styles and artists and make it accessible in such a highly visible and public manner,” said Michele C. Quinn, curatorial advisor for CityCenter’s Fine Art Collection. “Delivering this caliber of artwork demonstrates our desire to create a cultural centerpiece for Las Vegas.”

CityCenter will feature prominent works from some of the world's most influential artists:

- **Tony Cragg** – Born in Liverpool in 1949, Tony Cragg is among the strong generation of sculptors who emerged in England in the last two decades. Cragg has distinguished himself for widening the boundaries of sculpture through his early interest in science, which informed his experimental approach, agility with materials and reinvention of form. Works over the years have implemented materials such as stone, fiberglass, bronze, Kevlar, stainless steel and wood inspired from the *Early Forms* and *Rational Beings* series that Cragg developed and constantly diversified over the past five years. At CityCenter, [ARIA Resort & Casino](#) will feature Cragg's *Bolt*, 2007, a 10-foot-high stainless steel sculpture swirling upward from its narrow base in an imaginative bolt of lightning; *Bent of Mind*, 2008, which gives the illusion of an elegant silhouette of a face, as do many of his other works; and *Untitled* (tall column), 2008, presented in a graceful, swirling form. In 1988, Cragg was awarded the Turner Prize and represented Britain at the 43rd Venice Biennial. He has been the recipient of numerous distinguished awards including the Von-der-Heydt Prize, 1989, the Shakespeare Prize, 2001, and the Piepenbrock Prize for Sculpture, 2002.
- **Isa Genzken** – Based in Berlin, Isa Genzken's work ranges from sculpture and photography to paintings on paper and canvas. At CityCenter, her piece *Rose II*, 2007, will be showcased in the porte cochere of The Harmon Hotel. Made of stainless steel, aluminum and lacquer, *Rose II* portrays a single-stem rose frozen in full bloom. The striking rose stands 26 feet tall and weighs more than 1,000 pounds. More than 75 percent of the elements used to create *Rose II* are recycled materials. Genzken studied at several art institutions including Hamburg College of Fine Arts, the Berlin University of Fine Arts and Dusseldorf Art Academy. Her work has been critically acclaimed; Genzken won the International Art Prize in 2004 and the Wolfgang-Hahn-Prize in 2002. Some of her works include *Urlaub*, 2004, *Mutter Mit Kind*, 2004, and *Kinder Filmen I*, 2005.
- **Jack Goldstein** – [Mandarin Oriental, Las Vegas'](#) sky lobby will showcase Jack Goldstein's *Untitled* (Volcano), 1983, which measures 8 feet tall by 8 feet wide. This painting depicts an explosive and vibrant image of an erupting volcano. Goldstein's acrylic paintings are based on photos of natural phenomena, focused on capturing the "spectacular instant." Goldstein received his training at Chouinard Art Institute and was a member of the inaugural class of California Institute of the Arts, where he worked in post-studio art under John Baldessari, receiving a Master of Fine Arts in 1972. Goldstein's paintings have received numerous grants and awards, including the Pollock-Krasner Foundation (1992); The American Institute of Architecture (1990); the National Endowment of the Arts, Visual Arts (1983); the New York State Council of the Arts (1975); the Canada Council Grant, Visual Arts Award (1974); and the National Endowment for the Arts, Visual Arts (1973).
- **Antony Gormley** – Suspended in ARIA will be *Feeling Material XXVIII*, 2007, part of an ongoing series artist and sculptor Antony Gormley has created in his exploration of the human body. Using spiraling steel, Gormley aims not only to represent the silhouette of the human body, but to visually convey the physical space it occupies; a still place at the center of an orbiting energy field. At more than 8 feet tall, the sculpture weighs approximately 150 lbs and is constructed of 4 mm square section mild steel bar. Over time, Gormley has created some of the most ambitious and recognizable works of the past two decades including *Field*, *The Angel of the North*, and *Quantum Cloud* for the Millennium Dome in Greenwich, England. He was awarded the Turner Prize in 1994 and the South Bank Prize for Visual Art in 1999 and was made an Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 1997.
- **Jenny Holzer** – Artist Jenny Holzer made her mark in 1976 with her first public work, *Truisms*, which made profound statements in the form of anonymous broadsheets pasted on buildings, walls and fences in and around Manhattan. Her text later took the forms of posters, monumental and electronic signs, billboards, television and her signature medium: LED signs. At CityCenter, Holzer's work will make a stirring impact. As guests exit through ARIA's north valet, they will be welcomed by one of the artist's insightful LED signs spanning more than 280 feet wide. Most recently, Holzer's work has been seen in Washington D.C. with her collection, *For the Capitol*, which incorporates nighttime projections of quotes by Presidents John F. Kennedy and Theodore Roosevelt about the role of art and culture in American society.

- **Masatoshi Izumi** – Born into a family of stone carvers in the town of Mure on the Japanese island of Shikoku, Masatoshi Izumi began working with stone in 1953. In 1964, he co-founded the Stone Atelier in Kagawa Prefecture, dedicated to new architectural and artistic uses of traditional stone cutting techniques. In accordance with Mandarin Oriental’s traditions and values of Asian hospitality, Izumi’s sculpture *Untitled*, 2007-2008, will be presented in the hotel’s entrance, welcoming guests in a Zen-like manner. Izumi’s work celebrates harmony with nature by taking existing forms and altering them slightly to reveal and even more beautiful state. Following CityCenter’s ideals of sustainability, the sculpture is made of large pieces of intricately carved basalt, a form of lava that has cooled on the surface of the volcano. The sculpture stands more than 16 feet tall and weighs approximately 8 tons.
- **Jun Kaneko** – Born in Nagoya, Japan in 1942, Jun Kaneko has consistently followed his own path and continually experimented with the technical aspects of the ceramic medium. His enormous dango forms, which soar as high as 11 feet, challenge the physical limitations of the material and are fired in giant kilns. Kaneko’s sculptures, *Untitled, Triangle Dango*, 1996; *Untitled, Dango*, 2002; and *Untitled, Dango*, 1992, will be installed within Mandarin Oriental’s lobby. The tallest of the three sculptures measures 7 feet tall. Kaneko’s sculptures have afforded him the opportunity to realize several public sculpture commissions, including the Phoenix Airport, a station for the Boston Subway, the Detroit People Mover and the Waikiki Aquarium and more. His work also has been featured in the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, De Young Museum in San Francisco, the Shigaraki Museum, and more than 30 others.
- **Les Lalanne** – French husband and wife team François-Xavier and Claude Lalanne are two of the world’s most original designer-sculptors, collaborating for more than a half-century to create art that harmoniously blends their styles while clearly expressing each artist’s personality. Now, more than 40 years after their first show in Paris, the Lalanne’s work will come to Las Vegas at CityCenter. Three from François-Xavier’s edition of *Tourterelle*, 1997, a large-scale turtledove crafted from aluminum and wood with a seat carved into its body and wings, will be showcased outside of [Crystals](#). *Tourterelle* measures approximately 4.5 feet high by 3.5 feet wide and weighs just over 88 pounds. François-Xavier is best known for animal sculptures, most often cast in bronze, such as the sheep chairs that brought the Lalannes into the spotlight. Claude is famous for nature-inspired furniture, such as chandeliers inspired by tree branches, and small-scale objects with exceptional detail such as flatware cast from natural leaves, shells and twigs. Both agree that the supreme art is the “art of the living” and have shown domesticated beasts in London, hippopotami in Tokyo, gilded butterflies in Paris, an enchanted garden in Florida and prehistoric creatures in California.
- **Maya Lin** – For ARIA, New York-based Maya Lin is creating her first work of art in Las Vegas: *Silver River*, an 84-foot silver cast of the Colorado River that will be suspended above the reception area. Lin is using reclaimed silver to develop her creation in the spirit of CityCenter’s commitment to sustainability and in light of Nevada’s standing as “The Silver State.” Lin’s work reflects a strong interest in the environment. She has served as an advisor on sustainable energy use and as a board member of the National Resources Defense Council. Considered to be one of the most important public artists of the century, Lin, whose highly acclaimed body of work includes the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C., also has become a celebrated architect. Her life and work were detailed in the Academy Award-winning documentary, *Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision*.
- **Richard Long** – [Veer Towers](#) will feature two large-scale commissioned works by Richard Long. Entitled *Circle of Life* and *Earth*, Long’s two mud wall drawings each will measure 80 feet high by 50 feet wide and be displayed on Veer’s west and east tower walls, respectively. An English sculptor, photographer and painter, Long is one of the best-known British sculptors and conceptual artists. His art showcases his appreciation for nature; the majority of his works are inspired by natural landscapes he has encountered while hiking. During his walks, Long often creates sculptures using natural materials in the environment such as leaves, twigs and stones, and then photographs the end result to forever capture his work. Long is the only artist to be short-listed for the Turner Prize four times. He was nominated in 1984, 1987 and 1988, and won the award in 1989 for *White Water Line*.

- **Henry Moore** – In The Park between ARIA and Crystals, guests will find *Reclining Connected Forms*, 1969-1974, a sculpture by Henry Moore inspired by the fundamentals of the human experience – the primary theme of his life’s work. Measuring approximately 10 feet tall and 17 feet long by 7 feet deep, the abstract work of art displays a baby wrapped in its mother’s embrace. The graceful outer shell of the sculpture depicts the changing shape of a pregnant figure as it protects the new life growing within. Moore’s work was traditionally inspired by the human body, organic shapes found in nature and the sculpture of ancient and exotic cultures such as Egypt, Sumeria, Africa and pre-Columbian Mexico. Surrealism, the modern European art and literary movement with a tendency toward abstract forms, also was a major influence.
- **Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen** – Mandarin Oriental will feature *Typewriter Eraser, Scale X*, 1998-1999, a legendary piece by Oldenburg and van Bruggen. Designed with the pair’s classic approach to creating large-scale outdoor sculptures of popular commercial objects, the four-ton, 19-foot stainless steel and fiberglass sculpture depicts a giant blue and red typewriter eraser with the bristles of the brush turned upward in a graceful, dynamic gesture. This edition is the largest of three sculptures created of the form, beginning in the 1970s. Oldenburg and van Bruggen have collaborated on more than 40 monumental projects throughout Europe, Asia and the United States. Their most recent work is the 144-foot-long, 64-foot-high *Cupid’s Span* for Rincon Park on the Embarcadero in San Francisco.
- **Nancy Rubins** – A sculptor and artisan famous for her grandiose works created from salvaged and industrial consumer goods, Nancy Rubins has created one of the most visually stunning commissions at CityCenter with a large-scale installation: *Big Edge*. Measuring approximately 57 feet wide and 75 feet long, Rubins’ work of art at CityCenter is a colorful composition of numerous aluminum rowboats, canoes and other small river and ocean vessels finessed into a gravity-defying form that is both delicately balanced and precisely engineered. Rubins maintains the look, shape and feel of her chosen objects, so each reclaimed craft showcased in the piece is exactly as originally found. The commission is located on the exterior of [Vdara Hotel & Spa](#) and is one of Rubins’ few works with a permanent home. Rubins has designed amazing works of art from mattresses, trailers, hot water heaters, airplanes and small appliances since the 1970s. For more than 25 years, Rubins has exhibited extensively around the world in major solo and group exhibitions.
- **Frank Stella** – For the reception desk at Vdara, MGM MIRAGE has purchased one of artist Frank Stella’s most prominent works. *Damascus Gate Variation I*, created in 1969, features a design of interlaced semicircles made of fluorescent alkyd resin on an 8 foot high and 32 foot long canvas. Recognized for more than 45 years for his contributions to the forms of abstract expressionism, sculpture and the concept of the shaped canvas, Stella’s work has been the subject of several retrospectives in the United States, Europe and Japan. In 1970, The Museum of Modern Art in New York presented a retrospective of Stella’s work. An authority and critic in his own right, Stella presided over the Charles Eliot Norton lectures at Harvard University from 1983-1984, which were published by Harvard University Press in 1986.
- **Peter Wegner** – Vdara’s concierge lobby will feature a commissioned work of art by Peter Wegner. The work is comprised of two wall pieces, each made of stacked, colored paper: one solar-themed and one lunar-themed, collectively entitled *Day for Night, Night for Day*, 2009. Both pieces will be placed on opposing walls in the lobby; a hanging light sculpture designed by the artist will be suspended between them to encourage “dialogue” among the two pieces. The solar piece soars to approximately 45 feet while the lunar work reaches approximately 34 feet high. This commission is Wegner’s largest work of art to date. Wegner’s work has been displayed in exhibitions on both coasts and internationally and he has been the subject of solo exhibitions at The Bohlen Foundation and Lever House, New York. His work resides in the permanent collections of The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; and The Los Angeles County Museum of Art, among others. Wegner received a Bachelor of Arts from Yale University.

About CityCenter

[CityCenter](#) is an unprecedented urban metropolis opening in December 2009 on 67 acres between Bellagio and Monte Carlo resorts on the Las Vegas Strip. CityCenter is a joint venture between [MGM MIRAGE](#) (NYSE: MGM) and Infinity World Development Corp, a subsidiary of Dubai World. CityCenter will feature [ARIA](#), a 61-story, 4,004-room gaming resort; luxury non-gaming hotels including Las Vegas' first [Mandarin Oriental](#) and [Vdara Hotel & Spa](#); [Veer Towers](#), the development's only strictly residential buildings; and [Crystals](#), a 500,000-square-foot retail and entertainment district. Vdara, Mandarin Oriental, Las Vegas and Veer Towers will include approximately 2,400 [residences](#) total. Additionally, The Harmon, a 400-room luxury boutique hotel, is slated to open at CityCenter in late 2010. CityCenter also will feature a resident Cirque du Soleil production celebrating the timeless musical legacy of Elvis Presley; and an unparalleled [Fine Art Collection](#) with works by acclaimed artists including Maya Lin, Jenny Holzer, Nancy Rubins, Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen, among others. CityCenter is a design collaboration between MGM MIRAGE and eight internationally acclaimed [architectural firms](#) including Pelli Clarke Pelli, Kohn Pedersen Fox, Helmut Jahn, RV Architecture LLC led by Rafael Viñoly, Foster + Partners*, Studio Daniel Libeskind*, David Rockwell and Rockwell Group, and Gensler. At the forefront of sustainability, CityCenter will be one of the world's [largest green developments](#). ARIA and Vdara are the first Las Vegas hotels to achieve LEED® Gold certification by the U.S. Green Building Council. CityCenter's remaining venues are poised to receive a combination of LEED Silver and Gold ratings. For more information about CityCenter, please visit www.citycenter.com.

* As a consultant to AAI Architects, Inc.

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