

Press Release

Scott White Contemporary Art presents

Bernar Venet

November 7 – January, 3, 2009

San Diego, California - For Immediate Release**EXHIBITION SUMMARY:**

Scott White Contemporary Art is pleased to present an exhibition of sculptures and works on paper by world-renowned French artist, Bernar Venet. The exhibition will include 8 maquette to over life-sized steel sculptures as well as 4 unique pastel works on paper. The gallery opening will take place on Friday, November 7, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

This gallery exhibition is in celebration and conjunction with *Monumental Works* and exhibition organized by Scott White Contemporary Art in partnership with the Port of San Diego*. Please see (*) below for more details.

ARTIST INFORMATION:

Bernar Venet's sculptures have adorned other cities around the world, including Paris, Luxembourg, Geneva, Basel, Cologne, Brussels, New York, Chicago, St. Louis and Denver. His sculptures have been permanently installed in Norfolk, Nice, Berlin, Bergen, Shenzhen, Tokyo and Toulouse, among others.

Simply stated, Venet's sculptures study variations of lines – specifically of curves. However, it is the scope of the work in its mass, concept and execution that makes Venet one of the most prominent and important living sculptors today.

Each series expresses different notions of Venet's interest in the mathematics of order versus chaos. The "Arcs" draw portions of a circle's circumference, each piece discerned by its title with a mathematical formula. *217.5° Arc x 14, 2007* is approximately 6.5 feet tall, and comprised of 14 separate arcs that each draw variations of curves at 217.5 degrees. In contrast to the order of his "Arcs", Venet's "Indeterminate Lines" series conveys forms that are free, chaotic and mathematically undefined. This exhibition will include works from a number of Venet's series, including the *Vertical Arcs*, *Classic Arcs*, and his most recent series entitled *Collapsed Arcs*.

Bernar Venet was born in 1941 in Chatueat-Arnoux-Saint-Auban in the Alpes-de-Haute-Provence region of France. He studied at the Ville Thiole in Nice, and received training as a theatre set designer. Over the course of two decades, Venet explored every kind of art form, from painting, poetry, film and dance. In 1979, he was awarded a grant by the National Endowment for the Arts. A decade later in 1989, he was awarded the *Grand Prix de la Ville de Paris*. Throughout the 1990's, Venet's notoriety and recognition continued and flourished. Most notably in 1994, he was invited by the then Mayor of Paris, Jacques Chirac to create twelve monumental sculptures from his Indeterminate Line series, which were exhibited on the Champ de Mars. This exhibition would eventually mark the beginning of a world tour of his

sculptures, which set into motion, a series of international museum and city-wide exhibitions, catapulting him into an internationally renowned artist.

As one of the world's most important and talked about artist today, Bernar Venet's sculptures have been acquired by such major museums as The Museum of Modern Art, The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, The National Gallery of Art, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, the Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles, the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago and the Detroit Institute of Arts. Bernar Venet has also received commissions for sculptures permanently installed in cities such as Norfolk, Austin, Paris, Nice, Berlin, Bergen, Shenzhen, Tokyo, Denver and Toulouse. In the past year, Venet's solo exhibitions include retrospectives at The National Museum of Contemporary Art near Seoul, the Museum Küppersmühle für Moderne Kunst in Duisburg and the Busan Museum of Modern Art, South Korea, as well as sculptures exhibited throughout the cities of Bordeaux and Metz, France.

In January of 2008, he was honored with the first exhibition of a single artist mounted by Sotheby's, which took place at the Islesworth Golf and Country Club in Windermere, Florida. And most recently, Venet received a personal invitation from Board of Directors of the Venice Biennale to exhibit at the 53rd International Art Exhibition, from June through November of 2009. The two exhibitions Scott White Contemporary Art is curating mark an important and critical benchmark in the artist's career. They both follow the Sotheby's Islesworth exhibition and precede the Venice Biennale.

EXHIBITION INFORMATION:

The exhibition *Bernar Venet* will be on view at www.scottwhiteart.com as well as:

SCOTT WHITE CONTEMPORARY ART

939 West Kalmia Street
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This exhibition will contain 8 steel sculptures and 4 unique pastel works on paper. Two large works, a Leaning Arcs and Classic Arcs will dominate the gallery's space, taking over more than 80 square feet of space.

217.5° Arc x 14, 2007, Cor-ten steel 81.5" tall



Additional information (*): *Bernar Venet: Monumental Works*, presented by Scott White Contemporary Art in cooperation with the Port of San Diego, opens November 1, 2008 and will run through October 31, 2009. This historical exhibition encompasses 13 sculptures that will be placed at key locations along the San Diego Bay as well as the Museum of Contemporary San Diego, the San Diego Museum of Art, the Omni Hotel and Liberty Station. This is the first exhibition of this caliber and magnitude to take place in Southern California and will transform the landscape of America's Finest City into a world-class sculpture garden.

For more information on this and other exhibitions, please visit www.scottwhiteart.com or contact Kathleen Crain at 619-501-5689 or kathleen@scottwhiteart.com

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