



Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Desert, The Galen and the Faye Sarkowsky Sculpture Garden Installs Two New Sculptures by Renowned Spanish Artist Jaume Plensa



PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (January 8, 2015) – Today the Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Desert installed two basalt sculptures by Jaume Plensa, Spanish artist from Barcelona. The sculptures are gifts to the museum from the Herman and Faye Sarkowsky Foundation.

Plensa is known for his large-scale public space works with more than 30 projects that have been installed around the globe. One of the most celebrated include *Crown Fountain* in Chicago, with others in Dubai, London, Liverpool, Nice, France, Tokyo, Toronto, Ontario and Vancouver, British Columbia.

For more than 25 years, Plensa has produced a body of highly regarded studio and public art. He combines conventional sculpture materials such as glass, steel, bronze and aluminum with more unconventional media such as water, light, sound and video that is often accompanied by text to create intricate hybrid works.

The two new basalt sculptures installed at the Faye Sarkowsky Sculpture Garden - *Laura* (2013) and *Awilda* (2014) – are sculpted with a new Basalt stone, which Plensa recently started sculpting as a new series. *Laura* and *Awilda* are dedicated by Faye Sarkowsky to her late husband Herman. Faye and Herman

together considered the various sculptures created by Plensa before deciding on *Laura* and *Awilda*. The sculptures were purchased in June 2014, with *Laura* coming from Brazil and *Awilda* from the Richard Gray Gallery in Chicago. Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Desert is now home to 11 sculptures in the Faye Sarkowsky Sculpture Garden, with three more expected in the near future.

The museum now offers free admission every day, ongoing, made possible by Helene Galen's recent generous donation of \$50,000 per year that will underwrite fees the next five years to cover free admission. Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Desert, The Galen and the Faye Sarkowsky Sculpture Garden is located at 72567 Highway 111, Palm Desert, and can be reached at (760) 346-5600.

About Palm Springs Art Museum

Palm Springs Art Museum is the largest cultural institution in the Coachella Valley and includes three locations in Palm Springs and Palm Desert. The flagship building is located in downtown Palm Springs and features compelling art exhibitions and a vast permanent collection, all on view in a 150,000 square foot, architecturally-significant building. The soon-to-open Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion will feature exhibitions and programming that explore the rich topics of architecture and design. Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Desert is an 8,400 square foot, Silver LEED-certified building named The Galen that presents rotating exhibitions and special collections. It is surrounded by the four-acre Faye Sarkowsky Sculpture Garden featuring important sculpture works. For more information, call 760-322-4800, visit www.psmuseum.org, and follow the museum on Facebook, Twitter and InstaGram.

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