



FREDERIK MEIJER Gardens & Sculpture Park

1000 East Beltline Avenue • Grand Rapids, MI 49525 • 616 957 1580 • meijergardens.org

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MEIJER GARDENS TO INSTALL 35 FT. STEEL SCULPTURE

*Beverly Pepper's "The Galileo Wedge"
September 24 at 10 AM*

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., — September 21, 2009 — Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park will be installing a 35 foot steel sculpture by Beverly Pepper on Thursday, September 24 at 10 AM. "The Galileo Wedge" was recently acquired and will be permanently installed in The Groves section of the Sculpture Park.

The abstract work comes to a very narrow point where it meets the ground, creating a sense of tension between the spike and the ground itself. Pepper described the work as "a very unique sculpture, as it is the first work [she] has made that fully combines the essence of the column and the wedge into a single monolithic sculpture."

Pepper and her daughter, poet Jorie Graham, will be discussing this work during a lecture at Meijer Gardens on October 20 at 7 PM. Graham has written a poetry about the tension between nature and mankind, similar to the tension Pepper describes in her sculpture. More information about the lecture can be found here: <http://www.meijergardens.org/calendar/event.php?id=918>.

What:

Installation of "Galileo Wedge," a 35 foot steel sculpture by Beverly Pepper

When:

Thursday, September 24 at 10 AM
- The crane is expected to arrive at 9 AM
- Installation is expected to begin at 10 AM

Where:

All media are requested to check in at the Admissions Desk.

The Groves
Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park
1000 E. Beltline Ave NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

About Beverly Pepper

Pepper is one of the most distinguished American sculptors of our time; her prolific career has spanned 40 years. She studied at Pratt Institute, the Arts Students League in New York, and painted for 11 years before turning to sculpture. Her works are displayed and collected internationally by museums such as MoMA in New York City, Centre George Pompidou in Paris and The Uffizi Gallery in Florence. Pepper is known for her large-scale abstract sculpture.

About Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

One of the nation's most significant botanic and sculpture experiences, Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park serves more than a half-million visitors annually. The 132-acre grounds feature Michigan's largest

tropical conservatory; one of the largest children's gardens in the country; arid and Victorian gardens; a carnivorous plant house; outdoor gardens; and a 1750-seat outdoor amphitheater, featuring an eclectic mix of world-renowned musicians every summer. The internationally acclaimed Sculpture Park features a permanent collection including works by Rodin, Oldenburg, Calder, Moore, Bourgeois and Plensa among others. Indoor galleries host changing sculpture exhibitions with recent exhibitions by Picasso, Degas, di Suvero and Chihuly. For additional information, please visit www.meijergardens.org.

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