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**LACMA ACQUIRES MONUMENTAL SCULPTURE BY AMERICAN ARTIST
RICHARD SERRA**

Acquisition funded by Eli and Edythe Broad



Richard Serra, *Band*, 2006, weatherproof steel, 12'9" x 36'5" x 71'9.5" x 2"
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Gift of Eli and Edythe Broad

Los Angeles—The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) announced today it had acquired a significant work by internationally acclaimed American sculptor Richard Serra (b.1939), titled *Band*. This new sculpture will be initially exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) retrospective: *Richard Serra Sculpture: Forty Years*, which opens this June in New York City. The acquisition is being funded by Eli and Edythe Broad as part of their \$60 million commitment to LACMA's *Transformation* campaign.

Band was created in 2006 and is made of weatherproof steel. It measures 12'9"x 36'5"x 71'9 ½" x 2", and was fabricated in Siegen, Germany. The sculpture will go on view in Los Angeles in February, 2008 to coincide with the opening of Phase I of LACMA's *Transformation*, which includes the 60,000 square foot Broad Contemporary Art Museum (BCAM). Like Serra's other monumental sculptures, *Band* offers the viewer the opportunity to walk through and follow the delicate contours of the ribbon of steel despite its overpowering scale. The sculpture will be displayed inside the Renzo Piano designed BCAM building during its inaugural installation.

"This work of art represents many of the things I have come to experience in my first year in L.A.," said Michael Govan, LACMA CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director. "Its massive scale engages this expansive city and its great aspiration. The partnership we've developed with the Broads encourages

generosity and celebration. *Band* shows us how Richard Serra continues to expand the possibilities for sculpture beyond anything imaginable; it is sure to become an iconic work in Los Angeles.”

“Edye and I are so pleased to make possible the addition of this important piece to the museum’s collection,” said LACMA Trustee and patron Eli Broad. “Our early support of LACMA’s *Transformation* campaign was to bring prestige to this great institution by adding a new contemporary art museum, as well as by expanding LACMA’s collection.”

Richard Serra, a preeminent American sculptor is renowned for his constructions of rolled sheet metal which derive emphasis from the method of manufacture, the materials, the involvement of the audience with the sculpture and its site. Serra said about the museum’s acquisition, “Michael Govan and Edye and Eli Broad have supported my work for many years and I am therefore particularly happy that *Band* will go to LACMA.” The museum has in its permanent collection another important sculpture by Serra, *Inverted House of Cards*, given by the Broads in 2001.

About LACMA

In April 2006, Michael Govan became CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). He is the seventh person to hold the position of Director in the museum’s forty-one-year history. Established as an independent institution in 1965, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art has assembled a permanent collection that includes approximately 100,000 works of art spanning the history of art from ancient times to the present, making it the premier encyclopedic visual arts museum in the western United States. Located in the heart of one of the most culturally diverse cities in the world, the museum uses its collection and resources to provide a variety of educational and cultural experiences for the people who live in, work in, and visit Los Angeles. LACMA offers an outstanding schedule of art exhibitions and Public Programs, including Talks & Courses, Music, and Films. In addition, Arts for NexGen LACMA provides free museum memberships for children under 17 and offers a well-rounded core of family initiatives. The museum provides free admission after 5 pm every day open, and all day on the second Tuesday of each month. LACMA’s “Free after Five” program is sponsored by Target.

General Information: LACMA is located at 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles CA, 90036. For more information about LACMA and its programming, call 323 857-6000 or log on to www.lacma.org.

Museum Hours and Admission: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, noon–8 pm; Friday, noon–9 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11 am–8 pm; closed Wednesday. Adults \$9; students 18+ with ID and senior citizens 62+ \$5; children 17 and under are admitted free. Admission (except to specially ticketed exhibitions) is free every evening after 5 pm and the second Tuesday of every month.

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