

'Alexander Calder: The Art of Invention' The Bellagio Gallery of Fine Art, Las Vegas October 6, 2001 - February 3, 2002

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The Calder Foundation Lends Artworks By the Greatest American Sculptor of the 20th Century

PRNewswire

LAS VEGAS

"Alexander Calder: The Art of Invention," which includes pieces rarely seen publicly, will be on display at the Bellagio Gallery of Fine Art October 6, 2001 through February 3, 2002. Organized in collaboration with The Calder Foundation, this exhibit consists of work from 1926 to 1976 including mobiles, stabiles, toys, jewelry and household objects.

The art of Alexander Calder (1898-1976) is unlike any body of work created in the last century. Calder began his career joining lengths of wire, instead of carving marble. By the 1930s he had invented a new art form: the mobile. This innovation transformed the perception of sculpture from static and immovable to dynamic by including motion in the artwork's composition. An inventor since childhood, Calder made more than 6,000 sculptures during the course of his 60-year career. Considered the greatest American sculptor of the 20th century, his work represents the epitome of American art's progressive spirit and its unlimited possibilities.

"Roxbury Fish" (c. 1948), an excellent example of a hanging mobile made with wire, string, glass and ceramic fragments, and "Panama" (1950), a hanging mobile with a 17-foot span both will be exhibited for the first time in 25 years.

Calder was the first truly international American sculptor, traveling often to work on numerous commissions that can be found throughout the world today. During his lifetime, Calder was the subject of nearly 300 solo exhibitions, many of them major retrospectives. In 1998, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the artist's birth and his contribution to art history, The National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C., organized a retrospective exhibition. Many of the pieces on view in the Bellagio Gallery are being shown for the first time since that retrospective and nearly all of them, considered among his finest works, are on loan from The Calder Foundation, as they remained in the artist's

personal collection.

"Alexander Calder: The Art of Invention" will be open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. with the last admissions sold at 10:30 p.m. Reservations are recommended and can be made by calling (702) 693-7722 or (888) 488-7111. Admission is \$12 per person and \$6 for Nevada residents with valid Nevada I.D. An audio tour of the exhibition is included in the admission price.

An illustrated catalogue, as well as posters, a postcard booklet and other Calder-related material will be published on the occasion of the exhibition and will be available for purchase at the Bellagio Gallery Store.

The Bellagio Gallery of Fine Art is a non-commercial exhibition venue dedicated to the presentation of high-quality art exhibitions from major museums, private collections, and foundations. The gallery is committed to offering a cultural destination for visitors of all backgrounds and interests.

The Calder Foundation, located in New York, was established in 1987 to preserve and care for Calder's personal holdings of works and aid in ongoing scholarship. More information about the artist and Foundation can be obtained at <http://www.calder.org/>.

Inspired by the beautiful villages of Europe, Bellagio overlooks a Mediterranean-blue eight-acre lake in which fountains perform a magnificent aquatic ballet choreographed to music and lights. Within Bellagio are award-winning dining experiences including Picasso, a Mobil Five-Star restaurant, a world-class art gallery, exquisite gardens, Cirque du Soleil's stunning performance of "O," luxurious spa services and an elegant casino. The resort's shopping promenade, Via Bellagio, features upscale shops including Giorgio Armani, Gucci, Tiffany & Co., Prada, Fred Leighton, Hermes, Moschino and Yves Saint Laurent. The readers of Travel+Leisure magazine recently named Bellagio the number four hotel in the world and number three in the continental United States and Canada in the magazine's 2001 World's Best Awards. Bellagio is a wholly owned subsidiary of MGM MIRAGE. For more information visit the resort's website, <http://www.bellagio.com/> and for reservations call Bellagio toll free at (877) 987-7775.

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