

ESTHER WERTHEIMER

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Shanghai Exhibition Center
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Esther Wertheimer is making inroads in the Chinese Art Market. In July 2007 she was accepted to exhibit six of her sculptures at the World Art Fair. The Shanghai Sculpture Space Museum hosted this international sculpture exhibition using the theme, “Dialog with the city by Way of Sculpture.”

Shanghai Sculpture Space Museum is a prime example of China’s recycling of its industrial past to reflect a more democratic and arts-minded future. The 7,000 square-meter (75,000 sq ft) facility was built in 1956 as Shanghai No. 10 Steel factory, but it has been deserted and derelict for years before it was redesigned as a public art facility. The site was chosen both to honor Shanghai’s industrial past and to promote its reuse as a gathering place for international artists. Shanghai will be the site of the massive World expo

in 2010. “China has changed incredibly since I first visited in 1989,” explains Wertheimer. “That was the year they had the Tienmen Square crisis. Students were demonstrating for more democracy, but they were suppressed.

Now China has emerged as a major world power with close ties to the West, and is making inroads and encouraging sculptures on the outside of their many new buildings.

“You can’t imagine what is going on in China,” said Wertheimer recently. “Everywhere you look there are huge construction projects.” There is actually a shortage of cranes they use to build high-rises. But the Chinese leaders feel the arts have not kept up with the industry. “That’s why exhibitions like world class Shanghai Sculpture Space expos are so important.” Their motto is, “Without art, an urban environment is not fully alive or complete; it’s barren.”

Three of Wertheimer’s Chinese Agents surprised her with a visit to her studio in Boca Raton, Florida. They are busy promoting Wertheimer’s sculptures. Fifteen of her sculptures have been bought by her agents and have been sent to Singapore for an exhibition in the fall of 2008.

In Shanghai a very important exhibition will be opening October 9th to the 12th 2008. It is an exhibition for Chinese Millionaires titled, “The Fair.” Wertheimer will be present for the exhibition.

There is a deep-rooted joy forming the essence of each work – the joy of living. The artist’s passion for dance, family and love are imbued through her sculptures. Her sculptures personify the energy and ecstasy for life – rich in emotion, consistently moving forward to reach the next zenith.