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PRESS RELEASE

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*TORRE*, A NEW SCULPTURE BY WIM DELVOYE AT THE PEGGY GUGGENHEIM COLLECTION,

*'The Gothic energy, the love of life, and the everyday struggle to achieve a more intense expressive vigour'*  
John Ruskin

*'My fascination with the Gothic isn't dark at all.  
For me it evokes the springtime of Europe'*  
Wim Delvoye

From June 3 to November 22, 2009 the Peggy Guggenheim Collection presents Belgian artist Wim Delvoye's latest creation, *Torre*: a corten steel tower, with ogival windows, tracery and turrets in the International Gothic style, on the terrace of Palazzo Venier dei Leoni, overlooking the Grand Canal.

Both architecture and ornament, *Torre* by Delvoye demonstrates not only ethereal majesty and vision but forceful material presence, drawing inspiration from masterpieces of Gothic architecture such as Notre Dame, Paris, and the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, New York. From a fusion of the sublime with the most advanced capabilities of computer technology, the Gothic style of *Torre* unites it with the Romantic paintings of Caspar David Friedrich and Karl Friedrich Schinkel.

Wim Delvoye's artistic practice draws on the notion of the attraction of binary opposites: the sacred and the profane, the past and the present, the triumph of ornamentation over functionality. His art thrives on such paradoxes, that also form the basis of Surrealist artistic practice, combining these components of difference, not always manifest but ever present in his aesthetic. The placement of a Gothic tower from the High Middle Ages in the vicinity of Palazzo Venier dei Leoni's 18<sup>th</sup> century classicism creates just such a forceful and provocative paradox.

For Wim Delvoye: "While the Renaissance was a world view, the Gothic was a state of mind. The Renaissance was a finite epoch lasting half a century before being succeeded by Mannerism. Gothic was an art outside of time. The human eye takes in detail like a stroboscope; glancing over lights and tracery, crockets and finials, it thrills to the joy of the tower's soaring ascent."

Born in 1965, Wim Delvoye lives and works in Ghent. He earned international recognition with his participation in the Venice Biennale in 1990 and 1999 and Documenta IX in 1992. Recent projects include solo exhibitions at the Ernst Museum Budapest (February-March 2008), a presentation of one of his Cloaca machines at the Glenbow Museum in Calgary (June-August 2008) and participation in exhibitions at MARTa in Herford (April-June 2008), Weserburg in Bremen (May 2008) and CAPC Bordeaux (June-September 2008).

# Peggy Guggenheim COLLECTION

Palazzo Venier dei Leoni  
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The programs of the Peggy Guggenheim Collection are made possible thanks to the support of the Advisory Board of the Peggy Guggenheim Collection and:

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BIOGRAPHY

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SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 1986 Galerie Plus-kern, Brussels
- 1988 Galerie Riekje Swart, Amsterdam  
Galleria Andrea Murnik, Milan  
Galeria Plus-kern, Brussels
- 1989 Galerie Bébert, Rotterdam
- 1990 Jack Tilton Gallery, New York
- 1991 Sonnabend Gallery, New York  
Galerie Lehmann-Faust, Genève  
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
Castello di Rivoli, Rivoli, Torino
- 1992 Kunsthalle Nürnberg, Nürnberg  
Galerie Micheline Szwajcer, Antwerp  
Sonnabend Gallery, New York  
Ruth Bloom Gallery, Los Angeles
- 1993 Galleria Tucci Russo, Torino  
Galerie Ghislaine Hussenot, Paris  
Galerie Lehman, Lausanne
- 1994 Galerie Beaumont, Luxembourg  
Center for the Arts, San Francisco, California  
Modulo, Centro diffusor de Arte, Lisbon
- 1995 Galleria Sperone, Rome  
Galleria Cardi, Milan  
Anders Tornberg Gallery, Lund (Sweden)  
Gallery Tanit, München  
Musée Départemental de Rochechouart, Rochechouart, Limoges
- 1996 Galerie Ghislaine Hussenot, Paris  
Galerie Micheline Szwajcer, Antwerp  
Galerie Ghislaine Hussenot, Paris
- 1997 Open Air Museum Middelheim, Antwerp  
Galeria Luisa Strina, Sao Paulo (Brazil)
- 1998 Sonnabend Gallery, New York

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- 1999 Galleria Sperone, Rome  
  
Galerie Ghislaine Hussenot, Paris  
FRAC des Pays de la Loire, Nantes  
Galerie Micheline Szwajcer, Antwerp  
Galerie Laura Pecci, Milan  
Galleri Fauschou, Copenhagen (Denmark)  
11 Duke Street, London
- 2000 "*Cement Truck*", Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris  
Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna  
"*CLOACA*", MuHKA, Antwerp
- 2001 *Cloaca- New and Improved*, Migros Museum, Zürich
- 2002 *Vitraux*, Galerie Obadia, Paris  
"*Cloaca - New and Improved*", New Museum, New York  
Museum Kunst-Palast, Düsseldorf  
*Marble Floors*, Sperone Westwater, New York  
Porin Taidemuseo, Pori (Finland)  
*Sex Rays*, Galerie Beaumont, Luxembourg  
*Gothic Works*, Manchester City Art Galleries, Manchester  
*Gothic Works*, Sperone Westwater, New York  
Galerie Guy Bärtschi, Genève
- 2003 Musée d'Art Contemporain, Lyon  
*Gothic*, Public Art Fund Project, New York  
*Fabrica*, C-Arte, Prato
- 2004 *Cloaca - New & Improved*, The Power Plant, Toronto  
*Oeuvres sur papier 1968 - 2004*, Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris
- 2005 *Scale Models & Drawings*, Sperone Westwater, New York  
Olga Korper Gallery, Toronto
- 2006 *Scale Models & Drawings*, Alon Segev Gallery, Tel Aviv  
*Cloaca N° 5*, Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts, Kaohsiung (Taiwan)  
*Bronzes*, de Pury & Luxembourg, Zürich  
Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Miami
- 2007 Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Paris  
*Cloaca Quattro*, Xin Beijing Gallery, Beijing  
*Wim Delvoye: Cloaca 2000 - 2007*, Casino Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- 2008 *Sex Rays*, Galerie Guy Bartschi, Genève (CH)  
*Wim Delvoye*, Ernst Museum (Mucsarnok Nkft), Budapest (HU)  
*Cloaca No 5*, Glenbow Museum, Calgary (CAN)  
  
*Wim Delvoye*, Diehl + Gallery One, Moscow (RU)  
*Wim Delvoye*, Galerie Rodolphe Janssen, Brussels (BE)

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- 2009 *Cloaca No 5*, Galerie de l'UQAM, Montréal (CAN)  
*Wim Delvoye*, Guggenheim Collection, Venice (IT)

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 1988 *Confrontatie & Confrontaties*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Ghent
- 1990 *Blau, Farbe der Ferne*, Heidelberger Kunstverein, Heidelberg  
*Aperto*, Biennale di Venezia, Venice  
*Artists (from Flanders)*, Palazzo Sagredo, Venice  
*Belgique, une nouvelle génération*, FRAC de la Loire, Clisson  
*Confrontaciones*, Museo Espanol de Arte Contemporaneo, Madrid  
*Kunstenars van Vlaanderen*, Museum van Hedendaagse Kunst, Ghent
- 1991 *Kunst, Europa, Belgien, Niederlande, Luxemburg*, Kunstverrein, Düsseldorf  
*Anni Novanta*, Galleria Comunale d'Arte Moderna, Bologna / Musei Comunali, Rimini  
*Desplazamientos*, Centro Atlantico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas  
*Altrove*, Museo di Arte Contemporanea, Prato
- 1992 *Documenta IX*, Kassel  
*Selectie Belgische kunstenaars voor Documenta IX*, Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens, Deurle (Belgium)  
*9th Biennial of Sydney*, Sydney  
*Post-Human*, FAE Musée d'Art Contemporain, Lausanne / Castelo di Rivoli, Rivoli / Deste Foundation, Athens
- 1993 *Post-Human*, Deichtorhallen, Hamburg and The Israel Museum, Jerusalem  
*Curios and Mirabilia*, Chateau d'Orion, Orion (France)  
*Good News*, Galleria Cardi, Milan
- 1994 *EV+A Invited*, Limerick  
*Icastica*, Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Bologna  
*Opera Prima*, Fuori Uso, Pescara; Flash Art Museum, Trevi and Cankarjev Dom Galerya, Ljubljana  
*Depois de Amanha / The Day after Tomorrow, Lisboa 94*, Centro Cultural de Belém, Lisboa  
*Cocido y Crudo*, Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid
- 1995 *ARS 95*, Nykytaiteen Museo, Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki  
*Issues of Empire*, Guggenheim Gallery/Chapman University, Orange, California  
*Sculptur & Object*, Galleri Wallner, Malmö
- 1996 *Everything that's interesting is new / The Dakis Joannou Collection*, Athens School of Fine Arts, Athens  
*Sammlung Sonnabend. Von der Popart bis heute*, Deichtorhallen, Deichtorhallen, Hamburg  
*Relaciones*, Museo de Arte y Diseno Contemporaneo, San José (Costa Rica)  
*Interzones (Copenhagen 96)*, Kunstforeningen, Copenhagen  
*Under Capricorn (Art in the Age of Globalisation)*, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam / City

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- 1997 *Kwangju Biennale*, Kwangju, South-Korea.  
*Biennale de Cétignie*, Cétignie, Montenegro  
*Cartographers*, Galerije Grada Zagreba, Zagreb (Croatia)  
*... Objets?* FRAC des Lorraine, Bourgogne, Alsace, Metz
- 1998 *Spatiotemporal*, Magasin 3 Konsthall, Stockholm  
*Cartographers*, Mücsarnok Kunsthalle, Budapest  
*Magritte en de Hedendaagse Kunst*, PMMK, Ostend (Belgium)  
*Angeldust*, Hallen, Bruges (Belgium)  
*Cartographers*, Galerija Maribor, Maribor (Slovenia)  
*Voor het verdwijnt en daarna – Watou 1998*, Watou (Belgium)
- Patchwork in progress 3*, MAMCO, Geneva  
*Cet été là*, CRAC du Languedoc-Roussillon, Sète (France)  
*Kritische Elegantie*, Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens, Deurle  
*L'Envers du Décor*, Musée d'Art moderne Villeneuve d'Asq, Villeneuve d'Asq (France)  
*Baroque*, The Slovak National Gallery, Bratislava  
*Aspects de l'art actuel en Belgique*, FRAC Nord-pas de Calais, Dunkerque (France)  
*The Summer of 1998*, Het Domein, Sittard (the Netherlands)
- 1999 *La Consolation*, Centre National d'Art Contemporain de Grenoble, Grenoble (France)  
*De opening*, SMAK, Ghent  
*L'Envers du Décor*, Institut d' Art contemporain, Villeurbanne (France)  
*Ruralia*, Porin Taidemuseo, Pori (Finland)  
*48th Biennale di Venezia, d' APERTutto*, Venice  
*Zeitwenden - ausblick*, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn  
*Animal*, Musée Bourdelle, Paris  
*Dehors - dedans*, Musée d'Art contemporain de Bordeaux, Bordeaux
- 2000 *Over the Edges*, SMAK, Ghent  
*Le fou dédouble*, Chateau d'Orion, Orion (France)  
*Zeitwenden - ausblick*, Künstlerhaus Wien, Vienna  
*Partages d' exotisme, 5th Biennale de Lyon*, Lyon  
*Arte all' Arte*, Arte Continua, San Gimignano.  
*American Bricolage*, Sperone Westwater Gallery, New York  
*Visiones de Latinoamérica - No es sólo lo que vas. Pervertiendo el minimalismo*, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid
- 2001 *Give and Take*, Victoria and Albert Museum, London  
*Eine Barocke Party*, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna  
*The Overexcited Body*, Palazzo dell' Arengario, Milan  
*Confidences*, Casino Luxembourg, Luxemburg  
*The Silk Purse Project*, Arnolfini, Bristol  
*Between Earth and Heaven*, PMMK, Ostend  
*Sous les ponts ...*, Casino Luxembourg, Luxemburg  
*Irony*, Fondaçion Mirò, Barcelona  
*Sonsbeek 9 – LocusFocus*, Arnhem (the Netherlands)  
*Belgisch Atelier Belge*, Dexia Gallery, Brussels  
*Un art populaire*, Fondation Cartier pour l'Art contemporain, Paris  
*Ironia*, Koldo Mitxelena Kulturunea, San Sebastian

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- Marking the Territory*, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin  
*Styx – Projektionen*, Kunsthalle Trier, Trier  
*De Spiegel van het Verlangen*, Broelmuseum, Kortrijk (Belgium)  
*Arte Y Embutidos*, Galeria dMuseo, Caracas (Venezuela)  
*Sense of Wonder*, Herzliya Museum of Art, Herzliya (Israël)
- 2002 *Sense of Wonder*, Herzliya Museum of Modern Art, Herzliya (Israël)  
*Melodrama*, Artium, Vitoria-Gasteiz (Spain)  
*La Part de l'Autre*, Carré d'Art Nîmes, Nîmes (France)  
*From Pop to Now*, Tang Teaching Museum, New York  
*To Whom it may Concern*, CCAC Wattis Institute, San Francisco  
*Melodrama*, Palacio de los Condes de Gabia, Granada *Busan Biennial*, Busan, Korea  
*Vidéo Topiques*, Musée d'Art Moderne de Strasbourg, Strasbourg  
*Der Berg*, Heidelberger Kunstverein, Heidelberg  
*From Pop to Now*, Wexner Center for the Arts, Ohio
- 2003 *Qu'est-ce que la photo sculpture*, Frac Limousin, Limoges  
*Granada de fondo*, Centro José Guerrero, Granada  
*Muhka – A choice*, Muhka, Antwerpen  
*No Canvas*, Galleria Cardi, Milano  
*Extra*, Swiss Institute, New York  
*The Disenchanted Mountain*, Tour Fromage, Aosta  
*Beaufort 2003*, Belgian coastline  
*Phantom of Desire*, Neue Galerie, Graz  
*De Manessier à Wim Delvoye*, Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art, Luxembourg  
*The Ideal City*, Biennial of Valencia, Valencia  
*Jan Hoet presenteert: Delvoye – Hammons*, Les Brigittines, Brussel  
*GNS*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris  
*Scenery*, Nuova Icona Gallery, Venice  
*Paradigma of Love*, Palais Thurn & Taxis, Bregenz  
*Vanités Contemporaines*, Musée d'Art Roger Quilliot, Clermont-Ferrand  
*Scatalogue*, SAW Gallery, Ottawa  
*Models & Mavericks*, Het Domein, Sittard  
*Panorama da Arte Brasileira 2003*, Museu de Arte Moderna, Sao Paulo  
*Outlook 2003*, Athens
- 2004 *Panorama da Arte Brasileira*, Paço Imperial, Rio de Janeiro  
*Birdspace*, Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans  
*Because the Earth is 1/3 Dirt*, CU Art Museum, Boulder  
*Settlements*, Musée d'Art Moderne, Saint-Etienne  
*Making Visible*, Galleri Faurshou, Copenhagen  
*La Mort devant Soi*, Galerie Guy Bartschi, Geneve  
*Birdspace*, Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach  
*Giganten/Giants*, Den Haag Sculptuur 2004, Den Haag  
*Lustwarande 2004*, De Oude Warande, Tilburg  
*Continental Breakfast – 45th October Salon*, Belgrade  
*Tatu – tattoo*, Royal Museum, Brussel  
*Needful things: Recent Multiples*, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland  
*Hors d'Oeuvres*, CAPC Musée de Bordeaux, Bordeaux  
*O Estado das Cousas*, Marco, Vigo

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- Birdspace*, Hudson River Museum, Yonkers  
*Tongue in Cheek*, CRAC Alsace, Altkirch
- 2005 *Panorama da Arte Brasileira*, Marco, Vigo  
*Visionary Belgium*, Bozar, Brussels  
*La Beauté de l'Enfer*, Galerie Rodolphe Janssen, Brussels  
*Domicile*, Musée d'Art Moderne, Saint-Etienne  
*L'Idiotie*, Domaine Pommery, Reims  
*Burlesques Contemporains*, Jeu de Paume, Paris  
*Die Obere Hälfte*, Städtische Museen, Heilbronn  
*Big Bang*, Centre Pompidou, Paris  
*Slow Art*, MKP, Düsseldorf  
*Birdspace*, McDonough Museum of Modern Art, Youngstown  
*Biennale d'Art Contemporain*, Lyon  
*Ex 05.01.03103*, Cartin Collection, Hartford  
*Connexions*, Mamco, Genève  
*Convergence*, 798, Beijing  
*Two Asias/Two Europes*, Duolun Museum, Shanghai
- 2006 *Fiction@Love*, Moca Shanghai, Shanghai  
*Yellow Pages Artists*, Galerie Magda Danysz, Paris  
*Birdspace*, Tucson Museum of Art, Tucson (USA)  
*The Complex of Respect*, Kunsthalle Bern  
*Close Up*, Art Centre Silkeborg, Silkeborg (DK)  
*Glass: Material Matters*, Los Angeles County Museum  
*The Originals: Neo-Esthetics of Animamix*, Moca Shanghai (Shanghai)  
*Take a walk on the wild Side*, de Pury & Luxembourg, Zürich  
*World Team – Artists of the Ball*, Museum der Bildende Künste, Leipzig  
*Nous nous sommes tant aimés*, Collections de Saint-Cyprien, Saint-Cyprien (FR)  
*Reconstruction #1*, Sudeley Castle, Winchcombe (UK)  
*Into Me/Out of Me*, PS1, New York (USA)  
*Eldorado*, Mudam, Luxemburg  
*Art'Fab*, La Citadelle, Monaco  
*Reflections*, Galerie Faurchou, Copenhagen (DK)  
*Envisage*, Biennial de Shanghai, Shanghai  
*D'étonnants Détours*, FNAC de Picardie, Amiens  
*Le Tableau transparent et le Diaphane*, Musée national de Monaco, Monaco  
*Human Nature*, SoFa Gallery, Bloomington (USA)  
*Bêtes de Style*, Mudac, Lausanne (CH)  
*Diagnose [Kunst]*, Kunst-Museum Ahlen.  
*Into Me/Out of Me*, Kunstwerke Berlin, Berlin
- 2007 *Negatech*, Espacio Fundacion Telefonica, Buenos Aires (AR)  
*Into Me/Out of Me*, MACRO, Rome  
*The Aggression of Beauty II*, Arndt & Partner, Berlin  
*Mining Glass*, Museum of Glass, Washington  
*Intersezione III*, Parco Archeologico di Scolacium, Catanzaro  
*I am as You will be*, Cheim & Read, New York  
*Guesthouse 2007*, Mudam Luxembourg

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- 2008 *Animations/Fictions*, MNAC, Bukarest (RO)  
*sk-Interfaces*, FACT, Liverpool (UK)  
*CHANEL Mobile Art Container*, Star Ferry Car Park, Central (Hong Kong)  
*Martian Museum of Terrestrial Art*, Barbican Art Gallery, London (UK)  
*Ars Libris*, The Cartin Collection  
*The Glass Experience*, Museum of Science & Industry, Chicago (USA)  
*Comme des Bêtes*, Musée des Beaux Arts, Lausanne (CH)  
*Joseph Aloïs Schumpeter*, Oui, 56-58 bd. de l'Esplanade, Grenoble (FR)  
*Ad Absurdum*, MARTa, Herford (DE)  
*Evolution : from Object to Man*, Max Lang Gallery, New York (USA)  
*Umedalen Skulptur*, Umedalen Skulpture Park, Umedalen (SE)  
*Dichter op de Huid*, Fort Asperen, Asperen (NDL)  
*Less is less, more is more, that's all*, CAPC Bordeaux, Bordeaux (France)  
*Close Up*, The Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh (UK)  
*Take me there, Show me the Way*, Haunch of Venison, New York (USA)
- 2009 *Superabundant*, Turner Contemporary Project Space, Kent (UK)  
*Mythologies*, Haunch of Venison, London (UK)  
*Colossal – Kunst Fakt Fiktion*, Kalkriese (DE)  
*Flower Power*, CRAA, Villa Giuglia (IT)  
*Sk-Interfaces*, Casino Luxembourg, Luxembourg (LU)  
*Torre*, Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice (ITA)  
*Poétique du Chantier*, Musée Château d'Annecy, Annecy (FR)