



Bernar Venet, *88.5° Arc x 7* from the series *Vertical Arcs*, Corten steel, Gösta Serlachius Fine Arts Foundation. Photo: Sampo Linkoneva.

Press release 27 September 2021

Bernar Venet sculpture to be unveiled at Serlachius Museums in Finland

Renowned French artist **Bernar Venet's** sculpture *88.5° Arc x 7* from the series *Vertical Arcs* will be unveiled at the Serlachius Museums on Monday, 27 September. The nearly six metres tall sculpture, made of Corten steel, will be located on an open grass field in the art museum's park and will impressively catch the eye on the entrance road to the museum.

Bernar Venet (b. 1941) lives and works in France and New York. He has been considered a pioneer of Minimalist and Conceptualist sculptural art since the 1960s–70s. Venet is particularly known for his dynamic steel sculptures, in which he plays with gravity and three-dimensionality.

The sculpture acquired for the Serlachius collection is part of the *Vertical Arcs* series, whose works are linked by mathematically precise lines formed of semicircles as well as the material of the works, Corten steel. Sculptures belonging to the series are on display in public places around the world.

The sculpture, as its name implies, consists of seven 88.5 degree arcs. The artist says that he sought to explore verticality in his sculpture formed vertical arcs. The arcs are followed by vertical lines. "The better part of my sculpture originated by taking the 'line' as a point of departure."

"We have also recently added works by international artists to the sculpture park connected with the art museum. Bernar Venet's work is perfectly suited to the setting, in a manner characteristic of the artist, even with mathematical precision," says **Henrik de la Chapelle**, Chairman of the Board of the Gösta Serlachius Fine Arts Foundation.

A foundation records and presents the artist's life's work

Bernar Venet has held many solo exhibitions and participated in joint exhibitions around the world. His works are included in the collections of dozens of museums and art institutes. A retrospective extensively presenting his life's work was held at the Lyon Museum of Contemporary Art in winter 2018–19. His exhibition *The Gravity Hypothesis* is currently being shown at the Louvre-Lens Museum.

The Venet Foundation was established in 2014 to preserve and present the artist's achievements over his career of more than 50 years. A limited selection of the foundation's works can be viewed at Le Muy in the south of France, where the artist also lives while in the country.

Venet's production has been shown previously in Finland, at an exhibition held at Galerie Forsblom in 2012. The gallery has also represented the artist since then.

The artist will attend the unveiling of his work at Serlachius Museum Gösta on Monday, 27 September. The artist, Henrik de la Chapelle, Chairman of the Board of the Gösta Serlachius Fine Arts Foundation, and **Pauli Sivonen**, Director of the Serlachius Museums, will speak at the event.

Additional Information and image requests:

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More information about Bernar Venet: <https://www.galerieforsblom.com/artists/bernar-venet/>

Photo: Sampo Linkoneva

The Serlachius Museums are open:

in the winter season, 1 September–31 May, from Tuesday to Sunday, 11 am–6 pm.

in the summer season, 1 June–31 August, every day 10 am–6 pm

Visiting addresses:

Serlachius Museum Gösta, Joenniementie 47, Mänttä

Serlachius Museum Gustaf, R. Erik Serlachiuksen katu 2, Mänttä

Serlachius Museums in the social media:

<https://facebook.com/serlachius>

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