



Albright-Knox Art Gallery

1285 ELMWOOD AVENUE, BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14222-1096  
716.882.8700 TEL 716.882.1958 FAX WWW.ALBRIGHTKNOX.ORG

## NewsRelease

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**CONTACT:** Maria Morreale, Director of Marketing  
716.270.8229, mmorreale@albrightknox.org

### ***ROBERT MANGOLD Beyond the Line: Paintings and Project 2000 – 2008 Opens October 23***

#### **Internationally Known North Tonawanda Artist Returns Home to Celebrate Opening**

**Buffalo, NY** — The Albright-Knox Art Gallery announces the opening of the special exhibition *ROBERT MANGOLD Beyond the Line: Paintings and Project 2000 – 2008*, a project that combines an eight-year survey of Mangold's work with his commission to design the colored glass windows for the entry pavilion of the new United States Courthouse in Buffalo, designed by William Pedersen of Kohn Pedersen Fox, scheduled to open in July 2010.

Mangold's work has been exhibited internationally since the 1960s, and he is the recipient of numerous awards. In 2005, the artist was selected by the United States General Services Administration to design the colored glass windows for the Buffalo Courthouse project. The GSA has engaged many of the finest architects, designers, engineers, and artists working in America today to design the future landmarks of our nation.

Organized by Albright-Knox Chief Curator Douglas Dreishpoon, the exhibition will include more than fifty paintings and works on paper, as well as architectural models, preliminary sketches, and photographs that document the building and the site, tying Mangold's incredible layering effect from paper and canvas into glass.

Born in North Tonawanda, New York, in 1937, Mangold was a frequent visitor to the Albright-Knox Art Gallery during the 1950s. Iconic works from the Gallery's collection by Mark Rothko, Clyfford Still, Robert Motherwell, and Willem de Kooning influenced his decision to become an artist. A major figure in the investigation of geometric abstraction since the 1960s, Mangold came of age as an artist during a transitional time in the history of American art, when gestural abstraction gave way to more austere conceptions.

Throughout Mangold's career, the Gallery has regularly acquired key works by the artist for the Permanent Collection, including *1/2 manila curved area (divided)*, 1967; *Four Squares Within a Square #3*, 1974; and *Attic Series VIII*, 1990. Through the generosity of the artist and his wife, the painter Sylvia Plimack Mangold, other important works by their friends Sol LeWitt and Brice Marden have entered the Permanent Collection as gifts.

The exhibition is accompanied by a special publication that combines a traditional exhibition catalogue with documentation of the architectural commission. Published in a collector's edition and a trade edition, the book includes insightful essays by exhibition curator Douglas Dreishpoon; Marla Prather, senior consultant in the Department of Nineteenth-Century, Modern, and Contemporary Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art; and architect William Pederson, along with an in-depth interview by Dreishpoon with the artist.

A special Members-Only Preview of the exhibition will be held on Wednesday, October 21, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. In celebration of the public opening on Friday, October 23, the Gallery will present "Commission and Context," a conversation between Robert Mangold and

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Douglas Dreishpoon in the Gallery's Auditorium at 6 pm. The conversation will be followed by a question-and-answer session and a book signing by the artist. All events surrounding the public opening are free and open to everyone through the Gallery's Free Friday program, *Gusto at the Gallery*.

The exhibition and book project are supported by the New York State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

Major foundation sponsorship support for this exhibition has been provided by a generous grant from the Henry Luce Foundation in American Art.

Leadership support for the exhibition has been generously provided by Drs. Andy and Helen Cappuccino; Donald H. Cloudsley; Debra and George Couch; Isabella and Theodor Dalenson; Robert De Logi; Mr. And Mrs. Stephen R. Foley; Dr. Robert and Caterine Gatewood; Martha and Tom Hyde; Roberta and Michael Joseph; John and Mary Pappajohn, Des Moines; Elisabeth Roche Wilmers and Robert Wilmers; Annemarie and Gianfranco Verna; and Leslie and Howard Zemsky.

The exhibition will be on view through January 31, 2010.

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The Albright-Knox Art Gallery is recognized as one of the world's leading collections of modern and contemporary art. With more than 6,500 works in its collection and a dynamic series of exhibitions and public programs, the AKAG continues to grow and fulfill its mission to acquire, exhibit, and preserve modern and contemporary art in an enriching, dynamic, and vibrant environment.

Hours: Thursday 10 am to 5 pm; Friday 10 am to 10 pm; Saturday and Sunday 10 am to 5 pm; closed Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Admission: \$12 for adults; \$8 for seniors and students; free for Gallery Members and children 12 and under. On Fridays from 3 to 10 pm, *Gusto at the Gallery* features a variety of free programs for visitors of all ages. For additional information, visit [www.albrightknox.org](http://www.albrightknox.org).

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