

For more information, please contact:
Jennifer Rohr
jrohr@richardgraygallery.com
312.642.8877

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Jaume Plensa's *Wonderland* unveiled in Calgary

"The architecture of our bodies is the palace for our dreams" —Jaume Plensa



Jaume Plensa's monumental *Wonderland* has been unveiled in Calgary, Alberta, Canada in the front plaza of Foster + Partner's skyscraper THE BOW. Standing twelve meters tall, *Wonderland* is Plensa's largest work to date created from bent-wire mesh. Encana Corporation and Cenovus Energy commissioned the sculpture.

Courtesy of Thomas Porostocky

Wonderland is the portrait of a young girl who lives in the artist's native Barcelona. Depicting only her head, the portrait represents humanity as well as our human potential created and fostered by our dreams. The transparent mesh creates a visual bridge between *Wonderland* and THE BOW as Plensa strives to link together art, architecture and society. Contrary to its commanding size, the sculpture's transparency creates an ethereal sense of fragility, mirroring and celebrating the fragility of human beings. People are encouraged to enter the sculpture through openings on either side of the head, an invitation for visitors to physically experience Plensa's metaphor of the mind being the sanctuary for dreams.

Plensa has created numerous public works around the world, including the *Crown Fountain* in Millennium Park, Chicago and *Echo*, soon to be installed at the Seattle Art Museum. His work was recently the subject of major solo exhibitions at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, West Breton, UK and the Espoo Museum of Modern Art, Helsinki, Finland. Plensa has had solo exhibitions at the Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas; Musée Picasso, Antibes; Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid; Galerie National du Jeu de Paume, Paris; and the Arts Club of Chicago, among many others. He lives and works in Barcelona.