

Calder

First Major Retrospective of Calder, Pioneer of Modern Sculpture, to be held in Korea

- **Exhibition Title: *Calder***
- **Period: 18 July 2013 – 20 October 2013 (Closed Monday)**
- **Venue: Leeum, Samsung Museum of Art**
- **On View: 118 artworks (Sculptures, paintings, jewelry pieces, etc.)**

From 18 July – 20 October, Leeum, Samsung Museum of Art will present *Calder*, a grand retrospective of works by Alexander Calder (1898–1976), the American artist who transformed the history of art with his use of unconventional materials and his dramatic re-imagining of space. Co-organized by Leeum, Samsung Museum of Art and the Calder Foundation in New York, this exhibition will showcase over 100 works by the artist, spanning from the 1920s through the 1970s. Calder's invention of the mobile liberated sculpture from the pedestal and challenged the idea that the element of mass was one of its necessary constituents, and his relentless innovation and strong creative vision extended beyond the lines of an established genre in art.

Calder grew up in a family of artists; his father and grandfather were both successful sculptors and his mother was a painter. Despite his artistic talent, Calder studied and worked in mechanical engineering before ultimately settling in New York, where he took classes at the Art Students League and created paintings and drawings that will serve as the starting point of this exhibition. In the summer of 1926, Calder moved to Paris, the center of the art world and home to a vibrant community of avant-garde artists, including Piet Mondrian, Joan Miró, Marcel Duchamp, and Jean Arp. Soon after arriving, Calder dedicated himself to sculpting in wire, thereby creating a radically new form of sculpture in which volume is suggested by expressive lines. These investigations of form and action often took the shape of animals and circus performers, as well as portraits of Calder's friends and figures from popular culture.

Calder's initial venture into pure abstraction occurred in 1930, when he created a small series of nonobjective oil paintings, three of which will be presented in the exhibition. Calder subsequently moved on to create sculptures in wire and wood, and, intrigued by the idea of abstract forms able to occupy various positions in space, used motors and cranks to create works that could perform two- or three-cycled motions. Marcel Duchamp coined these new objects "mobiles," after which Jean Arp wryly suggested that Calder call his static constructions "stables." Calder began to design mobiles to be suspended from the ceiling beginning in 1932, adding a new fourth dimension to sculpture by incorporating time into space.

The range of Calder's creative output was exceedingly wide, yet the artist infused each of his works of art with its own particular energy, its own life, as well as a quality of the artist's character that is apparent throughout his body of work. The exhibition includes stunning pieces of Calder's jewelry, as well as historic documentary and experimental films featuring the artist and his work. Finally, the retrospective will close with two examples of Calder's late outdoor works, *Grand Crinkly* (1971) and *Untitled* (1976). Calder's iconic monumental sculptures such as these are installed in public parks and plazas all over the world and have become amongst the most recognizable examples the artist's work.

This large-scale retrospective of Calder's oeuvre is the first to be held in Korea, allowing the Korean public to experience works which have been continuously exhibited around the world to resounding response and with astounding contemporary relevance even forty years after the artist's death. Spanning the course of the artist's career, the works presented at Leeum hail from the world's most important public and private Calder collections, including the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; Musée National d'Art Moderne / Centre Pompidou, Paris; Samsung Foundation, Seoul; and the Calder Foundation, New York.

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Examples of exhibited works and archives attached.

**Download the images at <http://samsungf.webhard.co.kr>
(ID/PW: leeum; Folder name: Calder).**

Visiting Leeum

- Admission
Special Exhibitions: Adults 8000 Won; Students* 4000 Won
Permanent Exhibitions: Adults 10000 Won, Students* 6000 Won
Day Pass for same-day admission to both special and permanent exhibitions: Adults 14000 Won; Students* 8000
*Students in elementary, middle and high schools.
- Hours: 10:30 to 18:00 (Closed Monday)
- Location and Directions
Leeum is located at 747-18, Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
By Subway: Take Subway Line 6 to Hangangjin Station. Exit No. 1.
By Bus: Take the 110, 405, 03 or 0018 bus to Hanganjin Station.
- For detailed information, call 02-2014-6901 or visit www.leeum.org.

No reservation is needed for individual visitors.

Group visits are available at reduced rates (30% discount) for a minimum of 20 people. Reservations must be made.

Digital exhibition guides (PDAs) are available for rental (2000 Won).



Calder in his studio at 14 rue de la Colonie, Paris, fall 1931

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Grand Crinkly, 1971

Sheet metal, rod, bolts, and paint
770 x 865 x 375cm

© Leeum, Samsung Museum of Art



Le 31 Janvier, 1950

Sheet metal, wire, and paint

375 x 600cm

Achat de l'Etat, 1950

Attribution, 1959

Centre Pompidou, musée national
d'art moderne, Paris