



FOUNDATION FOR ART AND PRESERVATION IN EMBASSIES

## **FOUNDATION FOR ART AND PRESERVATION IN EMBASSIES**

The Foundation for Art and Preservation in Embassies (FAPE) was founded in 1986 to expand the range of cultural diversity in our embassies. FAPE's mission is to assist the efforts of the State Department in its various programs designed to exhibit and preserve American art in U.S. diplomatic facilities throughout the world.

Before FAPE's existence, many embassies were without art collections, and had little or no funds for the restoration and preservation of historic buildings and valuable antiques. Public resources for State Department cultural projects were and still are extremely limited; thus, the demand for FAPE funding has become even more crucial. Since its founding, FAPE has raised the equivalent of \$37 million through private donations and contributions of works of art.

FAPE's aim is to create a meaningful and appropriate permanent collection of art for every U.S. embassy. Through its work, FAPE enables art to serve as a cultural ambassador, encouraging international understanding between individuals and among nations.

### **FULLFILLING FAPE'S MISSION**

- **ART IN NEW EMBASSIES** -- During the next several years, a large number of U.S. embassies will be constructed, and the State Department has asked FAPE to commission site-specific works by American artists for many of them. Once an artist has been selected and has agreed to create a work, the embassy architects, the State Department, FAPE, and the artist work together to ensure that the art is sensitively integrated with the building and its grounds. The works are all donated by the artists, and FAPE provides the funds to pay for their fabrication.

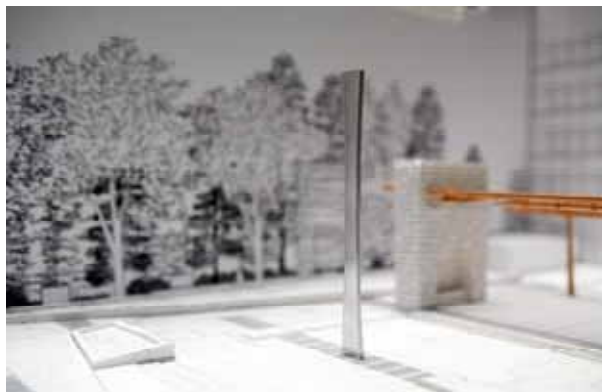
By FAPE's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2011, significant commissions by Lynda Benglis, Louise Bourgeois, Mark di Suvero, Ellsworth Kelly, Sol LeWitt, Martin Puryear, Dorothea Rockburne, Joel Shapiro and Michael Singer will have been installed at six new embassies and consulates – Athens, Beijing, Berlin, Guangzhou, Kingston, and Mumbai and at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in New York. This collection of masterpieces is known as FAPE's *An American Legacy*.

Installations occurring in 2008 include the following:

- Berlin, Germany -- Sol LeWitt – February 1-22
  - Berlin, Germany -- Ellsworth Kelly – February 13-15
  - Beijing, China -- Ellsworth Kelly -- May
  - Beijing, China -- Louise Bourgeois – July
- **AN ARTIST AT WORK** -- As an educational resource to accompany each site-specific installation, FAPE collaborates with the Checkerboard Film Foundation, New York, to produce a video in which the artist discusses the meaning and process behind his or her work. The primary objective of this joint endeavor is to promote a dialogue between our vital and diverse community, and students, educators, and artists of other nations.
  - **LEE KIMCHE MCGRATH ORIGINAL PRINT COLLECTION** -- Another significant FAPE initiative is the *Lee Kimche McGrath Original Print Collection*. As part of this project, each year a distinguished American artist donates an edition of original prints for display in U.S. embassies. The Collection began in 1989, and Chuck Close; Jasper Johns; Alex Katz; Ellsworth Kelly; Roy Lichtenstein; Elizabeth Murray; Robert Rauschenberg; James Rosenquist; Susan Rothenberg; Ed Ruscha; Frank Stella; and four artists from Gee's Bend Alabama – Louisiana Bendolph, Mary Lee Bendolph, Loretta Bennett and Loretta Pettway – have all made prints for the Collection.



**WORK BY ELLSWORTH KELLY  
TO ENHANCE FUTURE U.S. EMBASSY IN BERLIN, GERMANY**



Ellsworth Kelly, Maquette of Totem, 2006; © Ellsworth Kelly

**WHAT**

The new U.S. Embassy in Berlin, designed by John Ruble of Moore Ruble Yudell, is slated to open in July 2008. Adjacent to the Brandenburg Gate, the embassy is located on Pariser Platz, in the center of historic Berlin, where the former embassy stood before it was heavily damaged in World War II.

In 2006, the **Foundation for Art and Preservation in Embassies (FAPE)** commissioned **Ellsworth Kelly** (b. 1923) to create a stainless steel totem which will be the focal point within the courtyard garden. The totem, forty-foot-high and eight-inches-thick, with the widest point of the sculpture measuring four-feet, will have a glass bead finish, which will allow natural light to be reflected off of its surface. The work is being partially funded by Nancy Lee and Perry Bass, who had made a contribution to FAPE in 1991 in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary.

**ELLSWORTH  
KELLY**

One of the most acclaimed American artists, Ellsworth Kelly was born in 1923 in Newburgh, New York. He has executed many public commissions including a mural for the UNESCO headquarters, in Paris, in 1969; a sculpture for the city of Barcelona, in 1978; a memorial for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, in Washington, DC, in 1993; and, in 1998, panels for the John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse, in Boston, and a sculpture for the Paul Löbe Building of the Deutscher Bundestag, in Berlin.

Mr. Kelly's extensive career has been the subject of numerous exhibitions organized by such distinguished institutions as The Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, all in New York City. His work is in the collections of many of the world's major museums.



FOUNDATION FOR ART AND PRESERVATION IN EMBASSIES

**WORK BY SOL LEWITT  
TO ENHANCE FUTURE U.S. EMBASSY IN BERLIN, GERMANY**



Sol LeWitt, Maquette of Wall Mural, 2004; © Sol LeWitt

**WHAT**

The new U.S. Embassy in Berlin, designed by John Ruble at Moore Ruble Yudell, is slated to open in July 2008. Adjacent to the Brandenburg Gate, the embassy is located on Pariser Platz, in the center of historic Berlin, where the former embassy stood before it was heavily damaged in World War II.

Commissioned by **Foundation for Art and Preservation in Embassies (FAPE)** in 2004, **Sol LeWitt** (1928-2007) designed a large-scale mural for the glass-encased Behrenstraße entrance, which is visible from the street. The mural measuring fifteen by thirty-feet, will be a diptych, with each half containing a five-point star, one in vibrant color and the other in black and white.

**SOL  
LEWITT**

Sol LeWitt (1928-2007) was one of the preeminent artists of our time. He received his BFA from Syracuse University, and moved to New York City in 1953. In 1960, Mr. LeWitt worked at The Museum of Modern Art in New York, where he met other young artists searching for a new direction away from Abstract Expressionism. Mr. LeWitt was a champion of Minimalist art and a pioneer of Conceptual art, and his work, with its vocabulary of clean lines and simple geometric forms, bridges the two.

Since 1965, Mr. LeWitt's drawings, prints, paintings, and sculptures have been featured in numerous solo and group exhibitions, and he is represented in the collections of major museums worldwide.

Retrospectives of his works were organized by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, in 1978, and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art in 2000.