

Eight Deer by Gwynn Murrill

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Making the most of Urban Space: Gwynn Murrill's Avenue of The Stars Exhibition Sets the Bar High

Murrill Makes Every Median Count

Los Angeles artist Gwynn Murrill has transformed the staid medians of Century City's Avenue of the Stars. Twenty-two life-size bronze animals now lounge, graze and lope down the central medians. Coyotes, inspired by Murrill's life in the Santa Monica Mountains, deer modeled after the *Ezo Shika* deer indigenous to the Northern Japanese island of Hokkaido, tigers, panthers, a horse, a big horn sheep, and the gateway piece, an enormous eagle in flight now inhabit this steely urban space. The sculptures flow down the center of the mile long avenue, from Santa Monica Boulevard to Pico Boulevard with fresh landscaping to set off the sculptures. Slow down your car or access the artwork by foot from the sidewalk, to take in this 'must see' exhibit not only for art lovers, art students, and collectors, but also a wonderful summer respite for area business people and a fun day-trip, or family outing.

The exhibition is a powerful melding of art, landscape and architecture. Gwynn Murrill's masterful sculptures catapult Century City beyond a business center surrounded by skyscrapers into a site for world-class art.

Los Angeles, CA – June 4, 2013

This is the first of an annual outdoor sculpture exhibit featuring twenty-two compelling bronze sculptures from Los Angeles artist, Gwynn Murrill. The exhibit brings together 22 sculptures in one place, from over twenty years of work.

Internationally known for sculpting the animal form, Los Angeles artist Gwynn Murrill's sculptures are not bound by literal representations of animals. Each sculpture depicts the unique essence of the subject, pairing essential, universal characteristics with the spirit of each animal so that each piece takes on a life of its own.

The Century City Chamber of Commerce Art Council's Sculpture Committee is the main sponsor of the project. "Century City is the cosmopolitan heart of Los Angeles," says Century City Chamber of Commerce president and CEO, Susan Bursk. "There is no better place in the city for art to demonstrate the powerful juxtaposition between the natural world and the surrounding urban environment. It is the perfect way to launch Century City's outdoor sculpture program."

"It is easy to think of Century City as only a business center with skyscrapers," said Carl Schlosberg, chair of the sculpture committee, curator and supporting sponsor of the exhibition. "Our vision is to celebrate the human side of Century City by integrating Gwynn's masterful sculptures in a setting that complements and accentuates the surrounding landscape and architecture. An outdoor exhibit of this scale will make a long-term impact on Century City's place in the Los Angeles arts and culture narrative."

Gwynn Murrill's outdoor exhibit and installation was made possible with the support of L.A. Louver, ValleyCrest Landscape Companies, Carl Schlosberg Fine Arts, the Century City Foundation and Gainsborough Capital, and in partnership with the Century City Chamber of Commerce, Century City Chamber of Commerce Arts Council, and the Century City BID Association.

The sculptures will be on display between Pico and Santa Monica Boulevards through October 2013.

## About Gwynn Murrill

Drawn to aspects of the natural environment and the complex beauty of wildlife, Gwynn Murrill's principal subject is the animal form. Murrill has shown her work in galleries and museums throughout the United States and overseas and her sculptures are represented in many public collections, including those of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; Norton Simon Museum, Pasadena; and the American Embassy, Singapore. Her awards include a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, a National Endowment of the Arts Individual Artist Grant, and a Prix di Roma Fellowship from the American Academy in Rome. Murrill lives and works in Los Angeles. Gwynn earned an M.F.A. and B.F.A. from the University of California, Los Angeles. She is represented by L.A. Louver <a href="http://www.lalouver.com/html/murrill">http://www.lalouver.com/html/murrill</a> bio.html

#### For Downloadable Photos:

http://studioj942.zenfolio.com/gwynnmurrill

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