

NATIONAL SCULPTORS' GUILD

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original rendering



original rendering

UPHOLDING - VETERAN'S MEMORIAL

BY MARK LEICHLITER & THE NATIONAL SCULPTORS' GUILD

Stainless Steel Plate and Colorado Yule Marble site-specific
Scale: 12'9.5" high 3'8" diameter

Site Location: Paramount City Hall

Commissioned by: the City of Paramount, CA

Date commissioned: July 2006

Date installed/dedicated: April 2007

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Commissioned by the City of Paramount to design enhancements for its existing park Veterans' Memorial Park, Mark Leichliter and the National Sculptors' Guild designed the site to incorporate the sculpture 'Upholding' and three surrounding 'Honor Walls'.

I created this piece as a somber tribute to Paramount residents lost in three wars (World War II, Korea & Vietnam). The sculpture consists of five stainless steel uprights; one for each branch of the military, which support a white marble sphere at the top of the structure. Cut from the middle of these uprights is the silhouette of a soldier at parade rest. The piece symbolizes the memory of those that fought to uphold our country's freedoms and virtues.

This plan included integration of existing park, new hardscape design and the addition of three 'Honor Walls' listing the names of each veteran killed or missing in action. Each wall represents a war in which Paramount residents have been lost; World War II, Korea and Vietnam. Along with the new hardscaping, I collaborated with award-winning landscape architect Greg Hebert on the design for the new xeric plantings that will complement the Memorial site and park. The completion date for park was set for April, with a formal dedication on Memorial Day, 2007.

ABOUT THE ARTIST: Having explored nearly every method of creating art, from lost-wax casting to hammer and chisel, Mark turned to high technology in an attempt at a fresh approach. "I spent five years immersing myself in 3D Computer Aided Design. I feel like I have finally reached a level that allows me to fully express myself as a sculptor. The technology that exists today is remarkable." Additional public art placements include the cities of Cerritos, CA; La Quinta, CA; and the Little Rock National Airport, AR.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL SCULPTORS' GUILD: Representing some of the most renowned sculpture artists in the nation, the Guild artists work as a team under the leadership of executive director John W. Kinkade. Our organization works closely with cities, municipalities, corporations and private institutions across the country to successfully enhance both indoor and outdoor venues with creative design and innovative artwork. The NSG design teams have enhanced public spaces in a timely fashion within budgets ranging from \$25,000 to \$2.8 million. When appropriate, the design team grows to include architects, landscape architects, structural engineers, designers and contractors from around the nation. Dependent on the nature of each project, the NSG draws upon this knowledgeable group of professionals with proven accountability in past projects.

