



## CATALINA ISLAND CONSERVANCY

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**CIC #10-12**

**Contact: Bob Rhein (714) 785-6636**  
**brhein@catalinaconservancy.org**

### FLOWER ART TO WELCOME VISITORS TO WRIGLEY MEMORIAL & BOTANIC GARDEN



*Lisa Saldaña admires "Shin," a sculpture by Morris Bear Squire, a Santa Barbara-based pop artist and philanthropist, on loan to the Conservancy.*  
Photo by Bob Rhein

Vibrantly painted steel sculptures of flowers native to Southern California, inspired by the fluid lines of the Hebrew alphabet now welcome visitors to the Wrigley Memorial & Botanic Garden.

On loan for two years, the display is part of a traveling exhibit of whimsical artwork that will be in place in locations such as the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, the Los Angeles Arboretum, and the Fullerton Arboretum.

Ranging in height from six to 15 feet, the sculptures were created by Morris Bear Squire, a Santa Barbara-based pop artist and philanthropist. Squire is the former owner and CEO of a national chain of 26 medical care facilities. He also founded several charitable organizations including the Forest Foundation, Moishe House and the Morris B. Squire Art Foundation. His philanthropic word is focused primarily on supporting Jewish causes.

The four pieces being installed near the Wrigley Memorial and Botanic Garden are: "Zav," celebrating wind and water with a central red, white and blue bougainvillea as the focal point; "Tet" honors the family with a representation of a Mother, Father and Child; "Gimel" are to large, yellow daffodils; while "Shin" is an explosion of color against three green columns.

CATALINA ISLAND CONSERVANCY  
330 Golden Shore #170 Long Beach, California 90802 562/437/8555 ext. 229

Directing the installation is Frank Hein, the Conservancy's Manager of Education. "When we headed up to the gardens to find a location for the sculptures, we realized that the roundabout just prior to the gardens was a perfect spot," said Hein. "We think this art installation will add color and interest to a space that was in need of a little dressing up."

Hein thanked the Avalon city officials for their support. "The city was also great to work with and helped us move quickly to make sure the sculptures were installed in a way that will keep traffic moving and the area safe."

He said that with big changes like the Zip Line, new restaurants, the newly refurbished Casino, and now this new sculpture..." the island is starting to feel fresh, energized and ready for another great summer."

# # #

**SANTA CATALINA ISLAND CONSERVANCY**

Post Office Box 2739 Avalon, California 90704 310/510-2595