

AFP GALLERIES

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For Immediate Release

Stephen Shaheen
New Works
January 8 to January 31, 2009

AFP Galleries is pleased to present *New Works*, an exhibition of sculptures, drawings and seating elements by New York based artist, Stephen Shaheen. The exhibition opens on January 8th and continues through January 31st, 2009. A reception for the artist will be held on Thursday, January 8th from 6 – 8 pm.

Utilizing stone and steel, Shaheen's wall works focus on identity—hiding behind, breaking through or trapped within the surfaces of personae. Stephen's conceptual models for life-size seating elements focus on organic, sensuous design where both form and function are eloquently balanced. This past summer, Shaheen designed and executed a 12-foot long white Carrara marble reclining bench which was exhibited in Milan before permanent installation in a year-round garden in Siena, Italy.

Shaheen trained in Italy as a sculptor and earned his MFA from New York Academy of Art in 2005. He is the recipient of a Ludwig Volgestein grant and the Italian Cultural Institute/La Fortuna Foundation Fellowship. Shaheen's indoor and outdoor installations are in public and private collections in Europe and the United States. He currently teaches sculpture at the City University of New York in Manhattan and is the director of Tuscany Study, an intensive art program in Siena and Carrara, Italy.

Stephen Shaheen is also president and artist of the Memoria Project, a not-for-profit entity dedicated to the design and installation of a 100-ton marble and granite landscape installation in New Jersey honouring the lives lost on September 11, 2001.

Exhibition: *New Works* by Stephen Shaheen
Dates: January 8 through January 30, 2009
Gallery Hours: Monday to Friday 10 am to 5 pm and by appointment
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