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CONTACT:
Mayor’s Press Office
312.744.3334
press@cityofchicago.org

MAYOR EMANUEL ANNOUNCES SANTIAGO CALATRAVA SELECTED TO CREATE SCULPTURE AT RIVER POINT PARK
Sculpture on Chicago Riverfront by World-Renowned Architect and Artist to Open in 2019

Mayor Rahm Emanuel today joined River Point partners Ivanhoé Cambridge, Hines and Levy Family Partners to announce selection of Spanish architect, structural engineer, sculptor and painter, Santiago Calatrava, to create a unique and vibrant sculpture to be installed in the park at River Point. Fabrication of the artwork is expected to take approximately 14 months, with installation at the site anticipated for summer 2019. Michele Quinn Fine Art advised the ownership group throughout the selection process.

“Chicago is a city of both outstanding architecture and world-renowned public art,” Mayor Emanuel said. “It is a testament to the new vitality of Chicago’s riverfront that one of the world’s foremost architects and artists chose the banks of the Chicago River for his latest work.”

“The partners of River Point hope Chicagoans will fall in love with the inspired Santiago Calatrava sculpture as they have with Chicago’s Picasso, Kapoor, Chagall, Miro, Plensa, Calder and so many more,” Larry Levy said.

Calatrava’s intention in his sculptures has been for them to simply grow from the ground. Within each figure, an internal logic of autonomy delivers lyrical forms and implies a sense of elevation and spiritual uplifting. During his process, he builds basswood models to evaluate the aesthetic and structural characteristics of each work before moving to full-scale metal sculptures.

The piece to be installed at River Point, S25 (working title) will stand at 29’ in height and width, and twists in an outward reaching spiral constructed of overlapping leaflike elements descending in scale from very large at the sculpture’s base to very small at the outer reach of the sculpture’s spiral form. When approached from any angle, the massive layered spiral reveals stunning architectural depth, overhand and movement.
New art and recreation along the Chicago River is a major component of the Mayor’s Building on Burnham plan. The Mayor announced the comprehensive plan earlier this year, which will invest in the Lakefront, the Chicago River, natural areas and recreational opportunities in neighborhoods across the city. This plan follows the Mayor’s successful expansion of Chicago’s park system in his first mayoral term, which has already added 750 acres of new parkland, 256 new playgrounds and more than $800 million in capital investment from neighborhoods and private sources.

About Santiago Calatrava
Santiago Calatrava is well known as the architect and engineer of many unique buildings and structures including the Milwaukee Museum of Art; the Oculus in New York City; and the Peace Bridge in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. His solo exhibitions have been displayed at museums and galleries all around the world.

Calatrava’s work continues to shape and redefine the boundaries that have historically separated the visual arts, particularly sculpture, from architecture and engineering. This is evident in the artist’s broad oeuvre of works which includes ceramics, drawings, paintings, sculpture, architecture and engineering projects. These works express a unified aesthetic anchored in the artist’s continuing exploration of the relationship between the origins of creativity and the evolutionary structure of the natural world. Mr. Calatrava lives and works in Zurich, Switzerland and is represented by the Marlborough Gallery.

About River Point
River Point is a state-of-the-art, 52-story office tower located in Chicago’s West Loop submarket. Designed by Pickard Chilton Architects, the project offers dramatic world-class architecture, efficient interior design and outstanding views. The 1,100,000-square-foot building provides efficient 25,000-square-foot floorplates allowing maximum space planning flexibility. First-class amenities include a 1.5-acre public park and landscaped riverwalk with extraordinary views of the Chicago River and Wacker Drive, fitness center, and building conference center. Additional information is available at www.chicagoriverpoint.com

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