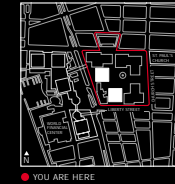


# The Sphere



In 1971 the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey commissioned sculptor Fritz Koenig to create The Sphere as a monument to fostering world peace through trade. Forged out of bronze and steel, and weighing approximately 45,000 pounds, the 25-foot high sculpture rested atop a granite fountain that was once the centerpiece of the World Trade Center's Austin J. Tobin Plaza.

On September 11, 2001, The Sphere sustained a large gash through its center, but remained structurally intact. It was one of the few public art treasures recovered from the World Trade Center site.

On March 11, 2002, the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation joined Governor George Pataki, Mayor Michael Bloomberg and former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani to unveil The Sphere in Battery Park as an interim memorial to those who lost their lives at the World Trade Center. Today, The Sphere endures as a symbol of strength, hope and resilience.

“It now has a different beauty, one I could never imagine, it now has its own life - different from the one I gave to it.”  
-Fritz Koenig, March 2002

