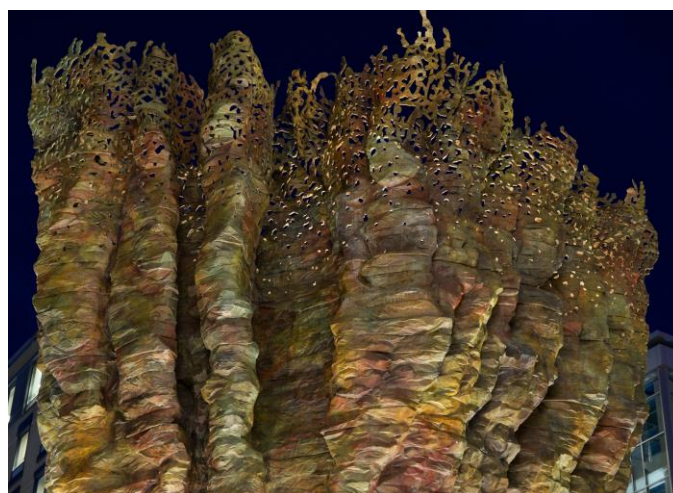


## GALERIE LELONG



528 West 26th Street New York, NY 10001  
T 212.315.0470 F 212.262.0624  
www.galerielelong.com

13 rue de Téhéran 75008 Paris  
www.galerie-lelong.com



Ursula von Rydingsvard, *SCIENTIA*, 2016. A gift commissioned by Lore Harp McGovern for the McGovern Institute for Brain Research and the Public Art Collection of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Photo: Jerry L. Thompson.

### NOW ON VIEW

## Ursula von Rydingsvard *SCIENTIA*

McGovern Institute for Brain Research  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

### [Visit Website](#)

Galerie Lelong is pleased to announce the installation of Ursula von Rydingsvard's monumental sculpture *SCIENTIA* (2016), a gift commissioned by Lore Harp McGovern for the McGovern Institute for Brain Research and the Public Art Collection of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Measuring 25 feet high, it is her tallest bronze sculpture to date. Von Rydingsvard first constructed a full-scale wood model, in which stacked 4" x 4" cedar beams were painstakingly cut using circular saws and hand tools, then had it cast in bronze. The delicate lace crown at the top is one of von Rydingsvard's most ambitious engineering feats to date. A thin metal web of perforations of all different sizes and shapes through which an interior light emits, gives the appearance of fragility while maintaining structural soundness.

*SCIENTIA* is a monument to science, echoing the mission of the McGovern Institute for Brain Research to understand the most complex human organ and ease suffering caused by it. The sculpture's rippling vertical form is a vessel – a familiar domestic shape that von Rydingsvard has often utilized as a facilitator of safety, protection, and comfort. Patricia C. Phillips, Academic Dean at Moore College of Art & Design, says about the work:

“In front of the building, *SCIENTIA* bears witness to the mission of the McGovern. Its active, agitated, irrepressible beauty embodies the despair of illness and loss with the expectancy of medical innovation and scientific research. Emanating from the surfaces of the textured, dense, thick, labored, and detailed base of the vessel is a culminating radical dematerialization of form that might elicit the neural pathways of cognitive thought or materialized representation of the ways that both personal and more panoramic memories develop—and are preserved or perhaps slowly wither away through the vagaries of illness or age... Both science and art require intrepid navigations of the unknown and unimagined”

*SCIENTIA* continues the artist's recent inquiries into working with different materials. Von Rydingsvard's *URODA* (2016), which was recently installed at Princeton University, was her first sculpture featuring copper as a primary medium. *SCIENTIA* marks an evolution from previous bronze sculptures such as *Ona* (2013) at Barclays Center, New York, and *Bronze Bowl with Lace* (2013-14), which was shown in the 56<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale in 2015 and at the Art Institute Chicago earlier this year.

## WATCH



Click [HERE](#) to watch video of the creation and installation of *SCIENTIA* (2016).

## RELATED EVENTS



### [Artist Talk](#)

**October 28, 5pm**

McGovern Institute for Brain Research  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
A dedication ceremony for *SCIENTIA* at 5pm, followed by a reception and artist talk by Ursula von Rydingsvard at 6pm. Registration is required. Tickets available [here](#).