

The Fundación Norma y Leo Werthein unveiled a fragment of the historic Berlin Wall in Mendoza

The original object was intervened by prominent local artists in order to promote the values of freedom and unity. It is located at the Huarpe Riglos Winery in Luján de Cuyo.



Buenos Aires September 20, 2024.- The Norma and Leo Werthein Foundation unveiled in the province of Mendoza a fragment of the historic Berlin Wall which, intervened by prominent local artists, constitutes a renewed and powerful cultural symbol of freedom, resistance and unity.

"It is a piece of great historical value that addresses us and reminds us of the value of freedom. It is a concrete testament to a complex and painful past, but also to the capacity of human beings to overcome adversity and build paths of unity. We celebrate the intervention of these great artists from Mendoza, who have given this fragment a new meaning, keeping the

dialogue between history and the present going," said Darío Werthein, president of the Fundación Norma y Leo Werthein Foundation and co-founder of the Huarpe Riglos Family Wines winery.

The European Union Ambassador Amador Sánchez Rico, in turn, said: *"It is an honor to be part of an event with so much history, so much geopolitical weight and full of passion. Having this fragment here is very important for the younger generations because their contact with a piece of such symbolism allows to build intergenerational bridges and instances of cooperation between nations"*.

The unveiling was attended by the Governor of Mendoza, Alfredo Cornejo, who expressed his gratitude for being once again at Family Wines wineries and said: *"The historical evolution is positive, which is what we are celebrating. We are infinitely better*



off than in past decades; but we have shared challenges ahead of us to achieve greater freedom and more democracy, on which we are working”.

This project, conceived and realized by the renowned artists from Mendoza Egar Murillo and Vivian Levinson, was installed at the Huarpe Riglos Winery in Luján de Cuyo.

The Berlin Wall, built in 1961, was a symbol of the ideological and political divide during the Cold War: it separated East Berlin, under the communist regime of the German Democratic Republic, from West Berlin, under the Federal Republic of Germany. Its fall in 1989 marked the end of the Cold War and symbolized the reunification of Germany and the victory of freedom over oppression.

“The fragment of the Berlin Wall, witness to one of the most significant periods of the 20th century, has been transformed into a contemporary work of art that allows us to actively remember freedom, endurance and unity,” Werthein said.

Egar Murillo and Vivian Levinson, both notable for their contribution to Argentine contemporary art, worked together to create a work that not only pays homage to global history, but also reflects Mendoza's cultural identity.

The Intervened Fragment

This fragment of the Berlin Wall is part of the Pampa Collection, which includes selected works of modern and contemporary Argentine art, and will be permanently exhibited in the gardens of the Huarpe Riglos Winery, located at kilometer 32 of Provincial Route 15, so that visitors from all over the world can enjoy a space where art, history and wine meet in a unique setting.

It was decided that Mendoza plastic artists Egar Murillo and Vivian Levinson would do the intervention because their works stand out for combining unique techniques and visions to explore the themes of freedom, resistance and unity.

They are artists with the ability to connect the past with the present through a powerful visual language and to give a local imprint to the wall to add to its appeal.

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The block is 3.60 meters high by 1.50 meters wide and weighs more than 2.5 tons.



The unveiling was attended by the mayors of Luján de Cuyo, Esteban Alliasino and of Maipú, José Matías Stevanato; provincial authorities, cultural representatives and special guests.

About the Fundación Norma y Leo Werthein

The mission of the Fundación Norma y Leo Werthein, whose executive director is Álvaro Rufiner, is to promote, develop and support programs and activities aimed at education, culture and sustainability. The synergy between the Corporate Social Responsibility programs and activities of the Grupo Werthein companies and the Fundación consolidate a framework of identity composed of the same values and ideas.