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INSIDE ART

By **CAROL VOGEL**

A Serra Sculpture to Anchor a Museum

A monumental undulating steel wall by Richard Serra will be the first sight to welcome visitors when they step inside the new Broad Contemporary Art Museum, [Renzo Piano](#)'s three-story building for the [Los Angeles County Museum of Art](#).

Eli Broad, the philanthropist who donated \$50 million to the project, and his wife, Edythe, have purchased the 2006 sculpture "Band" from Mr. Serra for the museum, which is to open in February.

But New Yorkers will get the first look, because the sculpture is making its debut at the Museum of Modern Art's retrospective of Mr. Serra's work, which opens on June 3.

"Band" is among Mr. Serra's most elaborate works: with alternating interior and exterior spaces, created by 10 steel plates standing nearly 13 feet high, it weighs 183 tons.

While officials in Los Angeles declined to report what the Broads paid, contemporary art experts estimate the price at \$10 million. Michael Govan, director of the Los Angeles County Museum, said that when the new building opened, the entire ground floor would be devoted to Mr. Serra's work. But "Band" will be the crown jewel.

"It will be a landmark for Los Angeles," he said. "It has that kind of scale and presence."