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Weekend FINE ARTS LEISURE

INSIDE ART

Carol Vogel

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From War to 'Peace'

On Aug. 18, "Peace," a large bell modeled after those found in Chinese temples, with a gilded life-size cast of the Chinese artist Zhang Huan's naked body hanging next to it, will be installed on the plaza of the Ritz-Carlton in Lower Manhattan. Mr. Zhang Huan, who created the work, inscribed the names of his ancestors from his native village inside the bell.

Viewers may ring the bell not with a gong, but with the sculpture of Mr. Zhang Huan's body, as a symbolic way of forcing a confrontation between the artist and his past.

"We have been following Zhang's work for a while, and his proposal stood out as the strongest" candidates for that space, said Anne Pasternak, executive director of Creative Time, the public arts organization presenting the project with the Ritz-Carlton and the Battery Park City Authority.

During the first week in October the artist will stage a performance with 25 Buddhist Shaolin kung fu practitioners from a temple in Flushing, Queens. While Mr. Zhang Huan hangs inside the bell, the others will demonstrate traditional forms of kung fu.