

'Man in Space' by Paul Van Hoeydonck

On August 2, 1971, the work of art 'Fallen Astronaut' by Paul Van Hoeydonck was placed on the lunar surface by the crew of Apollo 15. It was the first and until today, 50 years later, still the only work of art on the lunar surface.

The astronauts of Apollo 15 (Dave Scott, Jim Irwin & Al Worden) paid tribute to their deceased colleagues astronauts and cosmonauts and named the statue 'Fallen Astronaut'.

For Paul Van Hoeydonck, 'the moon statue' was a symbol for humans in space, as he was and is convinced that our future lies in space. That is why he designed in 1971 an upright floating moon statue in a plexi-tube.

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing in 2019 and the 50th anniversary of its 'moon statue', the project 'Man in Space' by Paul Van Hoeydonck was presented in Berlin and Dusseldorf by Galerie Breckner together with Paul Van Hoeydonck and astronaut Al Worden from Apollo 15. 'Man in Space' is an upright aluminum statue in 3 formats: real size in plexi, medium size and human size.

Paul met Dave Scott, Jim Irwin & Al Worden on the Cape in 1971. Paul & Al immediately got along very well.

In 2015, Al Worden stayed with Paul Van Hoeydonck for several days and they spoke together at the closing conference of the ISWA congress in Antwerp. It was a unique experience for the spectators! Philip Heylen, then Alderman for Culture and Economy of Antwerp, was at the basis of this cosmic reunion.

Also in 2019 it was very nice to see the 2 space friends enjoying together in Berlin & Dusseldorf.

We are currently celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 15 mission and of the artwork 'Fallen Astronaut' by Paul Van Hoeydonck. We like to do this with our 'Man in Space'.

Astronaut Al Worden sadly passed away last year, but he will live on in our hearts and minds forever...in Space.

Marleen Van Hoeydonck