Art Cave

The 5,750SF cave was designed into a Napa Valley hillside for a private collection of Contemporary Art. The lighting design goals were to provide a flexible lighting system integrated into the layers of the curved ceiling in a minimal way to reflect the cave’s raw white walls and concrete floors. The collection includes art of various materials and media. The lighting concept was to evenly illuminate all art surfaces. The differing light sources on the cave walls and the partition walls were purposefully balanced for harmony within the space. The patrons have realized their vision for a simple yet unique environment for an ever growing collection of art.

Lighting Designers: Renfro Design Group, Richard Renfro, Eileen M.E. Pierce
Architects: Martin Cox, Jane Stageberg, Tim Bade
Owner: Patron
Photography: Florian Holzherr, Eileen M.E. Pierce

Collaborative efforts of a creative team are most rewarding when the efforts are met with the open mind, enthusiasm and graciousness of the ideal client. This client, or rather patron, inspired the Contractor to construct perfectly curved cave walls and the electricians to provide immaculately plastered flangeless track. All of the trades contributed to the flawless conditions that made the lighting of the cave successful.