



Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Exterior

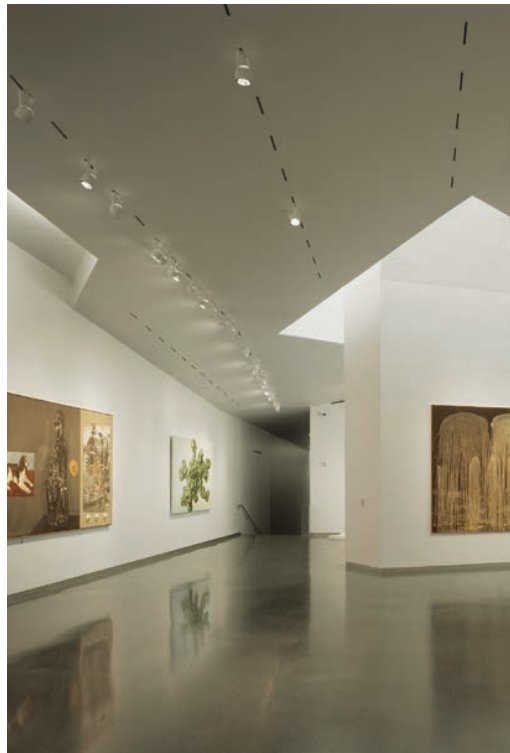
LUMEN AWARD OF EXCELLENCE Five glass volumes (“lenses”) were designed as a complimentary contrast to the existing 1933 limestone building. The concept for the nighttime image was to create glowing lanterns that would illuminate the exterior spaces and sculpture between the lenses—minimizing the need for additional site lighting. During the day, the lenses reflect the sky conditions—appearing opaque on overcast days and glistening against the sun. As the day ends, the “lenses” begin to glow from within providing a soft light for the surrounding site and have become an iconic image for Kansas City.

Lighting Designers: Renfro Design Group, Richard Renfro, Rebecca Malkin, Michael Peace, Rob Guglielmetti

Architect: Casey Cassias, Greg Sheldon, Steven Holl, Chris McVoy, Matthew Porreca

Owner: The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

Photography: Roland Halbe, Richard Renfro



It was clear to us from the beginning that the lenses were “instruments of light”. We saw the opportunity to create the nighttime image for the building, minimize the need for additional site lighting fixtures, and illuminate the sculptures between the lenses by making the lenses glow. We cannot be more delighted with the results.

“Light as the solid, iconic form but executed in a way that benefits both the inner and outer visual character of the building.” —Mark Loeffler

