

Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Interior

LUMEN AWARD OF MERIT
Light is a fundamental element of the architecture—a construction material. The intent for daylight in the galleries was to experience its variation—time of day, season, or sky condition. The electric lighting system serves to light the art and balance the brightness of the art walls with and without natural light. Track was custom designed to be sympathetic to the folding planes of the ceiling and provide adequate flexibility. Fluorescent ceiling covers balance the daylight in each gallery. Lighting for public spaces is integrated into the architecture for daily use and special events.

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

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

Owner: Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

Photography: Roland Halbe, Richard Renfro



The success of any of our projects hinges upon collaboration. Our office worked with the Architects, the Museum, and members of the design team to rethink “the norm” so that the lighting clarifies and enriches the art viewing experience and the architecture. Our challenge was to work with the building’s forms and materials and design a system that would be sensitive to the conservation needs of the art. We are fortunate to have been involved in a project that is a source of pride for Kansas City.



“Light and architecture integrated in big and inseparable ways.”

—Mark Loeffler

