The striking Broad Museum has become an integral part of the Downtown LA experience, and is crucial to the redevelopment of the area. The lighting design takes its cues from the primary architectural components, dubbed “the veil and the vault.” The veil’s public exhibition space envelopes the heavy vault, archive storage space that supports the Broad’s lending activities. The veil transforms after dark into a softly illuminated, cellular exoskeleton that wraps the dark, opaque vault as it hovers off the ground.

Horizontal prows at the primary entries are lit with precisely shuttered uplights, creating a luminous threshold for patrons to pass through the transparent lobby facade. The airy, delicate nature of the veil facade is emphasized by a soft wash of light. In-grade LED fixtures with custom lenses and shielding accentuate the highlights and shadows of each unique cell. Luminaires are confined within the designated setback zone, and appropriate luminances were calculated and confirmed through on-site mock-ups. Despite its bold nighttime presence, the lighting design prevents light trespass on nearby residential towers, the titanium-clad concert hall and adjacent art museum – thus integrating this cultural landmark into the context of a Downtown renaissance.