

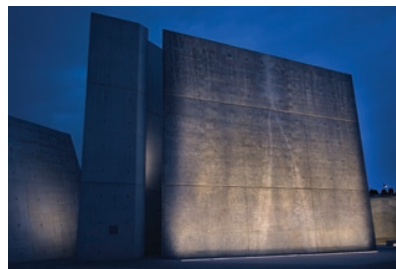
Award of
MERIT

National Holocaust Monument in Canada

Ottawa, ON, Canada

Focus Lighting

Brett Andersen, Juan Pablo Lira, Asier Mateo, and Justin Keenan Miller



“The project required a unique application of art lighting which, at night, also serves as the space’s sole source of light. Combined with the complexity of the architecture and Canada’s extreme winter weather, this was certainly a project for the books and we’re incredibly proud of what we’ve accomplished.”

—Brett Andersen, Focus Lighting

The National Holocaust Monument comprises six triangular, cast-concrete volumes configured into a Star of David. The lighting concept enhances the architecture’s proportions and raw materials to create an emotional visual journey encouraging contemplation and reflection.

To meet budget requirements, the lighting prioritizes the monument’s feature walls, which are embedded with monochromatic images of Holocaust sites, leaving the remaining walls darker in contrast.

Working with large concrete voids with no ceilings led the Focus Lighting team to create custom armatures designed to marry with the architecture’s angular vocabulary. Tightly spaced blade louvers block nearly all views of the internal 3000K fixtures during the day and eliminate glare at night, allowing the armatures to disappear into the dark sky beyond. The monument’s tallest wall is illuminated using two rows of linear LEDs mounted inside a trough at the wall’s base. The trough is covered by a metal grill, precisely aligned with each LED to eliminate shadows, protect fixtures from harsh winter weather, and act as a louver to reduce glare.

Each visit culminates by ascending the monument’s Stair of Hope, flanked by linear LEDs hidden within the railings, gently ushering visitors to a final viewing platform with views of the Peace Tower.

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