



CITATION

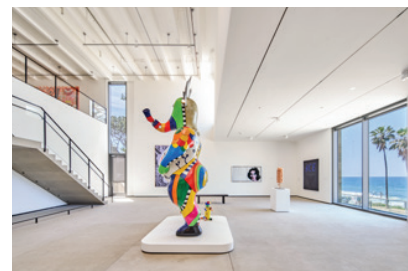
for Integration of Daylight and Electric Light

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego

La Jolla, CA

Renfro Design Group

Richard Renfro, Sarah Randall, Silvia Mazzarri, and Fabio Tuchiya



Originally an oceanfront residence completed a century ago, this West Coast museum sits atop a steep bluff overlooking the ocean. To find inspiration, the design team looked no farther than the breathtaking views and abundant sunshine.

The project scope added 46,000 sqft of new gallery and event spaces and renovated 28,000 sqft of existing galleries. Unifying old and new, the design team created a cohesive lit environment that harmoniously blends controlled natural daylight with state-of-the-art electric light for a holistic, energy-efficient art lighting solution.

A new glass entrance and playful bookstore welcome visitors. Inside the soaring gallery spaces, daylight apertures were expertly sculpted to harness sunlight in a controlled manner respectful of the art and curatorial requirements. Baffles diffuse direct sunlight for a full-spectrum light source that changes subtly without distracting hot spots.

At the central gallery, translucent ceiling panels backlit by color-tunable sources help balance the room, while the integrated track system highlights artwork. As the building opens at the back, shaded windows frame phenomenal ocean views towards the northwest.

Simulations for various sky conditions informed both the daylighting design and supplemental electric lighting; producing a serene museum environment that retains a physical sense of surrounding sea and sky.

ARCHITECTS

Selldorf Architects

Annabelle Selldorf

Sara Lopercolo

Ryoji Karube

Wanda Willmore

LPA Design Studios

Peter Damore

Juliet Crowder

OWNER

Museum of Contemporary Art
San Diego

PHOTOGRAPHY

studio MAHA

Steve Aldana

RIYO studios for MCASD

