

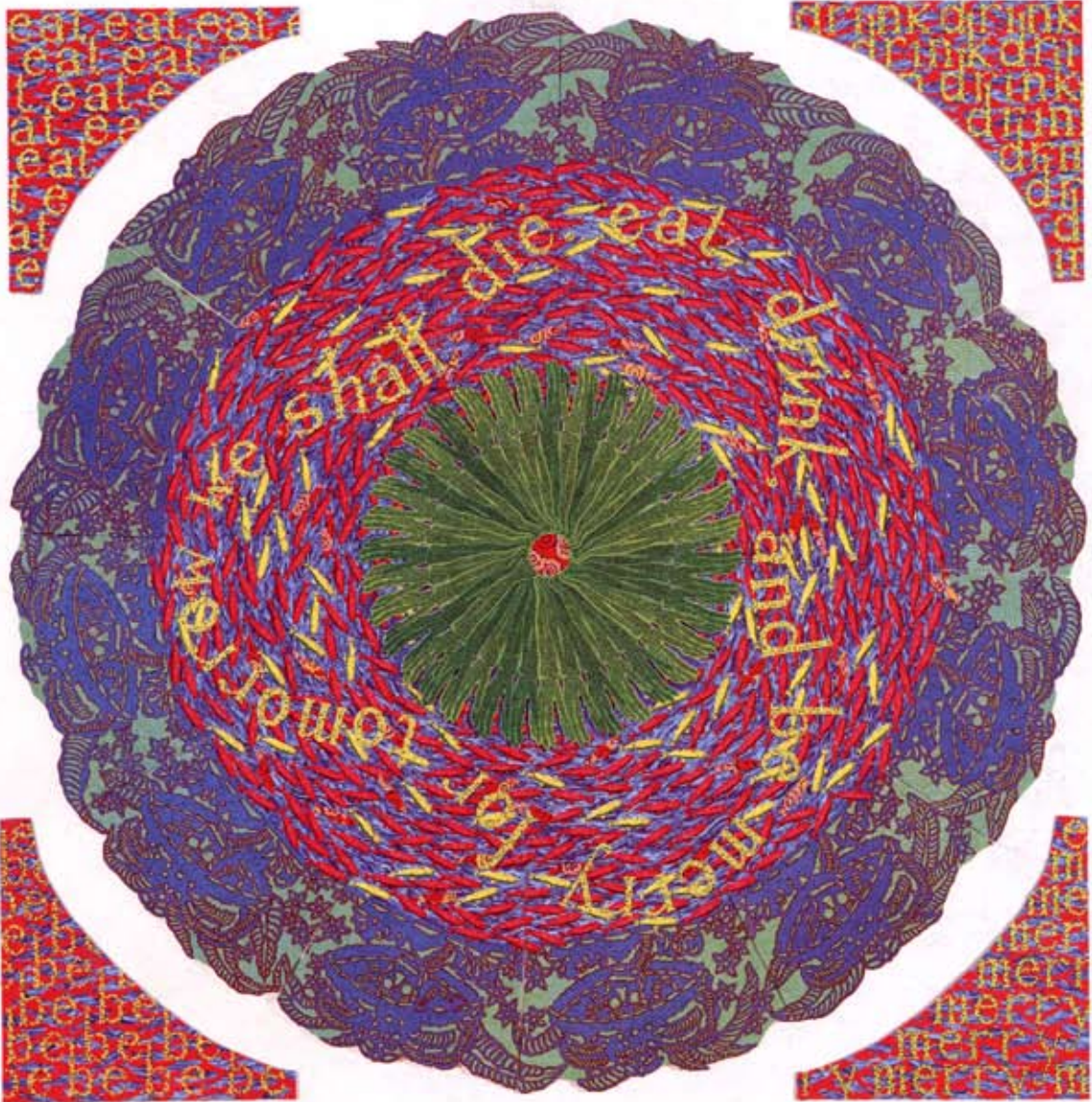
Don Dotts says 'farewell' after 36 eventful years



LINE OF THE ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Arizona STATE

SPRING/1994



Women, art and the university

ASU's top administrators are unchecked by the proverbial glass ceiling



B · Y · D · E · S · I · G · N

ASU RETURNS TO THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE OF ARCHITECTURAL ACHIEVEMENT

THE JANUARY 1994

issue of *Architectural Record* has a photograph of the John J. Ross-William C. Blakley Law Library at ASU on its cover, and an eight-page story inside. The March 1990 issue of *Progressive Architecture* had plans and a photograph of the new building for the College of Architecture and Environmental Design at ASU on its cover, and an 11-page story inside. The June 1989 issue of *Progressive Architecture* had three panoramic photographs of the Nelson Fine Arts Center on its cover and a 14-page story inside.

Progressive Architecture and *Architectural Record* are the two premier professional journals in architecture in this country. The January 1994 issue of the *Journal of the Royal Institute of British Architects* expands the coverage internationally with a cover story on the Law Library.

Arizona State is not new to this kind of recognition. Grady Gammage Auditorium was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, and although it was completed after his death, it remains one of his late

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Russell and Bonita Nelson Fine Arts Center

DESIGN ARCHITECT
ARCHITECT OF RECORD
Antoine Predock

PHOTOS BY TIMOTHY HURSLEY

Opened in 1989

"The campus of Arizona State University is an intimate oasis in a sprawling, 'Wild West' urban area. The fine arts center respects, augments and enhances the existing pedestrian and automotive patterns of both this refuge and its surroundings. The facility is organized as a processional sequence linking related buildings on campus. It asserts a low, unifying silhouette, highlighted by towers and loft projections analogous to the forms of the surrounding mountains and buttes.

The largest component of the complex is a museum to house the university's art collection. ... The museum's urban face acknowledges the important role the fine arts center plays in the surrounding community."



Predock



College of Architecture and Environmental Design Addition

PHOTOGRAPHS ©
JEFF GOLDBERG/ESTO

Opened in 1989

ARCHITECTS

The Hillier Group,
Princeton, N.J.
Project designer,
Alan Chimacoff
project manager,
Gerard F.X. Geier
project coordinator,
Douglas Harvey
designers, Eric Baker
and Keat Tan
principal in charge,
Joel Spaeth

"The building is often described in Phoenix as 'Eastern' design. While this East versus West distinction is not very useful, it does offer a kind of shorthand for two opposing views of architecture that are defined by geography, but by two very different sensibilities: Classical and the Modern.

What is extraordinary about Chimacoff's design is not that it values one over the other, but that it manages to embrace both positions, holding them in tension. For example, the building's plan, with its center courts, invokes the Classical tradition of the palazzo and the Western vernacular of the courtyard building."

—*Progressive Architecture*, April 1990



Chimacoff



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masterpieces. But there was a hiatus of nearly 30 years between its completion and the building of the Nelson Fine Arts Center, which marked ASU's return to the international stage of architectural achievement.

It is appropriate that Gammage and the Fine Arts Center carry the names of two presidents, Grady Gammage and J. Russell Nelson, because it was their vision that recognized that a great university needs to accommodate its most culturally significant activities in appropriate architectural settings.

When Nelson came to ASU in 1982, he was concerned with the minimal quality of its most recent buildings. So he invited the distinguished landscape-architect and campus planning consultant Hideo Sasaki to spend a week at ASU. At the end of that week, Sasaki wrote Nelson a long letter, full of sage advice, which became, in effect, the plan for the next phase of the building program at the university.

Sasaki recommended that Nelson establish a Design Review Board, to be chaired by the dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, and to include faculty, local professionals and an external consultant. The role of the Design Review Board was to advise the president so that new buildings and environments eventually accrue to form an appropriate setting for a great university.

An early member of the Design Review Board, Roger Schluntz, then-director of the ASU School of Architecture, persuaded Nelson to support national design competitions to select the architects for the Fine Arts Center and the new building for the College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

These competitions established a level of creativity that had not been seen on campus since Gammage Auditorium was built.

The Design Review Board developed a set of principles and guidelines for the development of ASU's Main Campus, which Nelson approved in 1989.

It is enormously to the credit of the leadership of the College of Law and to the continuing commitment of President Lattie Coor, that those ambitious goals have been sustained by the most recent addition to the set of world-class buildings, the new Law School Library.

ASU, with these buildings and with others such as the new Music Building, which have received less recognition although certainly worthy of it, has established itself as a major cultural institution which sets the highest architectural standards. It is extremely rewarding to note that its achievement is internationally recognized.

— John Meunier, dean, College of Architecture and Environmental Design

John J. Ross - William C. Blakley Law Library

DESIGN ARCHITECTS

Scogin Elam and Bray Architects, Inc., Atlanta, Ga.
 Design architect, Mack Scogin
 Principal in charge, design, Merrill Elam
 Collaborating principal, design, Lloyd Bray

ARCHITECT OF RECORD

Leo A. Daly Company, Arizona
 Principal in charge, Joe Tyndall
 Project manager, John Williams
 Project architect, Harold Friberg

"A library constitutes the soul of a law school, and it occurred to us early on that relocating the library from Armstrong Hall to a new building would change the dynamics of student/faculty activity and movement. We were concerned about nurturing, not diluting, the sense of community that the rotunda spaces of Armstrong Hall engender. Together, neither building is dominant over the other; rather the two are harmoniously unconventional... and form a College of Law campus within the greater university campus."

PHOTOS BY
TIMOTHY HURSLEY

Opened in 1993



Scogin

