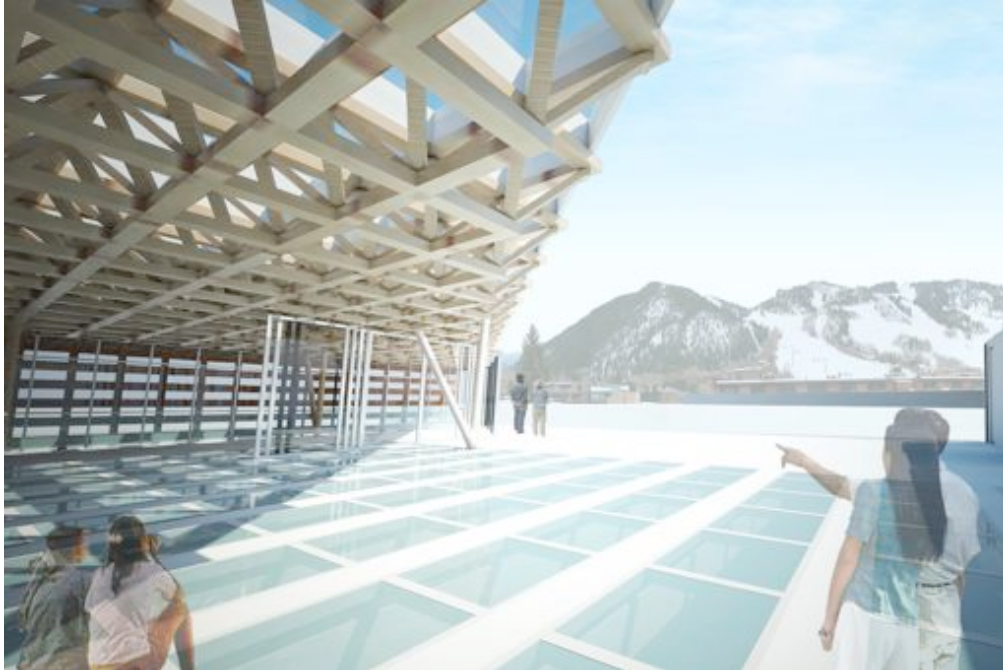


aspenartmuseum

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Architectural rendering of the rooftop sculpture garden at the new Aspen Art Museum on East Hyman Avenue in the town's downtown core. Image courtesy of the Aspen Art Museum and Shigeru Ban Architects (SBA).

THE ASPEN ART MUSEUM ANNOUNCES NEXT MILESTONE OF ITS SHIGERU BAN-DESIGNED BUILDING PROJECT, AS IT PREPARES TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION IN 2012

Internationally Renowned Firm, Turner Construction Company, Selected as General Contractor, in Partnership with Local Contractor, Summit Construction

ASPEN, COLORADO — Following the groundbreaking on August 16, 2011, for the new 30,000-square-foot Shigeru Ban-designed Aspen Art Museum (AAM), the AAM New Building Committee announces its selection of internationally renowned Turner Construction Company as the General Contractor for the new Museum, in partnership with local contractor Summit Construction.

The new building in downtown Aspen will feature 12,500 square feet of exhibition space, a rooftop sculpture garden with “walkable” skylights, a woven exterior screen that will allow natural light to fill the Museum, a grand staircase, a glass elevator, as well as a classroom, museum shop, and café. Construction of the new Museum commences in early 2012, with a targeted completion date in late 2013, and Museum grand opening in early 2014. The AAM will continue its programming of internationally significant contemporary art at its current location throughout the construction of the new building.

Of the selection of Turner Construction Company, AAM CEO and Director, Chief Curator Heidi Zuckerman Jacobson comments: “We are thrilled to have such an accomplished General Contractor for this job. Turner Construction has completed over 150 museum projects worth over \$2 billion around the globe. Their qualifications in museum building are unmatched and we look forward to this new partnership.”

Notable Turner Construction Company museum projects include the Art Institute of Chicago’s Modern Wing and Nicholas Bridgeway; the future home of the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York’s Meatpacking District; The Museum of Modern Art’s (MoMA) expansion project; New York’s Lincoln Center 65th Street expansion and renovation of the Julliard School of Music, Alice Tully Hall, and Frederick P. Rose Hall; and other prestigious national and international projects. Turner Construction Company operates out of 46 offices across the United States and in 18 countries, and provides construction management services for commercial, residential, retail, transportation, justice, cultural, sports, industrial, pharmaceutical, healthcare, K-12 and higher education projects.

The AAM’s selection of Turner Construction Company follows an initial Request for Qualifications and a subsequent Request for Proposals, and an extensive search process inclusive of national, regional, and local general contractors. A significant component leading to the Turner-Summit team’s selection is their strongly held company initiatives to maximize local participation whenever possible. Turner and Summit have already hosted an informational event in the Roaring Fork Valley for interested participants, and anticipate extensive outreach to the considerable pool of local talent. In addition, the Turner-Summit team is committed to an open and ongoing dialogue with stakeholders and community members as the project progresses.

The AAM continues to fundraise towards a \$50,000,000 overall Capital and Endowment Campaign Goal, with 100% of the Endowment goal of \$20,000,000 fully secured and over \$27,000,000 of a \$30,000,000 new building project budget goal currently pledged.

The new Aspen Art Museum is designed by internationally renowned architect Shigeru Ban of Shigeru Ban and Associates (SBA). Local architects of record are Basalt, Colorado’s Cottle, Carr & Yaw Architects.

The New Aspen Art Museum

Acting as a magnet for community activity, the Aspen Art Museum has been instrumental in bringing the city, its citizens, and Aspen visitors the work of acclaimed contemporary artists. Founded in 1979, the Aspen Art Museum (AAM) is a *kunsthalle*, or non-collecting museum for contemporary art and one of only four art institutions in Colorado accredited by the American Association of Museums and a leading voice in the intellectual discourse of international contemporary art. After nearly 32 years of operating in a converted, historic, hydroelectric plant on N. Mill Street, the Aspen Art Museum will re-situate the institution within a facility that will both increase the Museum’s size and its abilities to appropriately present contemporary arts programming in all its incarnations. Construction of the new AAM is completely privately funded.

The new AAM at South Spring Street and East Hyman Avenue in downtown Aspen will include key design elements that comprise Ban’s vision for the new facility as a state-of-the-art space to experience the Museum’s mission of bringing contemporary art to Aspen and visitors from around the globe. These include a grand staircase along the South Spring Street side of the building that allows for natural blending of the outdoor and the interior spaces of the Museum to create contemplative and relaxing breaks between gallery spaces that are infused with natural light, as well as Ban’s idea of mobile pedestals whereby art can be exhibited on the staircase; a

“moving room” glass elevator that will animate the northeast corner of the new AAM; a woven exterior screen and roof structure that will allow the building to remain a transparent facility that will marry interior and exterior spaces; and “walkable” skylights that will modulate the abundance of natural light illuminating the main gallery on the second floor of the Museum and act as a main feature of the rooftop sculpture garden facing Aspen’s picturesque main skiing/snowboarding mountain, Ajax Mountain.

Shigeru Ban

Architect Shigeru Ban was born in Tokyo in 1957. In 1985, he opened Shigeru Ban Architects (SBA). The new Aspen Art Museum will be SBA’s first U.S. museum to be constructed. Regarding his design for the new AAM building, Ban explains: “In any design I always strive for a unified relationship between the structure and its surroundings. The design for the new Aspen Art Museum is a very exciting opportunity to create a harmony between Aspen’s existing architecture and the surrounding beauty of the natural landscape.”

Shigeru Ban is critically heralded for his innovative approaches to environmentally sound architecture and devotion to humanitarian efforts in the wake of some of the most devastating natural and manmade disasters of the past two decades.

The Aspen Art Museum is a non-collecting institution presenting the newest, most important evolutions in international contemporary art. Our innovative and timely exhibitions, education and public programs, immersive activities, and community happenings actively engage audiences in thought-provoking experiences of art, culture, and society.

AAM MUSEUM HOURS:

Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; Thursday’s 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, noon to 6:00 p.m.
Closed Mondays and major holidays

AAM ADMISSION IS FREE courtesy of John and Amy Phelan

Visit the AAM online: www.aspenartmuseum.org <<http://www.aspenartmuseum.org>>

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