



PROJECT UPDATES

Ground was broken on the 154,000 square foot, 1,600 seat **Carmel Regional Performing Arts Center** in late October of this past year. All site grading has been completed and the contractor is making steady progress on foundations at this time. The building is scheduled to open in the early fall of 2010.



Carmel Performing Arts Center Site

BIG CITY BUILDING



Recently Opened Chapman Cultural Center, Spartanburg, SC.

After ten years with David M. Schwarz Architectural Services (DMSAS), Principal Gregory Hoss says it's the firm's rigorous design process, its collaborative spirit and working on civic projects that keeps the job interesting for him.

Growing up in Western Iowa, Gregory traces his interest in architecture back to early family trips to the "big cities." Those cities being: Omaha and Minneapolis. At the tender age of five, Gregory was keenly aware of the vibrancy and electricity that comes with urban landscapes and city life.

"I remember watching the roads go from two lanes, to four lanes to six lanes of traffic. The approaching skyline and seeing the city emerge was so exciting," Gregory recalls. "There is something about the density of the city that is invigorating, and the idea of creating something within this is a curious thing for me."

The projects Gregory has worked on as part of the DMSAS collective are all projects that have endeavored to enrich or add to city life and the notion of community — be it an arena in Dallas; a master plan for the City of Miami; or a performing arts center in Las Vegas, NV. "I enjoy working on spaces that bring people together in a civic notion. I like looking at how space can bring individuals together and how architecture impacts human interaction."

A good example Gregory points to is the recently opened Chapman Cultural Center in Spartanburg, South Carolina. He describes a process of educating the client on architecture and design, as well as a process of educating the architects on the client and the local community needs. The center needed to house several different groups and institutions all with different and specific needs. The Chapman had to cater to eight organizations including a history museum, a ballet school and a theatre group. The DMSAS team worked with the client to create a new way of thinking for this project. Instead of creating an iconic building isolated from its neighbors, DMSAS advocated for a design approach that created a facility comprised of three simpler buildings that was connected to and a part of the current downtown. "With Spartanburg, you could truly see the power architecture has to affect and transform a community."

PROJECT UPDATES

DMSAS has recently finished a Conceptual Design for the proposed **Duke University Baseball Stadium at Coombs Field**.

The rendered images will help assist the university fundraising efforts to make this facility a reality.



Duke University Baseball Stadium at Coombs Field

These days Gregory is focused on overseeing the firm's Smith Center for the Performing Arts project in Las Vegas, Nevada. DMSAS is working with a vast team of collaborators to implement the firm's design vision. "Being an architect is a lot like being a musical conductor. You can't do it all yourself. You need to get all these people together to make their contribution." At the Smith Center, several new structures will form a cultural epicenter for a city that has been lacking one. It's a daunting job. Returning from a long week of meetings and work on-site in Nevada, Gregory has only one complaint. He didn't get a window seat on his US Airways flight back to DC. He was cheated out of his city approach.



SMITH CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Las Vegas is has always been known for its nightlife. But when we think of a night out on the town in Vegas we think: black jack tables, contorted airborne acrobatics, white tigers and showgirls in peacock feathered headdresses. Symphony, ballet and opera performances don't quite spring to mind. But that's all about to change with the Fred W. and Mary B. Smith Center for the Performing Arts, which is slated to open in the Summer of 2011 in downtown Las Vegas.

The Smith Center is perhaps the most significant cultural endeavor that the city of Las Vegas will ever undertake. In a city where buildings seem to be knocked down every twenty to thirty years, public and private interests in the city have come together to create a cultural heart for the community.

After history making fundraising (including \$150 million from the Reynolds Foundation) and feasibility studies, David M. Schwarz / Architectural Services (DMSAS) found itself on the short list of design architects being considered for the job. In particular, the firm's work on the Nancy Lee & Perry R. Bass Performance Hall in Fort Worth, Texas and the Schermerhorn Symphony Center in Nashville, Tennessee made an impression with the selection committee. Once retained, DMSAS'

"They want something special in their city and it's very humbling that they have entrusted us with this project"

mandate was to create a place that was timeless and an important part of the fabric of the city. The center was meant to serve and enrich the lives of the citizens of Las Vegas for generations to come.

"They want something special in their city and it's very humbling that they have entrusted us with this project," commented Gregory Hoss, the Smith Center Project Manager and a Principal at David M. Schwarz / Architectural Services.

As part of its research DMSAS and the board for the Smith Center, embarked on a world tour of performance centers with stops in New York, San Francisco, Mexico City, Budapest, Amsterdam, Paris, Venice and Milan. At first the board questioned the need for such an intense tour but in the end "were blown away but what they learned and how they could apply this knowledge of what came before to create something that would put Las Vegas on the cultural map," said Hoss.

PROJECT UPDATES

DMSAS has just been commissioned to design the new **Business School for the University of South Carolina Upstate in Spartanburg, South Carolina**. The firm will begin research and design on the project this month.



Smith Center Model

In October 2007, the David M. Schwarz / Architectural Service team unveiled its schematic design model for the center. Although the facility would be comprised of three buildings it was critical that the site read as one center — one that could house and contribute to a thriving cultural community. Three performance spaces (a 2,050 seat hall, a 600 seat hall and cabaret theatre) and educational space were sited around an exterior. The courtyard creates a central place that links the buildings and provides flexibility for future growth including retail and commercial development that connect to the city street life around it. With construction due to begin in the Fall of 2008, DMSAS is working on the final material selections and final architectural design details. The Smith Center will be LEED certified.



Smith Center Floorplan



Smith Center by Daylight

Building for LEED accreditation brings a whole new set of challenges into the mix. It's a particularly ambitious prospect when designing a civic and cultural center. By nature, an auditorium's expansive space cannot utilize direct sunlight, in fact it needs an incredible amount of energy to control the lighting for performances and to move air throughout the populated space. The Smith Center is poised to become for the first major LEED certified civic center in the United States. Working with Green Building Services, here's some of what David M. Schwarz / Architectural Services is doing to be "green."

- Located on a former railroad yard site, contaminated soil will be removed, cleaned, and replaced with new soil. Further protecting the new construction, the foundation was engineered with a series of pipes and vents that will filter any additional ground seepage in a way so it never enters the building.
- The building is sited so major public spaces face North (out of the direct sunlight). This means less energy is needed to condition the building.
- Coated glass also reduces the building's heat gain and UV exposure.
- Stones for the exteriors will come from local quarries reducing the cost and pollutants (noise, air, wear & tear on the infrastructure) associated with transporting materials.
- The fines from the stones (equivalent sawdust) will be re-cycled to color the building's plaster materials.
- Interior finishes are also eco-friendly: including low flow toilets, certified wood (no destruction to the rainforest, thank you!); and wall paint and carpeting with no/minimal off-gassing. A mixture of both fluorescent and incandescent lighting will be used to take advantage of energy savings where possible.
- Exterior landscape choices are desert climate appropriate requiring lots of sun but little water.

FAMILY NEWS

Architecture helps make pretty music! At the 50th annual Grammy Awards (February 2008) the Nashville Symphony's Recording of Made in America picked up three Grammy Awards. The orchestra won in the categories of Best Classical Album and Best Orchestral Performance, while composer Joan Tower won in the category of Best Classical Contemporary Composition. Made In America was the first CD recorded in the Schemerhorn Symphony Center. Drawing on inspiration and lessons from some of Europe's finest concert halls, the Schemerhorn Center was designed by David M. Schwarz / Architectural Services and opened in 2006 with world class acoustics and a neo-classical style.

Designed by DMSAS, the Chapman Cultural Center has been selected to receive this year's annual Award for Design Excellence by the City of Spartanburg. This award will be presented to the center at the City Council Meeting on Monday March 31st in Spartanburg.

Best wishes to all in the David M. Schwarz / Architectural Services family who will celebrate a birthday in March. Sandra Simpson (1st), Jerry Marshall (8th), Katie Garrett (9th), Jen Paloski (22nd), Timothy So (23rd), Isaac Bonilla (25th) and Gregory Hoss (29th).

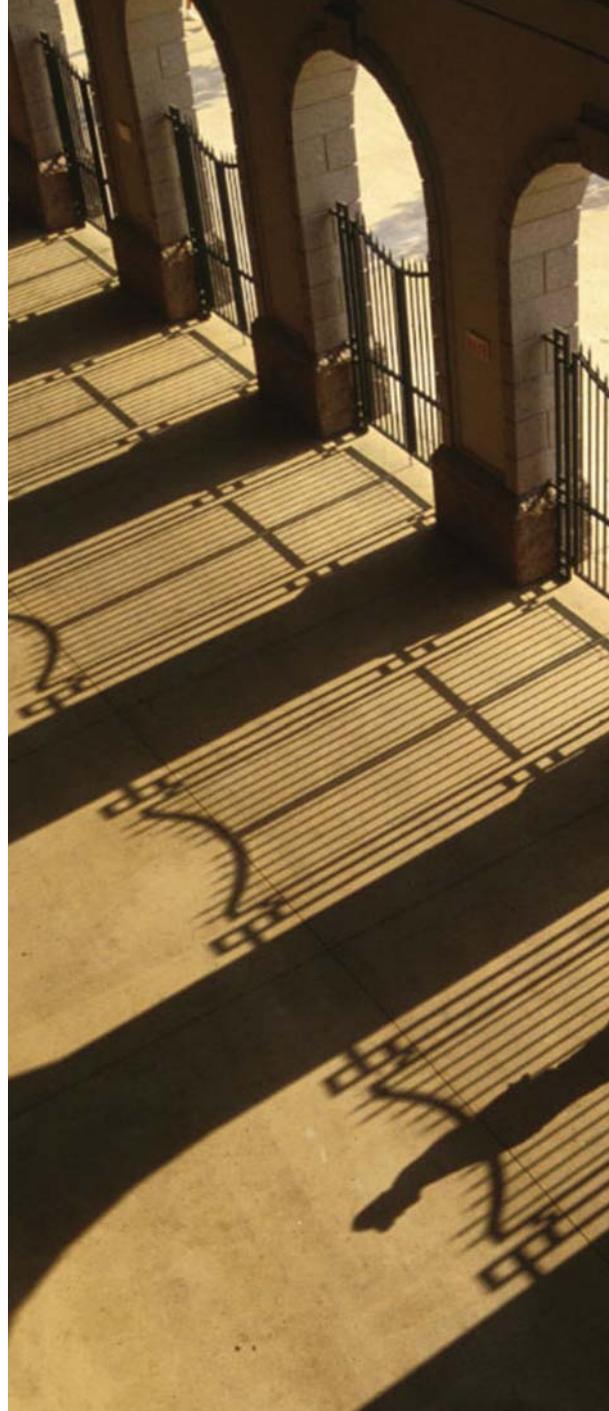
On March 20th and 21st, David M. Schwarz / Architectural Services will be hosting its second office-wide Design Symposium. Kicking off with a dinner at David's home with a talk and presentation by David on architectural influences, the symposium provides a forum in which members of the firm can come together to discuss the firm's approach and philosophy to design, and to learn from each other.

Congratulations to Craig Williams who is celebrating 29 years with the firm this March.

In celebration of its 30th year, David M. Schwarz / Architectural Services will be posting three dimensional models of select projects from its portfolio on Google Earth. The Saratoga and 1718 Connecticut Avenue are already online with Sundance East to follow next.



1718 Connecticut on Google Earth



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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