

# DENVER ART MUSEUM

100 W. 14th Ave Plzwy | Denver, CO 80204  
720-865-5000 telephone | denverartmuseum.org

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE NEWS FROM THE DENVER ART MUSEUM

### MEDIA CONTACTS

Shadia Lemus  
720-913-0096 | slemus@denverartmuseum.org

Press Office  
720-913-0000 | pressoffice@denverartmuseum.org

## The Denver Art Museum Complex

Since its founding in 1893, the Denver Art Museum (DAM) has amassed more than 70,000 works of art, one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of world art between Chicago and the West Coast.

In 1971, the museum opened the remarkable 24-sided, two-tower North Building, designed by Italian architect Gio Ponti in collaboration with James Sudler Associates of Denver. The seven-story building allowed the museum to display its collections under one roof for the first time in its history. Over one million faceted, shimmering gray tiles, developed by Dow Corning, provide cladding for the radical structure. The DAM remains the only building in the United States completed by this important Italian master of modern design. The North Building is now undergoing renovations and is currently closed.

This bold architectural tradition continued with the Frederic C. Hamilton Building, situated directly south of the North Building, designed by international architect Daniel Libeskind. With its opening in October 2006, the DAM gained 146,000 square feet, nearly doubling its former size. The complex features substantially more gallery space for the presentation of its collections and special exhibitions. Libeskind's dramatic design, referential to the North Building, reflects not only the mountain peaks that provide a powerful backdrop for this spirited city, but the intricate and geometric rock crystals found in the foothills of the Rockies.

Important works of art in their own right, the buildings by Ponti and Libeskind provide dynamic ways to experience the museum's extensive and diverse collection, which reflects the region and provides innovative ways for the community to experience cultures from around the world. At the heart of the DAM is the visitor experience—how one sees and engages with its buildings and its collections, and participates in the museum's pioneering educational initiatives.

In 2017, the DAM embarked on a major effort to renovate the iconic North Building and unify the campus. The [North Building project](#) will expand the museum's ability to serve the community, welcome guests to our city, and preserve and present priceless works of art from cultures around the world and throughout history for generations to come. The building is slated to reopen entirely by the end of 2021, the year it will celebrate its 50th anniversary.

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