

The Emerald

The goal while designing the Emerald was to create a spectacularly lit structure that also healed Earth. It heals Earth by not only reducing energy consumption but by generating clean energy, by not only being carbon-neutral by being carbon-negative which means the monument is alive and breathing like a forest infused into a rock. Hence everyone who visits the monument should feel its presence with the fresh air and feel that the monument isn't just a structure but an extension of the Earth.

To make it a monument of the people there are two concentric circles of concrete canvases, one row consists of large canvases which can be used to paint murals in collaboration with artists of San Jose and the other row consists of small canvases on which people can etch their names which symbolize an oath to no longer harm the Earth.

A person who visits the Emerald breathing in the fresh air produced by the monument, standing in front of the towering light, enveloped by canvases is made to understand that the future of technology is building with nature and not fighting against it.

The form was inspired by an Emerald ore. The monument consists of a large artistic photobioreactor which emits green light and several structures constructed around it to represent the rock that surrounds the emerald. The color Green was chosen for lighting not only for its relevance to the theme but as it does not affect Fish, migratory Birds and do not attract Insects. This color of lighting can be achieved by a photobioreactor which is a structure designed for the efficient growth of microalgae.

The monument having 35500 sqft of exposure to the sun, it can produce the same amount of oxygen of 500,000 TREES. The biomass produced by the monument can be used to produce biodiesel. The biomass produced is also an excellent source of protein that is used by NASA.