



Project Data Sheet

San Francisco, California



Title Ribbons

Location U.S. General Administration, Pacific Rim Headquarters, 50 UN Plaza, San Francisco, California

Description Ribbons is a landscape sculpture in the open-air courtyard of 50 UN Plaza. As the centerpiece of a historic renovation, it balances contemporary sculpture and sustainable strategies within the building's historic fabric. Ribbons responds the hierarchy of the Beaux-Arts architecture with a powerful horizontal arrangement of sculptures made from cast, recycled concrete, and carved granite fountains. Rising from paving ribbons, the sculptures form a rhythmic circulation system of permeable decomposed granite paving within a grove of white birch.

The sculptures rising, twisting and falling on the woven ribbons of paving loosely reflect the twists of a ribbon. In the midst of the Beaux-Arts decorative architectural traditions that they reference, the sculptures are a singular and significant response to the architecture. The vertical movement of a grid of Himalayan White Birch counters the horizontal emphasis of the sculptures. A pallet of native coral bell and fern define linear planting beds beneath the forest understory. Ribbons is the social heart of 50 UN Plaza serving as its central gathering space, enhancing the collaborative atmosphere of the modern work place.

Date 2013

Medium Cast Concrete, Granite

Dimensions 21,840 SqFt Overall

Commissioned by General Services Administration, Art in Architecture Program

Engineer Patrell Engineering Group, Inc., Glendora, CA

Subcontractor QCP, Norco, CA