



## SOLERI INFORMATION

### Artist's Concept

The project calls attention to the importance of solar movement and the passage of time in a universal language. Two 64-foot-high brushed steel pylons will create a light dagger on the bridge deck as the sun moves across the sky, marking important seasonal solar events: the equinox, the solstice, and the cross-quarter dates. By marking and celebrating the celestial events, the signature bridge and plaza unifies the past and the present—the site of this ancient waterway with the legacy of current day cultures—of all humans living in the desert.

### Essentials

Paolo Soleri's 22,000 square-foot plaza and 100-foot-long pedestrian bridge encourage awareness of our connection to the sun and promotes alternative modes of travel.

The subdued color scheme of the bridge and plaza reflects Soleri's life-long explorations of indigenous materials and desert derived colors. A brushed steel surface on the two 64-foot bridge pylons minimizes glare from the sun.

The bridge railing allows an unobstructed, permeable view to the water.

Perforated grating in the bridge deck allows breezes and water sounds to migrate through the pedestrian surface.

Lighting provides safety for movement across the bridge and within the plaza in addition to subtly conveying the scale and materials of the pylons with up-lighting and inset lighting at the landscaped areas and cast wall-panels. Lighting on the bridge's exterior provides a delicate night-time contrast to both the plaza and the water's surface.

Shade trees, permanent and moveable seating, grass, and colored concrete are sensitively integrated to offer a range of options for enjoying the park and to create a comfortable environment for.

Landscape design is based on a native plant palette, and provides a well-defined and small lawn area for visitors. The primary tree is the Evergreen elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*).

The Sun Circle Trail is denoted by special paving and signage, providing a multi-use surface for joggers, bikers, and equestrians.

## Signature Style

The breadth of Soleri's work is represented by three components on the 22,000 square-foot plaza:

The pylons, each nearly seven feet in diameter, will generate a light beam on the walking surface of the bridge to mark solar events and reiterate the connection of humans to our built and natural environment.

Slip form and cast wall panels in the signature style of Cosanti and Arcosanti frame the plaza, constructed by Soleri Studios under the direction of Paolo Soleri.

The historic Goldwater Bell assembly suspended within a 22-foot tower. Dating from 1969, the cast bronze assemblage reflects the artist's life work in Arcology. The hanging system is engineered to hold the weight of the bells and live-load weight ensuring the public's safety and preventing damage to the bells. Because of their very large size, the bells create infrequent low, soft tones that blend in with the ambient sounds of the plaza and adjacent street traffic. [we will have a photograph of the Goldwater bell assembly to include with this]

## Funding

Scottsdale Public Art funded the concept and design development plus a portion of the construction for this project. To date, its commitment totals \$1 million.

Starwood Capital Group & Golub Company contributed an additional \$500,000. Scottsdale City Council approved a funding request in the amount of \$1.7 million for FY 08-09. Additional aesthetic funds were provided by Salt River Project.

## About Soleri and Arcosanti

Soleri, who is an author, architect, artist and pioneer of new human spaces, has had fellowships from the Graham Foundation and Guggenheim Foundation, as well as three honorary doctorates and several international medals. Soleri received the Leone d'oro in 2000 at the Mostra di Architettura di Venezia (Venice Architecture Biennale) for his life-time achievement. His most coveted accolade, the Cooper Hewitt National Design Award for lifetime achievement, was awarded to him in 2006 and is one of the most distinguished awards an architect can receive. On November 13, 2008 Soleri was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2008 Governor's Celebration of Innovation.

One of the most imaginative thinkers of our time, Paolo Soleri has dedicated his life to addressing the ecological and social concerns raised by modern urban existence. Soleri's career contains significant accomplishments in the fields of architecture and urban planning, and his groundbreaking philosophical writings on arcology, the co-presence of architecture with ecology, continue to garner interest globally. Arcosanti, a prototype arcology and urban laboratory under construction in central Arizona for the past 38 years, represents Soleri's comprehensive and holistic approach to "green" and the challenge of sustainability. Arcosanti is located about one hour north of Phoenix.