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27TH ANNUAL
ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE
AWARDS



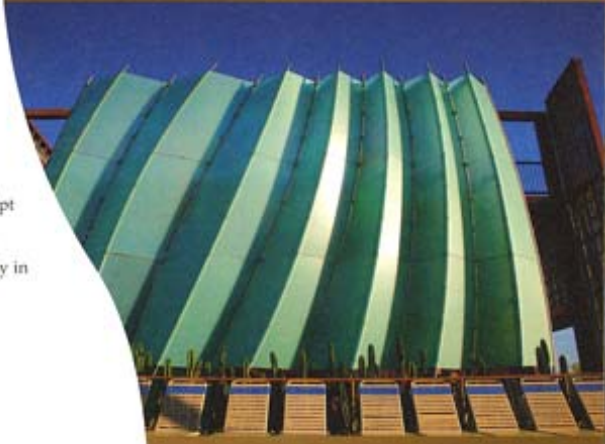
CACTUS MIRAGE

Seattle-based artist Norie Sato's work celebrates the changing quality of light and atmosphere in the Arizona desert – shadows, reflections, the sparkle of water, sun cycles and movement of air. The light green translucent sculptural wall is inspired by desert cacti with its graceful curved segments. Behind the wall an intricate framework holds thousands of Mylar disks that shimmer and catch the subtle movements of light and air.

It is environmentally sensitive, as it uses no energy or resources and requires little maintenance, upkeep, conservation or restoration.

This powerful public art piece makes a bold statement at the city of Scottsdale's McDowell Mountain Ranch Aquatic Center, where it mimics the play of light on water and reflects the subtle elemental beauty in the surrounding environment. The artist – inspired by barrel cacti forms – abstracted, softened and flattened their shapes in order to sculpt the wall in an acrylic material. The light green color subtly reflects the softness of desert sages and other native flora and fauna, as well as serving as a foil for the dramatic changeability in the desert.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES



Award Recipient: The Hon. Mary Mantross,
City of Scottsdale
Submitted by: Scottsdale Public Art Program