

Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels

Our Lady of the Angels was begun in 1998 and opened in Sept. 2002. The Cathedral is named in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary under the patronal title of Our Lady of the Angels, echoing the full name of the original settlement of Los Angeles. It is widely known for enshrining the relics of St. Vibiana and tilma piece of Our Lady of Guadalupe. There was considerable controversy over both its deconstructivist* and modern design and exceptional costs incurred in its construction and furnishing, as well as the archdiocese's decision to build a crypt under the Cathedral.

*Deconstructivism is a postmodern architecture which gives the impression of the fragmentation of the constructed building characterized by an absence of harmony, continuity or symmetry. Architects whose work is often described as deconstructionism including but not limited to Zaha Hadid (Iraqi-British architect [1950-2016] and first woman to receive the Pritzker Architecture Prize in 2004 and recipient of UK's most prestigious architectural award, the Stirling Prize in 2010 and 2011) and Frank Gehry (famous for the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain, Museum of Pop Culture in Seattle, the El Peix in Barcelona, Spain, Louis Vuitton Foundation Museum in Paris and the Walt Disney Concert Hall).

Walt Disney Concert Hall

The Walt Disney Concert Hall was designed by Los Angeles based architect, Frank Gehry. It has been over 16 years in the making which started in 1987 when Walt Disney's widow, Lillian Disney made an initial gift of \$50 million to create this concert hall as a tribute to her late husband and his love of music.

The large tree trunk columns *inside the building's* lobby are made of straight-grained Douglas fir and serve many purposes. In addition to supporting the building both visually and structurally, Douglas fir is used on many surfaces throughout the Hall because of its aesthetic similarity to the wood used in musical instruments, particularly the cello.

Architect Frank Gehry designed the *outside of the building* 'dressed' in stainless steel. Among his many reasons, he felt the shiny surface would work well changing the reflecting the bright Southern California sun. Because of the building's many curved surfaces and exacting design specifications, structural

steel beams had to be placed using a sophisticated aerospace software similar to the more common Global Positioning System or GPS. Beams were welded into place only when they intersected at the exact xyz coordinated in space mandated in the building plans.

The Concert Hall's Garden is sitting 34 feet above Hope Street. This nearly an acre park was funded by the State of California and designed by Melinda Taylor. On a clear day, the park is a great vantage point to view many Los Angeles landmarks, including the Los Angeles Central Library to the south, the Hollywood Sign to the far west and Dodger Stadium and the San Gabriel Mountains to the north. Many of the trees were moved from private residences and other locations and were carefully planted to face in the same direction they had originally faced. Blooming one after another throughout the Philharmonic's season, the trees offer a palette of changing colors. The Lillian Disney Memorial Fountain was designed by Frank Gehry as a tribute to the late Lillian Disney which pays homage to her love of Delft porcelain and roses. To create the fountain, reinforced iron bars were bent to form the flower petals and a stainless steel mesh was attached, then filled with concrete and waterproofed. Finally, hundreds of Royal Delft porcelain vases and tiles were broken on site and skillfully applied by an 8 person ceramic artist team led by Tomas Oshinski, resulting in the fountain you see today. The W.M. Keck Foundation Children's Amphitheatre is home to educational and community programs produced by the Music Center Education Division and the LA Philharmonic. The concentric arcs of the seating section have been designed in smaller proportions, with children in mind. On days when this space is not in use, visitors and will be able to pause here and enjoy lunch, read a book, use their phone internet or simply relax.

The Broad

The Broad is a contemporary Art museum founded by real estate developer & home builder (Kaufman & Broad Homes), entrepreneur (SunAmerica), & philanthropists, Eli and Edythe Broad. The museum is home to 2000 works of art and holds one of the most prominent collections of postwar and

contemporary art worldwide. The Broads have been building their collection of postwar and contemporary art over the last 5 decades, and the collection continues to grow by approximately one artwork per week. With a belief that the great collections are developed alongside practicing artists, the Broads focus on the art of their time.

With in-depth representations of influential contemporary artists, including but not limited to Jean-Michel Basquiat, Mark Bradford, Jasper Johns, Jeff Koons, Yayoi Kusama, Robert Rauschenberg, Cindy Sherman, and more, plus an ever-growing collection by works by younger artists, the Broad enriches, provokes, inspires and fosters appreciation of contemporary art. As a side comment, the Broad's freight elevator is 20 x 14 x 16 feet and was built to be able to transport the longest single-piece work, Ellsworth Kelly's Green Angle, up to the skylit third floor gallery.

Angels Flight Railway

Angels Flight is a landmark 2 ft. 6 in. narrow gauge funicular railway in the Bunker Hill district of Downtown Los Angeles, CA. It has two funicular cars, Sinai and Olive, running in opposite directions on a shared cable on the 298 feet long inclined railway. The original Angels Flight location, with tracks connecting Hill Street and Olive Street, operated from 1901 until it was closed in 1969, when its site was cleared for redevelopment. The second Angels Flight location opened ½ block south of the original location in 1996 with tracks connecting Hill Street and the California Plaza. Since then it has opened and closed again several times. After the city decided to fund and safety enhancements were completed, Angels Flight reopened for public service on Aug. 31, 2017. It is now charging one way for \$1.50 and for senior citizens, \$.50.

Grand Central Market

Grand Central Market a downtown landmark since 1917, brings together the cuisines and cultures of LA. The Market has always reflected the changing population of downtown, and in the 1920s our ninety-plus vendors included

multiple green grocers, fishmongers, Jewish delis, and butchers, as well as stalls for dry goods, baked goods, flowers, coffee, cheese, notions – and even one vendor who sold nothing but eggs. In 1984, downtown visionary Ira Yellin, a successful developer with an academic interest in urban planning and historical preservation, bought Grand Central Market and adjacent properties including the Million Dollar Theater, as well as the landmark Bradbury Building across the street. Ira passed away in 2002, but today Adele Yellin continues to champion his vision that a dynamic city needs a vibrant downtown.

Bradbury

The Bradbury has been called a tour de force. The building was built in 1893 one of Southern California's most remarkable architectural achievements and on its way to becoming once again, one of its most prestigious office addresses.

The building was designed by an obscure draftsman, 32 year old George Wyman, who worked for a well-known architect, Sumner Hunt. Hunt's architectural design was a disappointment to mining millionaire turned real estate developer, Lewis Bradbury, who then asked George Wyman to try his hand. Wyman drew inspiration and was influenced by Edward Bellamy's book, "Looking Backward," published in 1887. The building was described as a 'vast hall full of light, received not alone from the windows on all sides but from the dome, the point of which was a hundred feet above. The walls were frescoed in mallow tints, to soften without absorbing the light which flooded the interior.' There is nothing unusual about the external façade of this brown brick and sandstone terra cotta building. It is the beauty of the dazzling center court of its interior that has given the building its fame. The center court is flooded with light, not artificial illumination, but pure space-filling daylight falling from the glass roof five stories overhead. The entire area, including geometric patterned staircases at either end, is covered with ornately designed railings of wrought iron giving the illusion of hanging vegetation. The wrought iron decoration was made in France and first displayed at the Chicago World's Fair before installation in the Building. Part of the film, the first Blade Runner, was filmed in this building.