

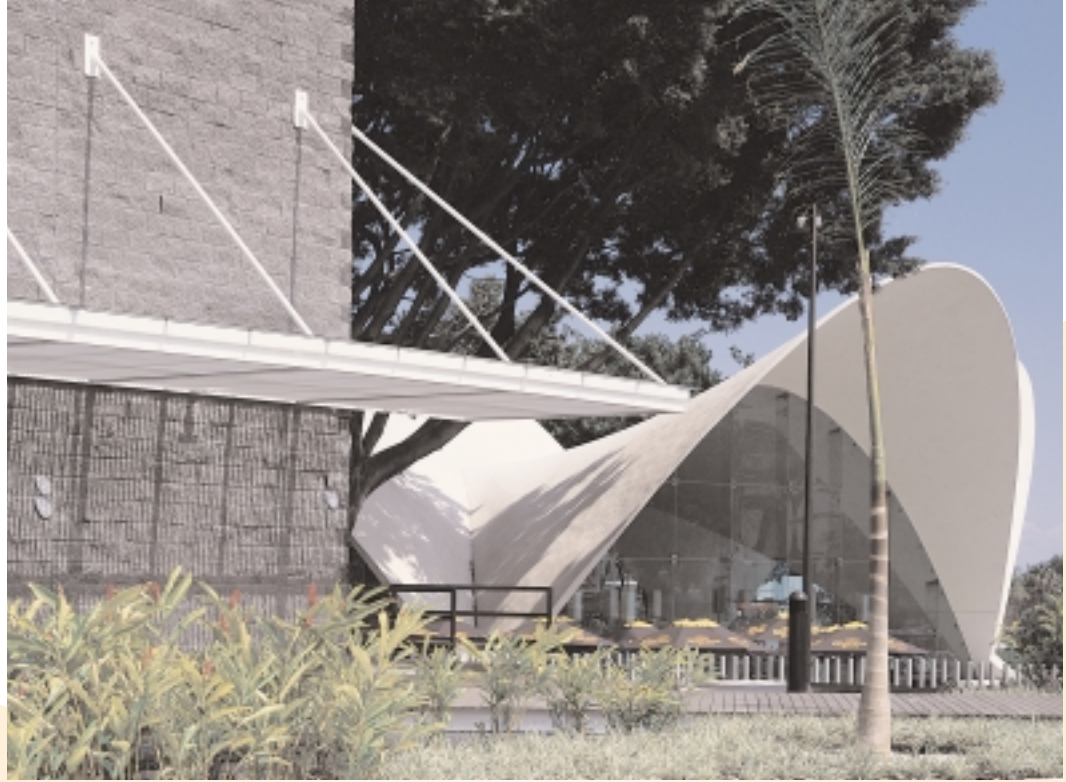


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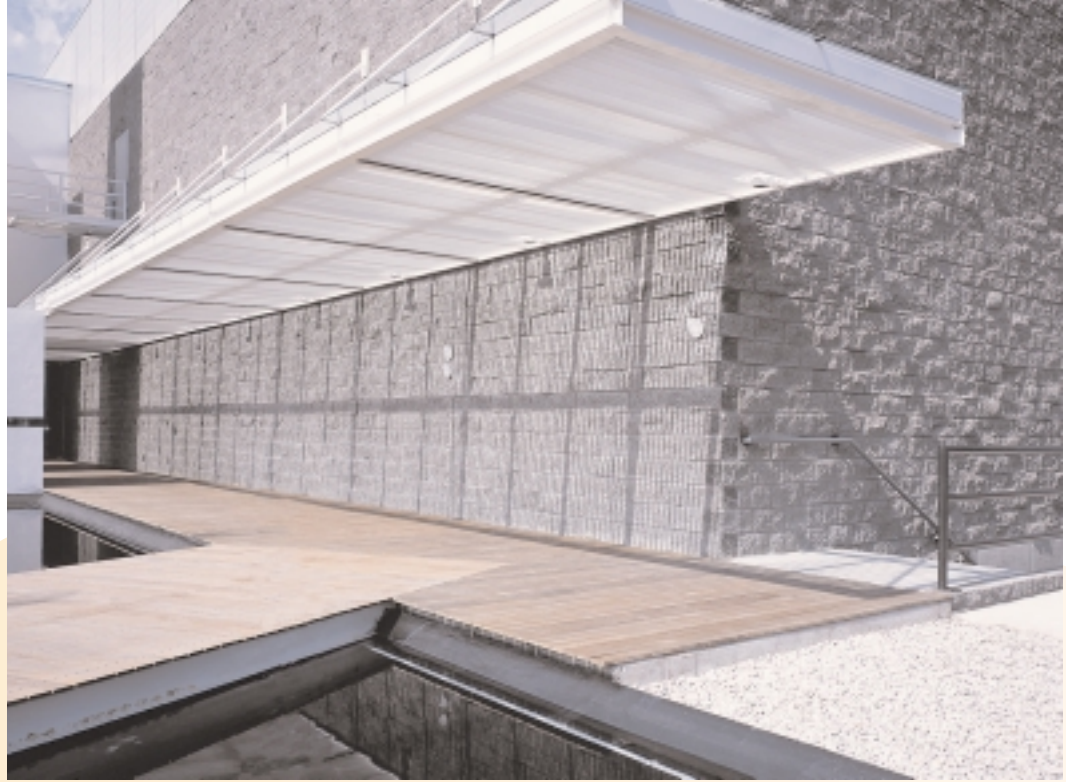
MUROS opened on May 25, 2004, and is operated by the independent Parque Morelos Cultural Foundation, which was conceived and established by Costco Wholesale and its Mexican partner, Comercial Mexicana. Its express purpose is to restore, preserve and promote Mexican culture of the 20th and 21st centuries.

This unique center includes the murals rescued and restored from the Hotel Casino de la Selva, an open-air amphitheatre and a 2,000-square-meter exhibition space devoted to the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection of Modern and Contemporary Mexican Art, considered to be one of the most important collections of its kind.

MUROS' mission is to be a cultural space for the promotion of diverse artistic expressions and a meeting point for modern and contemporary art, with an emphasis on Mexican culture. It is dedicated to the cultural development of the Cuernavaca community and to the conservation and protection of Mexican heritage and national identity. As such, it is open to the public, providing a gathering place for the Cuernavaca community and developing artistic and cultural activities that enhance the quality of life for its inhabitants.



Lush tropical landscaping lends an air of serenity to the MUROS façade and adjacent California Restaurant, which is owned by Comercial Mexicana. The restaurant's dramatic architecture is a reproduction of an old Felix Candela building which previously occupied the site.



MUROS' contemporary architecture, designed by prominent Mexican architects Alejandro Bernardi and Francisco Guzmán, sets the tone for the magnificent collections of modern and contemporary art found within the cultural center.



An open-air amphitheatre provides the perfect venue for community events and cultural opportunities.



A wooden path meanders through colorful plants on its way to MUROS' entrance.



In contrast to a still reflecting pool, bright banners near the entrance invite visitors to come, see and experience.



Restored murals from Casino de la Selva are displayed in a scale replica of the old hotel's mural salon, where they were originally painted in the 1940s and 50s.



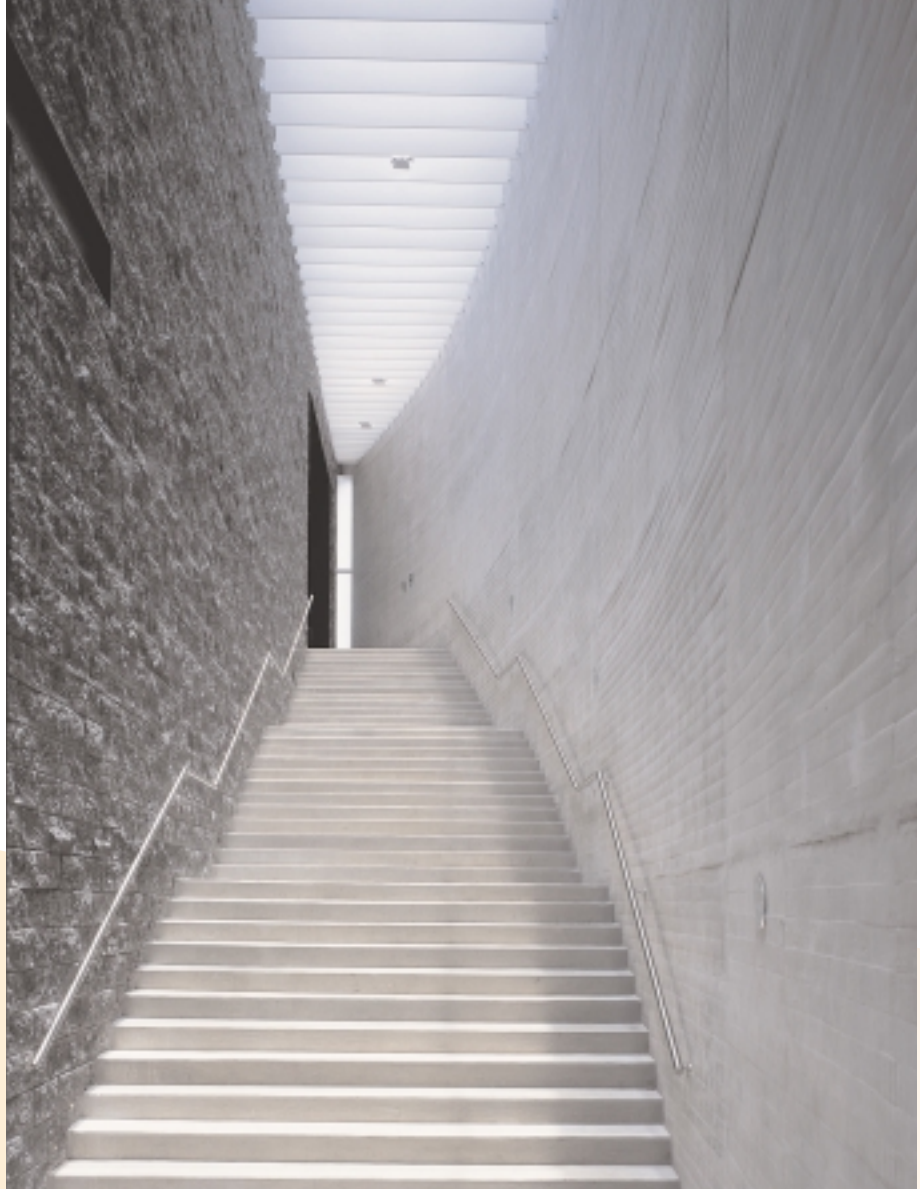
In this first-floor space filled with some of the best in contemporary Mexican art, Stefan Brüggemann's 2003 creation, "Nothing Boxes," contrasts with a screen by Silvia Gruner, "The Expulsion from Paradise." Behind is Mona Hatoum's "Red Carpet." The two visible works on the left white panel are 1991 carved wood creations by Germán Venegas.



The vivid panels on the right are three contemporary serigraphs in ink and gold leaf on housi by Jan Hendrix, entitled “Spring Station East III, IV and V.” Behind them is an untitled 1982 diptych (paper collage on canvas) by Sergio Hernández. To the left is a 1991 photograph by Gerardo Suter titled “Codex Series: Octecómatl.” This is followed by 12 untitled chromogenic prints from Francisco Larios’ 2002 series “ExVotos (II).”



More of the magnificent Gelman Collection: The wall in the foreground features untitled works by Sergio Hernández – two gouaches on handmade tissue paper from 1993. The two large paintings on the back wall are by Javier de la Garza from his series “Vanitas-Vanitae,” dated 1999. Just before these, on the right, is a piece in oil on canvas and wood by Abraham Cruzvillegas, entitled “The Wheel,” while the four pictures in the middle are oil on canvas paintings by Elena Climent.



Visitors experience the stark grandeur of soaring walls sculpted from bare stone and concrete as they ascend to the center's upper level, which contains the modern art section of the Gelman Collection.



The spectacular modern art pieces of the Gelman Collection include 12 works by the renowned Mexican artist Diego Rivera, including the famous “Calla Lily Vendors,” an oil on canvas painted in 1943, shown here.



In addition to works by Rivera and Kahlo, the Gelman's superb modern collection contains pieces created by some of the other great Mexican artists of the last century, including this oil on canvas painting of the Mexican comedian Cantinflas done by Rufino Tamayo in 1948 (right). The left wall features other works by Tamayo, along with paintings by Chucho Reyes and Martín Ramírez.



The Gelman Collection contains 18 works by the noted Mexican artist Frida Kahlo, making it the second-largest collection of her paintings in the world. The right wall features her oil on canvas, “Diego in my Mind,” created in 1943. The first painting on the left wall is also a Frida – an oil on metal from 1933 titled “Self-Portrait with Necklace.” This painting, along with Frida, is featured in the next work, a photo by Lucienne Bloch. Following is another Frida piece – the oil on metal “Self Portrait with Bed” from 1937. The last painting here is Frida’s “Portrait of Diego Rivera,” an oil on masonite work also from 1937.



Dramatic lighting brings MUROS to life at night.