

Architecture and Art Define New Airport Terminal

AN ARCHITECTURAL GEM AND LANDMARK, Santa Barbara Airport's new terminal greeted its first visitors June 17th for an "Art of Travel" Gala. It was a luxurious celebration honoring the massive public project's art and Spanish colonial revival architecture. All of the contributing artists were local and on hand to talk about their work and how it is integrated into the terminal.

"The moment has finally arrived for this important project to be opened to the public," commented Karen Ramsdell, Airport Director during ceremonies.

City officials, airport managers, commission members, and local dignitaries – more than 600 friends of the airport in all – attended the Gala opening of the new terminal, which was a fundraiser for the new Airline Terminal Public Art Program and was funded solely by ticket sales and sponsorships. Gala highlights included the official 'unveiling' of the new public artworks, a champagne red carpet welcome, live jazz music, international cuisine and wine tastings, photo portraits with a restored 1930's DC3 aircraft, and silent auction travel packages.

"Santa Barbara's new airport terminal exceeds all expectations," commented Helene Schneider, Santa Barbara Mayor. "The airport may be run by the City of Santa Barbara but with so many community members involved in its planning and design, especially as it relates to its architecture and public art pieces, the terminal belongs to the entire community. SBA now not only gets people swiftly in and out of town, it is its own destination for all to enjoy."

The \$63 million project includes a new aircraft parking ramp, a new airline terminal building, relocation and rehabilitation of the 1942 portion of the existing terminal, a new short term parking lot, and roadway. The new 72,000 square foot terminal was designed in the tradition of the Spanish Colonial Revival architectural style which defines the City of Santa



Helene Schneider, Santa Barbara Mayor; Karen Ramsdell, SB Airport Director; Ginny Brush, Executive Director, SB County Arts Commission; and Patricia Griffin, Honorary Chair

Barbara's local culture and sense of place.

The new terminal consolidates services and operations which are now housed in outlying buildings such as airline offices, rental car facilities, concession storage space, and the TSA office. Airport Patrol and parking lot operations will be housed in the 1942 terminal when it's refurbished and completed next year.

The building was designed by HNTB Inc., a nationally recognized aviation design firm, in collaboration with Santa Barbara's PMSM Architects. Guiding the design team throughout the process was a special project subcommittee composed of representative members of each of the City's review boards and commissions.

"As an important community gateway, the Airport is committed to providing a venue for public art that enriches the visitors experience and reflects the history and

culture of the region," stated Ramsdell during the Gala.

Three local artists were commissioned to design and install art works that have been incorporated into the new terminal interior: *Santa Barbara Sky Gazing* - custom wood beam stenciling hand-designed, hand-cut, and hand-painted in latex and gold by artist Vidya Gauci. *Giant Brown Kelp* - graceful wrought iron railing design elements depicting Santa Barbara's renowned kelp forests by Colleen M. Kelly. *Santa Barbara 360* a 20 foot diameter full-scale mosaic medallion, impressionistically interpreting the visuals of a continuous local landscape, directionally oriented inside a graphic-illusion border, all within an overall Moorish entwined arched structure design by Lori Ann David. The medallion was sponsored by Santa Barbara Beautiful and the Santa Barbara Airport.

The historic Santa Barbara Courthouse Lantern was also incorporated on a long term loan basis. Fabricated in the 1940's, it was restored by Halroyd Studios, and now hangs in splendor in the entry pavilion of the



Members of the Media view the mosaic just before the Gala.



The distinctive new terminal at the Santa Barbara Airport began its role of welcoming guests with a red carpet and towering red banner on June 17th, 2011



Glass walled passenger gates provide expansive views of both mountains and the ocean



Santa Barbara County Dignitaries pose in front of a DC3 aircraft that was on display at the Gala

new terminal. The Lantern is on loan from the County of Santa Barbara Courthouse Legacy Foundation.

A loan of art by the David Bermant Foundation started an informal public art program at the Airport in 1990. Since that time the Foundation has loaned the Airport two kinetic artworks. Both will be relocated to the new terminal: *Good Time Clock IV* (1984) by George Rhoads. This popular sculpture has been enjoyed at the Airport for 20 years, attracting and engaging people of all ages.

Albatross V by Dustin Shuler is a kinetic sculpture with a fiberglass and gold leaf glider mounted on a 13 foot steel pole. It made its debut at the Airport in 1995. The glider rests on the tip of the pole and responds to slight fluctuations in the air currents.



Jim Armstrong, SB City Administrator, Felicia Sutherland, VP, Advertising Mgr Santa Barbara Bank & Trust, and George Leis, President and CEO of SBB&T

was removed and put into storage. The loan to the Airport by the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission enabled the mural to be refurbished and to be displayed in the new airline terminal prominently on the second floor.

The Gala Celebration opened with a welcome from Patricia Griffin, Honorary Chair of the event, followed by comments by Santa Barbara Mayor Helene Schneider; Airport Director Karen Ramsdell; Special Guest, Clay Lacy, CEO of Clay Lacy Aviation; Ginny Brush, the Executive Director of the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission; and Cheri Peake, Santa Barbara County Arts Commission.



Rita A. Ferri, Public Arts Coordinator & Curator of Collections, SB County Arts Commission and Linda J. Gardy, Business Specialist SB Arts Commission



Clay Lacy, CEO, Clay Lacy Aviation and Salud Carbajal, First District Supervisor of SB County



Artists Lori Ann David and Vidya Gauci

One of the more remarkable installations, by virtue of size and fit, *Fiesta*, by renowned artist Channing Peake is a bright and colorful 60 foot mural that was dedicated and displayed in the El Paseo Restaurant's Gold Room in 1984. More than a decade ago the mural



Ed Grubb and Renee Grubb, owner of Village Properties

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