

Cheryl Goldsleger: The NAS Project

These videos are the virtual component of the exhibition

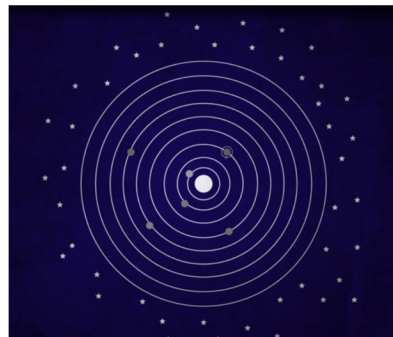
Artist's Statement: Videos

Architecture is more than its foundation, walls and various materials. It exists for reasons of which we may or may not be aware; yet over time a building accrues numerous narrative histories. The NAS Project exhibition revolves around two central questions: Why does the National Academy of Sciences Building exist and what does it embody? These two questions undergird the research (started in 2009) compelling me to explore through a maze of data starting in ancient Greece and up through the centuries to 1924 when the building was realized through the vision of architect Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue. My investigation yields interesting facts of American history and information about early twentieth century architecture. Research on the history of the sciences reveals a discourse across time that involves the sharing of, building on, and accumulation of knowledge over a period of two and a half millennia. It is a profound realization that is illuminated in the six bronze relief panels, by Lee Lawrie, centered in the windows on the façade of the building. The panels show thirty-six of the most important scientists in history up to 1924. Through Goodhue's and Lawrie's works, the scientists and their ideas, energy, excitement, and insights fueled my imagination to see their ephemeral presences in the spaces within the building and in their own connected, labyrinthine journeys of investigation and discovery.

The videos accessible here are an integral part of this exhibition and speak to those scientific odysseys revealing something of what the building and the institution represent and foster.

Cheryl Goldsleger
January 2013

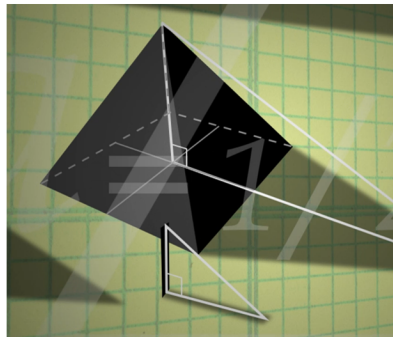
Click on the Icon to Launch the Video



Engineering



Mathematics



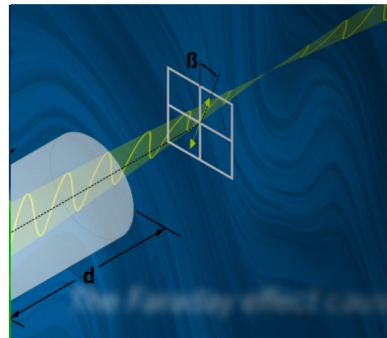
Medicine



Nature



Physics



February 4 through July 26, 2013

National Academy of Sciences

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www.cpnas.org