

Museum of Fine Arts

On July 4, 1876, our country's hundred-year anniversary, the Museum of Fine Arts opened in Copley Square with a collection of 5,600 works. Sturgis and Brigham designed the first building. Located approximately one and a half miles from its present-day location, the Copley Square years mark an important aspect of the museum's as well as the city's overall urban development.

In 1909, the Copley Square MFA closed its doors and moved to 465 Huntington Avenue, where it became a cultural anchor for the newly designed Back Bay Fens.

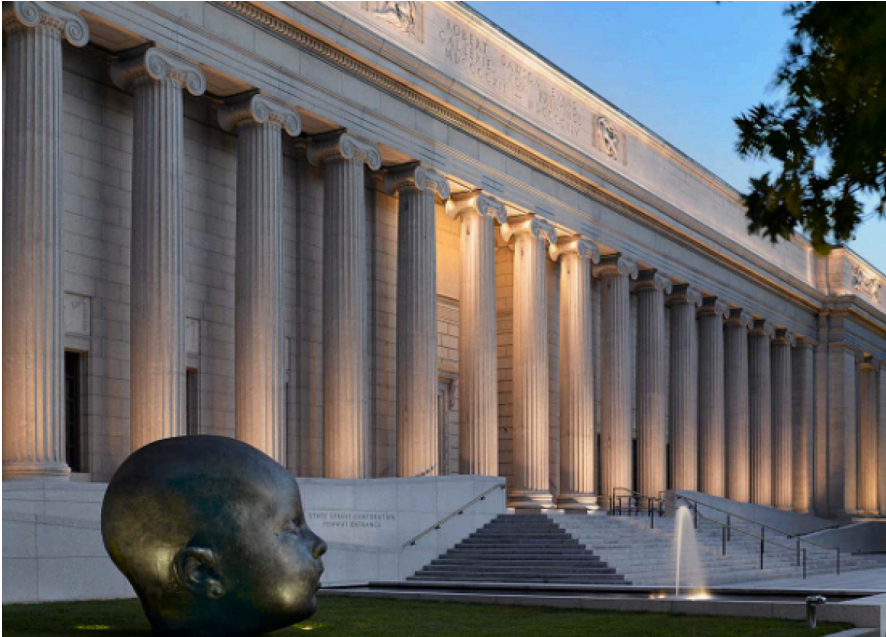
The new Beaux Arts building of 1909 was designed by Guy Lowell, a famous Boston architect who also added the second, Fenway section, completed in 1915. In 1928, the Decorative Arts Wing, part of Guy Lowell's original master plan, opened. From this point until 1970, the museum had no major additions.

In 1981, the West Wing, a major project by renowned architect I. M. Pei was dedicated, eventually named the Linde Family Wing for Contemporary Art. The building features large galleries appropriate for showcasing large-scale contemporary art, as well as restaurants and an auditorium.

In 2010, the Art of the Americas wing along with other major renovations to the overall museum opened to the public. This wing, designed by Foster + Partners, contains fifty-three new art galleries featuring art from the Pre-Columbian era through the third quarter of the twentieth century.



Courtesy: mfa.com



Courtesy: mfa.com



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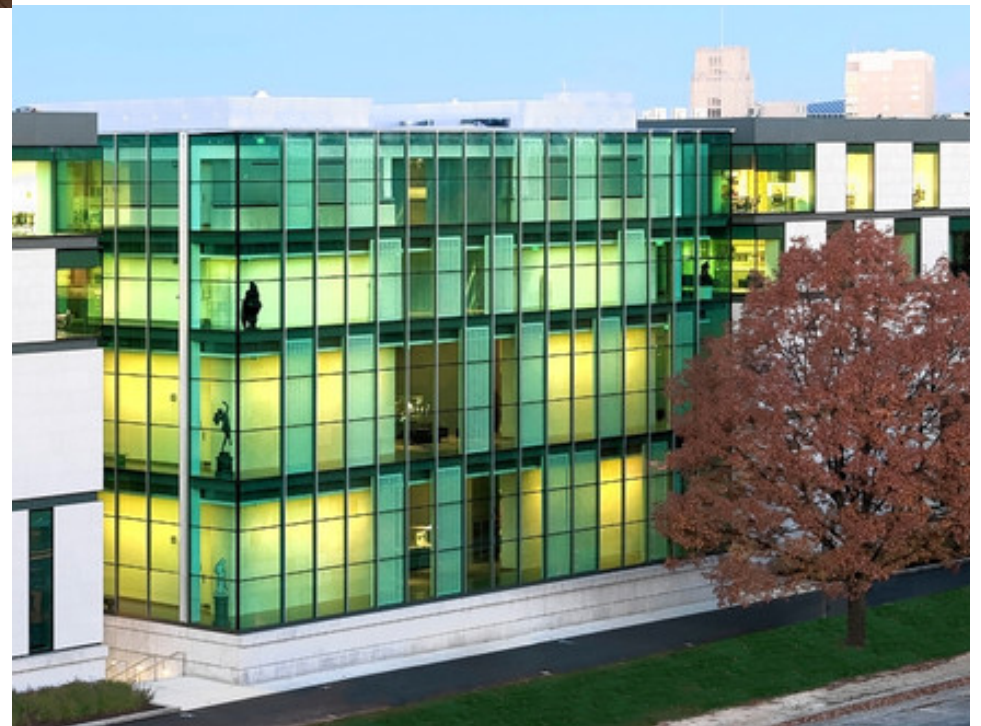
The Linde Family Wing (left) was originally designed and built by I. M. Pei in 1981, but re-opened in 2011 as the Linde Family Wing. It focuses solely on contemporary art.

The main space of the Linde Family Wing is a 12,000 sqft oblong gallery that houses some of the most renowned contemporary art. Because it is a contemporary art space, the gallery often rotates through new art. The gallery is divided into five sections.

The Art of the Americas Wing opened in 2010 and was designed by Foster and Partners. The wing houses American historical artifacts and art from ancient America until the mid 1970s.

The first floor contains ancient American, Native American, 17th Century and Maritime art. This includes old clay sculptures, pots, and ancient weapons,

The second, third and fourth floors have 18th, 19th, and 20th century art, respectively. This has a very wide scope. The more modern 20th century art contains many pieces from the 1970s including furniture and room accents.



Courtesy: wsj.com