

Asia Society Texas Center

HOUSTON, TEXAS

YEAR 2011

SIZE 2.3 acres

USE Cultural and educational center, community gathering, event spaces, lawns, gardens, terraces, water features

MAJOR AWARDS

2014 AIA Houston Design Award for Architecture Less Than 50,000 SF



- + The front yard includes a simple plane of ground cover and heritage oaks that frame views to the main entry and serves as a venue for special events.
- + At the rear of the building, an allee of bald cypress trees form a vertical hedge that hold the view of the second level Green Garden.
- + The Water Garden Terrace features a water skin that reflects shadows from two heritage oaks and the Houston skyline. Misters produce fog that rises over the edge of the Water Garden, obscuring the ground plane.
- + The Stone Garden is a contemporary simple plane of gravel and black timber bamboo that serves as a backdrop to rotating pieces of sculpture and event displays.
- + The Sculpture Garden is accessed from the central meeting room that is lined with a continuous unobstructed wall of glass. A generous terrace is held by a sloped carpet of ground cover with stone sculptures carefully placed in the composition.
- + Native plants blend with Asian inspired flora to offer visitors a transition into the space and add to the authenticity associated with the mission of the center.



Located in Houston's Museum District, the 38,000-square foot Asia Society Texas Center serves as the home to Asia Society, the leading educational organization promoting mutual understanding and strengthening partnerships among peoples, leaders and institutions of Asia and the west. The location is sited to take advantage of the distant Houston skyline. The Center uses business, policy, education, outreach, art, music, dance, theater and cultural programming to promote an understanding of the Asian culture within the greater Houston community.

