

CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIGHT: **Omega Window**

The Cathedral of Christ the Light employs state-of-the-art technologies to create a space of extraordinary lightness. SOM's award-winning Graphics Studio experimented with aesthetic and technical applications to create the awe-inspiring Omega Window, which resonates with the surrounding structure through its experimental use of light.

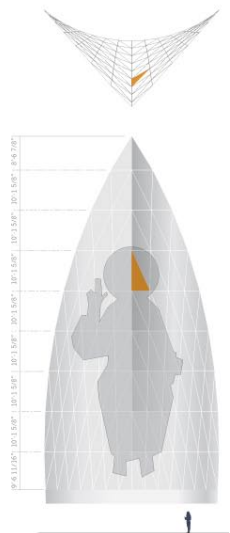
The Omega Window fulfills the Oakland Diocese Bishop's initial request for a direct physical connection to the Church's traditions, while honoring the architecture and considering the region's cultural underpinnings. The result creates a space of enlightenment and inspiration where celebrants can reflect upon their own backgrounds and experiences.

The Window re-imagines a 12th-century depiction of Christ from the façade of Chartres Cathedral in France. The SOM Graphics

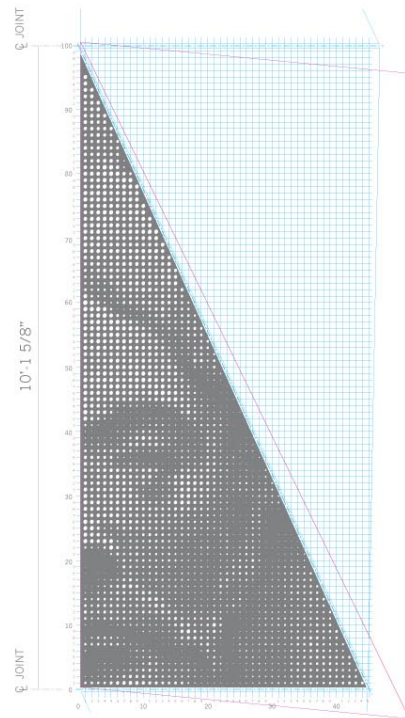
Studio developed algorithms to translate the subtleties of shade and shadow into pixels of light and, in turn, replicate the image. The digital information guided laser technology to cut over 94,000 pixels into the Window's triangular aluminum panels. In order to achieve a nuanced sense of depth, the perforations included a range of 100 different diameters. This technique and its application at this scale and in this material was a first.

Visitors enter the Cathedral to face the Window as it rises behind the altar. Points of light shine through the holes in varying levels of brightness to reveal and obscure the 58-foot image of Christ. The Omega Window transforms the original content—a relic of the 1140s—to give new meaning in the present and for the future. Borrowing an image from antiquity and filtering it through the lens of contemporary technology gives the Cathedral and its Omega Window 21st-century integrity.

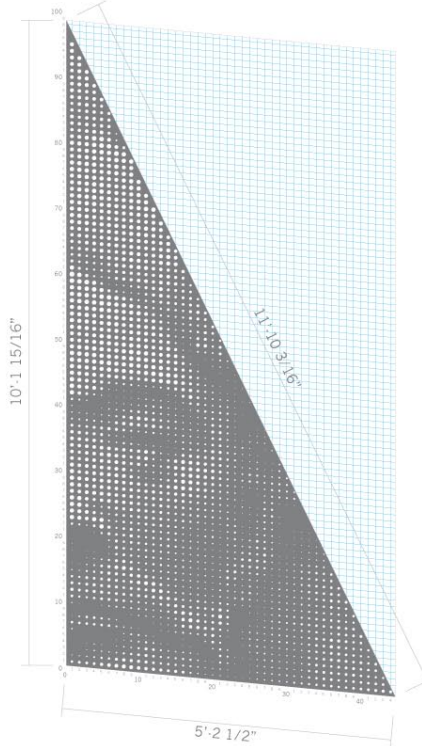
TRUE SHAPE DEVELOPMENT



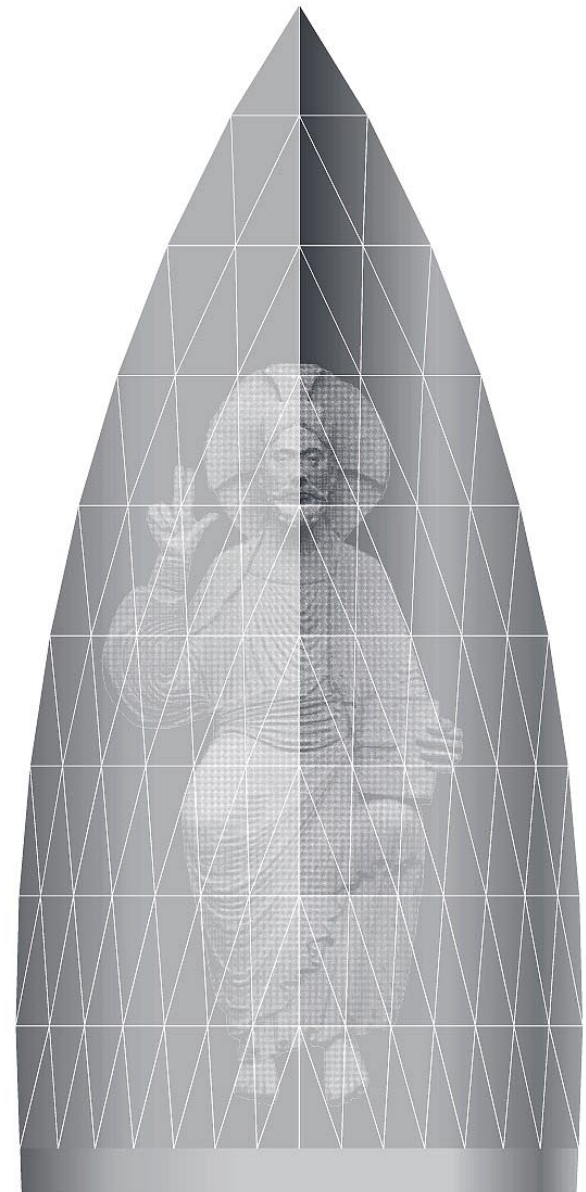
Total number of panels 154
 Panels with image 73
 Total perforations 94423

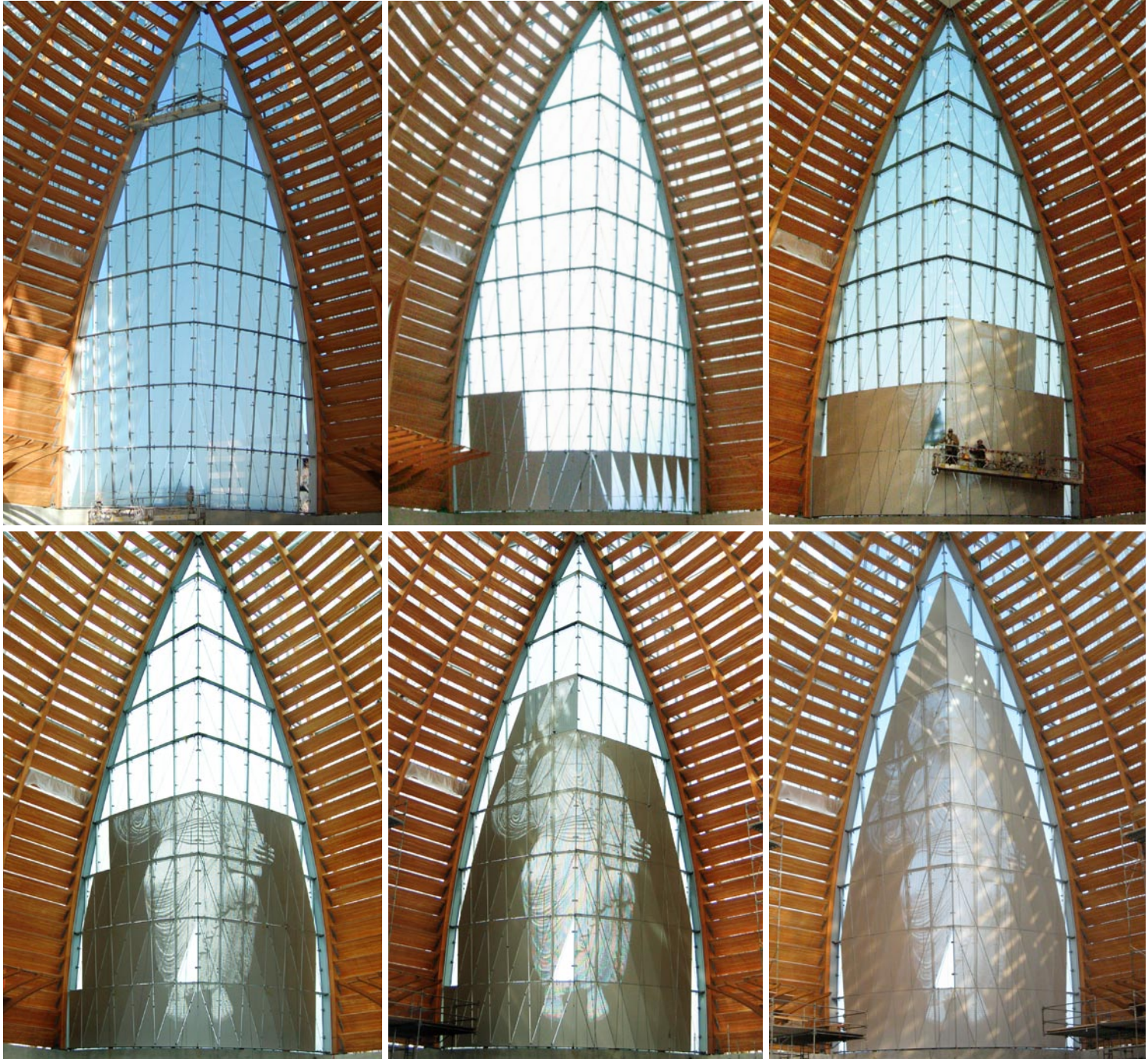


Perforations form orthogonal grid in front elevation.



True shape of panel. Perforations are circular.
 Hole dimensions: Min Ø 4mm, Max Ø 24mm
 100 variations in hole sizes.





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SKIDMORE, OWINGS & MERRILL LLP