



**THE CLUBHOUSE AT THE ENCLAVE
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA**

Sam Maitin's artistic compositions were an inspiration to developer Philip Lindy when he contacted the highly respected artist in the spring of 2002. As part of a proposed new apartment development in South Philadelphia, Lindy envisioned a new clubhouse facility that would offer amenities to his tenants and provide a focal point for the complex. The program for the structure was fairly conventional: exercise area, meeting and community rooms, kitchen, locker rooms, sauna, and an outdoor pool and tennis courts, but Lindy's aspirations transcended bricks and mortar.

It was hoped that by bringing Maitin to the project, the dynamic and colorful forms that the artist was known for would "uplift the spirit" and inspire the users of the building. To create the building for Lindy and to act as a collaborator in the creative process, Maitin suggested Atkin Olshin Lawson-Bell Architects.

Of interest to the artist, architect and client was how two-dimensional art and the activities within the building could influence three-dimensional form. Early during the design process, there was a consensus that Maitin's forms should predominate and together with the architecture announce the dynamic activities taking place within. The design process itself involved numerous meetings at both architect's office and artist's studio; the placement and shape of the colorful forms influenced the architecture, which in turn influenced the form the artwork took.



Top: View of building and pool

Middle: Lobby interior

Bottom: View of building entry

The building is comprised of simple, powerful forms in a neutral palette that serves as a backdrop for Maitin's spirited, colorful, and dynamic shapes. Maitin's artwork was laser cut from 1/4" thick sheet aluminum. The shapes were then attached through to steel columns and beams using galvanized steel brackets. The shapes were designed to cantilever from the face of the building so that they would appear to float as they cast shadows which would move during the course of the day. Light fixtures set flush with the pavement highlight the artwork in the evening.

The Clubhouse at the Enclave project provided an opportunity for a synthesis and convergence of program, form and color. Philip Lindy's desire for architecture that was inspirational, for color that was "alive," and for an overall composition of expressed purpose was a welcome challenge for the architect and artist. The obstacles the architect and builder encountered during the design and construction process including labor shortages, unsuitable soils, and product delivery delays, were offset by the opportunity to work on such a unique project with a visionary client and a respected artist.

Scope: New 4,750 sf clubhouse/ community building

Cost: \$1.2 million

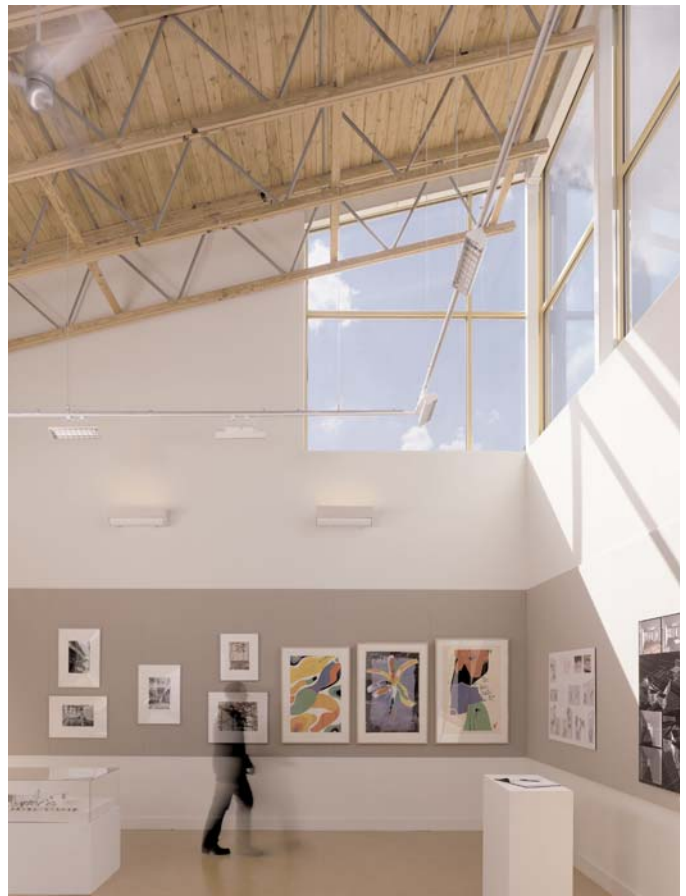
Status: Completed 2/05



Façade detail



Façade detail



Community room/Art Gallery