

HOME

CONTACT

INFO

OUR FREE E-NEWSLETTER  
SIGN-UP HERE

NEWS  
REVIEW

BOOKSTORE

JOBS

EXCLUSIVE TOPICAL  
INTERVIEWS SIGN UP HERE

PODCASTS



INFO

NEWS  
REVIEW

BOOKSTORE

JOBS



PRINT

Salameno Spiritual Center, Mahwah, New Jersey, United States

Friday 05 Nov 2010

# Keeping the faith



## EDITORIAL

### Multi-faith student centre completed on sacred ground in New Jersey

As the media spotlight remains firmly focused on the multi-faith cultural centre at Park51 in New York City, many more institutions across America have begun to introduce non-denominational sanctuaries for public use. One such example is the Salameno Spiritual Center at Ramapo College, New Jersey. Designed by Holzman Moss Bottino Architecture, the 1,525 sq ft Center consists of four structures, two outdoor gathering spaces, six small woodland gardens and an area of decking with views across a neighbouring pond.

Located on originally sacred ground - formerly used as a gathering space by Native Americans - the structure offers students at the College a communal area where they can openly practice their faiths, discuss ethical issues, seek refuge or indulge a moment of quiet contemplation. The spaces have been specifically designed for flexible use, the Padovano Peace Pavilion housing a continuous oak bench made from wood harvested on site and 50 moveable seats, whilst both McBride and Marino Meditation Spaces offer multiple single benches that can accommodate one to three people.

Rising to 25 ft in height with 800 sq ft of interior space, the Padovano Peace Pavilion has been constructed with individual triangular and trapezoidal sloping surfaces. These pine boards are coupled with fabric-wrapped acoustic panels, sectioned by two bands of windows which frame views to the surrounding landscape. The adjoining gardens have been planted with a range of indigenous flowering plants that will adapt the look and feel of the Center throughout the seasons.

According to Dr. Peter P. Mercer, Ramapo's President: "A campus community provides the means to discuss and debate and to engage and empower. The Salameno Spiritual Center will offer opportunities for members of our community to have



TELL A FRIEND ABOUT THIS PROJECT [CLICK HERE >>](#)

YOUR COMMENTS ON THIS PROJECT

- 09/11/10 GB, Columbus  
Sadly, this is anything but a spiritual space. Feels more like the Titanic as it was sinking.
- 10/11/10 Mitesh, Vadodara  
Not a great structure. There could have been more play of form and light.
- 11/11/10 Mike, Budapest  
A sub-Liebeskindian waste of energy and materials, by the look of it. Is being disoriented really good for the soul?

No. of Comments: 3

[Add comments](#) | [More comments](#)

...and opportunities for our community to have honest interfaith dialogue, to explore values, and to search for meaning.”

**Key Facts**

**Status** Completed  
**Value** 0(m€)  
 Holzman Moss Bottino Architecture  
[www.holzmannmoss.com](http://www.holzmannmoss.com)

**More projects by this architect**

- The Globe News Center for the Performing Arts
- Francis Marion University's Performing Arts Center
- Jefferson Hall-USMA Library and Learning Center
- Globe-News Center for the Performing Arts
- ImaginOn - The Joe & Joan Martin Center

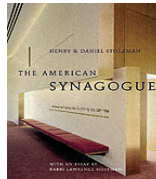
[More Projects](#)

**Related Books**



**NEW SACRED ARCHITECTURE**  
**RICHARDSON, PHYLLIS**

This timely book reflects an awakening of interest in religious faiths and the.....[more](#)



**SYNAGOGUE ARCHITECTURE IN AMERICA**  
**FAITH, SPIRIT & IDENTITY**

Presents the architectural challenge that has been heightened by the synagogue's.....[more](#)



**IN THE GARDENS OF ISFAHAN**  
**ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE FROM 16TH TO 18TH CENTURY**  
**Werner Blaser**

The conquering by the Persian Safavid dynasty in 1502 ushered in the golden.....[more](#)