



**Knight Campus Art Gallery**

Community College of Rhode Island  
400 East Ave.  
Warwick, RI 02886-1807  
401-825-2220



Funding for the project is provided in part by a grant from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts through an appropriation by the Rhode Island General Assembly, a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and private funders and the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities, an independent state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Additional support is provided by Charles Sullivan Fund for the Arts and Humanities.

# We Talk About Architecture, Architecture Talks Back

A CHANCE TO INTERPRET A BUILDING;  
AN OPPORTUNITY TO DIALOGUE WITH A STYLE

Presented by the Knight Campus Art Gallery  
in partnership with the CCRI Art Department  
and CCRI Foundation



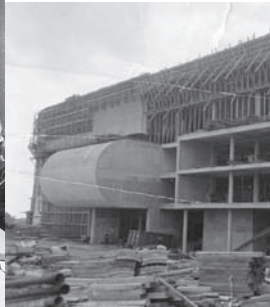
COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF RHODE ISLAND



1969



1966



1971

**ARCHITECTS:**

Perkins & Will Partnership, White Plains, New York; Howard Juster, AIA (from design inception to construction); Robert Reilly, project director; Robinson, Green & Beretta, Providence; Harkness & Geddes, Providence

The Community College of Rhode Island will examine the unique architecture of its Knight Campus megastructure, with an art exhibition and panel discussion during CCRI's All College Week celebration. As the college nears the 40th anniversary of the campus completion, Knight Campus Art Gallery Director Viera Levitt wanted to explore the history of the iconic building. Unique in size, scale and style in Rhode Island, the building not only contains students, staff and faculty members, but also architectural history and a philosophy of education.



## EXHIBITION

April 5 – 27, Knight Campus Art Gallery

### GALLERY HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thursday: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

In many ways, CCRI's Knight Campus in Warwick has become an iconic building that residents of our state feel passionately about for better or worse. However, there has been very little real discussion about, or understanding of, this Rhode Island "monument" created in the Brutalist architectural style.

As the building nears the 40th anniversary of its completion, it is time to turn our attention to this mega-structure and its value as daring architecture, fitting for higher education and deserving of informed conversation.

"We Talk About Architecture, Architecture Talks Back," featuring works in various media inspired by the building, will be on display in the Knight Campus Art Gallery and in other locations on campus from April 5 to 27. More than 20 artists from Rhode Island and beyond answered to an open call to react artistically to the structure. The result is an exhibition of wide-ranging media including painting, sculpture, interactive sound installation, video, photography, conceptual work and architectural models.

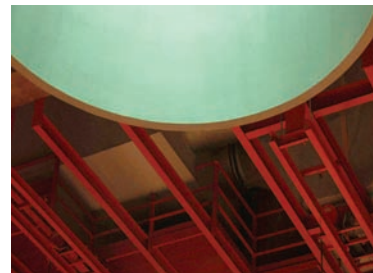
This project is an opportunity to open up discussion and engender curiosity about a building with an architectural

history that is largely unknown. Those working and studying at the Knight Campus certainly have an opinion about it. They find it creative, inspiring, noisy, confusing, massive, or a combination of them all, but always a structure that brings attention to itself.

While Rhode Island has been extremely aware of its 17th to early 20th century architectural heritage, it has not been as attentive to structures built since 1950. Yet, it is within this environment where most of us live and work. By creating an art project that is in dialogue with and inspired by this CCRI campus, we seek not only to explore this building from a fresh perspective, but to inaugurate an ongoing reconsideration of how late 20th century architecture in general, and Brutalism in particular, affects us all.

## OPENING RECEPTION

6 p.m. Thursday, April 14



NANCY WYLLIE



ALEXANDRA BROCHES

### PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

Mazin Adam	Marc Levitt	Irving K. Taylor
Mary Benton	Viera Levitt	Andrew Thurlow
Alexandra Broches	Stephen Lewis	Allison Uttley
Stephen Brownell	Enrique Martinez	Troy West
John Hartmann	Thomas Morrissey	Nancy Wyllie
David Houle	Babs Owen	Michael Yefko
Gokce Kinayoglu	Sarah Renshaw	
and Ipek Tureli	Jennifer Rolfsema	<b>CURATOR</b>
Thomas Lail	Carol Shelton	Viera Levitt



## PANEL DISCUSSION

4 p.m. Thursday, April 14, Room 4090, Knight Campus

Panelists and participants will, for the first time, look at the Knight Campus from the point of view of its place in Rhode Island, its place in architectural history and its role in education. Audience participation is welcome.

Moderated by Marc Levitt, host of the AS220-produced, WGBH-presented and nationally distributed "Action Speaks; Under-Appreciated Dates that Changed America," the panel will include:

**MICHAEL KUBO**, Ph.D. candidate in History, Theory and Criticism of architecture at MIT

**KIP McMAHAN**, president, Christopher McMahan Architect, Inc., lead design architect at RGB for the 1999 addition to the CCRI Warwick campus

**ANDREW THURLOW**, partner, Thurlow Small Architecture, and associate professor, Roger Williams University, Architecture

**IPEK TURELI**, postdoctoral fellow in the Department of History of Art and Architecture at Brown University

**KATE DUNNIGAN**, professor of history and chair of the CCRI Department of Social Sciences

The Knight Campus Art Gallery operates within the CCRI Art Department and is located in Room 3500, on the third floor of the round building (enter the library on the fourth floor and go down the stairs to right).

For more information visit [www.ccri.edu/art/galleries/knight](http://www.ccri.edu/art/galleries/knight) or contact Gallery Director Viera Levitt at [knightgallery@ccri.edu](mailto:knightgallery@ccri.edu) or 401-825-2220.

### SURVEY

We would like to see what the Knight Campus megastructure means to you. Please come to the panel discussion or share your opinions through a survey at [www.ccri.edu/art/architecture/survey.php](http://www.ccri.edu/art/architecture/survey.php).

Thank you for participating in this exciting project!