

*(Editor's note: This is part of an occasional series on the history of public art in the Quad Cities.)*



In 1984, a site-specific sculpture by the internationally renowned artist Sol LeWitt (1928-2007) was installed near the south entrance of the RiverCenter on Third Street in Davenport. Titled simply *Tower*, this sculpture was made of four 21-foot-tall slabs of concrete bolted to a framework of steel I-beams. These slabs, made of crushed marble and silica, were cast using more than a half-mile of Styrofoam strips.

Additional works by LeWitt, *Wall Drawing #405* and *Two Wall Drawings*, were also installed in the center's atrium at this time. Longtime LeWitt assistant Anthony Sansotta worked with area art students to make these 18-foot-long drawings. In all, roughly 30 Quad Citians helped with the installations – including art students, plasterers, carpenters, painters, cement finishers, laborers, iron workers, crane operators, truck drivers, and electricians.

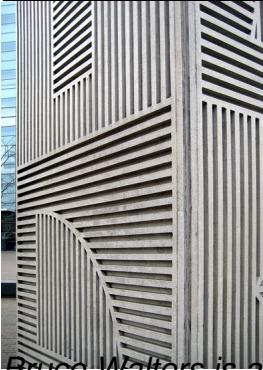
Don't look for these works at the RiverCenter, however. *Tower* was moved to the Figge Art Museum's plaza in October 2004. The original wall drawings were removed from the RiverCenter, and *Wall Drawing #405* was redrawn inside the Figge at the top of the stairway leading to the second-floor galleries. LeWitt claimed this new drawing is not a re-creation but is still the original artwork. He regarded his wall drawings as impermanent and repeatable. And his work is intentionally unemotional.

## Art in Plain Sight: Sol LeWitt Works

Written by Bruce Walters

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