Eighth Regional AIA Conference Symbol:

The symbol for the Eighth Annual Regional Conference, Western Mountain Region, AIA, representing the theme, "Science In Architecture," evolved from the basic concept that not only the physical sciences, but also the humanities must be integrated with Architecture.

Leonardo da Vinci's famous drawing of the proportion of man was chosen to represent the humanities in the symbol. "Proportion," wrote Leonardo, "is found not only in numbers and measures, but also in sounds, weights, times and places; and in every line."

A contemporary of Leonardo, Pina della Mirandola, stated, "'I have set thee in the middle of the world (universe),' said the Creator to Adam, 'in order that thou might... behold and see all that is therein."

"'I created thee in a being neither heavenly nor earthly, neither mortal nor immortal, only in order that thou might be free to shape and to overcome thyself. The brutes bring from their mother's body what they will carry with them for as long as they live."

"'The higher spirits are from the beginning or soon after what they will remain forever. To thee alone is given a growth and a development depending on thine own free will. Thou bearest in three the germs of a universal life.'"

In the Conference symbol, the circle surrounding the man portrays the universe, of which man is the center and the purpose of Architecture.

The other portion of the symbol, relating to the sciences, is portrayed by the cellular rectangle, representing the materials which physical sciences have furnished to the architect. Forms and spaces which the architect can create through the use of materials contributed by the sciences are indicated by the curved form.

This unusual and expressive symbol was conceived by Walter Gathman and Morris Rippel of the Conference Publicity Committee. Both men are associated with the Albuquerque firm of Flatow, Moore, Bryan and Fairburn. Another contributor to the development of the symbol is George C. Pearl, who was recently named a partner in the firm of Ferguson, Stevens, Mallory and Pearl, also of Albuquerque.

The Eighth Regional AIA Conference will be held in Albuquerque at the plush Western Skies Hotel on October 8, 9 and 10.

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