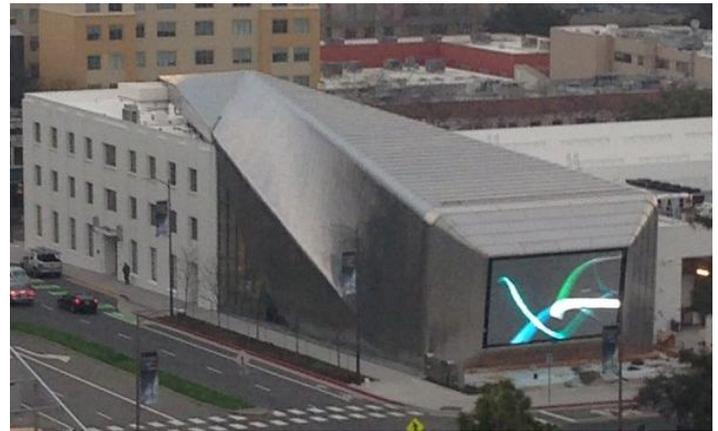


University of California Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAMPFA) Berkeley, CA

Mission Statement

BAMPFA, is the visual arts center of the University of California, Berkeley. Its mission is to inspire the imagination and ignite critical dialogue through art and film.



BAMPFA Architects Diller Scofidio + Renfro February 2016

The Berkeley Art Museum designed by Mario Ciampi in 1967 was declared seismically unsafe in 2001. Although the university reinforced the building with structural steel as a temporary measure, staff began to explore the design of a new museum on a different site.

Architects Diller Scofidio + Renfro were awarded the project and blended a modern structure with an existing university-owned Art –Deco building to create a fresh amalgam of old and new. The museum which opened February, 2016, is a unique home for BAMPFA's offices, collections, and programs.

One part of the architectural project concerned storing the museum's vast collection of prints, framed art, scrolls, sketch books and textiles in the new facility. Aurora Storage Products, consulting with the museum's registrar, assessed the collection to determine the number and sort of items to be stored, the type of storage units that would optimize space for the material while factoring in room for growth.



Full Height Aurora Museum Cabinets with seismic anchoring.

Working toward the best possible solution Aurora recommended housing the collection in four different sizes of counter high and full height cabinets with double doors. In total there would be over 30 cabinets required.

CASE STUDY

University Museum



Some cabinets would be custom-sized deeper than standard to accommodate larger works of matted and framed art and Asian scrolls to be stored flat on accessory drawers or upright with special bin dividers.

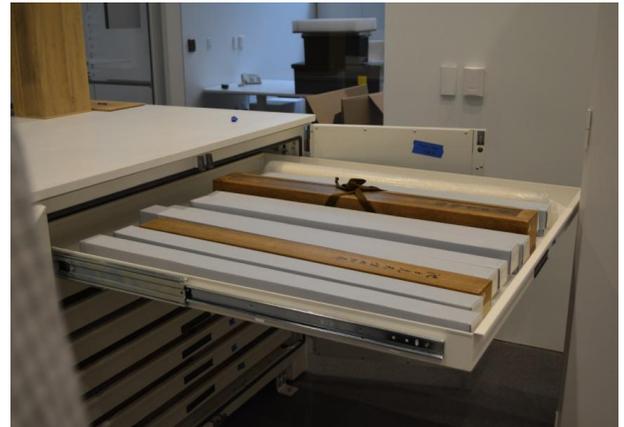
Aurora sent a sample museum cabinet so staff could do a hands-on analysis to see whether the design met their expectations. Design attributes that were important to them were smooth drawer operation with no vibration, secure cabinet gasketing for a good seal, non-off-gassing finishes to protect the collection from deterioration and well-built interiors free of bolts and burrs that might damage invaluable items.

The project proceeded with Aurora Storage Products winning the bid against several competitors. Design layout was critical to ensure a good work flow between storage space and learning space.

The final storage layout has cabinets located in multiple Study Centers in the museum's lower level. These areas are not open to the public, but reserved for collection and curatorial management, for research by visiting scholars and for university classes. Shown in the adjacent photo, are counter high collections cabinets that also serve to display monographs and publications in the James Cahill Asian Art Study Center.

As with many architectural projects there were unanticipated challenges before the building was finished. Although the cabinets were delivered on time, they had to be stored in the old museum and later moved to their final location due to construction delays. That aside, installation went smoothly and all cabinets are now anchored with seismic bracing to help the new museum meet seismic construction code requirements.

BAMPFA staff is delighted with their new storage system.



James Cahill Asian Art Study Center . Boxed Asian Scrolls in special Aurora Counter High Cabinets with extra deep drawers.

Additional Collections Cabinets display current publications.



Special Bin Dividers separate sections of framed art stored upright in cabinets.