

# CHARLES ROSE ARCHITECTS INC

PROJECT<sup>data</sup>

## CAMPUS CENTER, BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

Waltham, Massachusetts USA

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**Commissioned by:** Brandeis University

**Scope:** 70,000 SF; home for student clubs; 300-seat theater; plus bookstore, library, café.

Our intent was to invest this hub of student life with vitality and inviting warmth for students who seek out its lounges, café, and club meeting rooms. By necessity, then, the campus center had to be a counterpoise to traditional New England architecture. At its core is a three-story atrium that floods with natural light. It is further animated by a bold copper-paneled stair that, as it changes course, creates spacious landings for chance encounters or people-watching; overhead, two bridges link the upper floors of the building's wings. By apportioning the large square-footage requirements into two wings—instead of one large mass—our design also brings abundant light into the upstairs offices and meeting rooms.

Brandeis, with its modernist tradition and post WW II campus, was a natural setting for our campus center design. We placed the building at the campus' geographic center, where two major pedestrian axes cross. Our site plan created a courtyard, gardens and an expansive green—something that the postwar campus had lacked. The site plan also links the student center with the college's art museum, a large theater, administrative offices and the new Admissions Center, which we completed six years later.

**Materials:** Patinated copper panels; limestone; glass curtain wall; stainless steel; terrazzo; acoustical fabric.

**Completed:** 2002

**Cost:** \$22,000,000

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**“The Shapiro Campus Center clearly appears to be fulfilling its mandate to serve not merely as the geographic but also the functional and perceptual heart of campus. On a recent visit, the place was bustling: The library was standing room only; the atrium was hosting a poster sale; the cafe was**

packed. Administrators and students enthusiastically described how much they liked the building and how well it accommodated activities ranging from peer counseling to tango lessons. And one junior was especially effusive: 'I practically live in this building,' she said. Brandeis and its architect have given her a great place to live in."

Nancy Levinson, *Architectural Record*, 2004

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**Awards:**

Boston Society of Architects Higher Education Facilities Design Award

Boston Society of Architects Design Honor Award

American Architecture Award, The Chicago Athenaeum

Tucker Award of Excellence, Building Stone Institute

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**Select Publications:**

Charles Rose, *Architect*, Princeton Architectural Press, New York, 2006.

Stinnard, Michelle. "A Signature Space in Limestone," *Stone World*, March 2005.

"Collegiate Construction: Colleges and Universities Continue to Expand Despite Tight Budgets," *Metalmag*, February 2005.

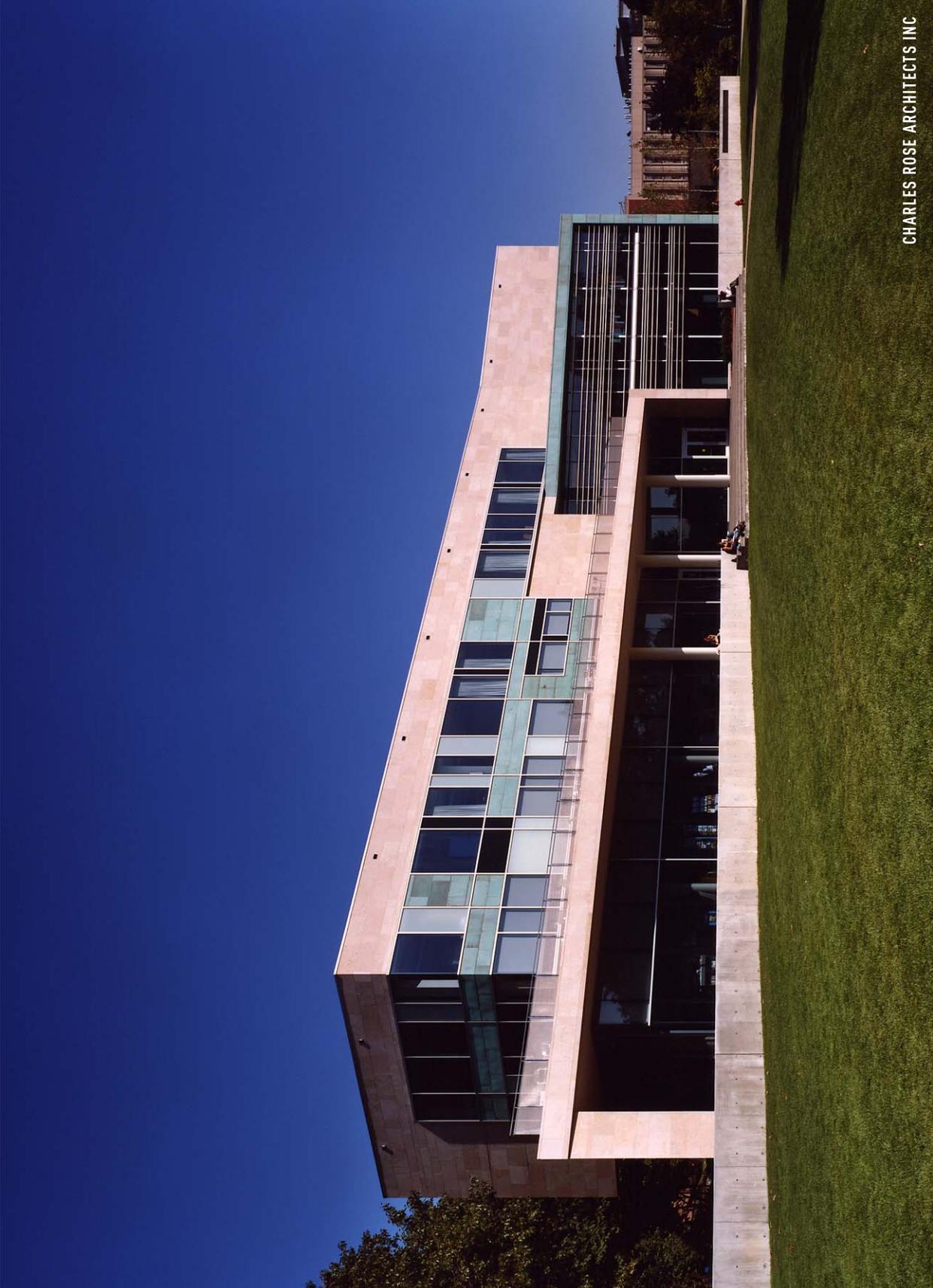
"Honor Awards for Design Excellence," *ArchitectureBoston*, Volume 8: Number 1, The Boston Society of Architects, January/February 2005.

Levinson, Nancy. "Shapiro Campus Center: Charles Rose Placed a Light-Dappled Atrium Where Four Campus Paths Collide and Wrapped It with a Hive of Activity." *Architectural Record*, December 2004.

CA, Contemporary Architecture, Volume 2. The Images Publishing Group Pty Ltd., Australia, 2004.



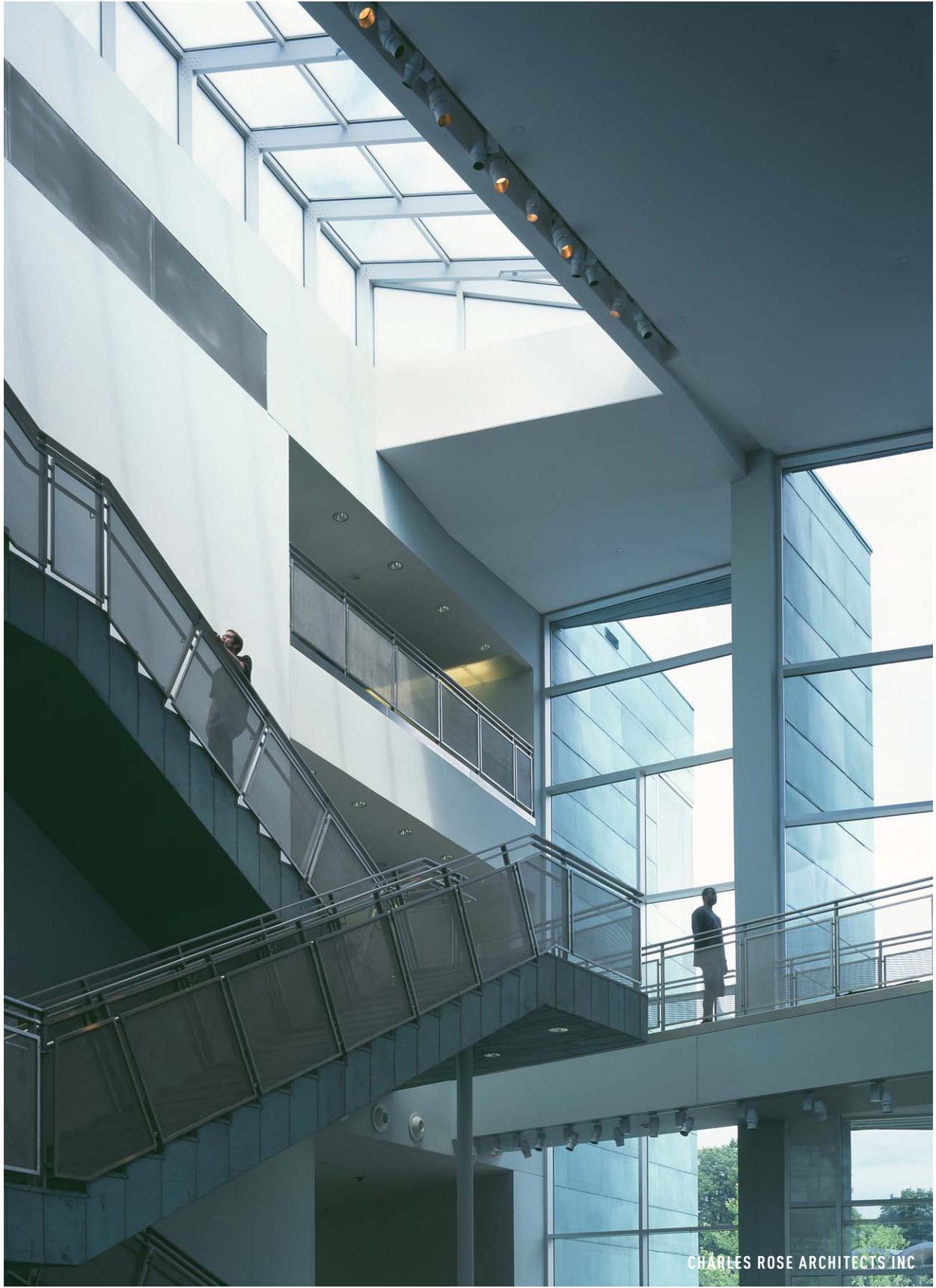
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