

Manetti Shrem Museum of Art

The gift includes “I Have My Eyes on Me Endlessly.”

UC Davis to open art museum in November

By Charles Desmarais

UC Davis is widely acknowledged as a wellspring of invention and instruction in the visual arts, a central player in Bay Area art history, particularly in the 1960s and '70s. Now that heritage will be marked permanently with the opening, announced Tuesday, Feb. 23, of the new Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art on Nov. 13.

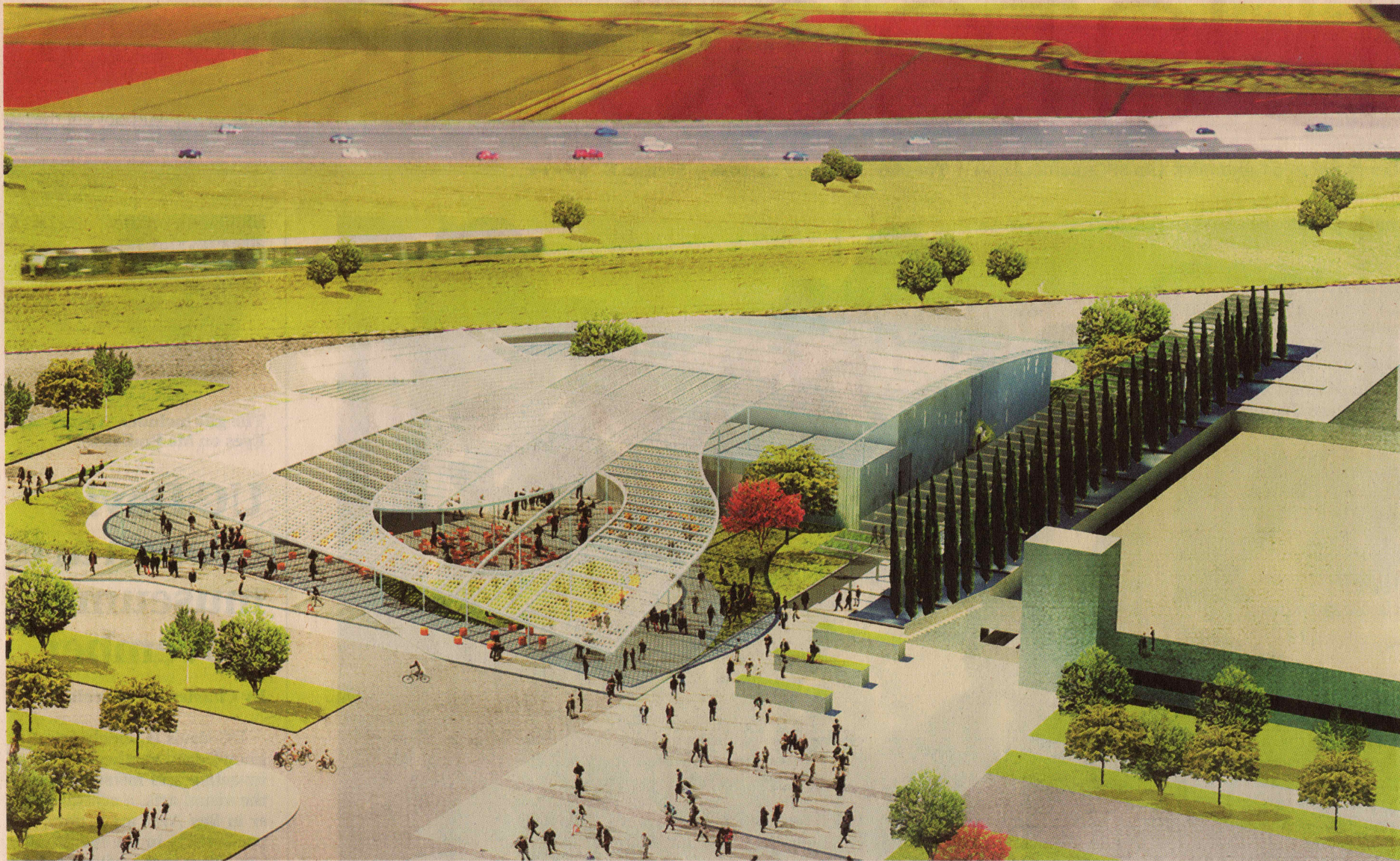
UC Davis Chancellor Linda P.B. Katehi praised the project as “further empowering a dynamic educational experience at this research university.”

“With the arts,” she said, “we discover ourselves.”

The new building is the culmination of an effort that began in earnest late in 2011, with a \$10 million gift from

Museum continues on E2

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



SO — IL and Bohlin Cywinski Jackson

UC Davis has announced the opening of the Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art, seen here in an architects' rendering, for Nov. 13.

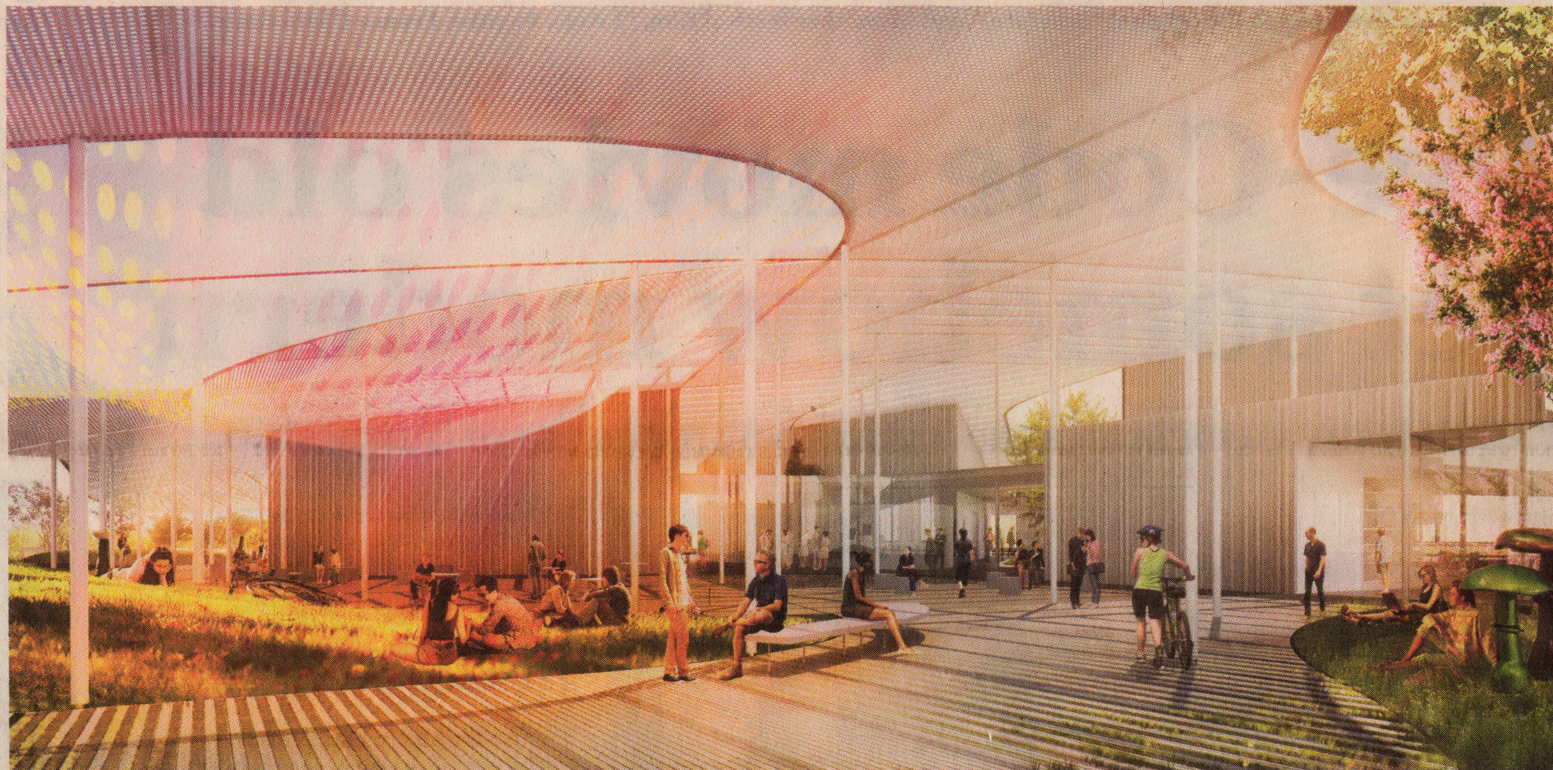
101 works of art given to new museum

Museum from page E1

the Shrems. About \$30 million has been spent on the project, with the remainder coming from university funds and proceeds from tax-exempt bonds, as well as an earlier pledge of \$2 million from Margrit Mondavi.

Among the highly accomplished artists associated with the Davis campus are the painter Wayne Thiebaud; "Bay Area Funk" figures Robert Arneson, Roy DeForest and William T. Wiley; the conceptualist Bruce Nauman; and the sculptor Deborah Butterfield.

The announcement of the museum opening coincides with a gift of 101 works of art from Arneson's widow, Sandra Shannonhouse. It includes a major Arneson ceramic sculpture — the 6½-foot-high "I Have My Eyes on Me Endlessly" (1992), a witty tribute to Constantin Brancusi and his "Endless Column" (1918) — and two strong works by Shannonhouse, herself a sculptor. According to Manetti Shrem Museum director Rachel Teagle, however, the most important thing about the gift is that it consists of works acquired by Arneson from UC Davis colleagues and students.



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Rachel Teagle, Manetti Shrem Museum director, on the gift by Sandra Shannonhouse

"It is 100 percent from artists who were students here, taught here, or were visiting artists," she said. "The story of our history is so personal to us, and this gift gives us the ability to tell that story.

It is the story of the friendships and relationships that made Davis what it became at that crucial time."

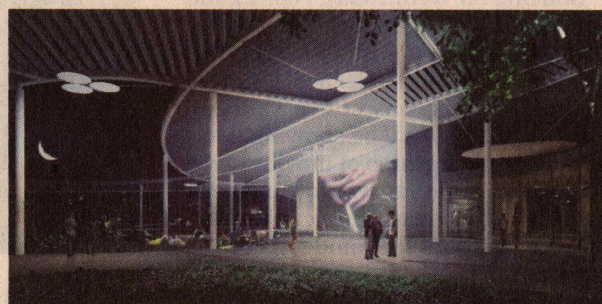
Among the artists whose work is represented, often by small objects, sketches and prints, are John Altoon, Luis Cruz Azaceta, Judy Chicago ("She lived across the street from Bob when she was working on 'The Dinner Party,'" Teagle said),



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Robert Arneson's "I Have My Eyes on Me Endlessly" is part of a gift from his widow.

Luis Jiménez, Jim Melchert, Philip Pearlstein and Richard Shaw. Teagle, who started in



SO — IL and Bohlin Cywinski Jackson

An architects' rendering shows the museum's outdoor event plaza.

her role in August 2012 with no employees and no architectural plans, will not only have a museum building in nine months, but a professional staff of 20 (up from 10 today). She hopes to fill the major roles of chief curator

and curator of education by the end of March, she said.

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