



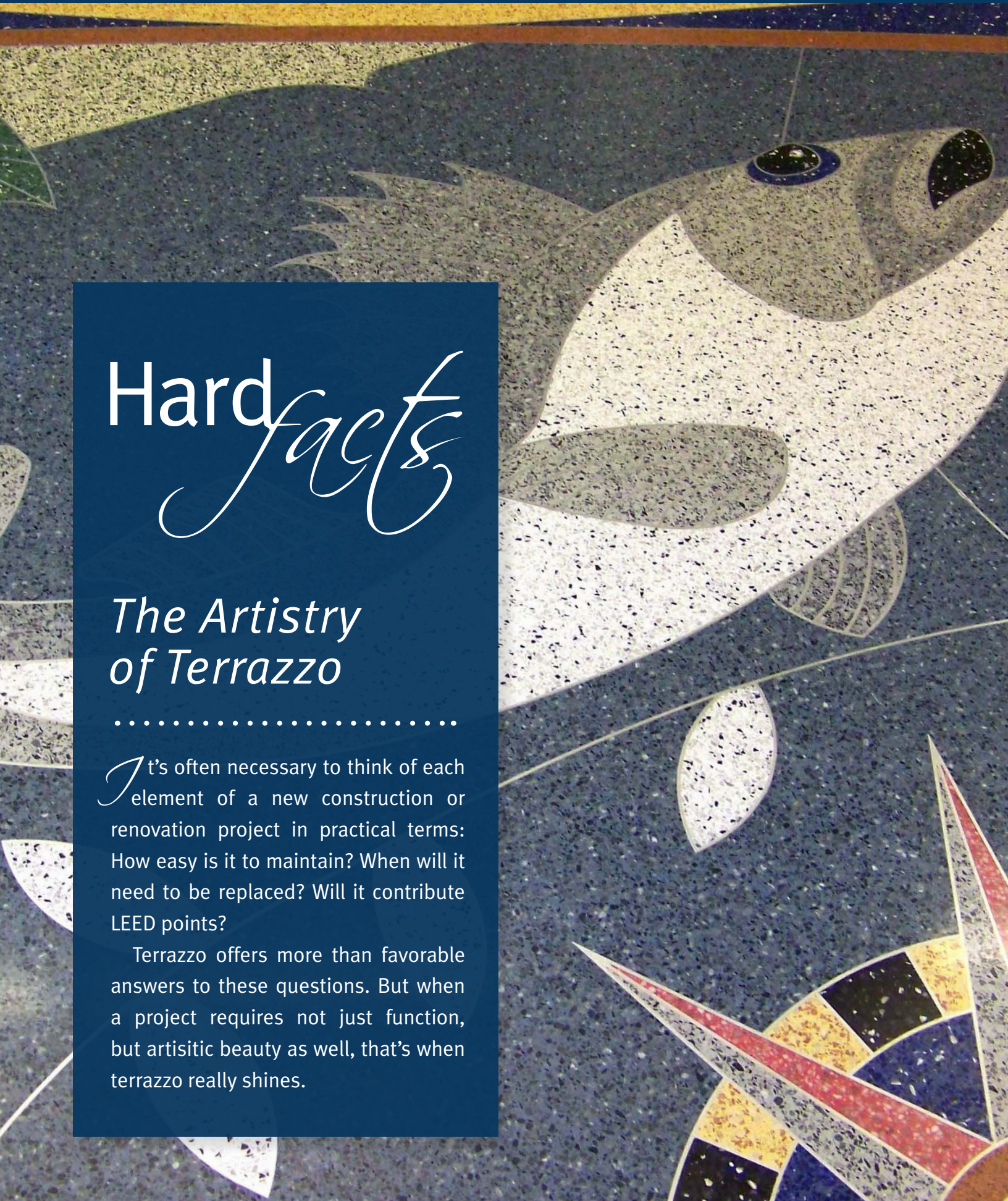
Hard *Facts*

The Artistry of Terrazzo

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*I*t's often necessary to think of each element of a new construction or renovation project in practical terms: How easy is it to maintain? When will it need to be replaced? Will it contribute LEED points?

Terrazzo offers more than favorable answers to these questions. But when a project requires not just function, but artistic beauty as well, that's when terrazzo really shines.



In this issue of Hard Facts, we're showcasing five terrazzo projects designed by different artists. Terrazzo is a superb medium for artists and designers who relish the ability to push the boundaries of perception while playing with color and texture. In the works to follow, you will see unique creative visions fully realized through terrazzo. And while each artist placed a premium on aesthetics for their projects, they appreciate that terrazzo's longevity will ensure that their art inspires generations to come.

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1 Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

2 Nicholas Conservatory and Gardens

3 JW Marriott Indianapolis

4 CLE Airport

5 Harmonie Park / Paradise Valley



Beneath the Leafy Crown

Internationally acclaimed artist Michele Oka Doner worked for a year on the terrazzo floor installation at the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The result is 1,650 intricate bronze leaves and natural elements scattered around 12,000 square feet of forest-green terrazzo.

Fittingly titled “Beneath the Leafy Crown,” the work of art guides people to other beautiful sculptures in the gallery. Oka Doner has said that she wanted “to create a magical space under the trees’ imagined leafy crown...a golden path.” Using terrazzo to realize her artistic vision, the artist no doubt succeeded.

DESIGNER: Michele Oka Doner (New York, NY)
 CONTRACTOR: Central Tile & Terrazzo Co., Inc. (Kalamazoo, MI) - Scott Bragagnini
 OWNER: Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, Grand Rapids, MI
 RESIN/CEMENT SUPPLIER: Terrazzo & Marble Supply Companies (Wheeling, IL)

CHIP SUPPLIER:
 Terrazzo & Marble Supply Companies (Wheeling, IL)
 Fribel International (Alameda, CA)
 CHIP PRODUCER: Texas Architectural Aggregate (San Saba, TX)



*Frederik Meijer Gardens
 & Sculpture Park
 Grand Rapids, Michigan*



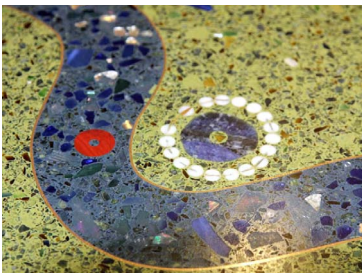
River Within

The new Nicholas Conservatory and Gardens in Rockford, Illinois, is a glimmering jewel along Rock River, where locals and visitors enjoy its exotic wildlife, streams and waterfalls, educational exhibits, and more. For the naturalistic terrazzo design of the project, artist Linda Beaumont was inspired by the winding Rock River.

Her design renders a dazzling bird's eye view of the river as it runs through Illinois and unites with other rivers.

In explaining how she used terrazzo to execute her vision, Beaumont writes:

“The composition of the entire floor suggests water, with additional sinuous lines of river currents adding color and rhythm. The shimmer of the river’s surface is implied through the iridescent glass, mirror chips, and glitters that are seeded into the surface of the terrazzo, and within the floor are inclusions such as glass cane, beads, shells, and shards of colored glass. All together, the bits and pieces of glass bring a presence of the movement of the river, swirling and pulling all the different shapes through the Conservatory lobby, and into the magical world of exotic plants seen in the distance.”



*Nicholas Conservatory
and Gardens
Rockford, Illinois*

- ARTIST: Linda Beaumont (Seattle, WA)
- TERRAZZO CONTRACTOR: Northern Illinois Terrazzo and Tile Co. (Rockford, IL)
- DIVIDER STRIPS: National Metal Shapes (Delaware, OH)
- EPOXY SUPPLIER:
- Terroxy Resin Systems (Wheeling, IL)
- Terrazzo and Marble Supply Companies (Chicago, IL)
- CHIPS SUPPLIER:
- Terrazzo and Marble Supply Companies (Chicago, IL)
- Linda Beaumont DBA Truefaux, LLC (Seattle, WA)



Art Plaza Waterwall

The Marriot Place Indianapolis, a collection of five new-construction Marriott hotels connected to the Indiana Convention Center, features a beautiful new arts garden just outside of the hotels. A tribute to the state of Indiana, the Art Plaza was designed by artist Jeff Laramore. Co-founder of Indianapolis-based 2nd Globe Studios, Laramore created a 36-foot-tall sculpture of a cardinal, the state bird, and a 60-foot-long waterwall depicting flourishing peonies, the state flower.

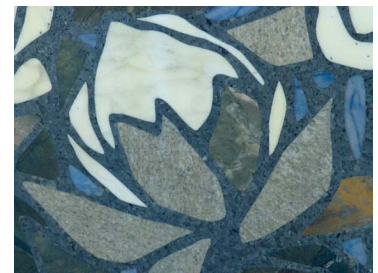
Mosaic & Tile installed nearly 300 square feet of colorful precast Palladiana terrazzo to bring Laramore's design to life. Santarossa water-jet cut the peony leaves, blossoms, and flowers from white Venatino marble and granite before fixing them in a black terrazzo matrix. The wall's mosaic finish and bold splashes of color can now be seen refracting through ever-flowing water in downtown Indianapolis.

TERRAZZO CONTRACTOR: Santarossa Mosaic & Tile Co., Inc. (Indianapolis, IN)

DESIGNER: Jeff Laramore (Indianapolis, IN)

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT: Claire Bennett Associates (Indianapolis, IN)

STONE AND CHIPS: Terrazzo & Marble Supply Companies (Wheeling, IL)



JW Marriott Indianapolis
Indianapolis, Indiana



Hooked on Cleveland

Claire Sullivan Gerdes is a Cleveland artist and designer who runs her own design studio, Claire Sullivan Design. Her design, “Hooked on Cleveland,” was installed at the Cleveland Hopkins International Airport (CLE) as part of the CLE Terrazzo Project.

Claire’s use of diverse shapes, naturalistic images, and symbolic icons—all framed by a flowing border—serves to highlight Cleveland’s world-renowned institutions, abundant natural resources, and the down-to-earth charm of the “Forest City.” Her use of terrazzo brings out the vibrant colors she chose and also ensures that her work will be on display for decades, even with more than 11 million people walking over it every year.



Cleveland Hopkins
International Airport
Cleveland, Ohio

PROJECT THEME: Cleveland - A Green City on a Blue Lake (past, present & future)

TERRAZZO CONTRACTOR: O.A. Bertin Company, Inc. (Cleveland, OH)

ARTIST: Claire Sullivan (Cleveland, OH)

ARCHITECT: Westlake Reed Leskosky (Cleveland, OH)

DIVIDER STRIPS: National Metal Shapes (Delaware, OH)

EPOXY SUPPLIER: Terrazzo Marble & Supply Companies (Wheeling, IL)

CHIPS SUPPLIERS: Terrazzo Marble & Supply Companies (Wheeling, IL),

Continental Terrazzo Supply (Houston, TX)



Paradise Valley

Detroit artist Hubert Massey is proud of his city. So when he was asked to pay tribute to the people and places that defined the Detroit neighborhood of Paradise Valley in the 20s, he was up to the task.

Massey designed about 20 terrazzo medallions featuring singers, musicians, public figures, community leaders, and historical buildings that once made their mark on Paradise Valley. Massey used rustic terrazzo for the project. “It allows people to walk over it and see deeper layers of detail,” Massey says.

TERRAZZO CONTRACTOR: Michielutti Bros., Inc. (Eastpointe, MI)

ARCHITECT: Hamilton Anderson Associates (Detroit, MI)

ARTIST: Hubert Massey (Detroit, MI)

OWNER: City of Detroit-Downtown Development Authority (Detroit, MI)

AGGREGATE SUPPLIER: Terrazzo & Marble Supply Companies (Wheeling, IL)



*Harmonie Park–Paradise
Valley
Detroit, Michigan*



About NCTA

The concept of a regional terrazzo association was sparked by Lou D'Agnolo Sr. and Narch Modesto in 1965. The two discussed various benefits offered by such an organization, and then proceeded to research potential members. Initially, this new group called North Central Terrazzo Association (NCTA) was limited to 23 firms in three states: Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin.

At the first meeting in 1965 at Chicago's heralded Como Inn, officers were elected and arrangements were made for specific office functions. In a relatively short time, a full time architectural representative was brought on. Within a year, membership increased to include other Midwestern states.

The association became stronger over the years, and subsequently NCTA was approached by MOTCA (Michigan, Ohio Terrazzo Contractors Association) and, after negotiations, MOTCA merged into and became part of NCTA.

The NCTA was started to promote the usage of terrazzo—and to educate architects, designers, and building owners on the widespread benefits of selecting this long enduring and always endearing flooring material.

For more information about terrazzo or to schedule a lunch-and-learn presentation at your firm, email info@ncterrazzo.com or call Christina Carngit at **773 220-9433**.