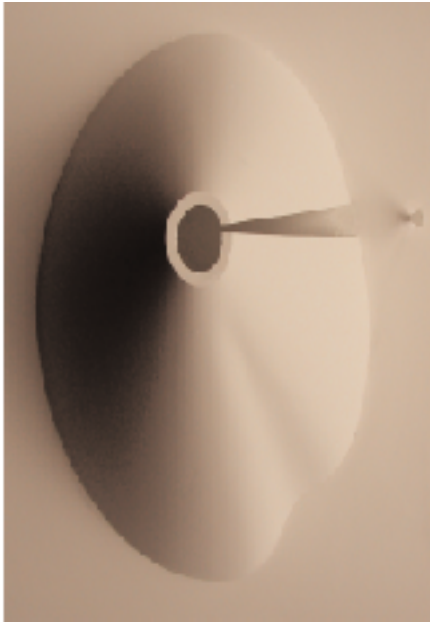


AL THANI SCULPTURE

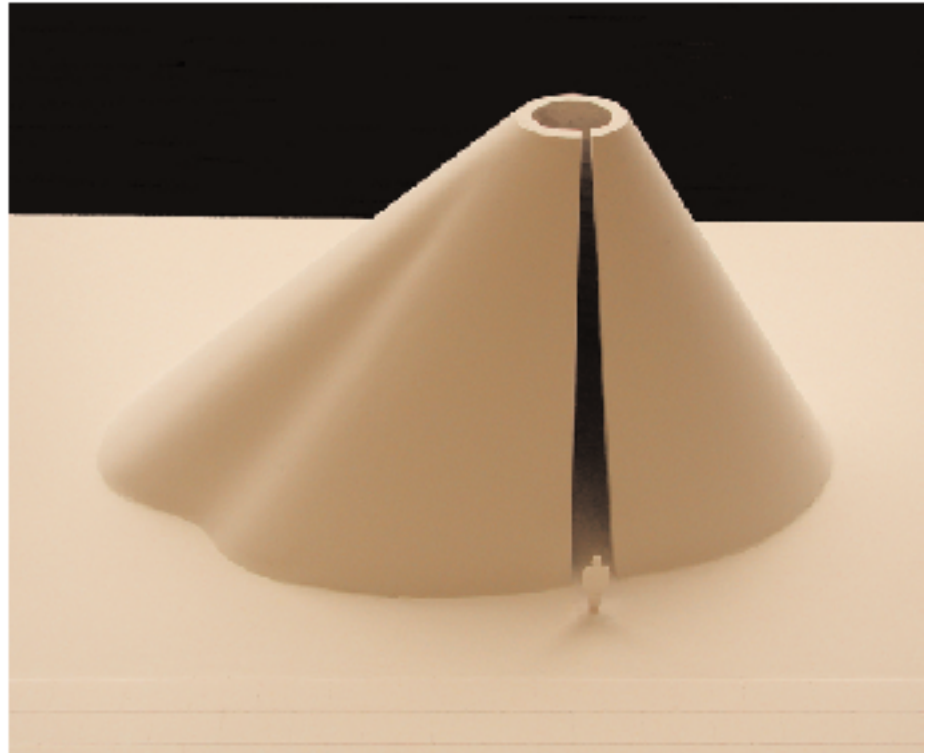
Doha, The State of Qatar

PHILIP JOHNSON • ALAN RITCHIE
A R C H I T E C T S



A Sheikh from the Al-Thani family in Qatar commissioned this sculpture as one of a series to be placed in the sculpture garden of his Arata Isozaki-designed new villa. This piece is the first that visitors will encounter as they journey through the garden, and as such it functions as a guest reception area, as well as a space for the Sheikh's private contemplation.

The sculpture is 30 feet high and 60 feet wide and is composed of a continuous curved plane that is slit and divided to form an entry. In front of, but detached from the entrance, is a large rectangular paved area of light granite. Inside the sculpture is curved seating. The sculpture is lit at night, and an adjacent underground mechanical room provides cooling. The sculpture will be fabricated by boat builders in Rhode Island from continuously curved sheets of aluminum, with an inner and outer layer and a cavity space and structure in between. The aluminum will be painted inside and out after final installation.



Client: Sheikh Saud Bin Mohammad Ali Al-Thani

Completion Date: 2003 (est.)