



Image number:



Los Angeles, California

TITLE	<i>Baldwin Hills Gateway</i>
LOCATION	Baldwin Hills Conservancy Exit off La Cienega Boulevard, Los Angeles, California
DESCRIPTION	<p>The Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area Bridge Improvement Project creates a significant entry to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, one of the largest remaining open spaces in Los Angeles. Subject to the tensions of recreation and oil production, the highly disturbed landscape will undergo a transformation during the next 30 years through a plan by Mia Lehrer and Associates and significant public/private partnerships and funding.</p> <p>CGS designed the bridge as an image of transformation, for the changes which will take place on the site. The pattern which moves across the screen of the bridge was generated through the idea of mapping the site at its smallest and largest levels. This mapping references a range of images from the broad patterns of disturbance caused by oil infrastructure to the image of a reptile skin. The pattern for the bridge has been derived from the skin of a lizards who is part of the California coastal sedge ecology.</p> <p>Fabricated of 1/8" laser cut anodized aluminum sheet which is then rolled, the delicacy of the screens pattern on the Bridge from a close or distant perspective belies the structure's incredibly durable and low maintenance construction. The openness of its surface allows light to penetrate the patterns and glow in the sunlight and generate shadows during the day.</p> <p>Through precise measurement and construction, the bridge panel system is designed to be installed by a low bid qualified contractor, a must for a public project with a tight budget and time line. The system of bridge screens was delivered to the site, fitted to the concrete guard rail, bolted to one another to form a code compliant elevation. The anodized aluminum is resistant to sunlight and salt air. When in place, the bridge enhancements will mark this significant entry to the KHSRA and remain a subtle iconic presence for all those who pass under the Bridge on La Cienega.</p>
DATE	2012
MEDIUM	hard anodized aluminum sheet, water jet cut, rolled and welded
DIMENSIONS	L 150', H 7-10'
COMMISSIONED BY	Baldwin Hills Conservancy, through grants from the state of California
ADMINISTERED BY	Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI)
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT	Mia Lehrer and Associates
ENGINEER	John Labib and Associates, Los Angeles
FABRICATION	Metal Arts Foundry
CLIENT/REFERENCE	Anna Apostolos - Senior Program manager, Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative