

Concrete Tornado

Energy captured in concrete

A windswept field in the Great Plains of the United States, the field is barren except for one massive structure. Smackdada in the middle of the field a concrete tower rises up from the ground. On the ground curved footpaths lead the onlooker to the base of the tower, like air being sucked into a vortex. Which is exactly what the tower embodies and envisions. A massive tornado, consisting of purely geometrical circles, stacked one above the other in a spiralling fashion.

Human & Nature

We humans often consider ourselves high and mighty creatures, but in reality even we are subject to a much greater power on our planet: Mother nature.

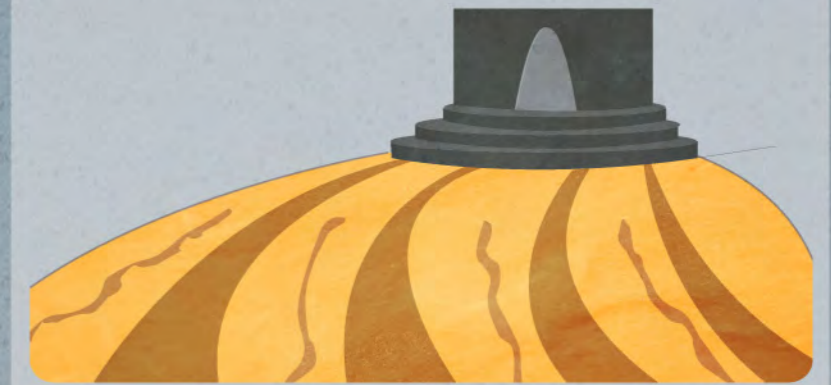
One of the places this is so very clear each year is Tornado Alley in the u.s.a. where each year numerous tornado's ravage the country side. This building stands both in memorial to the damage done and the energy that is the nature around us. And in some way it even stands as an act of defiance, humanity defying nature by capturing in concrete one of it's most dynamic shapes.

On the lookout

The tornado itself stands as a giant monument but also as lookout post for other actual tornado's. Visitors can ascend the tower by use of an internal staircase to survey the surrounding country side.

The spiralling garden

At the bottom of the tower a spiralling garden of dirtpaths lead the visitor to the staircase at the tower's base. This is to invoke in the visitor the image of being sucked into the vortex.



On the inside

On the inside of the tornado visitors can follow a spiralling staircase upwards until they reach the upper third. There the visitor will once again be on the outside where they can ascend a final staircase to the top of the vortex. The upper rings form a floor for visitors that want to look out over the landscape.



A tower with a view

Standing on top of the tower a spectator would get a great view of the landscape, and if possible could be on the lookout for actual tornado's.

