National Civil Rights Museum Expansion

The National Civil Rights Museum was created to document the civil rights movement in the United States at the site of the Lorraine Motel where on April 4, 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was killed by an assassin's bullet. The room Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. occupied with its balcony form the focus of the Museum. SWA's design integrated the old and new Museum properties and provided connections to surrounding streets. The concept for the plaza was to develop a simple, elegant space of quiet reflection and respect, the form created by lines that intersect at the location on the balcony where Dr. King was struck down.

Location
Memphis, Tennessee
Client
National Civil Rights Museum
SWA Scope
Landscape Architectural Services
Architect
Looney Ricks Kiss Architects Inc.
Awards
Memphis Landmarks Commission Landmark Award for the design of the Main Street Plaza
Project of the Year Award, National Commercial Builders (NCBC) Council of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)