

CHICAGO LANDMARKS



2011 PRESERVATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS

“Louis Sullivan’s Idea”

The Sullivan Exhibit at the Chicago Cultural Center

Recipient: Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events

Last year, the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events opened a temporary exhibit on the influential Chicago architect Louis Sullivan. Curated by the city’s cultural historian, Tim Samuelson, and designed by graphic artist Chris Ware, the exhibit included a selection of large-scale photographs and renderings, building models, touchable artifacts and ornaments, and even personal correspondence. Displayed in three interconnected spaces, the exhibit chronicled the major phases of Sullivan’s career and enabled the viewer to journey through the compelling story about the life and work of this famous architect and his iconic buildings. Expanding on Sullivan’s famous statement, “form ever follows function,” the exhibit emphasized the importance of his theory and practice which combined function, material, and nature in expressive works of architecture.



*Photos courtesy of the Chicago Tribune
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City of Chicago
Rahm Emanuel, Mayor

Department of Zoning and Land Use Planning
Patricia A. Scudiero, Commissioner