

- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

Paradise Valley Episcopal Parish Wins Stained Glass Award

The recently opened Gwen Harris Music Building at St. Barnabas-on-the-Desert Episcopal Campus in Paradise Valley, Arizona, has been honoured with a *Ministry and Liturgy 2006 Stained Glass Award*. The project will be published in *Ministry and Liturgy* magazine in November 2006. The 36 clerestory windows encircle the entire building with over 880 square feet of glass. They were designed by celebrated artist Sarah Hall and created at Glasmalerei Peters in Paderborn, Germany. The windows were blessed by Rev. Jim Clarke and Bishop John Thornton at the dedication on April 7, 2006.



Top-right photo: Mark Henle / Scottsdale Republic

“Desert Crossings” imagines the Christian story of death, resurrection and rebirth in a dramatic new way. The lyrical forms are based on a series of sketches by Sarah Hall drawn from the local desert: a poetic and painterly response to her experience in Arizona. The intensity that is gathered into the Pentecostal ‘fire flower’ over the podium gives a dynamic power to the design.

The drawings from the desert are overlaid with painted rhythmic measures of musical composition. These intersections give us an ever-changing illuminated pattern of crossings and a sense of journey. The windows are air-brushed float glass with laminations of antique & dichroic glass.

The music building, created for concerts and rehearsals, was designed by Phoenix-based architect Hugh Knoell, Jr., of Knoell & Quidort Architects. The Stained Glass Committee, chaired by Nancy Harvey and Peggy Iacobelli, sent out calls for entry to over 40 known glass artists and reviewed the portfolios of 20 artists before selecting Sarah Hall.

For further information, contact Rev. Philip Carlson at pcarlson@saintbarnabas.org.

A CD with publishable images is available from Sarah Hall at sarah.hall.studio@sympatico.ca.

Visit www.sarahhallstudio.com for further exploration of this project.