In downtown Manhattan, the long-awaited National 9/11 Memorial opened on the 10th anniversary of the infamous tragedy, surrounded by a site in the throes of construction. In remembrance of the victims and for the unity of a nation, two reflecting pools reside as remnant voids of the fallen towers, relatively discrete within the half-completed plaza. From collaboration and persistence, a glimmer of solace and peace has surfaced in the midst of a highly bureaucratic and emotionally arresting project that was conceptualized by one, orchestrated by many, and created for all.

“This project, commemorating a great tragedy in the still-short history of our country, recalls both our great loss and the splendid heroes of that woeful day, and restores dignity to the site now called ground zero. We are proud to be part of that story.”

— Paul Marantz, Fisher Marantz Stone