

will host its 2015 International Symposium embedded in the Culture and Spirituality Architecture Forum for Architecture in the serene setting of the vast and inspiring landscape of the Southwest in the southwest of the United States. Its central theme will be to explore how experiences of nature and of otherwise ordinary things in our everyday existence have been elevated to the realm of the spiritual and imbued with special meaning for individuals, societies, and cultures in the past, and to speculate on what designers can do to facilitate the connection between the quotidian and the sacred in the built environment of today.

The Seventh Annual Meeting of the Forum will take place at Ghost Ranch at June 18–21 2015, a retreat center 14 miles north of the village of Abiqui, New Mexico, and about two hours by car north of the city of Albuquerque, the closest major airport. Ghost Ranch is surrounded by national forests, the mesas and pueblos of Native American tribes, and the natural beauty that acted as the inspiration for the artist Georgia O'Keefe (former owner of Ghost Ranch where she spent most of her career as a painter). It offers the ideal setting to contemplate the theme of the symposium in an environment of great natural, cultural, and spiritual power.

As in the past, the symposium will be structured around several subtopics focusing on various aspects of the general theme, and the number of attendees will be kept small on purpose to secure an atmosphere conducive to personal connections and in-depth dialogue. Optional meditation will be offered each morning and there will be some free time for connecting to oneself, other people and the surroundings. A keynote address by Ted Jojola, Distinguished Professor of Community and Regional Planning at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, will contribute to our collective understanding of the meaning and symbolism of the physical environment of Native American populations of the region. Dr. Jojola is a Native American from Isleta, one of today's active pueblos in the Rio Grande Valley of Northern New Mexico, continuously occupied for roughly the past one thousand years.

is an international scholarly group established in [Forum for Architecture, Culture and Spirituality](#) The 2007 to advance the development and dissemination of architectural and interdisciplinary scholarship, research, practice, and education on the significance, experience, and meaning of the built environment