

# IMI



# CASE STUDY

August 2000

**T**he Charles Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit, like the theatre contained within its walls, tells the story and reaffirms the spirit of African Americans.

Built through a joint venture by Jenkins Construction, Inc. and Turner Construction Company, the striking edifice on East Warren Avenue and Brush stands as the world's largest African American museum.

The museum's rotunda is shaped by hand-set stone walls, a glass dome of African huts, hand painted flag panels and a specially designed and skillfully executed terrazzo floor.

Michielutti Brothers took artist Hubert Massey's 24" x 18" drawing and expanded it to recreate the design in a terrazzo floor. The finished creation lends itself to fulfill the artist's vision in a hard, durable surface. They also created a five-foot mock-up of the mural. Brass inlays highlight notable African Americans.

This project received an Honorable Mention in the 1997 Honor Awards from the National Terrazzo Mosaic Association.

## MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY Detroit, MI



**OWNER:** City of Detroit

**ARCHITECT:** Sims-Varner Associates, Inc.

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:** Jenkins/Turner Joint Venture

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:** Michielutti Brothers, Inc.

**LOCAL UNION:** International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, Local #32, MI

**AREA:** Tile 10,000 sq.ft.; Terrazzo 15,000 sq.ft.

**LEVELS:** Tile 3 levels; Terrazzo 2 levels

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** 4 sets of stars, totalling 54 treads @ 524 sq.ft.; 58 risers @ 240 sq.ft.

**CONSTRUCTION TIME:** 10 months

**PROJECT COST:** Tile \$120,000; Terrazzo \$513,678

*The tile and terrazzo work in the Museum of African American History of Detroit helps to capture the story and reaffirm the spirit of African Americans.*



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Masonry Institute**

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The International Masonry Institute is a labor/management cooperative serving the interests of the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers and the contractors who employ its members.

The International Masonry Institute presents programs in four broad categories: apprenticeship and training, market development and technical services, research and development, and labor/management relations.

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