

Joyce Kozloff: Home Savings Tower, LA

"Gardens at Villandry with Angels for Los Angeles" and "Gardens at Villandry and Chenonceaux with Orange Festoons for Los Angeles," Home Savings of America Tower, Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles; A. C. Martin & Associates, Los Angeles, Architects; mosaics fabricated by Trivisanutto Mosaics, Spilimbergo, IT; art consultant Tamara Thomas, Fine Arts Services, LA; photos Tom Vinetz

Since the architect, Tim Vreeland, had designed this downtown post-modern skyscraper inspired by sixteenth century French chateaux, the artist worked with that theme as well, drawn particularly to their formal gardens. The murals are based on aerial views of the geometrical gardens at Villandry and Chenonceaux, as well as a more personal response to the gardens of Los Angeles, where she was living and working. The warm, golden south mural on Seventh Street is capped by a festoon of oranges based on ancient Roman ornament, but also a local icon. The west wall on Figueroa Street is crowned by two chubby angels for Los Angeles, derived from Roman and Italian Renaissance sources. It is cool, predominantly green and silver, more like the gardens off-season.