



In the center and at the bottom of the space is a reflective symbol for water that represents the Salt River that runs through the city. Abstracted rock formations of Cor-ten steel rise from the base in a circular direction, transforming into two halves of a Spanish mission style archway. The rock formations and two half arches represent the double buttes that overlook Tempe. From some viewing positions, the arches will appear as a single structure paying homage to the region's Spanish architectural and cultural history. The arch structures are designed as I-beam type components to recognize modern architectural methods of construction and the present-day people. Two cast bronze bells that take the form of the Saguaro flower rest inside the window openings on each half arch.

Salt River Valley Vision merges organic and architectural imagery drawn from local environment to highlight the links between the build environment and the natural world. In its narrative of the emergence of a modern community from an ancient civilization, the design celebrates the historical heritage of the Salt River Valley region. With its engaging visual and auditory elements, the work will offer inspiration and invite reflection for visitors to the Memorial Gardens.