

NASHER SCULPTURE CENTER

Dallas, Texas 2001 – 2003; 2016

The opening of the Nasher Sculpture Center in 2003 was one of the most highly anticipated events of the art world. Designed by Renzo Piano and landscape architect Peter Walker, the center would house one of the finest collections of modern and contemporary sculpture on earth.

The shop, situated prominently next to the main entrance, had to complement the movement and space of masterpieces by famed artists including Calder, di Suvero, Giacometti, Picasso and Rodin. Raymond Nasher, who had built the region's dominant NorthPark Center Mall, chose Mary to mastermind the shop. He felt Mary would charm the center's sophisticated audience with a distinctive inventory of original art, books, jewelry, accessories, toys and gifts.

True to form, Mary researched other museums and shops worldwide for competitive comparisons. She developed financial goals; allocated percentages of the budget to inventory, staff and operational expenses; developed branded merchandise; bought items globally; and assisted in packaging design. Of great importance was the selection of an appropriate computer system and this, too, was part of Mary's work. Profitable since opening day, the Nasher Sculpture Center shop achieved Mary's initial financial projections, yielding \$1.2 million within a year of opening. The Nasher store have become a destination of visitors, local Dallas customers and designers.

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"Mary Bloom is without doubt one of the country's most accomplished and creative buyers for museum stores. Time after time she has proven her ability to create a merchandizing plan that is unique to the organization, commercially successful, diverse, and notable for great taste. And she is terrific to work with."

– Steven Nash, Director,
Palm Springs Art Museum,
formerly Director of the Nasher
Sculpture Center, Dallas

