Stone

A SUBSTANTIAL WITNESS

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVID SCHEINBAUM

MUSEUM OF NEW MEXICO PRESS SANTA FE

"If stone is," in the words of Chile's Nobel Laureate Pablo Neruda, "a substantial witness" to the "trembling world," then the photographic images presented in this volume intimately capture the enduring qualities and varied uses of stone in the prehistory and history of geographically separate and diverse human cultures. The upright bluestones of Stonehenge, the repeated notes of the Tower of Pisa and the towering, marble-faced Washington Monument were all inspired by an intensity of human commitment and achieved in a common material: stone.

This, the first paragraph of the introduction by Jo Anne Tilburg to David Scheinbaum's book, "STONE," is an apt preface to the procession of images, one per page, in what is an eloquent pictorial monograph devoted to stone, to the presence of stone, to the iconic ways in which stone serves to embody spirit.

In her essay Ms. Van Tilburg identifies the ways humankind has, over the ages, related to stone: as a material for carving and building, a medium of expression, a repository of power, a presence in the landscape, and a substantial witness to, and expression of, our "trembling world."

These selected photographs are an intimation of the broad and eloquent range of the images to be found in the book. ■

ΤL



TOFUKU-JI TEMPLE KYOTO, JAPAN, 2000















