

# **American Curves: The Public Works Legacy of Gilmore D. Clarke and Michael Rapuano**

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## ***abstract:***

Few landscape architects in U.S. history have had greater impact on the form and character of the American city than Gilmore Clarke and Michael Rapuano. Steeped in the Beaux arts formalism then in vogue at nearly all American design schools, Clarke graduated Cornell in 1913 and worked for Charles Downing Lay in New York before being recruited by the Bronx River Parkway Commission to build a "landscaped road" in Westchester County. Over the next two decades, Clarke led an extraordinary team of designers and engineers in creating the first landscaped road in the United States.

landscape architecture

was Michael Rapuano, fifth recipient of the Prix de Rome in