

SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS/ SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER





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# Designer as Patron: Measer in Venice

N THIS ISSU

#### SAH/SCC Tour & Talk Saturday, February 22, 2014, 2-4PM

SAH/SCC presents the second in our new series, "Architect/Designer as Patron," where we visit designers and architects who have built their own homes, and discuss the issues of domestic living today. The Venice Anthem House, by designer Dorothy Measer at dk designhouse, is a great example of minimalism for a modern family.

The 3,802-square-foot home was built on the foundation of a former "Granny cottage" owned by David Measer. When a mutual friend suggested Dorothy help him with color and light issues, it was love at first sight—and site. She designed the new home for their growing family with open spaces that connect with each other, the greater outdoors, and the local community.

Throughout the interior and exterior spaces, the designer calls attention to the systems that support and define daily life, such as city grids, light cycles, and air circulation. The open indoor/outdoor floor plan radiates around a central cylindrical structure—sporting a bright-orange interior—that acts as the "guts" of the house, neatly concealing utilities. Surface tones of white and natural wood are accented with vibrant shades of blue, green, yellow, and orange in furnishings, fabrics, accessories, and art to warm the strong contemporary lines.

The building footprint was re-oriented—turned five degrees on the existing lot—to take advantage of passive solar gains and natural breezes. Connection to site and community was important to Measer, who created a lower-level outdoor space to actively engage the street, creating neighborhood interaction through such features as a built-in bench for passersby to pause. The curve of the low wall framing the garden also softens the corner lot, acting as a welcoming gesture.

An array of vertical green metal panels lines the rectangular façade. The multi-colored panels are arranged in a barcode pattern interpretation of a portion of the closing lyrics from the owners' favorite song, "Anthem" by Leonard Cohen: "Light gets in." The concept has truly become the anthem of the Measers' lives, love, and living.



Designer as Patron—Measer in Venice: February 22, 2014; 2-4PM; \$15 each for SAH/SCC Life and Patron Members; reservations required; space is limited; seating will be made available to general membership should the opportunity arise, on a first-come first-served basis; registration—see order form on Page 6, call 800.972.4722, or go to www. sahscc.org; waiting list—email info@sahscc.org.





Photos: John Ell

# SAH/SCC President's Letter

# Thank you, Arline!



During the Members' Celebration at Wilshire Boulevard Temple, Arline Chambers (right) is surprised by SAH/SCC President Sian Winship with a gift in honor of her years of service to the organization.

For those of you who were unable to attend the SAH/SCC 2013 Members' Celebration at Wilshire Boulevard Temple this past November, you missed out on the big surprise: we honored our long-time administrator, Arline Chambers, for her dedication and mentorship of the organization.

Many of you have met Arline during the years at the check-in desk for events or through her part-time staff work providing email and snail-mail support for SAH/SCC. What you may not have realized is that Arline is an integral part of our organization—providing our all-volunteer board with the experience, wisdom, and indefatigable enthusiasm from her career in arts administration.

Arline has worked with SAH/SCC for more than 12 years. She was instrumental in providing the direction for our development campaign to move SAH/SCC to the web a few years ago, and continues to guide us in all matters large and small. Her social network of professionals has been invaluable to the organization in programming, technology, and event management.

Arline's career spans more than 30 years in the Southern California arts community in executive positions at Mark Taper Forum, Ahmanson Theatre, Los Angeles and San Francisco Civic Light Operas, Orange County Performing Arts Center, The Westwood Playhouse, and Dance Gallery. She spent 11 hectic years with Walt Disney Imagineering, working as an Arts Management Specialist, where she developed and facilitated an international museum tour of theme park art and architecture, "The Architecture of Reassurance: Designing the Disney Theme Parks."

During the Members' Celebration at Wilshire Boulevard Temple, SAH/SCC had the opportunity to honor Arline publicly for her tireless dedication to the organization and the entire arts community. Somehow, we managed to truly surprise her in the moment!

We hope that Arline will continue to work with us for many years to come. Next time you see her at an SAH/SCC event, I hope you will congratulate and thank her for her service.

—Sian Winship

# Members Celebrate!



With masterful Hugo Ballin murals running along the walls of the sanctuary, SAH/SCC members and guests enjoyed a panel discussion about the painstaking restoration of Wilshire Boulevard Temple during the annual SAH/SCC Members' Celebration. Telling the story of the restoration are (left to right) architect Brenda Levin, FAIA, landscape architect Katie Spitz, AIA, ASLA, and stained-glass expert David Judson. *SAH/SCC News* editor Julie D. Taylor, Hon. AIA/LA, moderated the discussion.

## Tour and Event Information: 1.800.972.4722 info@sahscc.org



SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

SAH/SCC NEWS is published bi-monthly by the Society of Architectural Historians Southern California Chapter. Subscription is a benefit of membership.

Editor: Julie D. Taylor, Hon. AIA/LA Internet Editor: Brent Eckerman Art Director: Svetlana Petrovic Administration: Arline Chambers

<u>March/April 2014</u> issue deadline for newsletter information and ads: <u>February,</u> <u>2014</u>. Please send all ad materials, and news to the attention of the editor:

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# Authors on Architecture: Frankl on Frankl SAH/SCC Lecture & Book Signing

#### SAH/SLL Lecture & Book Signing Saturday, March 8, 2014, 1PM

Join SAH/SCC for "Authors on Architecture," featuring Christopher Long, Ph.D., in conjunction with the new book, *Paul T. Frankl: Autobiography* (Doppelhouse Press, 2013). Edited by Long and Aurora McClain, the neverbefore-published autobiography was originally written in 1952-53, and follows interior designer Paul T. Frankl from his birth in Vienna, Austria, to his work in New York and Los Angeles.

For more than three decades, from the early 1920s through the mid 1950s, Frankl was the "dean" of modern designers in the United States. His executed works set the trend for new design, and his many books and lectures played a central role in spreading the message of modernism.

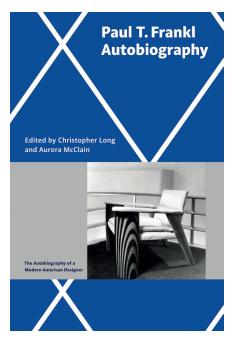
The book itself—described by Viennese publication *Artze Woche* as "exquisitely designed"—was designed by contemporary Viennese graphic artist Peter Duniecki, with a cover that harkens back to one of Frankl's wallpaper designs.

Long is professor of architectural and design history at the University of Texas at Austin. He studied at the Universities of Graz, Vienna, and Munich, and received his doctorate at the University of Texas in 1993. He is the author of Josef Frank: Life and Work (University of Chicago Press, 2002), Paul T. Frankl and Modern American Design (Yale University Press, 2007), The Looshaus (Yale University Press, 2011), and Josef Frank— Schriften/Josef Frank—Writings (Metro, 2012).

A dynamic presenter, Long will examine Frankl's long career, his many influential works, and his design ideas. Following the presentation, the book will be available for sale and signing by the editor.



Frankl sits in one of his "Speed" chairs next to a radio cabinet he designed, c. 1938.



Authors on Architecture: Paul T. Frankl: Saturday, March 8, 2014; 1PM; Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium at the Santa Monica Central Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica; free; seating is available on a first-come, first served basis; 310.458.8600.



"Woodweave" chair, c. 1938, designed by Frankl.



The Rodeo Drive home of Frankl Galleries, c. 1940.

# SAH/SCC Members

#### Life Members

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In 2013, SAH/SCC re-visited the career and work of Edward A. Killingsworth, FAIA, as well as embarked on an ongoing exploration into sustainable architecture. We also introduced a new series—"Architect/Designer as Patron"—an extension of our popular "Modern Patrons" and "Contemporary Patrons" series. Exhibitions at the Pasadena Museum of California Art and the A+D Museum were fertile ground for events.

#### February 9—Greta Magnusson Grossman.

A behind-the-scenes look at the exhibition "Greta Magnusson Grossman: A Car and Some Shorts" at the Pasadena Museum of California Art was followed by tours of Grossman-designed homes. Best known for furniture she designed for LA manufacturers during the early 1940s, she was also a talented modern architect with Southern California residential commissions in the 1950s and 1960s.

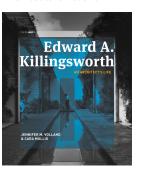


## April 21—Unfinished Spaces.

The documentary film "Unfinished Spaces" (2011) by Alysa Nahmias and Benjamin Murray chronicles the design, decay, and potential rebirth of Cuba's National Art Schools. The screening was followed by a panel discussion with SAH/SCC members that are Cuba architecture experts.

#### May 11—Killingsworth: An Architect's Life. The first

of two Killingsworth events featured a talk on the book *Edward A. Killingsworth: An Architect's Life* by long-time Killingsworth scholars Cara Mullio and Jennifer Volland. Author and former SAH/ SCC Board Member Mullio discussed Killingsworth's work and his contribution to the Southern California built landscape at this "Authors on Architecture" event.



## July 21—War, Wright, &

**Gemutlichkeit.** Designer Charles Paterson, along with co-author and daughter Carrie Paterson, read excerpts from their book *Escape Home*. The personal narrative relates modern architecture both to its era and to the act of storytelling, and gives form to the elusive concepts of home and freedom, and the unconstrained architectural possibilities of the postwar West.



## August 10—Never Built:

Los Angeles. Curators and architecture writers Sam Lubell and Greg Goldin gave SAH/SCC a behind-thescenes members-only tour of the exhibition "Never Built: Los Angeles" at the A+D Museum. The exhibition explores the "what if" Los Angeles through projects that never made it past the drawing board. The curators shared insights and stories about their selection and



August 24—The Solar House: Pioneering Sustainable Design. Former SAH/SCC President Anthony Denzer, PhD, discussed the origins of the solar house from its roots in the modern architecture movement in his book *The Solar House: Pioneering Sustainable Design.* Denzer discussed George Frederick Keck, "father of the solar house," and other early adopters of sustainable design.

# September 22—Architect as Patron: Duvivier in Venice.

The first "Architect as Patron" event was a visit to the greenest home in Venice, designed by architect Isabelle Duvivier, AIA. Members learned how a 1912 Craftsman cottage was transformed into a LEED Platinum building that is 52% more efficient than the average new California house.

### October 6—Contemporary Patrons: Laidlaw Schultz in Newport Bay. The

Brown House designed by Laidlaw Schultz Architects has stunning views from Laguna to Palos Verdes, and beyond to Catalina. Members gathered for the "Contemporary Patrons" tour and talk on balancing site, views, open areas, and intimate spaces.



## November 7—Wilshire Boulevard Temple Restored. The SAH/SCC Members' Celebration at Wilshire Boulevard Temple, the 84-yearold synagogue restored by Levin & Associates Architects,

was our most well-attended in years. We were one of the first groups to see the space and hear about the complex restoration from architect Brenda Levin, FAIA, joined by stained-glass expert David Judson, and landscape architect Katie Spitz, AIA, ASLA.



RON RADZINER FAIA TOM & PEGGY REAVEY JOHN AUGUST REED, AIA STEVE & SARI RODEN CLAIRE ROGGER ARTHUR & GLORIA ROSENSTEIN ROB ROTHBLATT, AIA RICHARD CAYIA ROWE JEFFREY B. SAMUDIO TRUDI SANDMEIER STEVEN SAUTE LAWRENCE SCARPA, FAIA ELEANOR SCHAPA ANN SCHEID JAMES M. SCHWENTKER III PATRICIA SIMPSON CECILIA SINGER MARK SLOTKIN CORBIN SMITH GIBBS M. SMITH NANCY & KYLE SMITH JANANN STRAND CAROLYN STRAUSS LYNN MARIE SULLIVAN VERN SWANSEN MARIE TARTAR & STEVE EILENBERG REGINALD THATCHER RAUN THORP, AIA M. BRIAN TICHENOR, AIA A. TISCHLER JULIE TSENG SARAH FLYNN TUDOR MAGGIE VALENTINE DANIEL VISNICH WOLFGANG WAGENER & LESLIE ERGANIAN ROBERT D. WALLACE QUINCY WARGO JOHN & LORI WARNKE FRIC & KAREN WARREN RON WATSON DAVID R. WEAVER JOHN H. WELBORNE, Hon. AIA/LA TED W. WELLS VOLKER M. WELTER DR. ROBERT WINTER TERI SUE WOLF MR. & MRS. DAVID YAMADA BOB YOUNG JOYCE ZAITLIN, AIA DAWN SOPHIA ZIFMER STEVEN ZIMBELMAN ANNE ZIMMERMAN, AIA, & MARK PIAIA, AIA

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#### New Life Members

John Papadopoulos & Stephanie Faillers

#### New Patron Member Kaitlin Drisko

#### New Members

Colleen Baker John Buch Andrew Byrom David Judson Brenda A. Levin, FAIA Kris Olsen Susan Rifkin Katie Spitz, AIA, ASLA Bruce Tucker William Wynne

NEWS

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SAH

# SAH/SCC PUBLICATIONS



\_\_ at \$5 each

**Masters of Modernism:** eight-page, two-color brochure featuring works of Richard Neutra and Frank Lloyd Wright in Bakersfield.





Architecture: Inside and Outside: 5"x5" folded color brochure featuring Santa Barbara's Lotusland, Casa del Herrero, and Val Verde



at \$12 each

**Out of the Shadow:** 24-page, two-color brochure from Phoenix travel tour featuring the work of Frank Lloyd Wright, Al Beadle, Blaine Drake, Paolo Soleri, Edward B. Sawyer, Bennie Gonzales, and Will Bruder



at \$3 each

A Block in Clendale: pocket-size fandeck of cards featuring five diverse properties— including a Paul Williams residence—plus historical background information on the Brockmont Heights subdivision



at \$8 each

Rodney Walker 3 30 90: 12-page brochure featuring nine homes on five sites, as well as the architect's use of the three-foot module



\_\$4 each

**Greta Magnusson Grossman:** 3.5" x 8" 2-page color brochure featuring two residences by Greta Grossman.



\_\_ at \$8 each

**Space and Learning:** eight-page, four-color brochure on the historical and contemporary legacy of LA school architecture, featuring projects by Richard Neutra, Thom Mayne, Rios Clementi Hale Studios, and others



#### \_\_\_\_ at \$5 each

Rodney Walker: The Ojai Years: tri-fold, blackand-white brochure featuring Walker's important residences in Ojai, with pictures and article by historian David Mason



## \_\_\_\_ at \$2 each

Kesling Homes: bi-fold, two-color brochure from the "Kesling Modern Structures" tour



\_\_\_ at \$2 each

**Union Station and MTA Transit Center:** bi-fold map for a self-guided walking tour including historical facts and photos



**Modernism for the Masses:** tri-fold brochure with inserts of detailed floor plans of Eichler homes visited on the Orange County tour

at \$10 each



#### \_\_\_\_ at \$10 each

The Historic and Modern Spirit of Ventura: 20-page guide from Ventura tour



**David Gebhard Review:** essays on the Works Project Administration by Robert W. Winter, Orville O. Clarke, Jr., and Mitzi March Mogul

at \$5 each



\_\_\_\_\_ at \$4 each

Killingsworth: A Master Plan for Learning: 11"x17", fourcolor walking tour brochure of the Cal State Long Beach campus features history of master plan development by architect Edward A. Killingsworth, FAIA.





**Ray Kappe–Apotheosis:** eight-page brochure features five Kappe Houses from 1959 to 1966 in the Royal Woods development of the San Fernando Valley.



at \$8 each

**Conjunctive Points:** four-color, 11"x17" brochure featuring a 20-building walking tour of the Hayden Tract, designed by architect Eric Owen Moss and developed by Samitaur Constructs.

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SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS / SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

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# SAH/ORDER FORM

SAH/SCC is a 501c 3 nonprofit organization dedicated to providing its members with opportunities to learn about and experience the rich architectural heritage of Southern California and beyond. Our volunteer board members create tours, lectures, travel tours, and other events that explore the ideas behind the architecture as well as the buildings that result from them. From modern to craftsman, from Spanish Colonial to contemporary, our programs are the best-kept secrets in Southern California!

# **MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:**

- Advance notice of all SAH/SCC events—important because they usually sell out just to members
- 20-30% discounts on tour and event ticket prices
- Bi-monthly E-news with printable newsletter
- FREE tickets to our annual Members' Celebration event
- Special Members-Only E-Alerts about upcoming events
- A tax deduction for your membership dues
- The knowledge that you are supporting our mission to increase public awareness of Southern California's architectural heritage

## MEMBERSHIP LEVELS THAT FIT YOUR NEEDS!

Fill out the order form below or join online at www.sahscc.org.

\$45 Individual - All the membership benefits above for a single individual.

\$65 Dual - All the membership benefits for two names at the same address.

\$125 Patron - All the membership benefits above, plus priority reservation at our popular and exclusive "Patrons Only" programs, such as "Modern Patrons" and "Contemporary Patrons." Includes two names at the same address.

\$650 Life - A one-time donation that ensures your membership in perpetuity without the expense and inconvenience of annual renewal. Also includes priority reservation at our popular and exclusive "Patrons" Only" programs.

**\$500 Corporate Sponsorship** - Annual donation receives Sponsorship listing in the SAH/SCC Website and on SAH/SCC event publications and hyperlink from our Website to yours.

\$30 Student (requires scan of valid Student ID) - All the benefits of Individual membership at a 30% discount.

# SAH/SCC MEMBERSHIP

Individual membership at \$45 each	= \$
Dual membership at \$65 each (two names at same address)	= \$
Patron membership at \$125 each (two names at same address)	= \$
Life membership at \$650 each	= \$
Corporate membership at \$500 each	= \$
Student membership at \$30 each	= \$
Total Membership	= \$

# **JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!**

# SAH/SCC EVENT TICKETS

## Designer as Patron—February 22, 2014

SAH/SCC Life/Patron member ticket(s) at \$15 each \$\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed (Make c	hecks paya	ble to SAH/SCC)
Charge my credit card:	VISA	MC

Card Number

**Expiration Date** 

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Evening phone

Signature

City

State

## Name E-mail Address\* ( PLEASE PRINT)

Street

Daytime phone

#### Send to: SAH/SCC, P.O. Box 56478, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413 All event ticket sales are final.

We are sorry, refunds cannot be accommodated.

\*SAH/SCC PRIVACY POLICY: The SAH/SCC never sells, rents, or shares your mailing or email address. Electronic communications enable us to operate economically and efficiently.

# Olmsted and the West

### March 27-28, 2014

Even though the 1930 Olmsted-Bartholomew Plan for Los Angeles never materialized, Frederick Law Olmsted Jr.'s influence on the American West prevails. The National Association for Olmsted Parks investigates his legacy and its applications for today's open spaces during its symposium at Stanford University, March 27-28, 2014.

Opening keynote "Frederick Law Olmsted Jr.—A Vision for the American West" will discuss the Los Angeles plan, along with one for the East Bay Cities. Additional sessions include:

• "Defining the Purpose of Parks: Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. and the National Park System" moderated by Ethan Carr, PhD, FASLA, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, with Milton Chen, The George Lucas Educational Foundation, and Carolyn Finney, UC Berkeley College of Natural Resources.

• "The California State Parks System" moderated by Elizabeth Goldstein, California State Parks Foundation, with Major General Anthony L. Jackson, California State Parks, Sam Hodder, Save the Redwoods League, and Tjiska Van Wyk, Jack London State Historic Park.

• "Parks and Nature in the Metropolitan West" with Jon Christensen, UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability.

• "Regionalism in California: Frederick Law Olmsted Jr.'s Planning in Palos Verdes Estates" with Christine Edstrom O'Hara, CalPoly State University Landscape Architecture Department.

• "Metropolitan, Regional, & Environmental Planning in the American West" moderated by Frederick Steiner, University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture, with Bill Deverell, Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West, and Robert Doyle, East Bay Regional Park District.

The program rounds out with two guided tours: "A Vision Achieved: Celebrating 80 Years of the East Bay Regional Park District" and "The Stanford University Campus—Planning and Design." Go to olmsted.org/symposia for more information.