

NEWS

September/October

2017



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Lawrence Halprin: Alternative Scores

SAH/SCC Gallery Talk & Tour, Los Angeles Sunday, October 1, 2017, 3-5PM

Spend a fall afternoon with SAH/SCC as we explore the work of legendary landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, FASLA. SAH/SCC Life Member and gallery owner Edward Cella will take us on a behind-the-scenes look at his new exhibition, "Lawrence Halprin: Alternative Scores—Drawing From Life" at Edward Cella Art + Architecture. Cella is opening up the gallery special for SAH/ SCC on a Sunday.

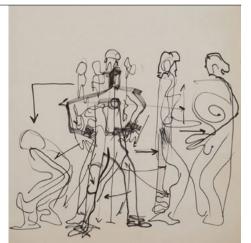


Sea Ranch, 1980.

Brooklyn-born Halprin (1916-2009) was educated at Cornell University and the University of Wisconsin before studying at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design with László Moholy-Nagy, Walter Gropius, FAIA, and Marcel Breuer, FAIA. By the mid-1960s, Lawrence Halprin & Associates gained recognition for urban landscape redevelopment projects, as well as for his work at the northern California community of Sea Ranch (Moore Lyndon Turnbull Whitaker, 1964).

The exhibition features the breadth of Halprin's drawing during several decades. "Halprin's daily practice of drawing was a means to not only record his diverse visual experiences, but was a tool for engaging with the trials and tribulations of war, the ecstasies of life, and the rawness and beauty in nature," shares Cella. Lost for decades, these drawings were found only after Halprin's death.

This event will feature a gallery talk by Cella and light refreshments. "Lawrence Halprin:



Movement Study, 1970.



Pandanus Tree, Purvis Bay, Florida Islands, 1943.w

Alternative Scores—Drawing From Life" runs concurrently with the A+D Museum's "The Landscape Architecture of Lawrence Halprin," the travelling exhibition organized by The Cultural Landscape Foundation.

Lawrence Halprin—Sunday, October 1, 2017; 3-5PM; Edward Cella Art + Architecture, 2754 S. La Cienega Boulevard, LA; \$15 for SAH/SCC members, \$20 for non-members; reservations see order form on Page 6, call 800.972.4722, or email info@sahscc.org.



SAH/SCC President's Letter

Over this summer we lost one of the great residential architects of his time: William Krisel. AIA. Krisel's gift was his ability to deliver avantgarde approaches to light and space in a way that could be replicated by developers. His brilliant mind and artistic eye improved the quality of life for thousands of residents in Southern California and beyond.

Krisel was uniquely qualified to serve. Born in Shanghai in 1924, he lived a privileged life and could speak several languages by the time he was a young man. While enrolled at the USC School of Architecture, he worked for both Victor Gruen, FAIA, and Paul László. Never lacking in confidence. Krisel spent his military service as a translator for General "Vinegar Joe" Stillwell in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater. Upon his return, he partnered with Dan Saxon Palmer, AIA, to form Palmer and Krisel, Architects.

Although the firm is best remembered for its work with the Alexander Construction Company for the father-son team of George and Robert Alexander, Palmer and Krisel's early work for other developers in tracts in Parkwood Covina and Midland La Mirada demonstrated their willingness to push the envelope of design for homes that adhered to strict FHA (Federal Housing Administration) standards. "I always remembered that every line I drew cost money," he shared with me once over lunch.

Bill lived to be honored by the City of Palm Springs for his tremendous contributions to that city's built environment. Yet, without denigrating that contribution, I counter that he was far more

than just a Palm Springs architect. He was a master architect who built in dozens of states across the country—and in multiple typologies.

After splitting with Palmer in 1966, he partnered again with Abraham Shapiro, AIA, and followed developers into the high-rise projects that empty nesters and urban densification necessitated Coronado Shores condominiums (1972) are a remarkable achievement in which Bill's talents in planning, design, and economy created a group of high-rise buildings that never compromised privacy or views.

Krisel's legacy includes an impressive body of commercial work as well as his famed residential projects. His ability to engage the eye from the automobile was something he learned early on in Gruen's office. He used it to his advantage in myriad projects, most notably in tract housing, where he created an architectural cadence that wooed buyers who recognized there was something different and appealing about Palmer and Krisel developments. More elegant than their Googie cousins, Bill's commercial projects engaged the consumer with the subtle opulence of simplicity and good design.

At an SAH/SCC screening of the documentary on Bill's work—"Bill Krisel, Architect" (Jake Gorst, 2010)—I had the pleasure of leading him in a Q&Asession with the audience. I played the straight man and let him be the star that he was. His sharp wit and uncompromising manner shone through. He was always generous to me with his time and his memories. He will be missed.

—Sian Winship



SAH/SCC President Sian Winship, SAH/SCC News Editor Julie D. Taylor, Hon. AIA/LA, and William Krisel, AIA, at the book signing for William Krisel's Palm Springs: The Language of Modernism (Gibbs Smith, 2016). Photo: Darren Bradley

Tour and Event Information: 1.800.972.4722 info@sahscc.org



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Soriano: Romantic Technologist

SAH/SCC Salon, Long Beach Sunday, October 15, 2017, 11:30AM-1:30PM

SAH/SCC Life Members and Patrons are invited to a special afternoon exploring the 1940 Kimpson/Nixon Residence by Raphael Soriano, FAIA, in Long Beach. The program will include a discussion about the history and architecture of the residence by owner/architect. Alan Pullman, AIA, founder of Studio One Eleven, and his wife Stephanie Pullman.

"The Kimpson/Nixon Residence is regarded as one of Soriano's purest achievements in International Style residential architecture." explains SAH/SCC Board Member and event organizer, Mark Piaia, AIA. Located in what is now the prestigious neighborhood of Alamitos Heights, the home is noted for its dramatic geometric form, which was created to fill the interior with natural light through a horizontal band of windows that runs the length of the structure.

Soriano directly oversaw the building of the home, which he designed for indoor-outdoor living in the Southern California climate. He reportedly designed the house during a six-month hospital stay after a car accident; this may have helped inspire him to create a house with first-floor lagoon view and a second floor with a sightline stretching all the way to the Pacific Ocean.

The Rhodes-born Soriano (1904-1988) is best known as an architect featured in the Case Study House Program of Arts + Architecture magazine. Renowned architectural historian Esther McCoy called Soriano "a romantic technologist," where "music and architecture are one to him." Of all of the architects photographer Julius Shulman could have selected to design his



Photo: Kimberly Bahnsen McCarron

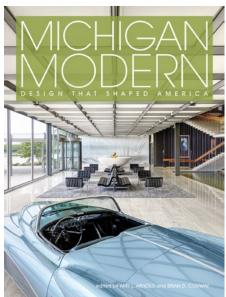
own home, Shulman picked Soriano. During the SAH/SCC "Modern Patrons" event at his home, Shulman explained: "If you hire Neutra, you get a Neutra house; if you go with Schindler, you don't know what you'll get; if you hire Soriano, you get vour house."

Don't miss the opportunity to experience a wonderfully intact and a truly remarkable example of Soriano's International Style residential designs.

Soriano Salon—Sunday, October 15, 2017; 11:30AM-1:30PM; Long Beach; \$25 for SAH/SCC Life and Patron Members: space is limited: tickets will be made available to general membership at \$35 each should the opportunity arise, on a first-come first-served basis (call or email to be on the waiting list); reservations see order form on Page 6, call 800.972.4722, or email info@sahscc.org.

<u>Authors on Architecture: Michigan Modern</u>

SAH/SCC Panel & Book Signing, Culver City Saturday, September 23, 2017, 2-4PM



SAH/SCC will take a virtual trip to the Midwest to explore the Great Lakes State's contributions to design and architecture, hosted by the Herman Miller showroom (Lynch/Eisinger/Design, 2009) in Culver City. Brian D. Conway, Michigan's State Historic Preservation Officer, and Amy L. Arnold, Preservation Planner for the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office, will be joined by contributing authors Alan Hess and SAH/SCC Member Emily Bills for a look at Michigan's contributions to modern design in architecture, automobiles, furniture, and education. Their new book, Michigan Modern: Design That Shaped America (Gibbs Smith, 2016), will be available for sale and signing.

Authors on Architecture: Michigan Modern-Saturday, September 23, 2017; 2-4PM; Herman Miller, 3641 Holdrege Ave., LA; free; registration strongly requested—call 800.972.4722, email info@sahscc.org or go to www.sahscc.org.

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September/October 2017

Authors on Architecture: Schrank on Modernism and the Body

SAH/SCC Talk & Book Signing, Santa Monica Saturday, September 9, 2017, 1-3PM

Please join SAH/SCC and the Santa Monica Public Library (Moore Ruble Yudell, 2006) to hear author Sarah Schrank, Ph.D., as she explores the significance of the sun to modern concepts of healthful architecture. Her topic, "Sunshine Architecture: Naked Living and the Rethinking of the American Suburbs," will focus on post-World War II suburban nudist experiments and the ways in which standard 1950s and 1960s tract homes, mostly in Florida and California, were adapted to allow for modern concepts in indoor-outdoor living.

Schrank is an editor for and contributing author to the new book, Healing Spaces, Modern Architecture, and the Body (Routledge, 2017), coedited with Didem Ekici. The collection brings together 12 scholarly essays focused on the relationship between the modern architectural history of North America and Europe and modernist obsessions with health and the body. The essays interrogate unusual ways of thinking about architectural settings, nature and natural environments, and urbanism and physical wellbeing, keeping in mind the limitations of utopian design and the tension between healing the body and controlling it.

Healing Spaces, Modern Architecture, and the Body's examination of how health and the body have been intentionally integrated into the design of the built environment helps expose processes of judging bodies "good" or "bad" while celebrating inherently playful architectural elements as many of the architects, designers, doctors, and homeowners simply tried to make living spaces that bring pleasure, joy, and alleviation of pain.

Schrank is Professor of History at California State University, Long Beach, where she teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in United States women's history, urban history, and the history of the body. She received her Ph.D. in United States history from the University of California, San Diego, and has held research fellowships at the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation of the Huntington Library. The Wolfsonian-Florida International University, and the Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies at Princeton University.

Authors on Architecture: Schrank—Saturday, September 9, 2017; 1-3PM; Santa Monica Central Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.; free; seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis; 310.458.8600.

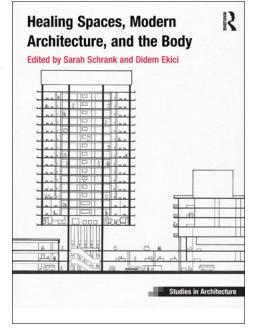




Photo: courtesy BASF Sanatorium for Consumptives

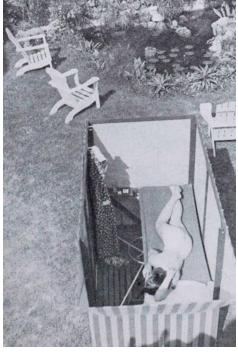


Photo: courtesy of Sarah Schrank

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



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Soriano Salon—October 15, 2017

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'God Is in the Details' Architecture Quiz

See how well you did determining these Southern California architectural gems.



Eames House, Charles & Ray Eames,



The Broad, Diller Scofidio + Renfro,



The Getty Center, Richard Meier & Partners, 1997



LACMA William L. Pereira & Associates, 1964



Ennis House, Frank Lloyd Wright, FAIA, 1924



Lovell Beach House, Rudolf Schindler, 1929



Salk Institute, Louis Kahn, FAIA 1963



Holiday Bowl, Armet & Davis. 1958

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