

NEWS

May/June

2019



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Authors on Architecture: Gonzalez on SoCal Architects

SAH/SCC Lecture & Book Signing, Santa Monica Sunday, May 19, 2019, 2-4PM

Please join SAH/SCC for a look at the work of some of California's forgotten architects with author Antonio Gonzalez, as he lectures on his recent book, *Architects Who Built Southern California* (The History Press, 2019). The event takes place at Santa Monica Central Library (Moore Ruble Yudell, 2006).

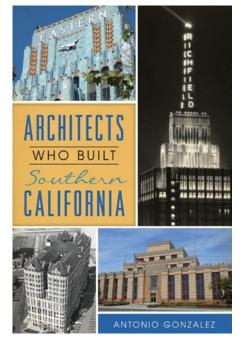
In the early 1900s, the population of Southern California exploded and the cities grew at such a rapid pace that builders could hardly keep up. Well researched and well illustrated, the book shines a light on the people behind some of Southern California's most iconic buildings.

Gonzalez takes readers on a fanciful tour of the works of 10 architects—some more noted (John Austin, FAIA, Albert C. Martin, Meyer & Holler, Julia Morgan, FAIA, and Morgan, Walls & Clements) and some not as much (Harrison Albright, Claud Beelman, Elmer Grey, FAIA, Hudson & Munsell, and Alfred F. Rosenheim).

Beelman, a man who never received a college degree, would go on to design the LA Elks Lodge (Curlett & Beelman, 1924), among dozens of other commissions, including the Eastern Columbia Building (1929). Albright, who worked mostly in San Diego, contributed to LA with the Santa Fe Freight House (1906), now inhabited by SCI-Arc (Gary Paige Studios, 2001). Martin, architect of City Hall (1928) with John C. Austin and John Parkinson, founded an architecture firm that still bears his name more than 100 years later.

Gonzalez, who works at the Architecture and Fine Arts library at the University of Southern California, holds a BA in Journalism from the University of Iowa and a Master's in Library Science from San Jose State University. In addition to the presentation, books will be available for sale and signing by the author.

Authors on Architecture: Gonzalez; Sunday, May 19, 2019, 2-4PM; Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium, Santa Monica Central Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.; free; seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis; 310.458.8600.









Elks Lodge (Curlett & Beelman, 1924).



SAH/SCC President's Letter

Back to Conjunctive Points



The Pterodactyl office building (2014).

This past March, 350 preservationists attended the Preserving the Recent Past 3 (PRP3) conference in Los Angeles to share the latest strategies for identifying, protecting, and conserving significant structures and sites from the post-World War II era. The two days of conference sessions ranged from historic trends and themes related to recent past buildings, sites, and landscapes, to significant postwar-era sites of underserved communities.

SAH/SCC was asked to reprise its 2012 tour of Conjunctive Points at the Hayden Tract in Culver City. Originally the vision of SAH/SCC Vice President, Jay Platt, the event explored the history of this light-industrial area and the transformative vision of socially conscious developers Frederick and Laurie Samitaur Smith. From the mid-1980s through the present, they have collaborated with noted architect



Vespertine restaurant (2016).

Eric Owen Moss, FAIA, to effect progressive social action through redevelopment, art, architecture, and economic revitalization. During the course of 30 years, the Smiths acquired various properties within Culver City's Hayden Tract and engaged Moss in an iterative exercise in planning. The result is a district of architecturally experimental buildings, which has become a desirable location for creative industries, artists, and media companies.

For PRP3, Jay delivered an expanded lecture on the history and the context of the Hayden Tract. Afterward, tour-goers traveled via Metro Expo Line from USC to Culver City, where the group was met by project architect Dolan Daggett for an extensive walking tour of the projects. From visionary early buildings, such as Stealth (2001), to recent additions like Vespertine (2016), the tour showcased the evolution of the work of Eric Owen Moss Architects.

After three miles of exploration on foot, the tour ended at the office of the architect, where the group was treated to a viewing of the model for the upcoming (W)rapper building—an engineering wonder. The new tower, with floor plates of 15,000 square feet each, will be supported on a structure of curvilinear, concrete-filled, one-by-five-foot steel tube ribbons. The ribbon system will be located external to the floors, so the floor plates are entirely open and flexible. The ribbons are designed to be resolved at the base of the tower as a series of intersecting hyperbolic support walls that geometrically join ribbons on one elevation with ribbons on the opposite side.

The half-day tour was offered twice during the conference, and attendees included more than 50 architects, historians, and preservationists from around the country. The Hayden Tract tour showcased architecture and revealed a potential historic district unique to Los Angeles—reigniting the need to consider resources that do not yet meet the 50-year threshold for historic significance..

Thank you to Jay and SAH/SCC Treasurer, John Berley, for leading these tours. If you missed the 2012 tour and/or the PRP3 version, we have updated our walking tour brochure to include the more recent projects (available for purchase on Page 5 or at www.sahscc.org).

-Sian Winship

Tour and Event Information: ph: 1.800.972.4722 e:info@sahscc.org

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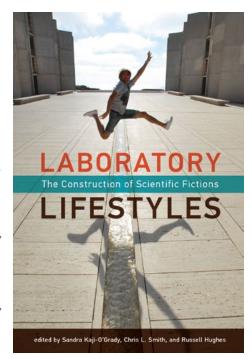
Authors on Architecture: Leslie on Aerospace Architecture

SAH/SCC Lecture, Culver City Friday, August 16, 2019, 6PM

SAH/SCC welcomes author Stuart W. Leslie, PhD, who will give the talk "The Beach Boys: Classified Research With a Southern California Vibe," based on his contribution to Laboratory Lifestyles: The Construction of Scientific Fictions (edited by Sandra Kaji-O'Grady, Chris L. Smith, and Russell Hughes; MIT Press, 2019), a new book on how advancements in lab design affect the work of scientists. His essay on the aerospace and think tank architecture of the Cold War explores the architectural legacy of local institutions, such as the Rand Corporation and Hughes Research Lab.

And what better location than The Wende Museum of the Cold War? The Wende's collection of Cold War art, culture, and history from Soviet Bloc countries inspires a broad understanding of the period and explores its enduring legacy. The museum's new location is the once-abandoned 1949 National Guard Armory, which was renovated by PARAVANT Architects in 2017 as the Culver City home of the museum.

Leslie, a professor at Johns Hopkins University and the author of The Cold War and American Science: The Military-Industrial-Academic Complex at MIT and Stanford (Columbia University Press, 1993), is a dynamic speaker who makes



the history of modern science, as told through architecture, accessible to everyone. His work is richly illustrated with archival photographs.

In February 2018, Leslie dazzled SAH/SCC with his presentation "The Romance of Water and Power: Architecture as Advertisement." an exploration of the commercial and industrial buildings of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power—from neo-Grecian temples to luminescent Art Deco showrooms—and their role in the community.

Authors on Architecture: Leslie; August 16, 2019; reception at 6PM, lecture at 7PM; The Wende Museum, 10808 Culver Blvd., Culver City; free; reservations required—see order form on Page 6, call 800.972.4722, go to www.sahscc.org, or email info@sahscc.org.



Photos: Michael Underwood; courtesy of The Wende Museum

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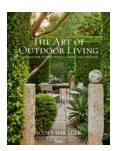
City of Angels: Houses and Gardens of Los Angeles

by Jennifer Ash Rudick; photos by Firooz Zahedi

One would expect a book on tony LA homes to be dominated by Hollywood notables. Refreshingly, the number of homes of those in the fields of architecture, design, and art more than double those of producers and directors. Curious, though, for a tome about LA houses are the very few ground-up projects, but that is countered by renovations of Modernism's greats—Rex Loterey, FAIA, Ed Fickett, FAIA, Lloyd Wright, Richard Neutra, FAIA, Rudolf Schindler—and numerous Revival homes. Myriad styles are duly represented as we get a glimpse into the lives of noted Angelenos, from the classically modern vibe

of art and culture mavens Ann Philbin and Cynthia Wornham's Buff, Straub & Hensman (renovation: Chu + Gooding; landscape: SAH/SCC Life Member Lisa Gimmy), to the wildly eclectic spread of Tony Duquette protégé Hutton Wilkinson, and the surprisingly subdued and unmannered Malibu beach house of trendy interior designer Kelly Wearstler. Given that the text stresses interviews and lifestyles of the homeowners, seeing them in their habitats would have added another layer. But, then again, it could hamper the reader/viewer's ability to live vicariously—and terribly elegantly—through the images of these 27 homes. Personally, I see myself in the Garcia House by John Lautner, FAIA, even though it's owned by SAH/SCC Life Members John McIlwee and Bill Damaschke.

Vendome Press, 2018, 392 pages, hardcover, \$75.

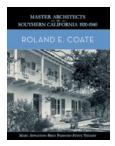


The Art of Outdoor Living: **Gardens for Entertaining Family and Friends**

by Scott Shrader; photos by Lisa Romerein; foreword by Jean-Louis Deniot

Los Angeles-based landscape designer Shrader and photographer Romerein present the greatest advantage of Southern California living—the luxury of enjoying the outdoors. And luxury is the right word for Shrader's garden designs. Before delving into 13 gardens, the designer briefly states his principles of design, based on sustainability, lifestyle, and terrain. The garden section begins with Shrader's own West Hollywood home he dubs his "Laboratory," and progresses through fecund lushness, regardless of the gardens' formality

or ease. A beautiful touch in the layout is starting each project with a full-page detail of a particular plant species, opposite the opening text, which acts as a visual palate cleanser. The garden party lifestyle and the naturalness of the landscapes show how Shrader seamlessly integrates people, plants, and place. Rizzoli International Publications, 2019, 240 pages, hardcover, \$50.



Roland E. Coate

by Marc Appleton, Bret Parsons, and Steve Vaught

For the second installment in the "Master Architects of Southern California, 1920-1940" series, the authors focus on the work of Roland E. Coate, FAIA, first known for Early California and Monterey Revival homes, and later adding multiple LA revival styles—Spanish, Georgian, Regency, Colonial—to his repertoire. His skill of adapting styles is best summed up by one of his many Hollywood clients, the actress Myrna Loy, who remarked of her 1936 home: "Our architect designed a sprawling clapboard house combining Colonial grace with the contemporary freedom we wanted." A hallmark of the series is that

projects are shown through facsimile pages of The Architectural Digest in its early days when the focus was on work by Southern California architects (and it still started with "The"). Built between 1924 and 1939, many of the 36 homes featured are in and around Pasadena; remarkably, all but one remain extant. Tailwater Press/Angel City Press, 2018, 208 pages, hardcover, \$60.



Bernard Trainor: Ground Studio Landscapes

by Bernard Trainor

Gardens of 12 California homes—from Big Sur north to Healdsburg are featured through lush photos and personal reflections by Trainor, an Australian-born landscape architect living in Monterey. These modern estates are enhanced by Trainor's subtle, never showy, gardens and grounds. There's a gentle touch to the work with the feeling that a swimming pool

emerged surrounded by tall grass, or of slightly caged nature as greenery meanders with a stone path. Trainor is well paired with contemporary architects who use materials of stone, concrete, and wood in their natural, authentic states. The landscape and architecture interact as in a dance, gently moving into and around each other, in natural integration and dialogue. Of course, we know this kind of casualness must be carefully planned and executed.

Princeton Architectural Press, 2019, 224 pages, hardcover, \$55.

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



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



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Irving Gill: Los Angeles: 10-page booklet featuring photos and articles on Gill and three residential projects in I A



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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.



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



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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

John Parkinson, Downtown: 11"x17", four-color brochure featuring a self-guided walking tour of Parkinson buildings in Downtown LA's historic core and beyond.



__ at \$5 each

Rodney Walker: The Ojai Years: tri-fold, black-and-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.



at \$10 each

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



_ at \$5 each

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



_ at \$10 each

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



__ at \$4 each

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



__ at \$8 each

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.



_ at \$4 each

Designed for Learning: 11"x17" walking tour map and brochure of the University of California, Santa Barbara, campus.

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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!

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SAH/SCC EVENT TICKETS

Authors: Leslie-August 16, 2019

FREE Reservations(s)

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Postcard From DTLA

On Saturday morning, March 23rd, 25 SAH/ SCC members and friends met in Downtown LA in front of Paris Baguette to begin our hard-hat tour of adaptive reuse projects. First stop was the old Hamburger's Department Store (later May Company) designed by Rosenheim & Curlett in 1906. SAH/SCC Life Member Robert Chattel. AIA, of Chattel, Inc., and



In the Dutch Chocolate Shop. Photo: John Berley

Sarah Cahill of Omgivning Architects presented the building's history and future plans to revitalize it as a mixed-use complex. We got the rare opportunity to experience rooftop views of the Orpheum Theater (G. Albert Lansburgh, 1926) and Eastern Columbia Building (Claud Beelman, 1929; Killefer Flammang Architects, 2006).

After experiencing some of the original remaining historic fabric of the department store, tour-goers visited the Singer Building (Meyer & Holler, 1922) to see the exclusive live/work loft units being created.

We got a bonus visit to the Dutch Chocolate Shop (a.k.a. Finney's Cafeteria) to see its magnificent Ernest A. Batchelder tile. With groinvaulted ceilings, elaborate images of Dutch life, and Art Nouveauinspired motifs, it remains one of the most spectacular DTLA spaces. Cahill shared a bit about the challenges of using the historic space in terms of egress requirements demanded by current building codes.

This event, organized by SAH/SCC Board Member Kimberly Bahnsen McCarron, provided the perfect insight into how thoughtful architects and developers are revitalizing the historic core by using the Broadway Theater and Entertainment District Guide, tax incentives, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Buildings.



Sarah Cahill (right) with hard-hatted tour-goers on the roof of Hamburger's.



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