

COLUMNS

OCT/08 Hit Me With Your Best Shot: four local photographers with an eye for architecture | The Changing Office Environment: talent, technology, and amenities
Design Pittsburgh 2008 Jurors | AIA Pittsburgh, a chapter of the American Institute of Architects

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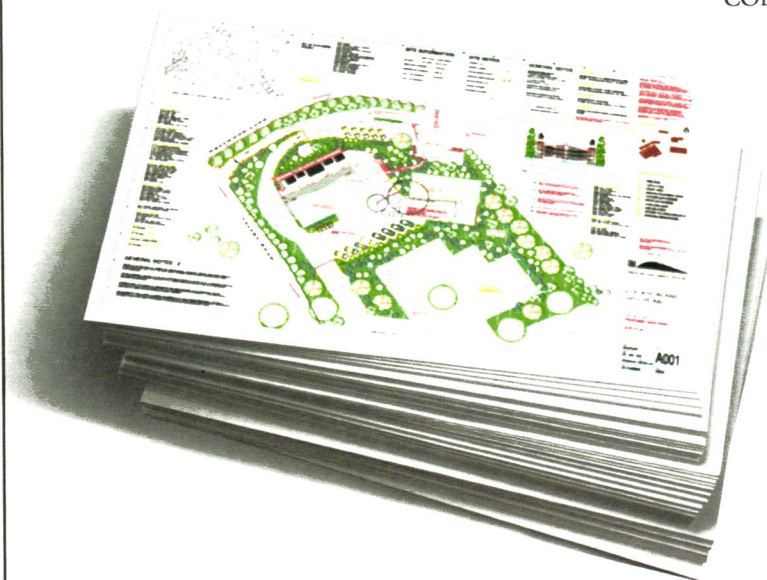
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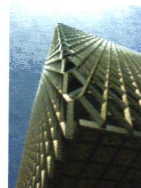
I love words. I love how they break down, their origins, and how meanings have morphed over the years. I am a self-proclaimed geek, with no shame. The walls of my house are lined with bookshelves, and they are practically filled to the brim. For the most part, I love books indiscriminately. They provide entertainment, education, and escape. But the genre that is near and dear to my heart is reference. I love the idea of compiling knowledge between two covers as a tool. Even more specifically, I love a good dictionary. I love what the choice of words omitted says about the publisher of a given dictionary. I own many dictionaries, from as wide a range of periods and publishers as possible. I have medical dictionaries, textile dictionaries, glass dictionaries, a children's primer dictionary, and – my most prized of all books – the Oxford English Dictionary. This beast of a collection is one of the oldest and most inclusive, and provides more information on each word than any four dictionaries combined!

As someone who loves words, I am always looking for new ones. When I hear a word that I don't know, I'll look it up as soon as possible, lest I forget. (I used to keep a notepad with me at all times just to write down new words, or words that were unclear to me.) And recently, at a *Columns* editorial board meeting, a new word was mentioned, one that peaked my interest – “millenials”. The topic was the work place, and the changes that have occurred within such spaces over the years, questioning the driving forces behind such changes. The answer that we came back to again and again was the generational shift – from Baby Boomers to Generation X, and now with Generation Y (or millenials) entering the workforce, expectations have changed a great deal in the past 50 years. At the end of the meeting, we had agreed that the topic was of interest, one worth pursuing as an article, and

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On the cover: Meadowcroft Rock Shelter by Pfaffmann + Associates PC, photo by Ed Massery

you'll find that exploration here, on page 25. Directly there after, I looked up this new word, and ended up doing a fair bit of reading, not only on the millennial generation, which is defined as those born between 1982 – 1994, but also on Generation X (those born between 1965 – 1981) and the differences of each generation's mindset. A productive meeting, a new word, expanded knowledge and understanding – it was a good day!

Just as I have my words and books, the men in our main feature have their cameras. These four local photographers have made a name for themselves through their hard work and good eye. You may already know one or all of them; you may have worked with them as they documented your work. Here at *Columns* we thought it was about time to introduce them to you on a more personal level, to briefly tell their story and what led them to pick up a camera. While they come from different backgrounds, they all have a love of the built environment in common, and the manner in which they continually capture 3-dimensional structures in a 2-dimensional realm is a beauty to behold.

Finally, it's that time of year again – time for Design Pittsburgh. Not only is it a time to celebrate your hard work and great achievements, it is also a time for architectural photographers to shine. Be sure to keep their stories in mind as you view the Design Pittsburgh exhibit this year!

Within these pages we give you a look at our Design Awards jury, made up of three stellar architects out of Seattle – Dan Huberty, FAIA, Rick Zieve, FAIA, and Amanda Sturgeon, AIA. Each year our executive director, Anne Swager, and our 1st vice president (this year Chip Desmone, AIA) take the Design Pittsburgh submissions and make the trek to some far-off city for a full day with the handpicked jury. It is always exciting here in the office throughout the months of September and October, first as the submissions come in and we get a peak at what everybody has been working on, and then throughout the process of celebrating the architecture community through our events – being a stop on the Cultural District's Gallery Crawl, the Gala, and finally, the Awards Ceremony. This year we are adding another couple events to the season, Pecha Kucha Night, which is an opportunity for members of the art and design communities to present their work and ideas to a broader local audience, and the [X]posed Studio Tour, a chance to look at some local design firms. Both of these events are presented in partnership with the AIGA (American Institute of Graphic Arts), and are a step towards a more inclusive design community. For more information about our busy Design Pittsburgh schedule, please go to www.aiaphg.org. We hope to see you at one (or two, or three....) of these events! 



CITIZEN ARCHITECT

BY PAULA R. MAYNES, AIA

Election season is here, reminding me of the responsibility I exercised last spring on behalf of AIA Pittsburgh. I had the great honor of serving as the delegate for our local chapter, casting our votes for the leadership of AIA National during the 2008 AIA National Convention.

Direct involvement in AIA National's elections provided a glimpse into the type of democratic process I speculate is carried out in our country's national elections. It is a somewhat idiosyncratic, although orderly affair, inextricably linked to the personalities involved in the process. Months before the convention, the component chapters were presented with an impressive slate of talented and dedicated individuals willing to work hard to advance the AIA mission to be "the voice of the architecture profession and the resource for our members in service to society." I believe that AIA's elected representatives were successful due to both the content and the delivery of their platforms. Ultimately, our members will benefit from the wealth of strong leadership embodied in a group of individuals who will actively debate how the AIA will serve as a relevant and significant voice for the profession and who will act appropriately to fulfill their obligation to a divergent membership. I personally hope that those architects who were not elected in 2008 will continue to look for opportunities to serve, for every one of the 2008 candidates was tremendous!


You may or may not be aware that the American Institute of Architects is not a large organization, roughly 80,000 strong. I've been told, but have not substantiated, that our ranks compete nationally with the likes of florists and chicken farmers in terms of the membership

count of their national organizations. Yet, our voice is knowledgeable and can make a significant impact in the governance of our communities. AIA National encourages us to become citizen architects, to run and hold office, or to serve on advisory boards, commissions, and governmental agencies such as planning boards, water and sewer authorities, or school boards, to name a few. No doubt, this is a scary proposition as we observe partisan attack ads. Yet, there are a few brave

souls who hear the call to serve. As I learned, resources prepared by the AIA can serve as the foundation of a civic platform that promotes strong communities. For example, a Salt Lake City architect was elected to City Council by advocating the principles for "Livable Communities" developed

by AIA's Communities By Design knowledge community.

Architects can bring broad-based training to the process of shaping our cities and towns and developing strategies for the future. Who better understands the relationship between resource management and healthy environments? As architects, we understand that green design is smart business. After all, reducing the energy consumed by our buildings helps reduce operating expenses while being kind to the environment. Who better can apply these principles to governing policies? Who better than architects to help educate the public and our leaders on this type of shared benefit?

I have great faith in my fellow architects to be able to offer a balanced and informed perspective in solving society's current challenges. As professionals we aim to stay above the fray, but our voices should inform the debates that shape our communities. 



AIA Pittsburgh serves 12 Western Pennsylvania counties as the local component of the American Institute of Architects and AIA Pennsylvania. The objective of AIA Pittsburgh is to improve, for society, the quality of the built environment by further raising the standards of architectural education, training and practice, fostering design excellence, and promoting the value of architectural services to the public. AIA membership is open to all registered architects, architectural interns, and a limited number of professionals in supporting fields.

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A.R.E. 4.0 LIBRARY IS UP AND RUNNING!




AIA Pittsburgh has established a free lending library of study materials for the Architectural Registration Exam version 4.0. The library includes Kaplan's comprehensive system, which includes study guides, flashcards, and practice vignettes for all seven exam divisions. In addition, we have multiple copies of the Professional Publications A.R.E. study guide for your use. The library is free to Associate AIA members and materials may be checked out for two weeks at a time. Please stop by the AIA office for more information.

FALL LECTURE SERIES

Each semester Carnegie Mellon University's School of Architecture presents a Lecture Series, bringing both internationally regarded architects as well as rising stars from around the globe to present their work and ideas. Check their website for this fall's line-up at www.arc.cmu.edu/lectureseries/index.html 

L MODERN OPENS AT THE PDC

The Pittsburgh Design Center, located in the Strip District, welcomes a new member - L Modern. L Modern offers contemporary furniture, lighting, art, area rugs, and accessories. The showroom is "trade-only" and will be sure to compliment your clients' desire for a modern look. Stop by at 3011 Smallman Street, Pittsburgh, or see their ad on page 20. 

FIVE NEW AIA CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

Available for public sale beginning on October 15th 2008, the AIA Contract Documents team has announced the release of five new paper documents.

Of the five, there are two new IPD (Integrated Project Delivery) Agreements to round out the IPD Single Purpose Entity (SPE) family of documents. They are the **C196™-2008, Standard Form of Agreement Between Single Purpose Entity and Owner Member for Integrated Project Delivery** and the **C197™-2008, Standard Form of Agreement Between Single Purpose Entity and Non-Owner Member for Integrated Project Delivery**.

There are also two additional Design-Build Agreements to complete the AIA's Design-Build family of documents. These two are the **A441™-2008, Standard Form of Agreement Between Contractor and Subcontractor for a Design-Build Project** and the **C441™-2008, Standard Form of Agreement Between Architect and Consultant for a Design-Build Project**.

An on-site project representation document that adds to the over 30 existing documents available in the AIA Contract Document's B-Series is the **B207™-2008, Owner-Architect Scope of Services Document**. 