

From: USModernist Newsletter - George Smart <george@ncmodernist.org>
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2019 9:51 AM
To: george@usmodernist.org
Subject: New Canaan's John Black Lee / Architecture to Comedy / Mr. Krisel's Neighborhoods / Wearable Century II / Marlon Blackwell Wins the Gold



USModernist

[USModernist](#) and [NCModernist](#) are part of Modernist Archive Inc, a North Carolina 501C3 nonprofit educational archive providing donors, volunteers, and advocates the information and organization they require to passionately engage the documentation, preservation, and promotion of residential Modernist architecture. Get connected to exciting [tours](#), [parties](#), [design competitions](#), and the show named as #2 in DWELL's [top nine architecture and design podcasts](#), [USModernist Radio](#). [View newsletter in browser](#). See past newsletters.

Monday, December 16, 2019



Get your company, studio, or practice involved in the wildly growing mid-century Modernist movement documenting, preserving, and promoting residential Modernist design across the US! [Become a sponsor!](#)

USModernist [has an online store](#) - with all the thoroughly ridiculous coffee cups, logowear, and mousepads you could possibly want! All proceeds benefit USModernist's ongoing documentation, preservation, and promotion work.

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US NEWS



New to the [USModernist Masters Gallery](#): [John Black Lee](#) of New Canaan CT. Lee was born in Chicago IL and attended Brown University. After serving in WWII, he graduated Brown and worked as an apprentice carpenter for [Walter Gropius](#) in Chicago. Lee was

recruited by [Paul Schweikher](#), dean of the Yale School of Architecture, to join Schweikher & Elting. Moving to the east coast, Lee worked for Oskar Stonorov, followed by [Eliot Noyes](#) in New Canaan CT. Lee established his own practice, John Black Lee & Associates, 2012 interview.



Marlon Blackwell wins the [AIA Gold Medal](#). Listen to his [USModernist interview](#) from earlier this year.



Even the most devoted Modernist still mourns the passing of the classical Penn Station in New York City. The good news: it's coming back! [Here's a YouTube documentary.](#)

Bjarke Ingels announces another [wowza project](#), this time in Brooklyn.



Are you a fan of [Bill Krisel](#)? Hundreds, perhaps thousands of California development houses in our Krisel archive have now been sorted into neighborhoods: [Parkwood Covina](#) * [Parkwood La Mirada](#) * [Parkwood Estates](#) * [Racquet Club](#) * [Vista Las Palmas](#) * [Kings Point](#) * [Twin Palms](#) * [Modern Gables](#) * [East Whittier](#) * [Southwest Whitter](#) * [Fremont Gardens](#) * [Garden Grove East](#) * [Garden Grove North](#) * [Enchanted Homes/Sunmor](#) * [Corbin Palms](#) * [Vista Park](#) * [Bermuda Woods](#) * [North Reseda](#) * [Tampa Homes](#) * [Louise Manor](#) * [Foremost Park](#) * [Midland Park Estates](#) * [Woodview Homes](#) * [Corval Estates](#) * [Northridge West](#) * [Living Conditioned](#) * [Marlborough Park](#). Huge hat tip to researcher and photographer Michael Locke, who drove from house to house, day after day, over the course of several months.



@



modernism week®

A Magical Evening at the Kirk and Anne Douglas Estate

Wednesday, February 19, 2020



Join USModernist for a fabulous evening fundraiser under the stars at the famed Kirk and Anne Douglas House designed by architect [Donald Wexler](#). Turn back time for a night of celebration and relaxation at one of the most famous – and beautiful – midcentury homes in Palm Springs! Under the palms, we will shake the martinis and enjoy wonderful architecture, sparkling conversation, and delicious drinks and appetizers - all for a deserving cause. You'll tour the iconic property and meet architecture fans and preservationists who love what you love. [Details and tickets.](#)



Are you a great web designer, enthralled with the detail and massive content of our websites but not-so-happy with the dated design? We're looking for a web creator with both design + coding skills using Dreamweaver or other direct HTML/CSS editor. Email george@usmodernist.org with contact information.



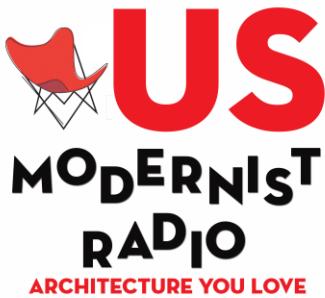
Attention air travelers! Starting October 2020, the TSA will only accept drivers licenses that have the REAL ID designation. Lines to get this are going to be huge in early 2020, so we suggest get'er done now. Did you know you can make appointments with most DOT's online and save a huge amount of wait time?

VOLUNTEER

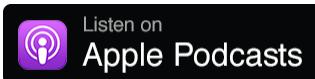
Are you going to be in Palm Springs on Wednesday, February 19? USModernist needs 12 volunteers for a fabulous evening fundraiser at the Kirk and Anne Douglas House. You'll get free admission and access to all the food, drinks, and entertainment in this evening under the stars. Email george@usmodernist.org with contact information.



Hat tips to **Daniel Perrin** and **Virginia Faust**.



Now on USModernist Radio: #123/Architecture into Comedy: Ron Friedman and Guest Co-Host Bob Langford. Ron Friedman graduated in architecture from Carnegie Mellon University. After working for a few years as an architect, and even spending a few weeks with Frank Lloyd Wright, he came to his senses and started writing and performing stand-up comedy. He was spotted by Dean Martin and Danny Kaye which launched a career writing for TV and variety shows, over 700 hours of beloved prime-time that you know and probably love, including The Andy Griffith Show, Bewitched, I Dream of Jeannie, Vegas, and Fantasy Island, among many others. If you're younger than 45, you'll know the G. I. Joe series and of course, the epic animated show Transformers for which Ron wrote 64 shows. He worked with the legendary Stan Lee to create The Marvel Action Hour. He drafted the episode of Happy Days that introduced The Fonz, and he wrote the episode of Bewitched that introduced Uncle Arthur, played by Paul Lynde. His new memoir is called I Killed Optimus Prime. Don't miss the gang's rendition of the Gilligan's Island theme. USModernist Radio is sponsored by [Angela Roehl](#) and [Nichihacom](#). [Listen to past shows.](#)





The Port Building in Antwerp, Belgium, designed by Zaha Hadid

NEW: USModernist-Curated Architecture Tours: In 2016, USModernist created wildly popular specialty European tours - exclusive to Modernist architecture - but they were only offered once a year. Now, through an alliance with Firebird, one of Europe's largest specialty travel agencies, you can experience unique USModernist-curated European Modernist architecture itineraries all year long! You will see - and visit - incredible architecture, art, and designer furnishings - truly thrilling opportunities to see the Modernist architecture you love. [Details](#).



New Book Available Tomorrow - *Sean Godsell/Houses*, by Sean Godsell with photos by Earl Carter. Godsell is an award-winning Australian architect based in Melbourne. Previously listed as one of *Wallpaper*'s ten people destined to change the way we live, Godsell—a pioneer of Australian minimalism—has established himself as an important influencer on the global architecture scene. This book features twelve house projects across Australia, each illustrated with full-color photography, as well as a selection of the architect's plans and exploratory sketches, which illuminate how each

project relates to its surrounding landscape. Includes a complete illustrated chronology of Godsell's works.



New Book Available February 11: The Surreal Visions of Hernan Diaz

Alonso. Diaz Alonso, one of today's most influential and innovative architects, heads an LA multidisciplinary design practice called HDA-X (formerly Xefirotarch). He's also CEO of SCI-arc, one of the best design schools in the world. Featuring plans for the Helsinki Central Library and major architectural projects in Barcelona, this book is a spectacular survey of Díaz Alonso's cutting-edge designs. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the MoMA PS1's Young Architects Program competition, and the 2012 Educator of the Year Award from the AIA.

SAVE CENTURY II

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The Historic Preservation Alliance, Inc. is raising money to Save Century II by renovating and/or repurposing the structure. Light grey t-shirts are being offered for donations of \$20.00 or more. Unisex sizes include M, L, XL, and XXL. Please complete the order form below and mail in your \$20.00 donation today! You will receive your t-shirt in the mail. Quantities are limited so order now! Make check payable to Historic Preservation Alliance, Inc. Please add \$5 to your order for shipping costs.

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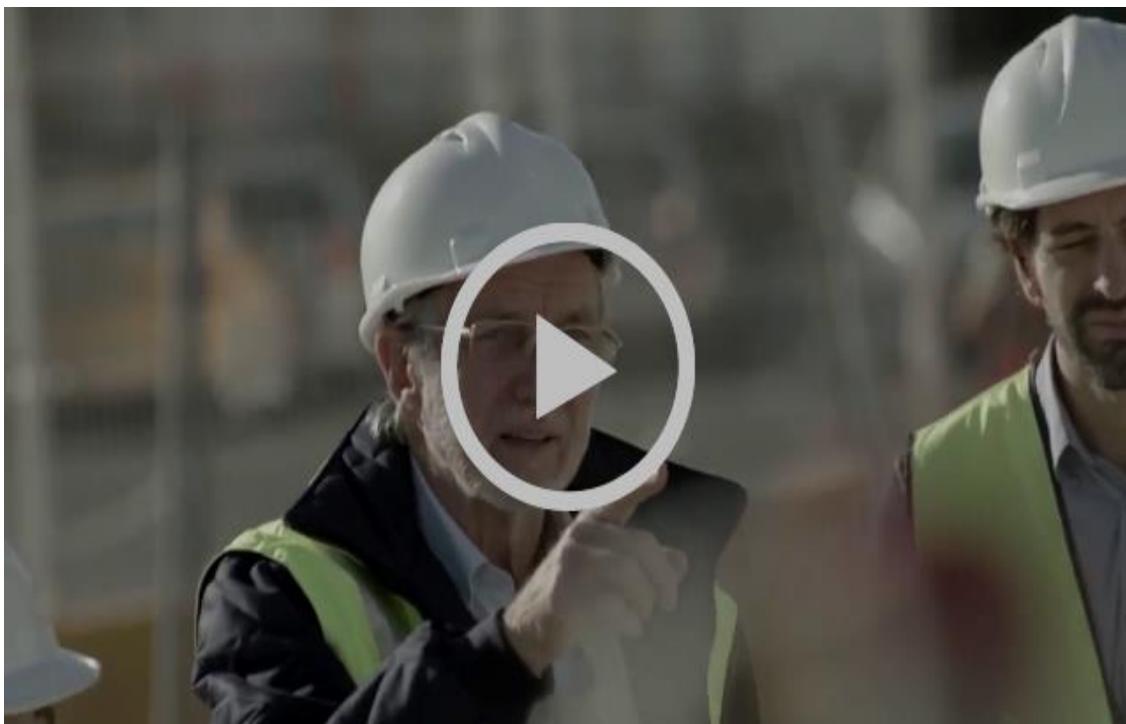
Fund the resistance in Wichita! Help the intrepid volunteers who are working to save the iconic mid-century performing arts space called Century II.





Monday, January 6, 730pm, the NCModernist/ModHomes Architecture Movie Series at the Chelsea Theatre, 1129 Weaver Dairy Road, Chapel Hill. The Chelsea is a beloved Chapel Hill art house theatre featuring fresh organic popcorn, craft beers, wine, and soft drinks! There are some great restaurants and coffee shops adjacent for pre- and post-movie gatherings. Sponsored again this year by Modernist Realtor [Sarah Sonke](#), these visually and intellectually compelling movies about Modernist architecture and architects rarely get shown in commercial theaters. Also sponsored by [NCSU Libraries](#) and [Hill Country Woodworks](#). [Details, schedule, movies, trailers, and ticket information!](#)

Double Feature: First, NC State's Entry into the AIA Film Challenge (2019, 5 min) with Professors Tom Barrie and David Hill: During a design studio, eleven graduate students researched veteran homelessness and support services, compiled and analyzed best practices of micro housing, and made a video about building micro house villages for veterans statewide.



Main Feature: Renzo Piano: The Architect of Light (2018, 80 min): a very special building, the Botín Center in Santander, Spain. The architect, a contemporary genius, Renzo Piano. The director, another contemporary genius, Carlos Saura. Carlos Saura and Renzo Piano will unfold their view on the relationship between architecture and cinema and show us the magic surrounding this gigantic building as imagined by Renzo Piano. The Botín Center, through time, will modify the soul of the city forever.



LUCY DANIELS FOUNDATION

Thursday, January 16, 6-8pm. Thirst4Architecture (T4A) at the Lucy Daniels Building, designed by [Frank Harmon](#), 629 Oberlin Road, Raleigh. Parking in the rear of the building and along the street. Frank Harmon will be signing copies of his book, which will be available for sale. Hosted by the Lucy Daniels Foundation.

Thirst4Architecture (T4A) parties are free, exciting, informal events welcoming anyone with a huge crush on great architecture. T4A events focus on building relationships, sharing passion about Modernist design, creating strategic alliances, and connecting people. There are no presentations -- just come join the fun and make new design friends! The 2019 [Thirst4Architecture Series](#) is sponsored by Modernist Realtor [Angela Roehl](#).



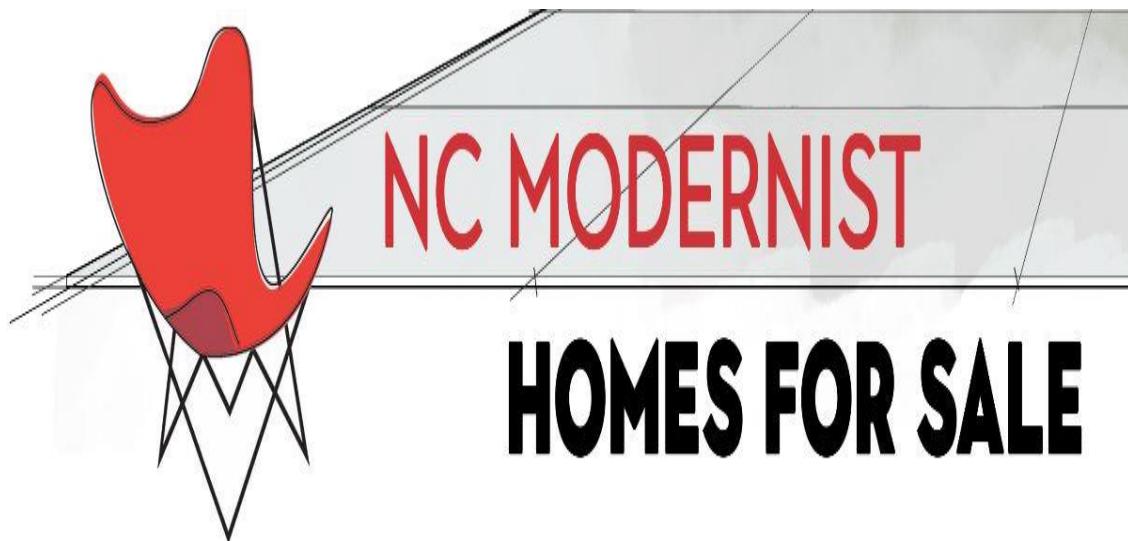
Tonic Design of Raleigh won a Best of Design Award from the Architects Newspaper for the Southeast Raleigh Magnet High School Great Hall Renovation in Raleigh. Photo by Tzu Chen.



[Cassilhaus](#): the story of two ingenious people who made their house into part museum, part gallery, part artist retreat.



Are you a hodler? If you know what that means, you probably are! Hodlers are those who hold onto the digital currency Bitcoin, waiting for the price to rise. Thanks to a widely-publicized spelling error on the internet, "holders" became "hodlers." You can take a tax deduction for [donating to nonprofits \(hint, hint\)](#) just as you can for checks or credit cards.



Vacancy, not development, is the enemy of mid-century Modernist houses. Preserve and protect the architecture you love by buying or renting before the bulldozers come a few years from now. Visit our [exclusive statewide list](#).

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