



USMODERNIST

Monday, January 18, 2021

USModernist and NCModernist are part of Modernist Archive Inc, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational archive providing donors, volunteers and advocates the information and organization they require to passionately engage in the documentation, preservation and promotion of residential Modernist architecture. [Visit our logo-ridiculous online store!](#)


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Hat tips to **Ron Gallagher** and **Virginia Faust**.

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Get your firm, organization, company, studio or practice connected to **USModernist** and **NCModernist**, the definitive online resources for mid-century Modernist residential architecture, including 400 architect profiles, 250 audio interviews, 40 video interviews, 29,000 photos, and 3 million pages of architecture and design magazines. **Become a USModernist sponsor!**



New: **This Saturday, January 23, 9am-4pm**, it's our first Trickle tour in Greensboro, NC!

Designed by **Jaroslav Kabatnik**, it's a mid-century modern immaculately restored under counsel from Preservation Greensboro. [Details and tickets.](#)

What's a trickle tour? It's where Modernist architecture fans visit an unoccupied Modernist house at a trickle of the normal rate. There will be no more than 5 people in a house at the same time. That's plenty of room per person, plus there's greater flexibility in selecting a tour time and ticket price. Participants must wear masks while

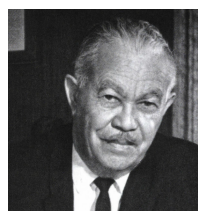
onsite and maintain a minimum six-foot distance with event staff and other participants.



It's the world's largest and **America's most expensive residence** on the market. Could this Los Angeles home be the Biltmore of Modernism? At 105,000 square feet, it's priced at \$350 million. And it was built on spec! USModernist Radio interviewed architect **Paul Mclean** in 2018.

AIA New York announces its **2021 design awards**.

A **few words** from **Peter Exley**, 2021 national AIA President. Look for an interview this spring on **USModernist Radio**.



Watch the documentary *Hollywood's Architect: The Paul R. Williams Story* anytime. Hat tip to Royal Kennedy Rodgers, producer/director. Look for an interview with her this spring on **USModernist Radio**, and see all the Williams houses in our **archive**.



Remembering Bauhaus designers **Josef and Anni Albers**. They taught at the Bauhaus and at Black Mountain College, and he headed Yale University School of Art's Department of Design. Their work in photography, typography, murals and printmaking continues to influence visual artists.



Dive into the nuts and bolts of mid-century Modernist history with **Charlie Kahn's 1970's interviews** of masterful architects and engineers including **Buckminster Fuller, George Matsumoto, Antonio Nervi, and Eduardo Catalano**.

Period Homes

Old House JOURNAL®

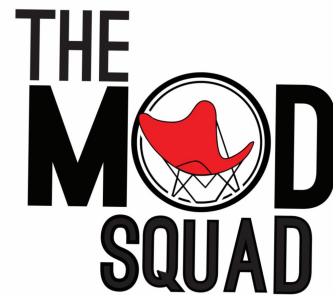
Traditional Building

Old-House Journals
NEW OLD HOUSE®

OLD HOUSE INTERIORS

Just added to the **USModernist Library** – traditional building titles *Old House Journal*, *New Old House*, *Period Homes*, *Traditional Building*, and *Old House Interiors*. Many thanks to **Clem Labine** and AIM Media. Click a title above to see what we have.

Do you have copies in your attic, basement, or closet to donate? We'll pay shipping! Contact **George Smart** at george@usmodernist.org or [919.740.8407](tel:919.740.8407).

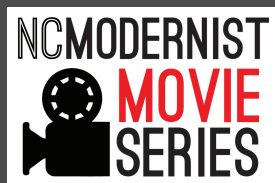


Want a **free six-month membership** in the [USModernist Mod Squad](#), our community of wonderful Modernist supporters, normally costing \$60?

AMEX Platinum cardholders get a free \$30 credit ***each and every month*** through June when they buy through PayPal. Note, you don't need to have a PayPal account, just pay using AMEX on their portal. There's no enrollment or registration necessary.

We're offering \$60 six-month Mod Squad memberships for \$30. Just go to USModernist's [donations page](#), donate \$30 using your AMEX Platinum, and get confirmation of membership from us in a few days. AMEX will credit the \$30 after June 30, according to their promotion terms.

No AMEX Platinum? We'll still give you the same deal if you donate \$30 through February 1!



The 2020 NCModernist/MODHomes Architecture Movie Series is now ... **FREE!**

Special thanks to [Sarah Sonke](#) and [MODhomes](#) for underwriting the series and making it possible. Additional sponsors include the [NC State Libraries](#), [Witthaus \(Toby Witte\)](#), [in situ studio \(Matt Griffith\)](#), [Hill Country Woodworks](#), and the [Chelsea Theater](#).

Wednesday-Friday, February 3-5

The Man and the Architect: Jørn Utzon

This documentary tells the story of Sydney Opera House architect Jørn Utzon's unique gift, brought to the world with the unending support of Lis, the love of his life. His story is told by the people who were closest to him: his children, close colleagues, and friends who share their open, honest anecdotes and experiences of him as an architect and a man. The film is a portrait of a devoted humanitarian and a sensitive and loving soul.

[Watch Trailer](#)

How to View: details will be posted here in the February 1 newsletter.

There will be a [free Zoom Q&A open to everyone](#) with producer Lene Borch Hansen and USModernist's [George Smart](#) and [Rebekah Laney](#) on Saturday, February 6, at 1pm ET.



Many thanks to movie series underwriter:

[Sarah Sonke](#) and [MODhomes Realty!](#)



Join the [Mod Squad](#), our community of wonderful Modernist supporters.

Get your firm, organization, company, studio or practice connected to our

community of Modernist fans as [a sponsor!](#)

Make a [donation](#) to support our ongoing mission of documentation, preservation and promotion.

Donate essential equipment off our [Amazon Wish List](#). From stamps to pads to scanners, each item helps further our research staff in collecting, sorting, shipping, cataloguing, and scanning documents to our archives.

Save 10% at [Westgate Wine](#), and they'll make a donation to USModernist. They ship all over the US and deliver in the Triangle. Use the code "Modernist."

On February 26 at [Leland Little](#), NCMModernist begins an auction of Modernist art, lamps, chairs and other furniture. Stay tuned!



USModernist has a really small staff – we can't do it all without the help of our passionate, wonderful, dedicated volunteers! You can be part of this growing organization dedicated to celebrating and preserving Modernist residential design across the country.

Field Research Agents: Volunteer to join USModernist's crowd-research project to scout the internet as we more fully document 8,000 iconic Modernist houses across America. From the comfort of your laptop, car, or both, research Modernist houses in Los Angeles, Palm Springs, Asheville, and Wilson. Contact **Carie Chesarino** at carie@usmodernist.org.

Photographers: Photodocument houses from the street in the Triangle area of NC. Contact George Smart at george@usmodernist.org.

Event Volunteers: Greet people and process tickets for registration at our NC tours and events. Contact **Rebekah Laney** at rebekah@usmodernist.org.

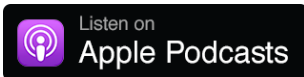
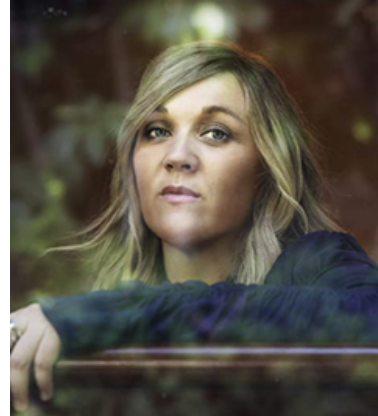
Rainmakers: Turbocharge our sponsor and underwriter contacts and infrastructure. Introduce us to people who are passionate about supporting Modernism. Connect us with family or public foundations who want to document and preserve Modernist architecture. Contact **George Smart** at george@usmodernist.org.

Social Media Manager: Plan and curate our daily posts on Instagram and Facebook. Contact **George Smart** at george@usmodernist.org.



Gusto is a super-easy, modern, online people platform that helps small nonprofits and businesses take care of their payroll. It's fast, cheap and good – the triple crown of apps – and it's the one we use at USModernist. [Sign up here!](#)

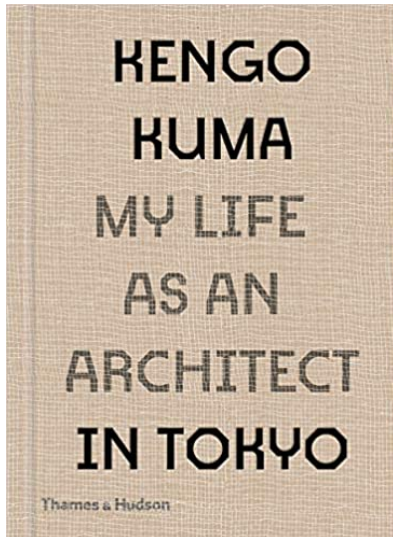




**New: #179/Canberra's Parliament House:
Architect Hal Guida + Secret City's Felicity Abbott**

In 1978, Australia decided to replace their old Congress, or Parliament House, in the capital of Canberra. A design competition drew 329 entries from 29 countries. The winner was a Modernist design from the Philadelphia firm of Mitchell/Giurgola. Today we meet project architect **Hal Guida**, plus **Felicity Abbott**, the production designer for Secret City, a Australian TV political thriller starring **Anna Torv** and filmed extensively at Parliament House.

USModernist Radio is sponsored by **Wendy Robineau** and **Don Beskind**, and by Modernist realtor [Angela Roehl](#). New to podcasts? You can also listen to USModernist Radio on any major podcast platform, through any device, or [through any computer. See past shows.](#)



New Book available February 23:

Kengo Kuma: My Life as an Architect in Tokyo

A personal tour of Tokyo's architecture, as seen through the eyes of one of the world's most acclaimed architects who is also designing the primary venue for the Tokyo Olympic games. Tokyo is Japan's cultural and commercial epicenter, bursting with vibrancy and life. Its buildings, both historical and contemporary, are a direct reflection of its history and its people. **Kengo Kuma** was only ten years old when he found himself so inspired by Tokyo's cityscape that he decided to become an architect. He tells the story of his career through twenty-five inspirational buildings in the city.



Got a bunch of old architecture/design magazines you've been saving/hoarding for years/decades?

Old architecture or design publications in your attic, basement, office, or storage

unit? Do you need to move them along — but you can't bear to throw them away?

USModernist will take them off your hands and make them available to the world, plus we'll make them searchable! USModernist has scanned over 3 million pages so far, all available for free in our [online magazine library](#).

Donating magazines is easy. We even provide free shipping, and you get a nice tax deduction! Here's [the list of magazines/issues we are missing](#).

Plus, your amazingly patient spouse – who's been bugging you to get rid of these for years – will be thrilled!

Contact **George Smart** at george@usmodernist.org or [919.740.8407](tel:919.740.8407).



Need more room? Cleaning out your home, office, storage unit, basement, or attic?

Free pickup and a ***super-nice tax deduction*** for donating an iconic mid-century chair, table, sofa, loveseat, or clock (Eames, Barcelona, Noguchi, Nelson, etc.). We are also accepting works of Modernist art, paintings and sculpture. Contact USModernist Director of Development **Rebekah Laney** at rebekah@usmodernist.org.

Proceeds benefit USModernist's ongoing research projects, like completing our [massive magazine library](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS



modernism week

February 1-28: The Modernism Week Online Experience is an all-online format, a curated lineup of more than 20 new video programs created for Modernism Week and encore presentations of past programs available for purchase and on-demand streaming. Tickets for online events go on sale Monday, February 1, at noon PT. Modernism Week will offer an online auction February 1-14 that will feature one-of-a-kind architectural experiences and unique, limited specialty items not normally available to the public. [Details](#).

April 8-18: Modernism Week in Palm Springs with more exterior tours; the Palm Springs Modernism Show & Sale; tours of Sunnylands, Frank Sinatra's former estate, and of the Lautner Compound; narrated self-driving tours of Palm Springs architecture. See the schedule at modernismweek.com. Tickets on sale now.



[Expo Site Progress EN](#)

October 19-30, 2021: Twice the size of Monaco, the World Expo in Dubai was postponed a year due to COVID. Take a look at how the Expo site has progressed and get a taste of what to expect when it opens in 2021.

USModernist is going for 10 incredible days, also touring Abu Dhabi and central Dubai.

There may be a few spaces available. Contact **George Smart** by replying to this email.

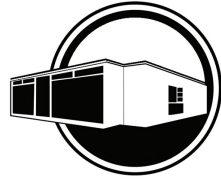
[Details.](#)





There's less and less of the Glaxo/Burroughs Wellcome Administration Building in Research Triangle Park. The Administration building, above, is coming down now and will be gone by April. It was the last standing piece of a much larger complex of lab and support buildings designed about 50 years ago by [Paul Rudolph](#), one of the 20th century's great Modernist masters.

In 2012, neighboring United Therapeutics (UT), bought the site to expand its adjacent corporate campus. UT put the building in mothballs with plans to make it a public-facing facility for future lab buildings. According to UT, the economics of making it habitable to today's environmental standards just weren't there. Among other issues, what looks like massive amounts of solid precast concrete on the outside is actually aggregate glued to plywood, which is covered in toxic asbestos along with nearly every steel beam. UT is a strong advocate for exceptional design and its founder and CEO, Martine Rothblatt, owns a Rudolph house in Florida. UT has promised to put something architecturally significant on the site, so we can look forward to another iconic building in Research Triangle Park.



MATSUMOTO PRIZE

The George Matsumoto Prize is North Carolina's highest honor exclusively for Modernist residential architecture. NCMODERNIST created the Matsumoto Prize in 2012 in honor of **George Matsumoto**, one of the founding faculty members of North Carolina State University's College of Design. Matsumoto created some of North Carolina's most well-known and well-loved Modernist houses.

The Matsumoto Prize encourages young architects, designers, and prospective clients to continue the Modernist movement so important to North Carolina's design heritage.

2021 Jurors are **Takashi Yanai, Cathleen McGuigan, Hilary Lewis, Martin Voelkel, Marica McKeel, Jim Jennings, Michela O'Connor-Abrams, and Barry Bergdoll.**

Any new Modernist house built in North Carolina within the last five years is eligible. You do not have to be an architect. Builders and owners can submit, too.

Submissions are open now through May 1. [Details.](#)



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. Visit our [exclusive statewide list.](#)

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