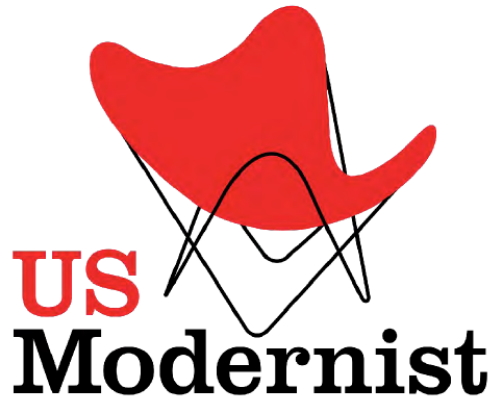


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[Join Our Email List](#)**Monday, April 7, 2025**

Welcome, Modernist architecture fans, to the USModernist newsletter, sharing Modernist news and events since 2008!

USModernist is an **award-winning** nonprofit 501C3 educational archive for the documentation, preservation, and promotion of Modernist architecture.

**USModernist
Radio Podcast**

**Architecture
Media Library**

**Architect and
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News Editor: **Ron Gallagher** Newsletter Staff: **Virginia Faust, George Smart**
Got Modernist News? Contact **Ron Gallagher** at rpg.modernist@gmail.com

Sponsorship: Connect your product, service, or organization to USModernist's 64,000 weekly subscribers! Reach out to **George Smart**, 919.740.8407.

[Meet the USModernist Team](#)

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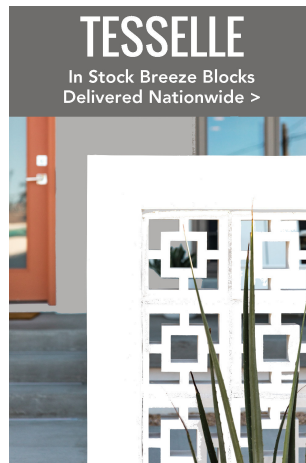


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Featured Events



Thursday, April 24: 5-7pm. Thirst4Architecture Happy Hour! Reese Atelier and **THE STORE**, 719 Devereaux Street, Raleigh NC.

Join architect **John Reese** at his unique B&B. Free, **registration required.** Enter APRIL on the form.

Saturday, May 3: The Haw River House! A 2020 George Matsumoto Prize Winner. Pittsboro NC. On one of the most extraordinary sites in central North Carolina, this exquisite property of 21 acres faces the banks of the majestic Haw River, with about a mile of private riverside trails. Designed by **Arielle Condoret Schechter**, who will be there. Only 10 **tickets left!**



Saturday, May 31: Winston-Salem Modernist House Tour, featuring the work of STITCH Design Shop, one of North Carolina's hottest firms for Modernist houses. **SOLD OUT - We are taking a waiting list.**

Belong + Support



USModernist's unrivaled documentation and preservation work consistently delivers national impact, but our continued research is only possible through generous supporters like you. You can be part of our community with a **tax-deductible donation**.

There are new and creative **options** in addition to direct donation, including insurance and estate gifts. If you're 70-1/2 or older, you can donate directly to USModernist from an IRA. If you're 73 or older, you can You can donate up to \$100,000 to USModernist which is excluded from taxable income and help avoid higher tax brackets. Many donation options are available. **Details**.



Do you have a basement/attic/storage unit full of contemporary furniture or art? Can't bear the thought of throwing these away, but your family doesn't want them? Your donation to

USModernist supports our award-winning documentation and preservation programs. Get a great tax deduction and free pickup in North Carolina. Contact: **Sharon Glazener**, Art Director, 919.787.3515.



Join our national community of architecture fans supporting and preserving the Modernist architecture you love. Photo by Ezra Stoller/ESTO.

Become a USModernist Mod Squad member for \$10/month and get three months free! [Sign up here.](#)

Modernist News



Last week, the Conservation Society of San Antonio filed a lawsuit in District Court to halt demolition of the 1968 Texas Pavilion at Hemisfair, formerly the site of the Institute of Texan Cultures. The City of San Antonio wants a new Spurs Arena, estimated to cost at least \$1 billion. The suit claims that demolition violates the original 1967 deed, that a required federal review did not occur, that Texas Antiquities Code and the National Historic Preservation Act were violated.



You'll recall that **Kanye West**, known worldwide for his rational behavior, bought a pristine **Tadao Ando** house in Malibu and then gutted it. That was sold last year to high-end flipper **Bo Belmont**. Last week he sold it to **Andrew Mazella** halfway through renovations by **Marmol Radziner** who will continue in that role.

UPDATE: The Village of Southampton Architectural Review Board (ARB) **lost their appeal** in New York recently with judges confirming **a scathing lower court ruling** that the ARB was arbitrary and capricious in denying a demolition permit for the Bliss House, designed by **Norman Jaffe**, photo at left.

The decision impacts the ARB's pursuit of forced landmarking on four other Modernist houses, two by Jaffe and one each by **Myron Goldfinger** and **Ward Bennett**, a process marked by lack of transparency, violation of town



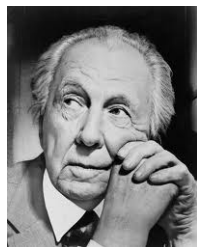
and national policies, disregard for homeowner rights, and absence of a public ARB vote to authorize the landmarking effort. We're all in favor of Modernist preservation, but this is absolutely not the right way to go about it. The ARB meets every other Monday, and this issue comes up on the agenda **Monday, September 22, 6pm ET**. Given the recent court decision, however, it may be sooner. [Watch over Zoom.](#)

recent court decision, however, it may be sooner. [Watch over Zoom.](#)

The Studio – Official Teaser | Apple TV+



The Studio is a new series up on Apple TV+ which features several **John Lautner** houses: the Harvey House, the Carling House, and Silvertop. Production designer **Julie Berghoff** also created a fake **Frank Lloyd Wright** building as headquarters for the story's movie studio. Built in only six weeks, the 8,000-square-foot Continental Studios interior was on a Warner lot soundstage and the Studio's exterior over the front of Warner's TV offices.



From Architect Magazine: What **Frank Lloyd Wright** learned from the **desert in Arizona.**

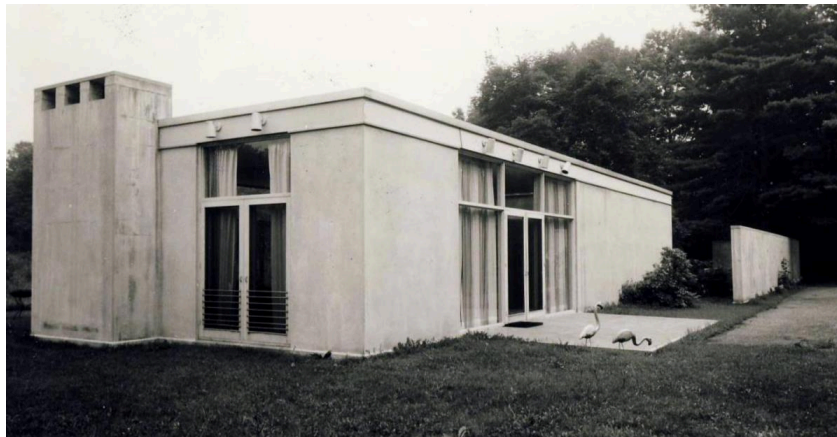
USModernist Radio celebrates show 400 next Monday, April 14!



Since launching the podcast ten years ago in 2015, hosts **George Smart** and **Tom Guild** have had fascinating conversations with over 700 guests, including architects, owners, media, critics, authors, actors, and jazz performers. USModernist Radio is one

of America's top-rated architecture and jazz podcasts, ranked in the past as #1 by *Atomic Ranch* and #2 by *Dwell*.

The 400th episode features interviews with actress and Modernist preservationist **Kelly Lynch** and architecture critic **Kate Wagner**; the return of comedian **Frank King**; and special musical guest, **Heather Rigdon**. It will also include highlights from past episodes, including interviews with **Bjarke Ingels**; the last living **Frank Lloyd Wright** client, **Roland Reisley**; **Moshe Safdie**, **Eric Lloyd Wright**, **Suzanne Somers**, Youtube star **Stewart Hicks**, **Hugh Kaptur**; author **Chris Rawlins**; **Daniel Libeskind**; **Harriet Pattison** on **Lou Kahn**; **Harry Bates**; **Myron Goldfinger**; Raleigh's **Brian Shawcroft** and **Lewis Clarke**; **Mary Schindler**; and Modernism opponents **David Brussat**, **Professor J. S. Curl**, and classical scholar **Catesby Leigh**.



Endangered: The Alice Ball House in New Canaan CT, designed by **Philip Johnson**, is **up for auction April 22 due to around \$163000 in unpaid property taxes**. There is no minimum bid. [CTtaxsales.com](https://www.cttaxsales.com) explains the process. Bidding begins at 11am at the New Canaan Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan CT.



Know an endangered Modernist house in your neighborhood, city, or state? Through our preservation alert program, **Modernism In Danger**, USModernist calls attention to the Modernist buildings around the country at risk for deterioration, demolition, or inappropriate renovation (like turning your Modernist house into an Italianate villa). **Tell us.**

Frank Folsom Smith at the 2019 SarasotaMOD Weekend



Architect **Frank Folsom Smith** died recently in Sarasota FL. A member of the Sarasota School of Architecture, Smith was the lead architect for Sarasota's iconic Plymouth Harbor retirement community and a founding member of the Council of New Urbanism, whose emphasis on walkability laid the foundation for Sarasota's bustling downtown. **Obituary.**

NEW FILM IN THE WORKS: *ARTHUR ELROD: DESERT COOL*

Midcentury interior designer Arthur Elrod is best known for his stunning circular home with a dome ceiling in Palm Springs' Southridge neighborhood, designed in collaboration with architect John Lautner. Though the home is one of the most recognized houses in the world — it famously appeared in the 1971 James Bond film *Diamonds Are Forever* — Elrod himself is much less well known, or understood.



That's about to change thanks to a new documentary, *Arthur Elrod: Desert Cool*, by Adele Cygelman and videographer/editor Alan Kraemer. There's no better person to take on this project than Cygelman, author of "Arthur Elrod: Desert Modern Design." The film is slated to premiere at next February's Modernism Week — and we at Preservation Mirage need your help to bring this important project to the big screen!

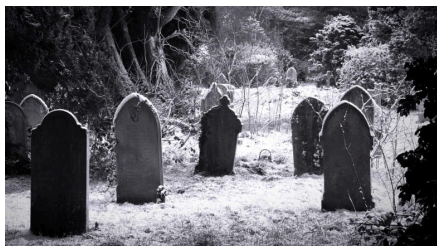
This documentary is a deep dive into Elrod's life and the evolution of his work, which all came to a sudden halt with his death at age 49 in a 1974 car crash. The film will include interviews with Elrod's relatives, clients and employees, as well as rare video footage.

This groundbreaking documentary will be the first to focus on the sophisticated custom interiors that defined resort living in the desert, and it builds on the growing body of work surrounding Desert Modernism.

Donations of any amount are welcome, donors at specific levels will enjoy special recognition and perks:

- \$500 to \$2,499: A signed copy of "Arthur Elrod: Desert Modern Design"
- \$2,500 to \$4,999: The above plus 2 VIP seats to the premiere
- \$5,000+: The above plus 2 invitations to a private after-party

Donations can be made by check to Preservation Mirage. Our address is P.O. Box 3041, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270. Please write "Elrod film" in the memo and include your email address for a receipt. Preservation Mirage is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and some or all of your donation may qualify as a charitable deduction for federal income tax purposes.



Know a Modernist website from the 2000s that's long gone? An architecture podcast no longer producing shows?

In addition to our extensive [house archives](#) and massive [magazine library](#), we are looking for **abandoned midcentury modern websites and**

architecture podcasts. Please be in touch!

DID YOU KNOW?

To quickly find anything in the [USModernist archives](#), just type in the name of the architect, then USModernist, into [Google](#). For example: USModernist Gropius.

To find a house, go to our [search box](#) and type the address in quotes using full directional spelling, omitting the road type, and separately listing the city. For example, 2322 W. Lake Dr. in Charlotte would be "2331 West Lake" Charlotte.

At 5 million pages, The USModernist Architecture Media Library is so large, that stacking the pages would reach a height of 1640 feet. That's higher than the Central Park Tower in New York, aka the Nordstrom Tower, at 1550 feet. If you put the pages end to end, it would reach 3300 miles, or the distance from New York to the UK. [Explore the library!](#)

Upcoming Events



Want to bring 50-100 design-oriented people to your client site or studio? Host a Thirst4Architecture design networking event! We have openings for 2025 in the Raleigh/Durham area and beyond. Contact **Devra Dubroff**, devra@usmodernist.org.

April 19, 11am: The Pearlman Cabin designed by [John Lautner](#) will have visitor days in Idyllwild CA. Contact: nancysuepearlman@aol.com or 213 705-4992.

April 26, 1-6pm. The Palm Springs Historic Site Preservation Board and PSAA host Preservation Matters 2025 Symposium, featuring speakers **Alan Hess**, **Steven Keylon**, **Peter Moruzzi**, and **Susan Secoy Jensen**. The HSPB Awards and reception follow. Free, registration [required](#).

May 1-4: Home + History Las Vegas, presented by the Nevada Preservation Foundation (NPF), featuring homes from the 1920s through the 1970s. The *Underground Celebrity Icons of Las Vegas Bus Tour* includes a star-studded mid-century modern neighborhood designed by Palmer and Krisel and concludes with a guided tour of an underground mansion. Special guest **Alan Hess** will speak. Details and tickets at nevadapreservation.org.

Saturday, May 3: The Haw River House! A 2020 George Matsumoto Prize Winner. Pittsboro NC. Designed by [Arielle Condoret Schechter](#). [Tickets and details](#).

SCHINDLER SPACE ARCHITECT Trailer | Miami Jewish Film...



Tuesday, May 6, 7pm: *The NCModernist Architecture Film Series* is back – at the cherished Rialto Theatre in Raleigh NC. Join us for **Schindler Space Architect**, the story of California architect **Rudolf Schindler**. Special Q&A remote guest, producer **Valentina Ganeva**. The NCModernist Architecture Movie Series is sponsored by **insitustudio.us**, **Matt Griffith** and **Zach Hoffman**. Doors open at 6:15pm.

May 12-16: 2025 Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA) 53rd Annual Conference. Online. [Details.](#)

May 13: Preservation Durham Annual Meeting and Home Tour Lecture, 5:30-7pm, at the Carolina Theatre. Moderated by **Alicia Hylton-Daniel**, a home tour lecture with local historians, researchers, and homeowners discuss Preservation Durham's plaque program. Free. [Register here.](#)

May 17: Historic New England's Bauhaus Birthday Party at the **Walter Gropius** House, Lincoln MA. [Details and tickets.](#)

May 17-18: Preservation Durham 50th Anniversary Tour. [Tickets.](#)

Tuesday, June 10, and Saturday, June 21: Restore Oregon tours in Portland of Pietro Belluschi and John Yeon houses. [Information.](#)

Saturday, June 14, 12n: Philip Johnson Glass House Summer Party, New Canaan CT. Noon. Details TBA.

Sunday, June 15: 11am. USModernist's Annual Summer Brunch, at a fantastic Paul Rudolph House, New Canaan CT. Details TBA.



Thursday, June 19: 5-7pm. Thirst4Architecture Happy Hour! Clark Hall Doors and Windows, 1403 Capital Boulevard, Raleigh NC. Free, [registration required.](#) Enter JUNE on the form.

June 26-29: Bottoms Up 2025 in Lancaster OH. A celebration of midcentury barware and lifestyle.

Through June 30: *Living Modernity: Experiments in the Exceptional and Everyday, 1920s-1970s*. Fourteen residential masterpieces by Modernist architects. The National Art Center, Tokyo. [Information.](#)

Extended Through June 30: National Building Museum in Washington DC: [Capital Brutalism.](#)

September 27-January 11: Craft Contemporary in Los Angeles. Material Curiosity by Design: Evelyn and Jerome Ackerman, Mid-Century to Today.

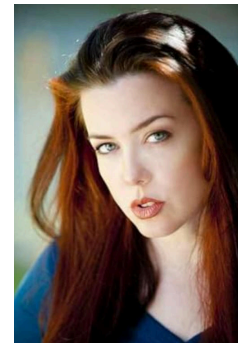
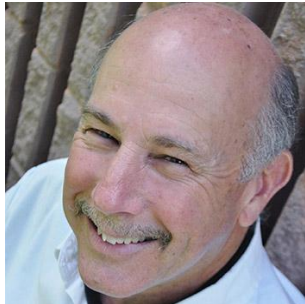
October 5-7: Preservation North Carolina Conference in Asheville NC. [Details.](#)

ADFF: The Architecture and Design Film Festival: NY Oct 14-18, LA Oct 21-25, Vancouver Nov 5-9, Toronto Nov 12-15, Chicago Feb 2026

Through Winter 2026 at the National Building Museum in Washington DC: *A South Forty: Contemporary Architecture and Design in the American South.*



Latest Podcast



#399/Palm Springs: Alan Hess + Janice Lyle + Sidney Williams + Russell Brown + Tom Lazarus + Musical Guest Colleen Duffy of Devil Doll

As part of our Modernism Week 2025 coverage from Palm Springs, it's three stars of the Modernist movement – **Alan Hess + Janice Lyle + Sidney Williams** – discussing what's become known as the Palm Springs School of Modernism and an accompanying new book. From the studio, LA's **Russell Brown** and **Tom Lazarus** on their recent stage play called *LISTING*, plus returning musical guest **Colleen Duffy** of Devil Doll.

USModernist Radio is underwritten by **Diane Bald** and The Budman Family, restoring significant architecture in Toronto, Los Angeles, Malibu, and Palm Springs. New to podcasts? You can listen to **USModernist Radio** on any major podcast platform or **through any computer**.



Greensboro Preservation News: The Edward and Frances S. Loewenstein House, designed by architect **Edward Loewenstein** as his personal residence, is now on the National Register of Historic Places.

The South Benbow Road Historic District, significant for connection to the civil rights movement in Greensboro, is now on the National Register of Historic Places. Architects for houses in the area include: **Gerard Gray, Blue Jenkins**, and **William Streat**.



Modern & Contemporary Auction, May 1, 2025, 10:00am
Prints & Multiples Auction, May 2, 2025, 10:00am

www.lelandlittle.com

3/20/2025 Tales of Tryon: 'Flynn and Brady, Architectural Vi...



Watch the "Tales of Tryon" talk **Shields Flynn** did on his brother, architect **Ligon Flynn**, and architect **Holland Brady, Jr.** at the Tryon History Museum. It's most unusual s for a small town of Tryon NC with under 2,000 people to have supported an architectural firm for almost 80 years, while in addition, 40+ other architects have also designed houses to be built in the area.



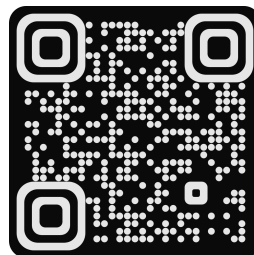
Submissions are open for the 2025 George Matsumoto Prize, North Carolina's highest honor exclusively for Modernist residential architecture. The Matsumoto Prize encourages architects, designers, and prospective clients to continue the Modernist movement in houses so important to North Carolina's design heritage. Entries are open to any ground-up Modernist house completed since 1/1/2020. **Deadline April 29. Details.**



Vacancy, not development, is the enemy of mid-century Modernist houses. Preserve and protect the architecture you love by **notifying us** when North Carolina houses go vacant or on the market.

Check out the **NCModernist For Sale/Rent Database**. Real estate agents and owners can list their NC

Modernist houses for sale or rent for free. Submissions are subject to approval: single-family Modernist houses only, they can be old or new, the architect or designer can be from anywhere, but the house must be in North Carolina. Exclusively sponsored by:



Donate to USModernist's nonprofit mission of documenting, preserving, and promoting Modernist residential architecture.



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