



USMODERNIST

Monday, June 26, 2023



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Newsletter Staff: **Virginia Faust, George Smart**

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Got Modernist News?

Send a quick note to **Ron Gallagher** at rpg.modernist@gmail.com.

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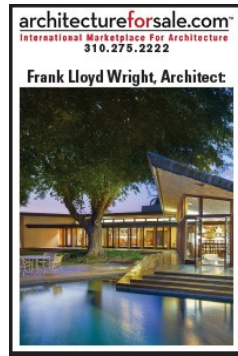


2511 Stafford Ave
Raleigh NC

POOL + ELEVATOR + 5 CAR GARAGE

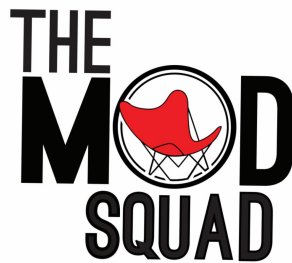
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Get Involved!



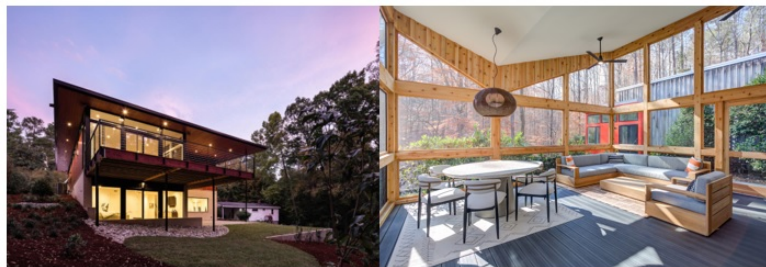
- **Join us!** Mod Squad membership gets you all kinds of benefits and provides financial support for the documentation, preservation, and promotion of residential Modernist architecture. [Details.](#)
- Need more room in your home, attic, basement, office, or oh-so-expensive storage unit? We accept donations of **Modernist furniture, contemporary art, architecture and design magazines, and architecture coffee-table-style books.** What could be easier? We come to you, and you likely get a tax deduction.
- **Sponsorship/Underwriting:** [Connect your company](#) to USModernist's 32,000 weekly subscribers.
- **Where There's a Will There's a Way:** As USModernist heads into its 3rd decade, we are fielding inquiries on gifts and bequests towards a permanent endowment. Such donations assure the preservation of a Modernist house or honor a person you love into the future.

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For any of these, please reach out to [George Smart](#) or call 919.740.8407.

Featured Event

MODAPALOOZA



Our 10th Year!

Saturday, September 9, 8-5pm

Starting and Ending Point: 500 Park Offices Drive, Research Triangle Park NC

Enjoy a great day touring eight spectacular Modernist houses around Raleigh, Durham, and Chapel Hill -- without the hassle of driving -- in our new fleet of luxury buses!

Modapalooza includes the delightful company of lots of Modernist architecture fans

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plus coffee and bagels / a USModernist tote bag with snacks / bottled water / a delicious lunch / and free wifi / in our luxury restroom-equipped, air-conditioned fleet of buses.

You'll meet many of the architects and builders - including **Arielle Schechter, Erin Sterling Lewis, Ellen Cassilly, Sophie Piesse, Nick Hammer, and Abie Harris.**

[Tickets and details.](#)

Modernist News



MARVIN®

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It's your last chance to vote in the 2023 George Matsumoto Prize, hosted by NCModernist and sponsored by Fitch Lumber / MARVIN.

The George Matsumoto Prize is North Carolina's highest honor exclusively for Modernist residential architecture. **Voting ends 5pm ET Wednesday, July 5!**

We have 19 spectacular houses from Asheville to the coast. Awards will be given for first, second, and third, selected by the public through online voting. You can vote even if you don't live in North Carolina. Check them out! [Vote here](#).

You're invited to the awards ceremony!

Wednesday, July 26, 6-8pm at [Leland Little Auctions](#), 620 Cornerstone Court, Hillsborough NC. Enjoy special catering and wine from the LL cellars, along with over 100 door prizes! **Free, registration required.**



End of the Neutra in Pebble Beach: Tech CEO **Massy Medhipour** bought the **Richard Neutra**-designed Connell House in Pebble Beach which overlooks the ocean, in 2004 and has been asking since 2012 for permission to tear it down and put up a new, much larger Modernist house. It has rapidly deteriorated, been subject to vandalism, and was not maintained by the owner as she navigated the rebuild approval process for a new, larger Modernist house by a noted architect from Mexico.

Last week, the board approved demolition and replacement by a similar-sized Modernist house. That means Medhipour's architect will have to reduce the size of the current plan. This case will be studied by property rights advocates and historic preservationists for years to come.

Remember, folks, the only way to assure survival of a Modernist house is through a preservation easement. Everything else is wishful thinking.



The Cape Cod Modern House Trust has an opportunity to purchase and preserve **Marcel Breuer's** own Wellfleet house. Though in disrepair, the house is entirely original and the acquisition would include Breuer's irreplaceable collection of art, furniture, books and photographs, which will be archived and made available to scholars and the public. The pristine, 4.2-acre site is surrounded by protected park land and abuts three kettle ponds and the headwaters of the Herring River. Breuer is one of the 20th-century's most important designers, and his house is without a doubt the most significant Modernist house on the Cape. [Find out more here.](#)



Last week, we featured the *Star Trek* house in Australia. Thanks to Annalisa Capurro, we learned it was designed and built by developer Peter Chedid in 2010. He sold the home four years later to Yunlong Zhang.

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Closer to home, [this 1994 out-of-this-world house in Lansing MI](#) is for sale for \$360K. Anyone know the architect?



The poster features a dark grey background with a teal horizontal band. At the top, a red triangle points downwards towards a logo consisting of six small squares arranged in a 2x3 grid. Below the logo, the text "MIDCENTURY ATLANTA" is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters, and "HOME TOUR" is written in smaller, white, sans-serif capital letters on the teal band. Below this, a paragraph of text describes the event. The "Cocktail Party" details are listed, followed by the location. The "Home Tour" details are listed, followed by the ticket availability information. At the bottom, three circular images show different architectural styles. Below the images, the text "Event Powered by:" is followed by the "DESIGN WITHIN REACH" logo, the "dencity Architecture" logo, and the name "Robert M. Cain Architect".

MIDCENTURY ATLANTA
HOME TOUR

Experience the allure of midcentury design at the Midcentury Atlanta Home Tour & Cocktail Party.
Discover architectural marvels and enjoy a glamorous evening of celebration. Don't miss out!

Cocktail Party:
Friday August 11th from 6:00pm till 9:00pm
at Design Within Reach Atlanta

Westside Provisions District, 1210 Howell Mill Rd NW #4346, Atlanta, GA

Guest Speaker: George Smart (founder and CEO of NC Modernist & US Modernist)
Jazz Ensemble
Raffle Gift Donated by Design Within Reach

Home Tour:
Saturday August 12th from 8:00am till 6:00pm

Tickets Available at:
WWW.MIDCENTURYATLANTA.NET

Event Powered by:

DESIGN WITHIN REACH

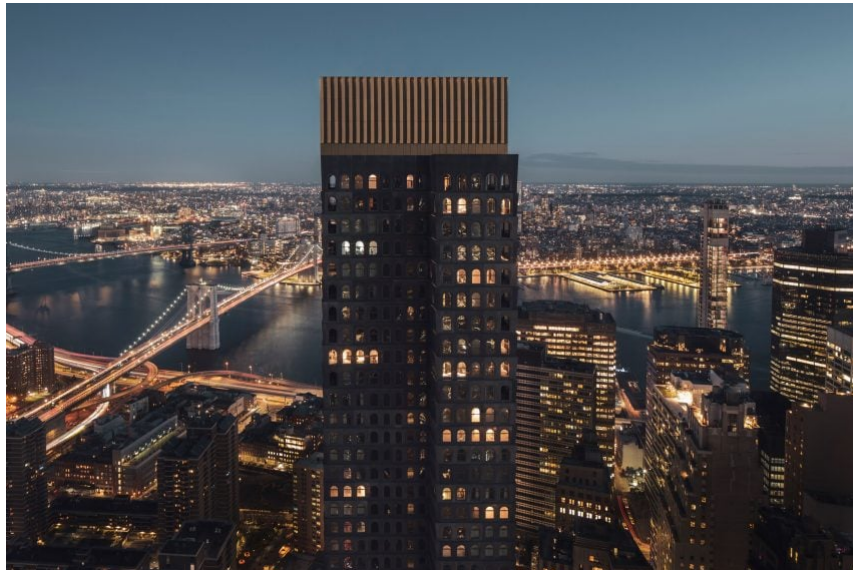
dencity
Architecture

Robert M. Cain
Architect

August 11-12: First Annual Midcentury Atlanta Home Tour. Includes a cocktail party and reception on Friday night and a multi-house tour on Saturday. The Atlanta Marriott Northwest at Galleria will serve as the host hotel and departure point for the tour. Each tour guest will be conveniently shuttled on charter luxury motor coaches equipped with captains chairs & full service restrooms on board. USModernist's

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George Smart will speak on Friday. [Details and tickets.](#)



David Adjaye designed [his first skyscraper](#), an 800-foot residential tower in New York City.



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On a limestone ledge in woods in Austin TX, architects **Thomas Bercy** and **Calvin Chen** designed a house in which the owners can see and enjoy all the nature around them. [Architectural Digest visited](#).



Stephen Rose has joined the USModernist Advisory Board. Steve spent 35 years in Los Angeles as an attorney for Disney and Paramount Studios and over 20 years as an agent representing writers, producers and directors. Steve is a true serial Modernist, with a world-class passion for architecture and mid-century preservation, owning properties designed by [Edward Durell Stone](#), [John Lautner](#), [Thornton Ladd](#), [John Elgin Wolff](#), [Paul Revere Williams](#), [Jim Jennings](#), [William Cody](#), and [E. Stewart Williams](#). He is a former member of PSModcom in Palm Springs.



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King Charles III has an anti-Modernist bent, and apparently so does a Scottish newspaper that published a list of buildings it says people **would gladly see demolished**, including Scotland's Parliament Building designed by **Enric Miralles**.



A client liked the Case Study Houses, and **Ström Architects** designed them a **new, similar version in Cheltenham, England**. Sorry, King C.



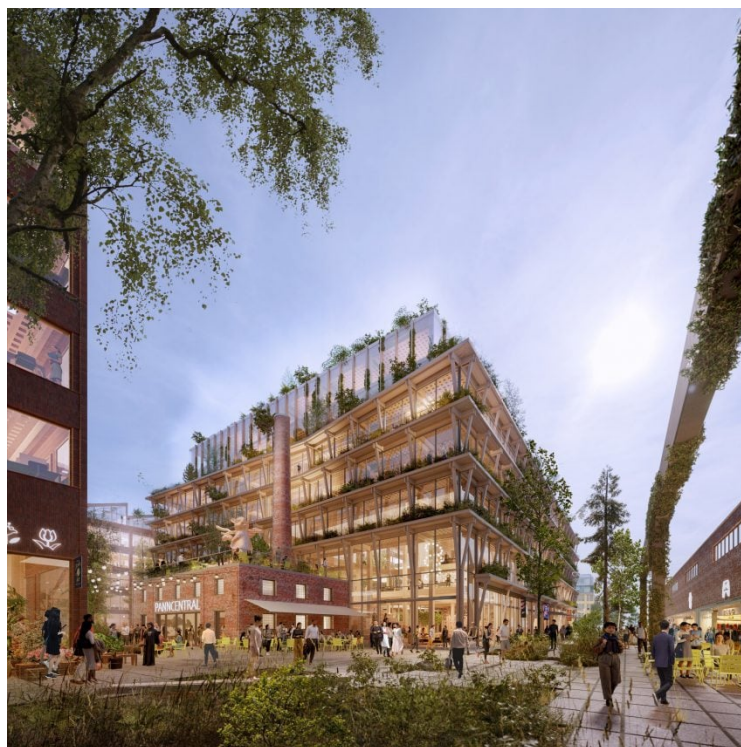
A 1962 house designed by **Francis R. Hoffman** in Winter Haven FL **has hit the market** with a price tag of \$1.8M.



In the Urban Reserve in Dallas, **a 2016 home designed by Jesse Rodriguez** is on the market for \$1.25M.



This 1938 **hilltop home in LA's Silver Lake neighborhood** was designed by **Saul Harris Brown**, had a mid-century renovation planned by **Gregory Ain**, along with a garden plan, and its \$3M price includes a pool plan by drawn up by **Barbara Bestor**.



From *Dezeen*: Architects **Henning Larsen** and **White Arkitekter** say their office-and-apartment building in Stockholm, **Wood City**, will use more timber than any building designed so far.

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The **July 13 auction at Leland Little** (online) includes these two **John Hiigli paintings**, sold to benefit USModernist. A student and friend of **Bucky Fuller**, Hiigli's work evokes an elegant geometry highly compatible with Modernist houses. Look for lots 574 and 575.



When architecture libraries want to recover valuable shelf space but find it painful to see architecture and design magazines thrown away, even if they've not been accessed for decades, the **USModernist Library** can help.

So far, libraries and collectors and design firms have shipped us over 4.1 million pages. Let us help you free up shelf space and give these magazines new, text-searchable, online life – and world access. We're especially looking for:

1. California Arts and Architecture 1920-1944

2. Better Homes and Gardens 1940-1959
3. Sunset 1921-1949
4. SNAP (published by Architectural Record) 2009-2015

Here are the other [magazines and issues we need](#). We pay shipping - and you help the world get free, searchable, downloadable content for the first time. Contact [George Smart](#), 919.740.8407.

[New England Modernism: Revolutionary Architecture in the 20th Century - Documentary Preview](#)

Filmmaker **Jake Gorst** has spent the last two months in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire working on the new documentary *New England Modernism*. By late July, he will be in post-production, editing, image and archival film acquisition, music compilation, visual effects, titling, color correction, foley, audio mixing, and closed captioning. Plans call for a premiere February 2024 at Palm Springs Modernism Week. To finish the film, Gorst's nonprofit is looking to raise \$180k. [Here's the trailer](#). You can donate [here](#).

- With an article rich in photos, *Archdaily* [commemorated the centennial](#) this year of the publication of Le Corbusier's groundbreaking collection of essays, *Vers une Architecture*, which set the stage for Modernism.
- In England, researchers at the University of Manchester have come up a formula for [making stone from salt, potato starch, and extraterrestrial dust](#) to build shelter for explorers on the moon or Mars.
- Designers used mid-century furniture and finishes in [turning a 1950s building in Rome](#) into the Hoxton Hotel.

Upcoming Events

Hamptons 20th Century Modern Tour and Panel, featuring houses from [Harry Bates](#),

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Bruce Nagel, and **Andrew Geller**. Sunday, August 13. [Tickets and details](#).

Helena Arahuete Exhibition, UC Santa Barbara, September 20 - December 17.
Details TBA.

DOCOMOMO-US Cape Cod Modernist houses, October 6-8. [Tickets and details](#).

DOCOMOMO-US hosts a trip to Brazil October 12-23. [Tickets and details](#).

La Jolla Modernism Tour, October 14. Details TBA.

The Eichler Home Tour in San Mateo CA is returning October 14-15. [Tickets and details](#).

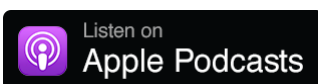
Modernism Week Preview Weekend, October 19-22. Details available August 1 at www.modernismweek.com.

New Canaan CT Modernism Weekend, October 19-22. Details TBA.

Albert Frey: Innovative Modernist. Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, January 11-June 16, 2024. Curated by Brad Dunning.

Sarasota MOD Weekend, November 2-5, celebrating **Victor A. Lundy**, who turned 100 in February.

Latest Podcast



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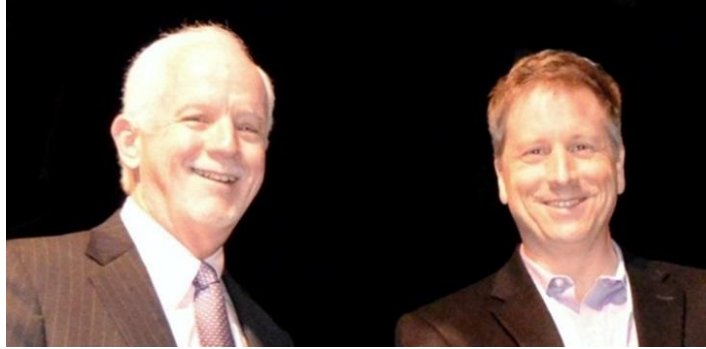


#307/Don't Worry Darling, It's the Kaufmann House: Adele Cygelman + Cathy Whitlock + Chris Baugh + Musical Guest Noel Paul Stookey of Peter Paul and Mary

One of the most famous homes in Palm Springs is the Kaufmann House, designed by **Richard Neutra**. It was recently the star of *Don't Worry Darling*, filmed right before it sold, and there's a rich history there. Even **Barry Manilow** owned it at one point! **Adele Cygelman** is the author of *Palm Springs Modern* and *Arthur Elrod: Desert Modern Design*. Her recent research focused on **Edgar Kaufmann's** first wife, **Liliane**, and his second, a woman who, um, assumed hostessing duties after **Liliane** retreated to Pittsburgh. **Cathy Whitlock** is a film journalist and author of *Designs on Film: A Century of Hollywood Art Direction*. **Chris Baugh** is a film location manager who secured the Kaufmann house for the movie. Later on, from our studios, a legend in folk music, someone who was actually at the Lincoln Memorial for Martin Luther King Jr.'s iconic speech, musician **Noel Paul Stookey** of Peter Paul and Mary.

US Modernist 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**.





Benjamin Briggs of Preservation Greensboro (right) was named as President of Preservation North Carolina, succeeding **Myrick Howard** (left) who held the position for an amazing 45 years. Briggs starts August 1.

In Situ Studio was selected as the Best Small Firm in the Southeast in the **Architecture Newspaper's 2023 Best of Practice Awards**. Quoting Editor Jack Murphy, "in situ studio's built work is attractive, but I was excited to learn about the firm's mentorship program, educational efforts, and **programming** which brings **dialogue** about architecture to Raleigh, North Carolina."



Architect **Bill Moore** has passed away. He graduated from the NCSU School of Design in 1959 with a BA in Architecture plus coursework in City Planning from UNC-Chapel Hill. After touring Europe for three months, he worked for **Charles Sappenfield** in Raleigh. When Sappenfield moved to Asheville, Moore moved as well. He left in 1964 to work with **Bert King**. In January 1966, he opened his own office and had various partners over the years. He designed the 1972 Unitarian Universalist Church of Asheville, for which he won an AIA North Carolina award. See his houses [here](#).

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A Raleigh couple weren't planning to move, then they fell for a 1960s Modernist in the city's North Hills area and were **careful about respecting it while renovating**.



North Carolina Realtors and owners of NC Modernist houses can now list - for sale or for rent - on our new completely free **NCModernist database**. Listings limited to detached single family Modernist houses, old or new, but the house must be in North Carolina. **Details.**

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Got a great Modernist house that's not selling? How would you like 60 people or more (up to 200) to come by and see it one Saturday? We can do that for you, free. Contact George Smart, george@usmodernist.org.

Historic Preservation Easements for Modernist Houses

Did you know that having your Modernist house on the National Register does nothing legally to protect it from demolition? Neither does having a talented and/or famous architect. Neither does any local or state historic designation. At best, you can get a delay, but the bulldozers can't be fended off for long. In fact, the only way to assure a house is not destroyed is through a very cool document called a preservation easement – essentially a homeowner's association for one house.

Join **Cathleen Turner** of Preservation North Carolina and **George Smart** of NCMModernist, with special guest, Modernist homeowner **Jane Levy**, as they share the 1-2-3's to assure your mid-20th-century Modernist house makes it to the mid-21st-century. Not in North Carolina? No worries, preservation easements work in every state.

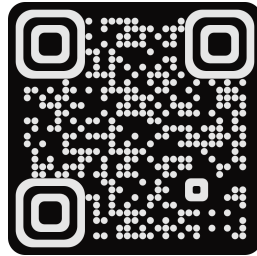


Vacancy, not development, is the enemy of mid-century Modernist houses. Preserve and protect the architecture you love by [notifying us](#) when North Carolina houses go vacant or on the market.

Where are all the North Carolina listings? They're on our new [NCModernist For Sale/Rent database](#).

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Realtors and owners can list their NC Modernist houses for sale or rent there for free, and you can browse there anytime you like! 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.



Donate to USModernist's mission of documentation, preservation, and promotion of Modernist residential architecture.



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