

SAH/SCC

SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

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800.9SAHSCC

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september/october 1999

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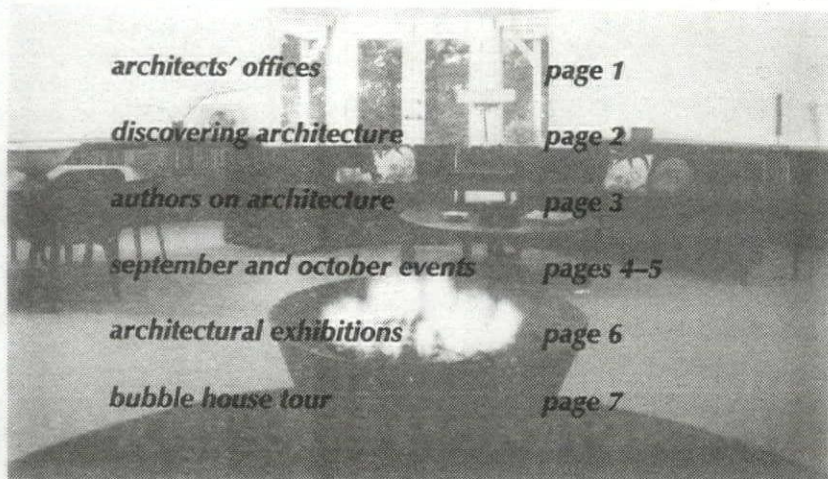
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Detail of living room at the Bubble House by Wallace Neff. (Photo: John Ellis)

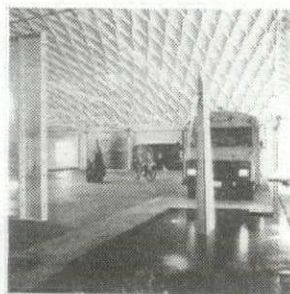
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Pasadena, CA  
Permit No. 740SPACE MAKING SPACE:  
ARCHITECTS' OWN OFFICES  
SAH/SCC TOUR: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH

This special tour of Westside architecture offices will show insights into the profession of architecture. How, where, and why architects choose to build their offices reflects the creative spirit they lend to their clients' projects. Below is background and a sneak preview of the nine offices that will be visited during **Space Making Space: Architects' Own Offices**, on Saturday, September 25th.

The tour is free to students who join the SAH/SCC or who are already student members in good standing. New student membership is \$20. Price for members is \$30; for non-members \$45. See Page 8 to order.

**Daly, Genik**

Daly, Genik was established in 1989 by Kevin Daly and Chris Genik with the commitment to problem solving for specialized built environments by applying disciplined design principles and modern technology. Projects reflecting this include Windmill Lane Productions and the Pico/Main Office Building. Fusion of the architect's trained intellect with the craftsman's practical ingenuity is a defining element in the firm's approach to architectural design. The practice comprises residential and commercial buildings and interiors, as well as master planning and low-income housing. Daly was educated at Rice and Berkeley; Genik received degrees from Rice and Carleton. Both currently teach at SCI-Arc, and have held other teaching positions at Arizona State University, UC San Diego, and USC.



(Photo: Courtesy of Daly, Genik)

**Steven Ehrlich Architects**

The work of this office, founded in 1979, fuses technically advanced solutions with design that embraces the natural environment in a distinctive modern architecture. Steven Ehrlich Architects'

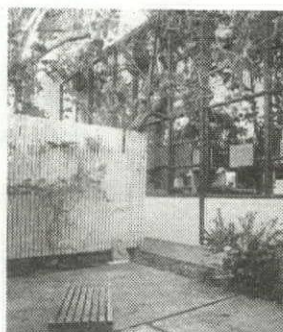


(Photo: Courtesy of Steven Ehrlich Architects)

projects include the Sony Music Entertainment headquarters, Robertson Branch Library, a mosque in Dubai, and numerous residences. The firm's work responds both to culture and landscape, using an approach dubbed "architectural anthropology," which reflects Ehrlich's years of practicing, studying, and teaching architecture in Africa, where he learned an appreciation of courtyards and the powerful, functional simplicity of vernacular buildings. He received his architecture degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY, and has taught at Montana State, Ahmada Bello University in Nigeria, USC, SCI-Arc, and UCLA.

**Frederick Fisher & Partners Architects**

Fisher founded his architecture office in 1980 and quickly developed a reputation for refined spaces for art and innovative residential design. Combining strong design character with an ability to meet clients' functional needs and budgets has led to such designs as New York's PS 1 Contemporary Art Center, among other projects in Germany, China, and Japan. Fisher's approach to architecture comes from a broad cultural and social perspective, and a background in art that yields an appropriate sensitivity to the design of art and art-related buildings. He received degrees from Oberlin College and UCLA, and was chair of the Environmental Design Department at Otis/Parsons College of Art & Design, and a visiting instructor at Harvard Graduate School of Design, SCI-Arc, and UCLA.



(Photo: Courtesy of Frederick Fisher Partners Architects)

**David Lawrence Gray Architects**

Founded in 1979, David Lawrence Gray Architects creates



(Photo: Courtesy of David Lawrence Gray Architects)

custom residences, creative office spaces, medical office buildings and facilities, retail spaces, and department buildings throughout the Western US. With its projects—including the St. James's Club restoration, California Medical Plaza, and 7th Street Office Building—the firm attempts to account for contextual forces, while at the same time tries to integrate more universal qualities of permanence, transparency, and openness. The firm maintains a fundamental interest in concrete, steel, and glass as the basis for the creative introduction of lasting offerings to the city's architectural landscape. Gray was educated at University of Washington, Seattle, and Berkeley; he has taught at USC, SCI-Arc, and UCLA.

**Kanner Architects**

Kanner Architects possesses a passion for creating colorful and accessible public and private buildings, whose spirits sit squarely on the very Angeleno intersection of playfulness and seriousness. The 53-year-old, third-generation firm, now headed by principal Stephen Kanner, is responsible for such LA projects as the Harvard Apartments, Bright Child, Westwood's In-n-Out Burger, and the Montana Collection. As well, the firm has completed projects in New York, Boston, Orlando, and Beijing. The firm's design philosophy embraces the notion that buildings are meant to be places of joy—open and accessible, colorful and inspirational. Kanner earned his bachelors and masters degrees in architecture from Berkeley.



(Photo: Courtesy of Kanner Architects)

**Moore Ruble Yudell Architects & Planners**

Since the founding of Moore Ruble Yudell with the late Charles Moore in 1977, principals John Ruble and Buzz Yudell have built a varied body of work ranging from private residences to multi-million-dollar institutional, civic, and mixed-use developments. Among these projects

Continued on page 7



# SAH/SCC NEWS

## A Message From the President

September is really the start of the new year. It's probably a hold-over from all those years of starting school in the fall. September is the transition month when fall begins to creep over the landscape, and the long summer days gently fade, even in an area as season-less as Southern California.

In the spirit of the new, SAH/SCC starts the "new year" with two events that look at our architectural landscape with a serious eye. The first is "Authors on Architecture." This lecture and discussion series kicks off with a panel discussion at the LA Central Library. We're bringing together authors who write about architecture. We want to hear about the process of writing, the challenges they face in documenting our built environment, and how writing and books might change in the future.

Aren't writers the real creators of history? They decide what gets included and what's edited out. They analyze and interpret events. Opinion shades reality by the mere order in which facts are presented to us. Then we, as readers, may absorb, or disregard, those opinions as easily as our own.

How do authors see themselves in this process? What is their responsibility as storytellers and record keepers? I'm interested in hearing what they have to say about all this.

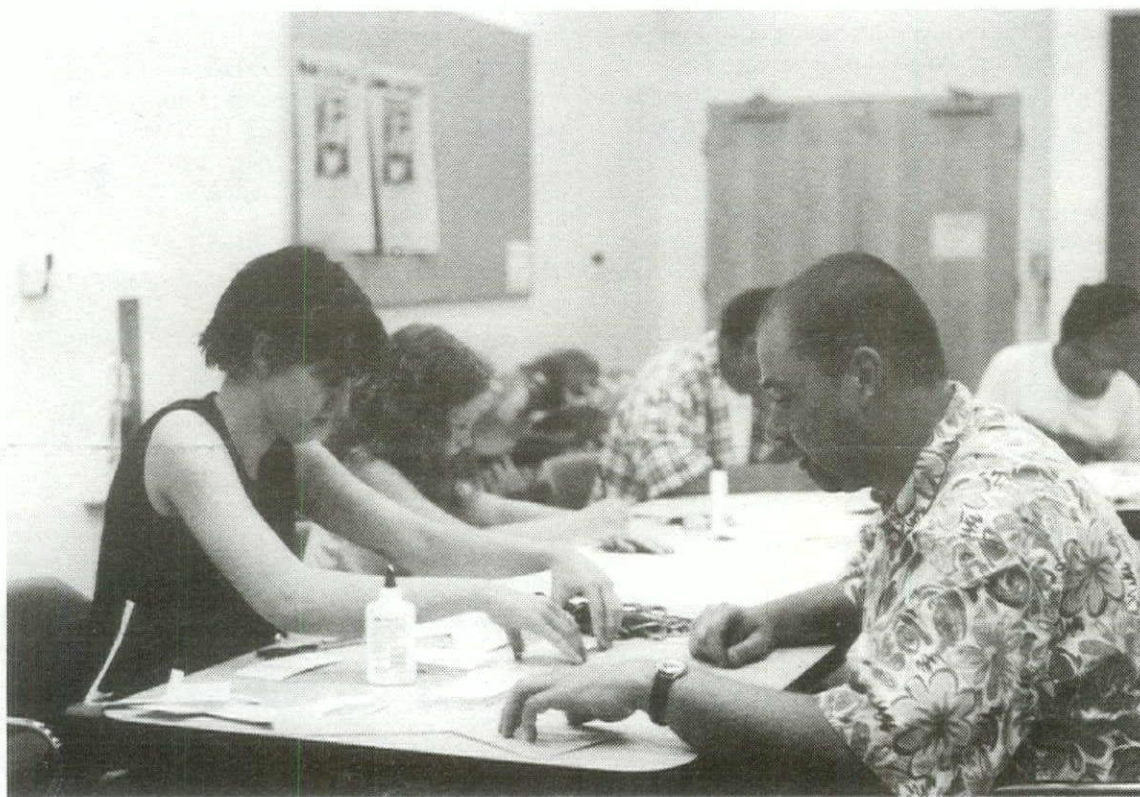
Then next new September event is a tour of architects' offices. It is a great privilege to enter these worlds of creativity and gain rare insight into the process of designing and building. You can tell a lot about someone by the company he keeps. In this case, these office visits expose a side of architects and architecture we don't usually get to see. It should be an eye opening event.

As usual, our calendar provides a full plate of events that are meant to enrich, entertain, and educate. Enjoy the new beginnings these events offer you this fall—and happy new year.

—Ted Wells

Look for Ted Wells and SAH/SCC members Kathryn Smith and Pierre Koenig on a new episode of HGTV's *America's Homestyles* starting Sunday evening, September 19th.

## TEENAGERS DISCOVER ARCHITECTURE



Tony Denzer working with student at the Discover Architecture program.

SAH/SCC's exciting new program for young adults, "Discover Architecture," premiered in July with resounding success. Led by board member Tony Denzer and architect Jason Hebert, "Discover Architecture" offers workshops to teenagers in cooperation with the Los Angeles Public Library.

A dozen students attended the July 15th workshop at John Muir Branch Library in South Central Los Angeles. Tony and Jason led them through a series of sketching exercises to explore basic design concepts. A similar workshop on July 24th at the Echo Park Branch used cardboard modeling as a method of making space.

Jason and Tony use Alvar Aalto's basic design philosophy to stimulate young adults to reconsider the architecture they experience in their everyday lives. Aalto said he designed the verbs of architecture, rather than the nouns. A student at John Muir, for example, designed a space for "sleeping" instead of a bedroom. It was a marvelous creative project, featuring undulating surfaces and hidden skylights.

More workshops are scheduled this fall at various Los Angeles Public Branch Libraries. For more information, please contact Tony Denzer at [tdenzer@ucla.edu](mailto:tdenzer@ucla.edu).

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**Editor:** Julie D. Taylor  
**Assistant Editor:** Linda Won  
**Internet Editor:** Barbara Lamprecht  
 818.794.5878; [mac@ccsf.caltech.edu](mailto:mac@ccsf.caltech.edu)  
**Executive Assistant:** Grace Samudio  
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Information and ads for the newsletter should be sent three weeks before the issue date.

|                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Issue</b>           | <b>Deadline</b> |
| November/December 1999 | October 10th    |
| January/February 2000  | December 10th   |

Please send all ad materials, notices of events, exhibitions and news—plus photographs—to the attention of the editor:

Julie D. Taylor, Editor  
 SAH/SCC News  
 P.O. Box 92224  
 Pasadena, CA 91109-2224  
 800.9SAHSCC (800.972.4722)  
 Newsletter telephone: 310.247.1099  
 Newsletter fax: 310.247.8147  
 Newsletter e-mail: [jtaylorpr@usa.net](mailto:jtaylorpr@usa.net)

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# AUTHORS ON ARCHITECTURE

## SAH/SCC SUNDAY LECTURES AT THE LIBRARY

### SEPTEMBER 19TH, OCTOBER 24TH

The craft of writing about architecture and history will be explored by some of today's more insightful practitioners during **Authors on Architecture**, a monthly series of free Sunday programs at the Central Library, Downtown. The sessions will feature panels of writers or single authors discussing how they select and interpret events and issues, which later become the history that we know. The authors will be available for booksigning at the conclusion of each talk.

#### September 19th at 2:00 PM

A panel of Southland historians includes Robert Winter, Elizabeth McMillian, Merry Ovnick, Edward "Ted" Bosley, and Jennifer Golub.



Bob Winter

Winter, a founder and life member of SAH/SCC, is the author of many books on Southern California architectural history. His most recent publications (*American Bungalow Style*; *Arts & Crafts: The California Bungalow*; *Toward a Simpler Way of Life: The Arts and Crafts Architects of California*; *Hidden LA*) add to his prolific body of published work. He is the Professor of History of Ideas Emeritus at Occidental College.

McMillian, noted author and historian, was past president and is a current Life Member of SAH/SCC. She is the author of *Casa California: Spanish Style Residences from Santa Barbara to San Clemente*; *Beach Houses from Malibu to Laguna*; and *Living on the Water: International Houses in Water Settings*.



Elizabeth McMillian

McMillian holds a Ph.D. in art history and has been a recipient of the J. Paul Getty Memorial Fellowship. She teaches art and architectural history part-time at USC. She

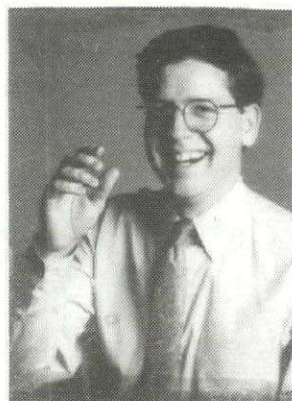
is editor-in-chief of the new magazine, *Southland*, which focuses on individuals, neighborhoods, art, and architecture from Santa Barbara to San Diego.

Ovnick is the current Vice President of SAH/SCC, and a professor of cultural history at California State University, Northridge. Her book, *Los Angeles: The End of the Rainbow*, profiles the city's cultural history using its houses as historical artifacts. According to Winter, Ovnick's "basic theme is Lewis Mumford's observation that 'architecture sums up the civilization it enshrines,' but her real interest is the economic and social history of Los Angeles where architecture is only one of several important reflections of human purpose." She is working on a comparative study of the Craftsman movement and



Merry Ovnick

Progressive political reform from 1900 to 1916. Bosley is Director of the Gamble House in Pasadena. He has written extensively on American architecture of the 19th and 20th centuries. He is the author of the *Gamble House*; *First Church of Christ Scientist, Berkeley*; and *University of Pennsylvania Library*, all in the Phaidon Architecture in Detail series. He is now completing a new book for publication on Greene and Greene.



Ted Bosley

He holds a degree in history of art from the University of California, Berkeley, where he studied the work of the Greene's first hand, living

for several years in one of their classic, high-period commissions, the W.R. Thorsen house (1909), a former private residence that now houses students. He also holds a masters degree from UCLA and is a frequent lecturer on architecture.

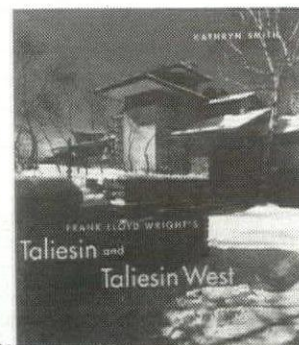
Golub, a producer and director at TBWA/Chiat/Day, put her enthusiasm for modernism into her book *Albert Frey/Houses 1 + 2*. Golub, who won an Emmy for an Apple Computer "Think Different" commercial, is an avid SAH/SCC tour participant who first visited Frey's home in 1993. Contrary to most depictions of Frey's work, this book celebrates his relationship with color and nature. She uses many photographs and films that Frey himself took, giving an intimate look at the architect. The beautifully designed book recently won an award for its graphics by Praxis Design.



Jennifer Golub

#### October 19th at 2:00 PM

Kathryn A. Smith will hold the floor on her interpretations of Frank Lloyd Wright, and other modern masters. Smith, one of SAH/SCC's board members in the mid-1970s, was the creator of the *SAH/SCC News*. She served on the faculty of History and Theory at SCI-Arc between 1986 and 1996. Smith has taught architectural history for more than two decades at Otis Art Institute and Art Center College of Design. Her scholarship has concentrated on Wright and his California contemporaries R.M. Schindler, Lloyd Wright, and Richard Neutra. Her publications include *Frank Lloyd Wright, Hollyhock House and Olive Hill*; *Projects and Buildings for Aline Barnsdall*; *Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin and Taliesin West*; *Frank Lloyd Wright: Master Architect*; and *Tiny Folio: Frank Lloyd Wright*.



Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin and Taliesin West by Kathryn Smith.

## BOOKMARKS: HOT OFF THE ARCHITECTURAL PRESSES

**Contemporary California Houses** with essays by Beth Dunlop, James Steele, and Aaron Betsky; photographs by Tim Street-Porter, Tom Bonner, and Mark Darley. Part of the Architecture 3s series, this detailed book focuses on Frank Gehry's Schnabel House, Eric Owen Moss' Lawson-Weston House, and Franklin D. Israel's Drager House. Each residence is introduced with an essay showing the house in the context of the architect's work and time. A section of black-and-white and color photographs follow, finished by a section of drawings. Phaidon Press, hardcover, \$19.95.

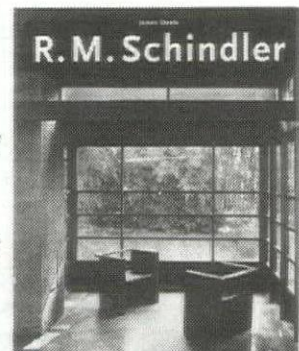
**New Design: Los Angeles, The Edge of Graphic Design** edited by Edward M. Gomez. A wonderful resource illustrating graphic design talent in Los Angeles, this profusely illustrated, 200-page book is a showcase of creative logo design, stationery,

posters, book design, movie titles, and publications. Among the more architecturally minded work are posters, publications and promotional pieces for SCI-Arc, Art Center, UCLA, Cranbrook, and Marmol & Radziner Architects; design for Aaron Betsky's *Building Sex* book; and environmental graphics for Griffith Park, LA Zoo, and the City of Santa Monica. Rockport Publishers, hardcover, \$45.

**The Getty Center: Richard Meier & Partners** by Michael Brawne; photographs by John Linden. Every aspect of this mega-project is documented as part of the Architecture in Detail series. Discussions of the setting, architect, program, and design sequence are illustrated with black-and-white photos of models, construction, built spaces, and drawings of all types. More drawings are in the

back section following the display of color photographs of every aspect of the center—from full range views to stunning details of travertine. Phaidon Press, softcover, \$29.95.

**R.M. Schindler** by James Steele. Within 180 pages, Steele and photographer Joachim Schumacher tour a great range of Schindler's LA-area projects. New color photographs are combined with archival photos and drawings. An illustrated chronology shows how work is related to life. Especially helpful is a map of buildings in the book that are still in existence today. Taschen, hardcover, \$29.99.





# 4 CALENDAR september

## 2, Thursday

**Pasadena Art Walk.** Self-guided, Old Town open house. The Armory Center for the Arts; 6-10PM. 626.792.5101.

## 2, 4, 7, Thursday, Saturday, Tuesday

**Coronado Touring.** Walking tours every Thursday, Saturday, and Tuesday. Glorietta Bay Inn; 11AM-12:30PM; \$6. Gerry MacCartee, 619.435.5892/Nancy Cobb, 619.435.5993.

## 4, Saturday

**Village Walking Tour.** Tour of downtown Village area of Claremont including college and commercial buildings. Claremont Heritage, California Bank and Trust, 102 Yale Ave., Claremont; 10AM-12PM; \$5; res. req. 909.621.0848.

## 4, Saturday

**SOMA-Yerba Buena Gardens.** Walking tour with the Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage. California Historical Society, 678 Mission St., SF; 10-11AM; \$35; res. req. 415.441.3004.

## 4, 11, 18, 25, Saturday

**Downtown LA.** Walking tours of various downtown landmarks. L.A. Conservancy; 10AM-Noon; \$5; res. req. 213.623.2489.

## 4, 11, 18, 25, Saturday

**Turistorica.** Walking tours with Architectural Foundation of Santa Barbara and Citizens Planning Foundation of Santa Barbara. City Hall Steps, De La Guerra Plaza, SB; 10AM-Noon; \$5. 805.965.3021 or 805.965.6307.

## 4, 11, 18, 25, Saturday

**Googie Tours.** Choice of The San Gabriel Valley, Behind the Orange Curtain, Coffee Shop Modern and More, Cocktails 'N' Coffee Shops with preservationist John English. \$34; res. req. 213.980.3480.

## 5, Sunday

**Garden Tours: Stroll Among the Blooms.** Tour of herb garden and old water tower led by volunteer docents. Rancho Los Cerritos Historic Site, 4600 Virginia Rd., LB; 2PM; free. 562.570.1755.

## 5, 12, 19, 26, Sunday

**Pacific Heights Walking Tour.** The Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage; 12:30PM; \$5. 415.441.3004.

## 9, Thursday

**Palm Springs Modern.** Book signing by contemporary Palm Springs author Adele Cygelman. Rizzoli Bookstore, 9501 Wilshire Blvd., BH; 6-8PM. 310.278.2247.

## 11, Saturday

**Old Pasadena.** Walking tour. Pasadena Heritage; 9AM; \$5; res. req. 626.441.6333.

## 11, Saturday

**The California Bungalow.** Lecture and book signing with author Paul Duchscherer on California Arts and Crafts bungalows. Marston House, 3525 7th Ave., San Diego; 10-11AM; \$12-15; res. req. 619.298.3142.

## 11, Saturday

**Banning Residence/Drum Barracks Museum.** Tour of Phineas Banning's residence situated in a 20-acre public park. Neighborhood Place Project; Banning Residence Museum/Drum Barracks Museum, Wilmington; 2-5PM; \$13; res. req. 626.448.4022.

## 12, Sunday

**Alameda Legacy Tour.** Home tour of Alameda. Alameda Architectural Preservation, Alameda; 11AM-5PM. 510.986.9232, ext. 3.

## 14, Tuesday

**Democracy's Designs.** Lecture on the decorative arts in the White House. de Young Museum, SF; 8PM. 415.431.6930.

## 14-15, Tuesday-Wednesday

**Integrating Cultural Resources in NEPA Compliance.** Seminar with director of Dames & Moore Janet Friedman on the implementation of environmental assessment, cultural resource management, and historic preservation responsibilities. National Preservation Institute, SF; 9AM-5PM; \$150-325; res. req. 703.765.0100.

## 15, Wednesday

**136 Bridges for 80,000 People.** Lecture with Dutch architect Rients Dijkstra in conjunction with the "Big Soft Orange" exhibition at Form Zero. SCI-Arc, 5454 Beethoven St., LA; 7:30PM; free. 310.574.1123.

## 16, Thursday

**Contracting for Cultural Resources Tasks.** Seminar with director of Dames & Moore Janet Friedman on legal, historical, and cultural factors that make consultation with federally recognized and non-recognized tribes different. National Preservation Institute, SF; 9AM-5PM; \$100-210; res. req. 703.765.0100.

## 16, Thursday

**Los Angeles Times Printing Plant and Executive/Editorial Offices.** Tour of the production plant, Times Building, editorial offices, composing room, library, photography department, and test kitchen led by journalist Jim Cavener. Neighborhood Place Project; Olympic plant parking lot, 2000 E. 8th St., LA; 1-4PM; \$10; res. req. 626.448.4022.

## 16, Thursday

**Open House on the Avenues: An Evening of Art & Design.** Evening of gallery receptions, showroom open houses, and other festivities along the Avenues of Art & Design, sponsored by StyleForLiving.com. West Hollywood Avenues of Art & Design, Beverly and Melrose between Doheny and La Cienega, WH; 6-9PM. 323.650.2668.

## 16, Thursday

**Body City.** Lecture and slide presentation with architectural designer Michele Saez with a reception to follow at the Hollyhock House. Gallery Theatre, Barnsdall Art Park, 4800 Hollywood Blvd., LA; 7:30-9PM; free. 323.913.4157.

## 17, Friday

**Pacific Electric in Orange County.** Lecture with Earl Nickles. South Pasadena Public Library Community Room, 1100 El Centro St., 7:30PM; free. 213.386.5580.

## 18, Saturday

**Historic Downtown Long Beach.** Walking tour. Long Beach Heritage Coalition; Historical Society of Long Beach, 418 Pine Ave., LB; 10AM; \$4-5; res. req. 562.493.7019.

## 18, Saturday

**The Miracle Mile: A Walking Tour.** Two-hour tour of the Wilshire district with stories behind its development and Art Deco buildings. The Art Deco Society of Los Angeles; 10AM; \$5-10; res. req. 310.659.3326.

## 18-October 23, Monday

**Los Angeles Architectural History: 100 Years of Southern California Houses.** Course taught by architectural journalist and SAH/SCC Webmistress Barbara Lamprecht focusing on famous architects' work, such as Charles and Henry Greene, Rudolf Schindler, Richard Neutra, and A. Quincy Jones. CSUN Campus, Northridge; 10AM-1PM; \$179; res. req. 818.677.CSUN.

## SAH/SCC EVENT

### 19, Sunday

**Authors on Architecture.** Discussion with authors Bob Winter, Ted Bosley, Jennifer Golub, Elizabeth McMillian, and Merry Ovnick. 800.9SAHSCC. See page 3 for details.

## 22, Wednesday

**Playing in Traffic.** Lecture with Seattle-based architects Mark and Peter Anderson of Anderson Anderson Architecture. SCI-Arc, 5454 Beethoven St., LA; 7:30PM; free. 310.574.1123.

## SAH/SCC EVENT

### 25, Saturday

**Architects' Offices: Space Making Space.** Tour of architects' offices including Stephen Ehrlich, Eric Owen Moss, Frederick Fisher & Partners, Kanner Architects, J. Staff Architect, David Lawrence Gray, and others. 10AM-3PM; \$20-45; res. req. 800.9SAHSCC. See page 1 for details.

## 25, Saturday

**Baroque Baroque: The Culture of Excess.** Seminar curated by English cultural historian Stephen Calloway on eccentric decoration of the 20th century influenced by theater, film, and fashion, with Mitchell Owens and Ilse Crawford of Donna Karan. Los Angeles County Museum, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Bing Theatre, LA; 10AM-5PM; \$10-15; res. req. 323.857.6000.

## 25, Saturday

**Adopt-a-Book for SCI-Arc Day.** Book drive to benefit SCI-Arc Kappe Library. Form Zero, 2433 Main St., SM; 10:30AM-9PM. 310.450.0222.

## 25, Saturday

**Santa Monica's La Mesa Drive.** Tour of La Mesa Drive by Tom Cavener. Neighborhood Place Project; 2-5PM; \$10; res. req. 626.448.4022.

## 26, Sunday

**A Stroll in the Park.** Hancock Park Historical Society's 22nd annual walking tour of six homes and gardens, including work by architects Phil Brinckerhoff, Gerard R. Colcord, Don Uhl, and Paul Williams. Windsor Square-Hancock Park Historical Society, Rancho La Brea; 12-5PM; \$12.50-25; res. req. 213.243.8182.

## 26, Sunday

**Berkeley Architectural Heritage.** Third annual series of arts and crafts tours. Oakland Heritage Alliance, Oakland; res. req. 510.841.2242.

## 29, Wednesday

**Palm Springs Architecture.** Book signing with Palm Springs Modern author Adele Cygelman and Albert Frey/Houses 1+2 author Jennifer Golub. Museum of Architecture, 34000 Via de Agua, San Juan Capistrano; 7-9PM. 949.443.5288.

## 29, Wednesday

**Mix Media Architettura.** Lecture with New York filmmaker and director of *Modulations* and *Synthetic Pleasures* Lara Lee. SCI-Arc, 5454 Beethoven St., LA; 7:30PM; free. 310.574.1123.

## 2, Saturday

**Feng Shui in the Garden.** Seminar with landscape architect Shelley Sparks on how feng shui can change one's environment and life. UCLA Extension, 175 Dodd Hall, LA; 9AM-5PM; \$60-90; res. req. 310.825.9971.

## 2-3, Saturday-Sunday

**Modernist Silver Lake: An Architectural Festival.** Two-day event featuring lectures, self-guided driving tour, and discounts at vintage design boutiques. Committee to Save Silver Lake's Reservoirs, Silver Lake; 9-5PM; \$40; res. req. 213.612.5271.

## 2, 5, 7, Saturday, Tuesday, Thursday

**Coronado Touring.** Walking tours every Saturday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Glorietta Bay Inn; 11AM-12:30PM; \$6. Gerry MacCartee, 619.435.5892/Nancy Cobb, 619.435.5993.

## 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Sunday

**Pacific Heights Walking Tour.** The Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage; 12:30PM; \$5. 415.441.3004.



Herman Miller's Aeron Chair can be found on the Avenues of Art and Design September 16th.

## 3, Sunday

**Garden Tours: Stroll Among the Blooms.** Tour of herb garden and old water tower led by volunteer docents. Rancho Los Cerritos Historic Site, 4600 Virginia Rd., LB; 2PM; free. 562.570.1755.

## 6, Wednesday

**New Work.** Lecture with architects Eleni Gigantes and Elia Zenghelis of Gigantes Zenghelis Architects. SCI-Arc, 5454 Beethoven St., LA; 7:30PM; free. 310.574.1123.

## 6-7, Wednesday-Thursday

**Identification and Management of Traditional Cultural Places.** Seminar with educator and consultant in historic preservation Thomas F. King on definitions and methods of identifying, preserving, and managing traditional cultural places. National Preservation Institute, SF; 9AM-5PM; \$150-325; res. req. 703.765.0100.

## 7, Thursday

**Pasadena Art Walk.** Self-guided, Old Town open house. The Armory Center for the Arts; 6-10PM. 626.792.5101.

## 7-8, Thursday-Friday

**Affordable Housing and Historic Preservation.** Lecture with principal of Stone House Development Richard Arnesen on how historic buildings can be used to provide affordable housing. National Preservation Institute, SF; 9AM-5PM; \$150-325; res. req. 703.765.0100.

## 8-10,

### Friday-Sunday

**Craftsman Weekend.** Eighth annual craftsman weekend offering tour of six craftsman-era houses, art exhibits, works of modern craftsmen, and lectures. Pasadena Heritage, 651 S. St. John Ave., Pasadena; res. req. 626.441.6333. (See sidebar, Page 5.)

# o c t o b e r

## 9, Saturday

**Old Pasadena.** Walking tour. Pasadena Heritage; 9AM; \$5; res. req. 626.441.6333.

## 9, Saturday

**The Sensual Home.** One day program on the concepts of psychoneuroimmunology, an approach to interior design using the five senses taught by practitioner Millicent Gappell. UCLA, Schoenberg Hall, LA; 9AM-1PM; \$50; res. req. 310.825.9971.

## 10-23, Sunday-Saturday

**Architectural California '99.** Tour of San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Las Vegas homes, cultural centers, offices, studios, bars, restaurants, entertainment centers, and shops. Architects Abroad, SF; \$2,390-3,580; res. req. 800.272.8808.

## 12, Tuesday

**Walking Tour of Los Angeles History.** Lecture and tour of Downtown Los Angeles led by CSUN history professor Leonard Pitt. CSUN; 7-9:50PM; \$49; res. req. 818.677.CSUN.



**The Miracle Mile: A Walking Tour.** Two-hour tour of the Wilshire district with stories behind its development and Art Deco buildings. The Art Deco Society of Los Angeles; 10AM; \$5-10; res. req. 310.659.3326.

**Malibu Colony.** Tour of Serra Retreat Center and the Adamson House (1928) led by tour guide Jiggs Gallagher and docents. Neighborhood Place Project, Malibu; 2-5PM; \$10; res. req. 310.556.0641.

**Who's Who in American Decoration.**  
Lecture with *House Beautiful* editor Margaret Kennedy on stylemakers who shaped the look of interiors in America from the '40s to the '80s. Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Bing Theatre; LA; 7:30PM; \$10-15; res. req. 323.857.6000.

**Garvanza Memories.** Walking tour of Garvanza homes including the Church of the Angels and the Judson stained-glass studio. Highland Park Heritage Trust, Highland Park; 10AM-3PM; \$10-15; res. req. 323.256.4326.

**23–November 6, Saturday–Saturday**  
*Architectour Mexico '99.* Tour of architects' and designers' work in Mexico City, Colonial Cities, Yucatan Peninsula, and Cuba. Architects Abroad, SF; \$1,190–2,980; res. req. 800.272.8808.

**Authors on Architecture.** Lecture with architectural historian and author Kathryn Smith. Central Library, Downtown; 2-3PM; free. 800.9SAHSCC. See Page 3 for details.

**Chamber Music in Historic Sites: The Mozartean Players.** Italian period-instrument ensemble at Le Petit Trianon built by Luis du Puget Millar in 1916. The Da Camera Society, Le Petit Trianon, Pasadena; 2PM and 3:30PM: \$40-65. 310.954.4300.

**Point of Contact.** Panel discussion with architects Ben van Berkel, Greg Lynn, and Karl Chu, art historian Caroline Bos, and educator Michael Speaks on points of contact between architecture and urbanism. SCI-Arc, 5454 Beethoven St., LA; 7:30PM; free. 310.574.1123.

**Chamber Music in Historic Sites:** Wiñan Quartet. Central European ensemble playing Smetana, Richter, and Dvorak in LA debut at the Doheny Mansion, designed by Eisen and Hunt (1900); Parkinson & Parkinson (1934). The Da Camera Society, Doheny Mansion, LA: 8PM; \$60.

**October 8-10, 1999**  
Call 626.441.6333 for information.

**Tour:** *Tour of Henry M. Robinson House*

**Exhibit:** "California Impressionism of the Arts & Crafts Period"

Antique & Contemporary Painting Show & Sale; Restoration Arts Center; "California Impressionism of the Arts & Crafts Period"; Furnishings Exhibition & Sale

**Lectures:** Gertrude Jekyll & the English Arts & Crafts Movement; Introduction to California Impressionism

**Workshops:** Rehabilitating the Historic Home; Designing the Modern Art & Crafts Garden in Southern California; Heat Gun Stripping & Wood Refinishing

**Bus Tour: Pasadena's Arts & Crafts Legacy**

**Lectures:** *The Arroyo Culture; The Arts & Crafts Revival*

**Workshops:** Rehabilitation Strategies for Kitchen & Bath Design; Color & Light in the Craftsman Home; Window & Door Restoration Techniques

**Lectures:** *Outside the Bungalow: America's Arts & Crafts Gardens; American Arts & Crafts Textiles: Then & Now*

**Workshops:** Home Exterior Documentation & Analysis; The Age of Enlightenment: Arts & Crafts Lighting; Faux Finishing Techniques

**Bus Tour:** *Historic Garvanza & Environs*

**Lectures:** *The Designs of Harvey Ellis & Claude Bragdon; Native American Imagery & the Arts & Crafts Movement, with Emphasis on Photographer Edward S. Curtis*  
**Workshops:** *Restoring the Interior of Your Home; Understanding California Art Tiles from Craftsman to Spanish; Chemical Paint Stripping & Wood Refinishing*

**Event:** Reception at the Pasadena City Hall Courtyard

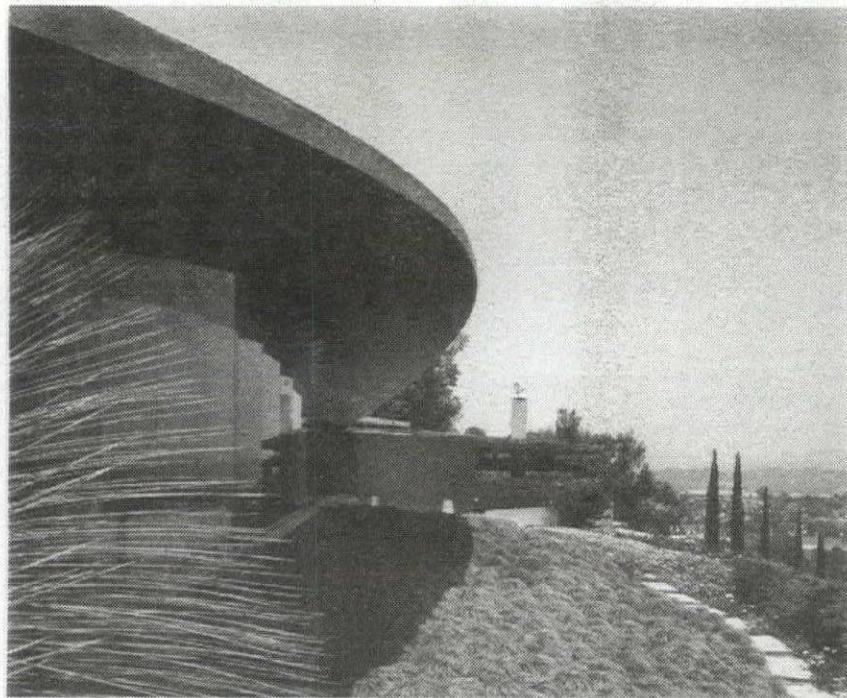
**Tour:** Duncan Irwin House Tour & Dinner

9AM-4PM

**Tour:** Craftsman House Tour

**Lecture:** *Then & Now: California as Seen in Plein Air Paintings*

**Workshops:** Chemical Paint Stripping & Wood Refinishing



The Silvertop residence designed by architect John Lautner (1957–1964) is featured in "Modernist Silver Lake: An Architectural Festival," October 2–3. (Photo: Douglas Hill Photography)



Everyone who had gathered from around the neighborhood, including my father and me, cheered back in 1959 when the cable snapped. The Watts Towers had passed their load test and we had all just witnessed the triumph of a lone creative spirit against the unyielding efficiency of the "common good."

Simon Rodia had left by then, leaving his towers to literally stand or fall on their own. But there was a champion in their corner, unknown to most of us at the time. Bud Goldstone was an engineer with a generous heart for this non-functional but expressive work. It was he who had insisted on the load test for the towers when the city had decided arbitrarily to tear them down without the benefit of customary testing procedures.

In this context, it was truly a great honor for this former neighbor to finally learn of and meet Mr. Goldstone on the recent SAH/SCC tour. Though he gives first credit to the people in the immediate neighborhood of the towers, Mr. Goldstone provided the professional engineering strength needed for the Towers' rescue in 1959, and preservation since then.

The towers stand at the then southeast portal of the city, where three major railroad spurs converged from Wilmington, San Pedro, and Santa Ana. Thus, placed strategically, the towers were a tender offering by Rodia to the powerful country he had adopted.

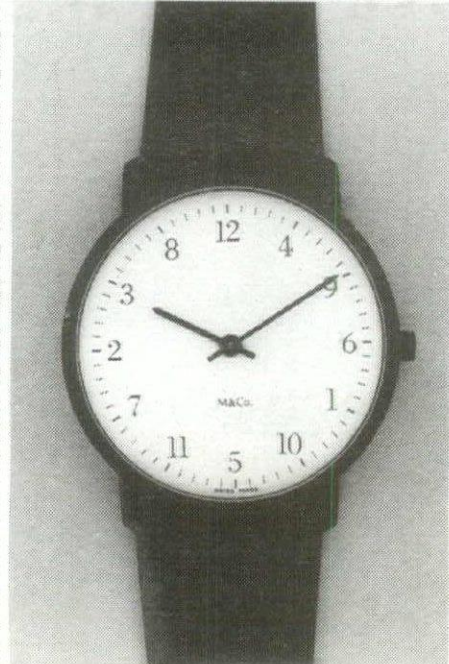
I had seen Rodia's towers plenty of times in photos, with and without scaffolding, in the years since my family moved from Watts. Yet, it was the exquisite photos by noted architectural photographer Marvin Rand, in the recent book by Bud and Arloa Paquin Goldstone, *The Los Angeles Watts Tower*, depicting the interplay of light and shadow on the floor of the towers, that brought back memories. Indeed, it was the architectural space created by Rodia at the base of the towers with their interconnecting trellises and shadow pattern that I had remembered emotionally: the restful place created by Rodia from which his towers ascend.

Walking through Watts recently, I could see that the not-so-benign neglect by the larger community continues. Edwin Markham Junior High (my old school) near the towers is rusted over and in shambles. It was new when I attended, a modernist design with open, sweeping outdoor spaces.

The graphic appearing with this article is a watercolor study in black and brown, as seen from my Watts background, which I prepared for an undergraduate architectural rendering class, circa 1968—almost 10 years after the dramatic load test. When my young rendering instructor first saw the watercolor, he lifted up his sunglasses, turned around and said, “Man, that is cool, all dark and gloomy. I bet you it’s just like that down there huh?” “Yep,” I said, “just like that.”

— Ezequiel Gutierrez





Tibor Kalman's "Tiborcity: Design and Undesign" exhibition is held at San Francisco Museum of Modern Art through October 26th. (Photo: Courtesy of SFMOMA)

**California Heritage Museum**  
2612 Main St., SM.  
310.392.8537.

*Cerámica*, September 4–January 30, 2000. Display of 300 Mexican clay works including Metepec portrait pitchers, Michoacan pineapple jars, highly burnished blackware of Oaxaca, Majolica pottery, and more.

**The Doctor's House Museum**  
1601 W. Mountain, Brand Park, Glendale. 818.242.7447.

*The Fell-White Collection*, ongoing. Family heirlooms from the 19th century, including clothing and mementos, donated to the Glendale Historical Society.

**Form Zero**

**Edgemar Gallery**  
2445 Main St., SM. 310.450.0222.  
*Big Soft Orange*, September 10–November 7. Showcase curated by Michael Speaks on a group of young Dutch architects' projects for the development of 30,000 homes in Leidsche Rijn; firms include Crimson, Max I, One Architecture, and NL Architects. (See Calendar, September 15, for related lecture.)

**Fowler Museum of Cultural History**  
UCLA Campus, LA. 310.825.4361.

*Threads of Light: Chinese Embroidery from Suzhou and the Photography of Robert Glenn Ketchum*, through September 5. Exhibition of 30 works of contemporary Chinese embroidery including 13 large-scale embroideries based on the photographs of landscape photographer Robert Glenn Ketchum.

*Walk in Splendor: Ceremonial Dress of the Minangkabau of Indonesia*, through September 12. Exhibition of 250 ceremonial textiles and accessories by the Minangkabau people of Indonesia.

*Recycled, Re-Seen: Folk Art from the Global Scrap Heap*, September 5–January 2, 2000. Exhibition of about 700 objects made from recycled materials from 50 nations.

**Gamble House**  
4 Westmoreland Pl., Pasadena.  
626.793.3334.

Tours of Greene and Greene house, Thursday–Sunday, Noon–3PM.

**Haas-Lilienthal House**  
2007 Franklin St., SF. 415.441.3000.

*Haas-Lilienthal House*. Tour San Francisco's only Queen Anne Victorian open to the public as a house museum to explore the city's architectural and historical past. Docents are being recruited.

**Hollyhock House**  
4808 Hollywood Blvd., LA.  
213.662.7272.

Tours of Frank Lloyd Wright's Hollyhock House, Tuesday–Sunday, 1, 2, 3PM.

**The Huntington Library**  
1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino.  
626.405.2140.

*Participant Observer: Photography by Mark Klett*, through September 19. Display of interpreter Mark Klett's contemporary American landscape photographs.

*The Land of Golden Dreams: California and the Gold Rush Decade*, September 25–September 10, 2000. Exhibition of original materials from the Huntington Library's Gold Rush holdings including journals, letters, diaries, artifacts, and original drawings.

**LACMA**  
5905 Wilshire Blvd., LA.  
323.857.6000.

*Pompeii: Life in a Roman Town*, October 17–January 9, 2000. Exhibition taken from the Soprintendenza Archeologica di Pompei and the Museo Archeologico Nazionale in Naples focusing on people's achievements of ancient Pompeii.

**The Marston House**  
3525 7th Ave., SD. 619.298.3142.

A 1905 home designed by Irving Gill and William Hebbard sits upon an almost five-acre estate, including historic gardens. Tours: Friday–Sunday, Noon–3:45PM.

**Oakland Museum of California**  
1000 Oak St., Oakland.  
888.625.6873.

*Awakening From the California Dream: An Environmental History*, through September 12. Photographic exhibition on a five-year project by photographer Robert Dawson and writer Gray Brechin.

*California Underground: Our Caves and Subterranean Habitats*, through January 9, 2000. Exhibition of different types of caves in California with simulated caves and interactive materials on caves and bats.

*Dog Haus: Architecture Unleashed*, through October 17. Exhibition of 24 designs from the doghouse design competition.

**Otis Gallery**  
Otis College of Art and Design  
9045 Lincoln Blvd., LA. 310.665.6905.

*Transparent Facade*, September 11–October 30. Exhibition of eight New York contemporary artists, whose work is based on qualities of light, including Christian Haub, Heather Hutchison, Melissa Kretschmer, Russell Maltz, Michael Rouillard, Mary Schilliro, Fran Siegel, and Joan Waltemath.

**Pacific Asia Museum**  
46 N. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena. 626.449.2742, ext. 18.

*Gods and Goblins: Japanese Folk Paintings from Otsu*, through November 21. Exhibition of folk paintings from Otsu, Japan, from the late 17th century through the 20th century with workshops by Otsu-e artists.

**San Francisco Museum of Modern Art**  
151 3rd St., SF. 415.357.4000.

*Carleton Watkins: The Art of Perception*, through September 7. Exhibition of American photographer Carleton Watkins' historical documentation using technical and compositional sophistication, aesthetic achievements, and 3-D photographs created specifically for Victorian stereoscopic viewers.

*Tiborcity: Design and Undesign* by Tibor Kalman, through October 26. Exhibition of the late Tibor Kalman's ideas and methodology through a series of approximately 150 objects thematically presented.

*Jennifer Morla: Works from the Permanent Collection of Architecture and Design*, through October 26. Display of Bay area designer Jennifer Morla's graphic design work created for diverse clients such as Levi's, Wells Fargo Bank, the Capp Street Project, and the New York Times Magazine.

*Paul Klee: Signs of Life*, through March 14, 2000. Exhibit of 20 projects by Paul Klee dating from 1895 to 1939 examining his connection to the natural world.

*Far Out: Design from the Sixties*, November 12, 1999–February 20, 2000. Exhibition of Bay Area designers' and artists' posters, clothes, objects, and structures from SFMOMA's collection, including the "Numbered Series" of rock and roll posters, Wavy Gravy's celebrated rainbow suit and Janet Joplin's painted Porsche.

*Edge City: Work by Steven Holl from the Permanent Collection of Architecture and Design*, November 12–February 20, 2000. Display of New York architect Steven Holl's Edge of the City project, including models, banner-sized photo collages and evocative sketches of projects that snake along the edges of Dallas, Phoenix, Cleveland, and Buffalo.

*The Architecture of Graphics: Designs for SCI-Arc from the Permanent Collection of Architecture and Design*, November 12–February 20, 2000. Exhibition of nearly two dozen examples of SCI-Arc's graphics from SFMOMA's collection illustrating the relationship between architectural and graphic experimentation, including posters, lecture announcements, brochures, and electronic materials.

**Southwest Museum at LACMA West**  
Wilshire and Fairfax, LA.  
323.933.4510

*Common Threads: Pueblo and Navajo Textiles in the Southwest Museum*, through September 26. More than 90 blankets, rugs, garments, and tapestries dating from 1800 to 1940, plus more than 100 additional textiles on view illustrating the storage of historic fabrics.

## Schindler House Call For Help

The Schindler House is one of the more valuable historic landmarks in the City of West Hollywood. The MAK Center for Art and Architecture at the the Schindler House and the MAK Vienna (Austrian Museum of Applied Arts) request your support for permits with the City of West Hollywood.

The MAK (which supports the restoration efforts and maintenance for the Schindler House) has applied for a permit to authorize activities such as exhibitions, openings, lectures, and private events. The City has passed a resolution that imposes restrictions on the MAK Center's operations, including the number of visitors allowed to the center. The MAK Center is gravely concerned about conditions in the resolution that seriously prohibit its ability to grow and prosper as an institution.

The programs of the MAK Center revitalize the Schindler House, promoting the cultural value of the house, creating a center of international, artistic and, cultural interest, and generating income that is vital to sustaining both the MAK Center and the Schindler House.

The MAK Center would greatly appreciate a short letter of support to present at a public hearing in the fall. Fax or mail them to the Schindler House at 835 N. Kings Rd., West Hollywood, CA 90069; fax: 323.651.2340.

For more information and sample letters, please call 323.651.1510.

**Therien & Co.**  
716 N. La Cienega Blvd., LA. 310.657.4615.  
*Tropical Colonial Furniture*, October 1–October 22. Exhibition of 17th- and 18th-century antique colonial furniture.

**Villa Montezuma, Jesse Shepard House**  
1925 K St., San Diego. 619.239.2211.  
An 1887 Queen Anne style house designed by Comstock and Trotsche for the author. Tours: Saturday–Sunday, Noon–3:45PM.



The Penn Mine Toxic Pits sign at Sierra Foothills of the Farewell Promised Land project is featured in "Awakening from the California Dream: An Environmental History," through September 12th. (Courtesy of the Oakland Museum of California)

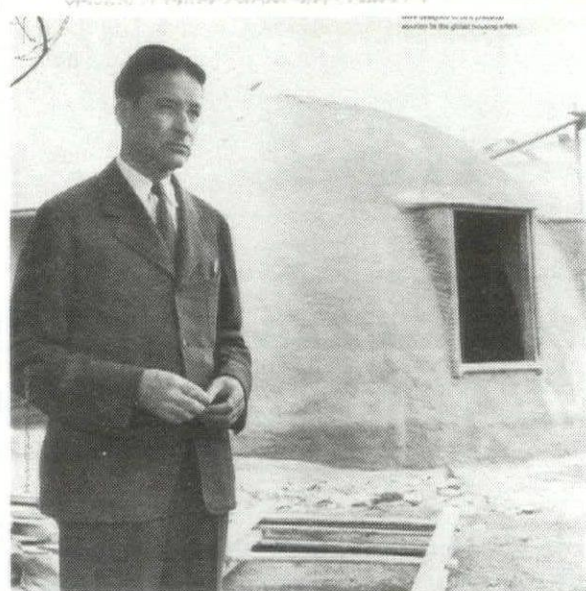


**REDISCOVERING WALLACE NEFF**  
**SAH/SCC LIFE MEMBERS' BUBBLE HOUSE TOUR AND**  
**RECEPTION, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16TH**

In celebration of our Life Members, SAH/SCC has planned a spectacular tour of architect Wallace Neff's controversial Bubble House on October 16th from 1PM to 3PM. The hosts for the tour will be homeowners, sound and visual artist Steve Roden and textile designer Sari Roden.

The previous Life Member gathering at the Buck House was such a success that we have decided to re-unite everyone once again.

The event is limited to 40 people, and only to Life Members. There is a nominal \$10 fee; see Page 8 for order form. If you are not currently a Life Member, and would like to join us on this special day, see Page 8 for membership form.



Wallace Neff in front of the controversial Bubble House.  
(Photo: The Huntington Library, San Marino, CA)

Known, of course, for designing many Spanish Colonial Revival homes, Neff nevertheless experimented in the 1940s with the Bubble House idea. Most of these

experiments have been demolished, with the exception of the Bubble House that stands in Los Angeles.

The concrete, dome-shaped buildings were designed to be a practical solution to the global housing crisis in the 1940s.

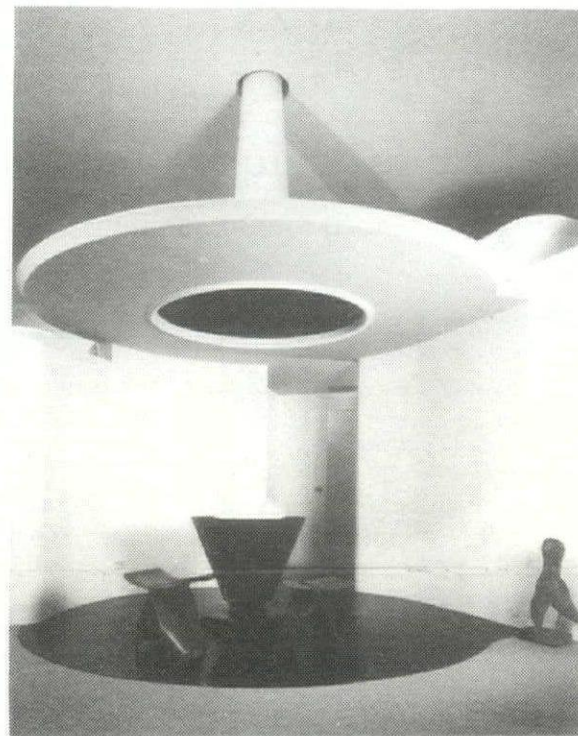
Neff perfected the Airform Construction technique, which involved a rubber-coated fabric balloon being tied to the footings at the base of a concrete slab. Once inflated, the balloon was sprayed with a thin layer of Gunnite. When the concrete dried, the balloon was deflated and pulled out of the front door. The thin shell was then covered with a strong wire mesh, insulated, and covered with another layer of concrete.

Neff was born in 1895 and grew up in La Mirada, California. He was the grandson of Andrew McNally, founder of the Rand McNally publishing company. As a teenager, spending five years in Europe inspired his vision of architecture. He graduated from MIT and opened his own architecture firm in 1922.

Neff, along with George Washington Smith, Roland E. Coate, and others, created Spanish Colonial Revival. As time progressed, Neff's work was greatly influenced by the Italian and Spanish structures he studied in Europe. He then took these influences and transformed them into what was later known as the California Style.

His clients included some of Hollywood's biggest names, such as Douglas Fairbanks, Mary Pickford, Cary Grant, Groucho Marx, King Vidor, and others. Aside from fulfilling his architectural interests, Neff was also an inventor. In the 1930s, he held many patents; was one for a self-sharpening pencil.

He later became interested in the chambered nautilus shell and began



The circular fireplace of the Bubble House. (Photo: John Ellis)

sketching ideas for a thin-shelled concrete structure. It is believed that because Neff was an architect and inventor, it led him to explore thin-shell housing. At the time, many people were struggling with the outcome of the Depression and the war, but Neff managed to create a low-cost housing approach that used a thin-shelled bubble-like structure.

(Information source: "Bubbles," by Steve Roden, *Echoes*, Summer 1999.)

**Become a Life Member!**  
See Page 8 for details.

Continued from page 1

are Center for World Arts and Cultures at UCLA, Humbolt Library in Berlin, and Potatisaker Housing and Villas in Malmo, Sweden. The firm places a strong emphasis on collaborative work, both between architect and client, as well as among its design staff, and believes that every good piece of architecture or planning grows out of an understanding of the qualities of a specific site, climate, historical context, and client. Ruble received degrees from University of Virginia and UCLA, and has been a visiting critic at Cornell and UCLA. Yudell graduated from Yale.



(Photo: Courtesy of Moore  
Ruble Yudell Architects)

**Eric Owen Moss  
Architects**

Eric Owen Moss opened his office in 1973, and is widely known for his experimental spirit and form. Recently completed projects include the 100-meter-



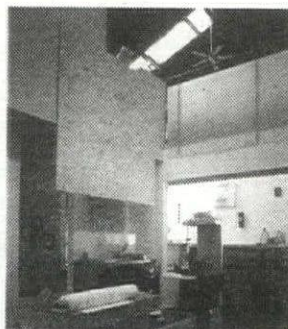
(Photo: Courtesy of Eric Owen Moss Architects)

long Samitaur office block, Eastman Kodak headquarters, and the Pittard Sullivan building. Current high-profile projects include The Umbrella and The Beehive. Moss was educated at Berkeley and Harvard, and has held teaching positions at Yale, Harvard, and SCI-Arc (where he is on the Board of Directors).

**Pugh + Scarpa Architecture Engineering**

Since 1987, Gwynne Pugh and Lawrence Scarpa have joined forces to create a wide range of commercial interiors, office buildings, industrial facilities, public and governmental buildings, and engineering projects.

The firm stresses the search for fundamental principles, as well as attempts to find a balance of the elements that make up architecture: structure, program, materials, and organization of form, space, and light. This has led to completed projects for Reactor Films, Track 16 Gallery, and Santa Monica Pier Carousel Building. Pugh was



(Photo: Courtesy of Pugh + Scarpa Architecture)

educated at Leeds University and UCLA. Scarpa studied at the University of Florida, and teaches at Otis College.

### 1. Staff Architect

Established in 1989 by John Staff, the firm specializes in custom residential and commercial architecture, multi-family housing, and interiors. A special focus on materials, such as concrete, stainless steel, and copper, are evident in such projects as the Federal Avenue Commercial Building.

Exposure Photo Studio, and the Hilton Residence. Growing up in Southern California added to Staff's appreciation for light and sun, which is evident in his manipulations of space. Once a furniture- and jewelry-maker, Staff continues to bring detail and high craftsmanship to all his projects. Staff is a graduate of San Diego State University and SCI-Arc.

