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Authors on Architecture: Casciato & Alonso on Latin America

SAH/SCC Zoom Presentation

Sunday, May 22, 2022, 1-2:30 PM Pacific Time



Auguste Génin (French- Belgian, 1862-1931), *Las Iluminaciones, El Palacio Nacional*, Mexico City, 1910. Courtesy Getty Research Institute.

SAH/SCC is delighted to welcome authors Maristella Casciato and Idurre Alonso to talk about their new book, *The Metropolis in Latin America 1830-1930. Cityscapes, Photographs, Debates* (Getty Publications, 2022).

In the century between 1830 and 1930, following independence from Spain and Portugal, major cities in Latin America experienced large-scale growth, with the development of a new urban bourgeois elite interested in projects of modernization and rapid industrialization. At the same time, the lower classes were eradicated from old city districts and deported to the outskirts. *The Metropolis in Latin America, 1830-1930* surveys this expansion, focusing on six capital cities—Havana, Mexico City, Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Santiago de Chile, and Lima—as it examines sociopolitical histories, town planning, art and architecture, photography, and film in relation to the metropolis.

Drawing from the Getty Research Institute's vast collection of books, prints, and photographs from this period—largely unpublished until

now—this volume reveals the cities' changes through urban panoramas, plans depicting new neighborhoods, and photographs of novel transportation systems, public amenities, civic spaces, and more. It illustrates the transformation of colonial cities into the monumental modern metropolises that, by the end of the 1920s, provided fertile ground for the emergence of today's Latin American megalopolis.



Augusto Cesar de Malta Campos (Brazilian, 1864-1957), town hall and high-rise façades overlooking Praça Floriano, Rio de Janeiro, 1928. Courtesy Getty Research Institute.

Alonso is associate curator of Latin American collections at the Getty Research Institute, where Casciato is senior curator and head of architectural collections.



Augusto Cesar de Malta Campos (Brazilian, 1864-1957), *P. Mal [Praça Marechal] Floriano, Rio Brasil, 1927*. Courtesy Getty Research Institute.



Tram, Rio de Janeiro, 1925. Courtesy Getty Research Institute.

"The book includes an unusual repertoire of topics in the field of research of history at the early stages of modernity in Latin America," says Gabriela Rangel, artistic director of Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires (MALBA). "The authors shed light on the transformations that modified the colonial model of Iberian cities in America, from Mexico to Argentina, displacing the axis of viceregal power toward a circuit of cities that were able to expand and gather international prestige during the republican period."

Authors on Architecture: Alonso & Casciato on Latin America—Sunday, May 22, 2022; 1-2:30 PM PST; \$5; go to www.sahscc.org, and pay via PayPal or mail in order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom connection information sent upon registration.

SAH/SCC President's Letter



Kenneth Breisch, Ph.D.

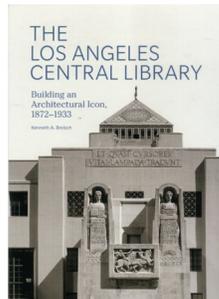
The End of an Era

This May, Dr. Kenneth Breisch will retire from teaching at the University of Southern California (USC). Breisch founded the Historic Preservation (now Heritage Conservation) Program in 1997. During his 23 years of teaching at USC, he has trained generations of preservationists working in and around Los Angeles and across the country.

The Michigan-born Breisch holds a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. His career includes teaching at SCI-Arc, University of Delaware, and University of Texas at Austin. From 1981 until 1986, he served as Director of Survey and Planning for the Texas State Historic Preservation Office.

Breisch was President of the international Society of Architectural Historians (SAH) from 2014 to 2016. During his tenure, he facilitated the transition toward being a more international organization and improved communication and collaboration between the main organization and the regional chapters.

Breisch is a prolific author, and he has graced the stage at many SAH/SCC events.



Libraries are a particular focus for him. Many of you may remember his SAH/SCC program on his book *American Libraries: 1730-1950* (Library of Congress and W. W. Norton, 2017). He has also penned *Henry Hobson Richardson and the Small Public Library in America: A Study in Typology* (MIT Press, 1997), as well as the definitive study *The Los Angeles Central Library: Building an Architectural Icon, 1872-1950* (J. Paul Getty Trust, 2016). He was also on the Board of the Santa Monica Public Library from 2001 to 2004.

Breisch devoted himself to public service. He served on the City of Santa Monica Planning Commission from 1993 to 2000, and was appointed a Santa Monica Landmarks Commissioner in 2018, and continues to serve in that capacity today.

While attending the USC Historic Preservation Program from 2009 to 2011, I had the great pleasure of taking his classes on American architectural history and Southern California architectural history. His lectures are always populated with images from his own travels, which gave an important personal touch.

But, of course, Ken is familiar to many of us because he is a Life member of SAH/SCC and a member of our Advisory Board.

In his newly found free time, Ken will focus on the history of the Los Angeles public library system and devote time to researching and writing about the early prehistory and history of Southern California landscapes.

On behalf of SAH/SCC, I wish to congratulate Ken on his decades of service in education and in the community. We hope to see more of you at SAH/SCC events in the future!

—Sian Winship

Schindler House: First 100 Years

Ushering in the 100-year anniversary of the landmark Schindler House (1922), the MAK Center for Art and Architecture presents "Schindler House: 100 Years in the Making," co-curated by MAK Center director Jia Yi Gu and historians Gary Riichirō Fox and Sarah Hearne. The four-month exhibition and programming series (May 28-September 25) celebrates the landmark modern house by Austrian-American architect R.M. Schindler (1887-1953). The celebration emphasizes acts of making and remaking carried out by artists, architects, historians, preservationists, curators, and writers that have constituted the house and its myths over this century. Thematic topics on re/making property, landscape, preservation, maintenance,

construction, repair, domesticity, and inventories highlight histories of renewal and transformation. With an emphasis on process over finality, the exhibition incorporates a rotating vitrine that accommodates the display and interpretation of new materials that emerge during the run of the show. Contributors entail both historical and contemporary actors, with historical documents, facsimiles, and artists' work by Carmen Argote, Reyner Banham, Erik Benjamins, Anthony Carfello, Fiona Connor, Irving Gill, Julian Hoeber, homeLA, Bernard Judge, Andrea Lenardin Madden, Mai Ling, Esther McCoy, Renée Petropoulos, Gala Porras-Kim, Stephen Prina, R.M. Schindler, Jakob Sellaoui, Virginia Swenson, and Rosten Woo, among others.

Tour and Event Information:

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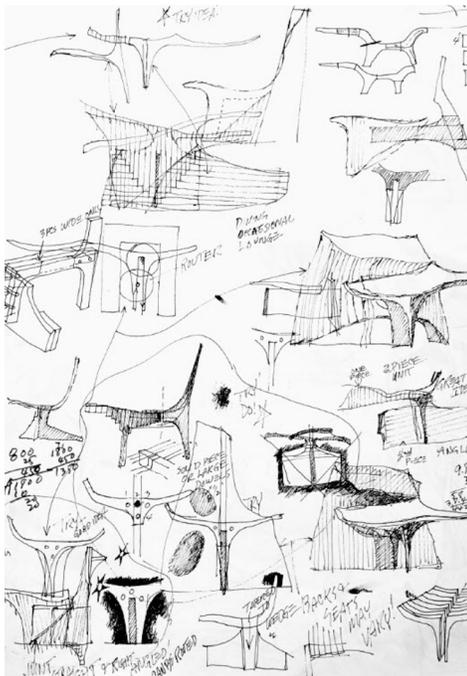
Chair inspired by driftwood is made of Honduras mahogany and ash and photographed at the Imperial Sand Dunes National Recreation Area in Imperial County, west of Yuma, AZ. Courtesy Archives of California Design, Paul Mills Art Library, Oakland Museum of California.

Authors on Architecture: Head & Nartonis on Hopkins

SAH/SCC Zoom Presentation
Sunday, April 10, 2022, 1-2:30 PM Pacific Time

Please join SAH/SCC as we explore the life and work of designer-craftsman Jack Rogers Hopkins. The book *Jack Rogers Hopkins: California Design Maverick* (Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation for Arts and Crafts, 2022), edited by Jeffrey Head and Katie Nartonis, brings together more than 95 historical photos of Hopkins' eclectic and visionary sculptural works, with curator notes and essays by noted design scholars.

Hopkins (1920-2006) was a contemporary of woodworker Sam Maloof (1916-2009), who was a leading figure in California modernism of the mid 20th century, when American furniture was becoming more sculptural and free-form.



Drawings by Hopkins.

Courtesy Jeffrey Head.

Curators and writers Nartonis and Head will relay how they spent more than a decade delving into Hopkins' life and work, which Nartonis says comprise one of the last important untold stories of the West Coast's post-WWII design era. "Hopkins was part of a community of studio makers who really came to define the period and its lasting impact," she says.

A seminal 2003 exhibition *The Maker's Hand: American Studio Furniture, 1940-1990*, at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, spotlighted America's most respected 20th-century studio makers, placing Hopkins among his better-known peers including Maloof, George Nakashima (1905-1990), Wharton Esherick (1887-1970), and Arthur Espenet Carpenter (1920-2006).



A Hopkins-designed chair made of birch and plywood from the early 1970s features his stack-lamination technique. Courtesy Hopkins Family Collection.

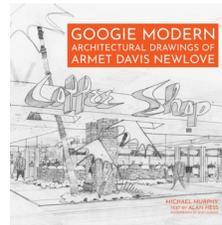
Authors on Architecture: Nartonis & Head on Hopkins—Sunday, April 10, 2022; 1-2:30 PM PST; \$5; go to www.sahscc.org and pay via PayPal or mail in order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom connection information sent upon registration.

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Authors on Architecture: Murphy & Hess on Googie



SAH/SCC Zoom Presentation

Sunday, May 1, 2022, 1-2:30 PM Pacific Time

Come explore the architectural drawings of Googie masters Armet Davis Newlove and celebrate the publication of the new book *Googie Modern* (Angel City Press, 2022) by Michael Murphy and Alan Hess, both of whom will join us for this program. (See “Bookmarks” review on Page 6.)



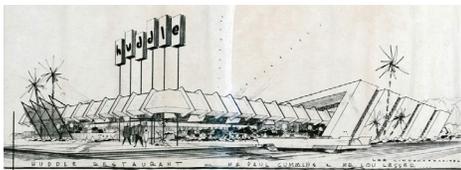
Clock #11, Los Angeles, 1951.

Googie Modern, conceived, curated, and designed by Michael Murphy, is a feast of mid-century modern design. Each remarkable rendering demonstrates the passion and precision that went into every Armet Davis Newlove creation. *Googie Modern* is itself a monument to the excitement and optimism that once lined the streets of mid-century America.



Googies Downtown (remodel), Los Angeles, 1955.

Celebrated expert on Googie architecture, historian and writer Hess explains the first Googies, a Sunset Boulevard coffee shop designed by John Lautner, FAIA (1911-1994), and relates how Armet & Davis took over the reins, remodeling Lautner’s design in 1955, and turning it into a model for every major coffee shop/diner that emerged in succeeding decades. In its earliest days, the shocking architecture was ridiculed by critics as “kitsch” and “unrealistic,” and worse—“too commercial.” The attacks by critics (read: architecture snobs) fell on the deaf ears of restaurateurs and the public, who were literally eating up the accessibility, the fun, and the futurism.



Huddle Restaurant (proposal), Pasadena, 1954.

Murphy is a former agency creative turned independent designer and real-estate entrepreneur. He met Victor Newlove and viewed his first Googie renderings when he was still in junior high school, and those images were locked in his brain. They would eventually define his passion. Prior to creating this book, Murphy designed “Vedem Underground,” an exhibition about a protest magazine crated by Nazi camp prisoners, that *Smithsonian* magazine hailed as one of the 10 “Don’t Miss” exhibits of 2017-2018. Murphy curated and designed two exhibitions with companion books about Santa Monica, and the book *Los Angeles: A Look Back to Postcards of the 1930s & 1940s from Today* (Immaginare Press, 2019) with his colleague, photographer Jens Lucking, who also contributes to this book.



Mel's Coffee Shop; Oxnard, CA, 1957.

Hess has written extensively on modernism in the West, most notably *Googie: Fifties Coffee Shop Architecture* (Chronicle Books, 1986) and the update, *Googie Redux: Ultramodern Roadside Architecture* (Chronicle Books, 2004).

Authors on Architecture: Hess & Murphy on Googie—Sunday, May 1, 2022; 1-2:30 PM PST; \$5; visit www.sahscc.org and pay via PayPal or mail in order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom connection information sent upon registration.

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Masters of Modernism: eight-page, two-color brochure featuring works of Richard Neutra and Frank Lloyd Wright in Bakersfield. \$5

Architecture: Inside and Outside: 5"x5" folded color brochure featuring Santa Barbara's Lotusland, Casa del Herrero, and Val Verde. \$3

Irving Gill: Los Angeles: 10-page booklet featuring photos and articles on Gill and three residential projects in LA. \$6

Rodney Walker 3 30 90: 12-page brochure featuring nine homes on five sites, as well as the architect's use of the three-foot module. \$8

Greta Magnusson Grossman: 3.5" x 8" 2-page color brochure featuring two residences by Greta Grossman. \$4

Space and Learning: eight-page, four-color brochure on the historical and contemporary legacy of LA school architecture, featuring projects by Richard Neutra, Thom Mayne, Rios Clementi Hale Studios, and others. \$8

John Parkinson, Downtown: 11"x17", four-color brochure featuring a self-guided walking tour of Parkinson buildings in Downtown LA's historic core and beyond. \$5

Rodney Walker: The Ojai Years: tri-fold, black-and-white brochure featuring Walker's important residences in Ojai, with pictures and article by historian David Mason. \$5

Kesling Homes: bi-fold, two-color brochure from the "Kesling Modern Structures" tour. \$2

Union Station and MTA Transit Center: bi-fold map for a self-guided walking tour including historical facts and photos. \$2

Modernism for the Masses: tri-fold brochure with inserts of detailed floor plans of Eichler homes visited on the Orange County tour. \$10

David Gebhard Review: essays on the Works Project Administration by Robert W. Winter, Orville O. Clarke, Jr., and Mitzi March Mogul. \$5

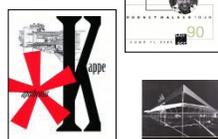
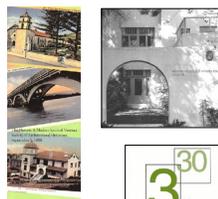
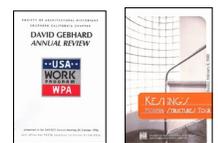
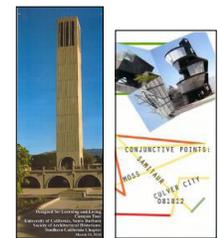
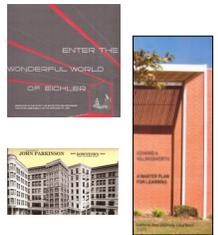
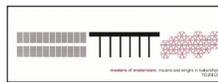
The Historic and Modern Spirit of Ventura: 20-page guide from Ventura tour. \$10

Killingsworth: A Master Plan for Learning: 11"x17", four-color walking tour brochure of the Cal State Long Beach campus features history of master plan development by architect Edward A. Killingsworth, FAIA. \$4

Ray Kappe—Apotheosis: eight-page brochure features five Kappe Houses from 1959 to 1966 in the Royal Woods development of the San Fernando Valley. \$8

Conjunctive Points: four-color, 11"x17" brochure featuring a 20-building walking tour of the Hayden Tract, designed by architect Eric Owen Moss and developed by Samitaur Constructs. \$8

Designed for Learning: 11"x17" walking tour map and brochure of the University of California, Santa Barbara, campus. \$4



Arts & Crafts Movement: Arnold Schwartzman shares about his book *Arts & Crafts: From William Morris to Frank Lloyd Wright*. \$5

Reyner Banham: Authors Todd N. Gannon and Richard J. Williams discuss their books about Banham, writer of *Los Angeles: The Architecture of Four Ecologies*. \$5

Behind the Iron Curtain in 1969: John Ellis, FAIA, retraces his steps as a student at Cambridge to visit the work of the Russian Constructivists and Alvar Aalto, Hon. FAIA. \$5

Bunker Hill: Author Nathan Marsak traces the architectural and cultural history of Los Angeles' early residential neighborhood, best known for its appearance in film noirs. \$5

Church of the Epiphany: SAH/SCC President Sian Winship and preservation architects Escher GuneWardena introduce viewers to the oldest Episcopal church in LA. \$5

William F. Cody: Authors of a new book on the Palm Springs architect explore his modern works in the west and southwest. \$5

Harley Earl: SAH/SCC Member Richard Stanley reveals how Harley Earl invented the modern automotive design studio. \$5

Elizabeth Gordon: Author Monica Penick introduces viewers to one of the most influential magazine editors of the mid-20th century. \$5

Griffith Observatory: SAH/SCC Member William "Stuart" Leslie talks about the architecture of a Los Angeles icon: Griffith Park Observatory and Planetarium. \$5

Growing up Modern: Authors Julia Jamrozik and Coryn Kempster discuss their new book, *Growing up Modern: Childhoods In Iconic Homes*. \$5

Florence Knoll: Dr. Ana Arujo talks about her book *No Compromise: The Work of Florence Knoll*, about a leading force of modern design. \$5

Neutra in Latin America: Catherine Rose Ettinger discusses her 2018 book *Richard Neutra: Encounters with Latin America*. \$5

New West: SAH/SCC Life Members Wolfgang Wagener, AIA, RIBA, and Leslie Erganian explore history through hand-tinted postcards. \$5

John Parkinson: Author Stephen Gee discusses the unsung genius of architect John Parkinson, designer of many LA icons. \$5

Jock Peters: Historian Christopher Long relays the architect and designer's "varieties of modernism" and his work in Los Angeles. \$5

Preserving Los Angeles: Author Ken Bernstein and photographer Stephen Schafer reveal how LA's preservation programs saved architectural and cultural jewels of the city. \$5

Will Price: Author George E. Thomas makes the case for Will Price as an early modern architect working in Philadelphia. \$5

Public Housing: Scholar Nicole Krup Oest shares her thesis-turned-book, *Photography and Modern Public Housing in Los Angeles*. \$5

David Wyn Roberts: Architect, author, and SAH/SCC Member Cory Buckner provides a rare and very personal look at the work of Cambridge modernist David Wyn Roberts. \$5

Millard Sheets: Author Adam Arenson discusses the work of Millard Sheets and his association with Home Savings and Loan. \$5

The Stepwells of India: Author Victoria Lautman conducts a personal tour of the mysterious and magnificent stepwells in India. \$5

Wayne Thom: Author and SAH/SCC Member Emily Bills examines the architectural photography of Wayne Thom, who documented SoCal modern architecture. \$5

Warner Bros.: Former Warner Bros. archivist Steven Bingen takes you behind the gates at the famed studio. \$5

Jean Welz: Author/filmmaker Peter Wyeth uncovers the little-known architecture career of perhaps the leading South African painter. \$5

Paul R. Williams, FAIA: Author Stephen Gee, realtor Bret Parsons, and architect Marc Appleton, AIA, discuss the early residential work of the noted "architect to the stars." \$5

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SAH/SCC is a 501c 3 nonprofit organization dedicated to providing its members with opportunities to learn about and experience the rich architectural heritage of Southern California and beyond. Our volunteer board members create tours, lectures, travel tours, and other events that explore the ideas behind the architecture as well as the buildings that result from them. From modern to craftsman, from Spanish Colonial to contemporary, our programs are the best-kept secrets in Southern California!

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Bookmarks

Googie Modern: Architectural Drawings of Armet Davis Newlove

by Michael Murphy; text by Alan Hess; photography by Jens Lucking



From Azar's Big Boy Coffee Shop to Yummie's, the restaurants depicted here raised the quotidian family meal to the heights of fantasy and future. For this diner hound, nostalgia and romance exude from every supple line of graphite in these pages. Murphy culled through the archives of Armet Davis Newlove, and, with photographer Jens Lucking, painstakingly photographed the drawings, accenting their depth and luminosity.

After Murphy's preface, Googie expert Hess' introduction sets the genre within its architectural and cultural contexts, focusing on how the average Angeleno could partake in the promise of a rosy future for the mere cost of a tuna melt. Then comes a history of Armet & Davis, begun in 1947 by USC classmates Louis Armet (1914-1981) and Eldon Davis (1917-2011); Victor Newlove (b. 1941) joined in 1963 as a summer intern and became partner in 1972. He spotlights several restaurants in depth, and then briefly discusses other building types (bowling alley, casino, shopping mall) in the Armet & Davis catalog.

Then, we get the beautiful drawings, set in roughly chronological order, save for groupings of repeat clients, such as Norms and Huddle. The rendering work of Lee Linton (1922-2006) is especially delightful. Captions give context and history, and relay whether the project was built, demolished, extant, or never realized. In a novel turn, some drawings are superimposed onto contemporary photos of the site. Most are heartbreaking to see where these temples to optimistic modernism once stood and what's there now. On the occasions when the building has not been completely demolished, one can sometimes glean an architectural pentimento of the original.

Murphy's interest was initially piqued as a teenager visiting the home of his friend Eric Newlove and being fascinated by the images Eric's father, Victor, displayed. I had a similar reaction when, in 2017, I was privileged to visit the offices of Armet Davis Newlove at the conclusion of a tour of their work and held myself back from drooling over the beauty of a coffee shop—and not because of thoughts of a tuna melt within.

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—Julie D. Taylor, Hon. AIA