

NEWS

Winter

2024



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Photos: Tom Bonner

Union Station: Behind the Scenes

SAH/SCC On-Site Tour, DTLA Friday, January 19, 2024, 11 AM-1 PM

SAH/SCC Life and Patron Members will join us for a very special, behindthe-scenes tour of Union Station from longtime SAH/SCC member George Meyer, Vice President/General Manager at Morlin Asset Management, the property and project management firm for the complex. Union Station (Parkinson and Parkinson, 1939) is nationally recognized as the last major train station built in the 20th century, is LA Historic-Cultural Monument #101, and has won numerous preservation awards.

Commissioned as a joint venture by Southern Pacific, Union Pacific, and the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe railroads, Union Station consolidated rail service from three prior Los Angeles train stations. During World War II, the station was the gateway for servicemen making their way to the Pacific coast. An icon of Los Angeles, it has appeared in many films and television shows.

Meyer has held property management positions in Los Angeles, Orange County, Silicon Valley, and San Francisco. He oversaw the restoration of the Russ Building (George W. Kelham, 1927) in San Francisco's Financial District—a 32-story neo-Gothic tower. Meyer will be joined by Dyana Elam, Director of Projects at Morlin, who will be able to answer questions about the decade-long restoration efforts at the station.

Don't miss this rare opportunity to tour Union Station with insiders! Plus, you can visit the exhibition "Where You Stand: Chinatown 1880-1939." And why not cap the experience with lunch at Traxx restaurant in the station right after the tour?

Attendees are strongly encouraged to access the station via public transportation (Red Line, Gold Line, Amtrak, Metrolink, Uber, Lyft, etc.). To become a Life or Patron Member, see the form on Page 6 or go to www.sahscc.org/join-us to upgrade your membership.

Union Station: Friday, January 19, 2024; 11 AM-1 PM PST; Life and Patron Members only, \$45; two-ticket limit; go to www.sahscc.org, and pay via PayPal or mail in order form on Page 6 with check.





Learning From Red Vienna

As Los Angeles searches for ways to solve its housing crisis, some policy makers are turning to a somewhat unlikely location for inspiration: Vienna, Austria.

After World War I, Vienna, formerly the seat of one of the most powerful monarchies on the planet, found itself in a relatively small democratic country. Good housing was in dire need. Existing stock was expensive, overcrowded, and engendered poor quality of life (small spaces for several people, few windows, common toilet facilities).

Vienna was both a province and a city, which allowed control over its own taxing powers. The newly elected Social Democratic Party used those powers to fund an ambitious agenda of building massive public housing blocks in almost every neighborhood of the city. The Gemeindebauten, or municipal housing projects, were started around 1918 and continued until 1934. The period is now referred to as "Red Vienna."

The superblocks provided relatively small one-bedroom/one-bath units by today's standards, but they were a significant upgrade from the available housing stock. Vienna employed some 200 architects to build more than 380 Gemeindebauten, creating 60,000 new apartments in a 15-year period. Rentals were not limited to the lowest income tenants, but embraced a wide variety of socioeconomic classes to ensure diversity.

The Gemeindebauten were built in a variety of architectural styles, some drawing from the surrounding neighborhood context, others in more avant-garde modern designs. Architects within the community hotly debated what the styles should be, however all projects responded to the integration of landscape, light, and social services into these superblocks. Every project sought to engage the neighborhoods and communities around them.

Built between 1927 and 1930, the Karl Marx Hof was designed by Karl Ehn (1884-1957). It remains the model of the Gemeindebauten, offering grand archways, public art, large courtyards, and landscaped gardens.

In 1933, the chancellor of Austria suspended the country's parliament. The following year, the new authoritarian national government took national power. Four years later, Austria was annexed into Nazi Germany. Yet, the legacy of Vienna today is less about its capitulation to the Nazis and more about the ongoing utility of the Gemeindebauten. Vienna is one of the most reasonable big cities for renters in Europe today.

As Los Angeles grapples with its own housing crisis, can it learn from Vienna? What applies? What doesn't? Can it adapt any of these lessons to rethink a city in a whole new way? Join me on Saturday, January 27th, at the Neutra Office Building in Silver Lake as the Neutra Institute for Survival Through Design co-hosts a free symposium with FORT: LA exploring the policies of Red Vienna and Los Angeles' housing needs.



Karl Marx Hof (Karl Ehn, 1927-1930), Vienna.

Photo: @C.Stadler/Bwag

Tour and Event Information: ph: 1.800.972.4722 e:info@sahscc.org



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SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

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Winter 2024

Authors on Architecture: Gallo/Caballero on Havana Modern

SAH/SCC Zoom Program

Sunday, January 28, 2024, 1-2:30 PM Pacific







Rubén Gallo. Photo: Daniel Leborde

Miguel Caballero

In the decades after World War II, from just prior to the revolution and into the mid-1980s, modernist architecture blossomed in Cuba, attracting both native talent and leading international architects. Havana Modern: Critical Readings in Cuban Architecture (Arquine, 2023) examines Cuban modernism's highlights with a wealth of archival materials, photos, and new scholarship.

Edited by Rubén Gallo-who will be joined by contributor Miguel Caballero—the book's chapters are authored by current and former Princeton faculty members and graduate students. These essays arose from seminars organized by Gallo and historian Beatriz Colomina that examined a range of buildings, including Max Abramovitz's American Embassy; Richard Neutra's De Schultess House; Vittorio Garatti, Hugo D'Acosta, and Sergio Baroni's Cuban Pavilion at Expo 67; Mies van Der Rohe's office building for Ron Barcardí; and Aleksandr Grigorievich Rochegov's USSR Embassy, among others. Havana Modern draws on history, politics, culture, literature, and film to elucidate this outstandingly rich era in architectural history.

Gallo/Caballero on Havana: Sunday, January 28, 2024, 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 link sent upon registration.

Authors on Architecture: Hagberg on Aline & Eero

SAH/SCC Zoom Program

February 11, 2024, 1-2:30 PM Pacific







Eva Hagberg

Celebrate an architectural love story for the ages when Eva Hagberg discusses her book When Eero Met His Match: Aline Louchheim Saarinen and the Making of an Architect (Princeton University Press, 2022).

Aline B. Louchheim (1914-1972) was an art critic on assignment for The New York Times in 1953 when she first met the Finnish-American architect Eero Saarinen (1910-1961). She would become his wife and the driving force behind his rise to critical prominence. When Eero Met His Match draws on the couple's personal correspondence to reconstruct the early days of their thrilling courtship and traces Louchheim's gradual takeover of Saarinen's public narrative in the 1950s, the decade when his career soared to unprecedented heights, as well as after his untimely death.

Reflecting on her own experiences as an architecture journalist on the receiving end of press pitches and then as a secret publicist for high-end architects, Hagberg paints an unforgettable portrait of Louchheim while revealing the inner workings of a media world that has always relied on secrecy, friendship, and the exchange of favors. She describes how Louchheim codified the practices of architectural publicity that have become widely adopted today, and shows how, without Louchheim as his wife and publicist, Saarinen's work would not have been nearly as well known.

Hagberg on Aline & Eero: Sunday, February 11, 2024; 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 link sent upon registration.

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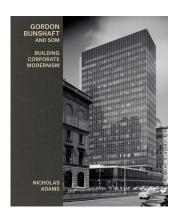
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Authors on Architecture: Adams on Bunshaft

SAH/SCC Zoom Program Sunday, March 17, 2024, 1-2:30 PM Pacific

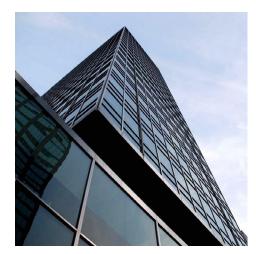
Join author Nicholas Adams as he shares his book Gordon Bunshaft and SOM: Building Corporate Modernism (Yale University Press, 2019). Adams explores the contested line between Bunshaft's ambition for acclaim as a singular artistic genius and the collaborative structure of Skidmore,



Nicholas Adams

Owings & Merrill's (SOM) architectural partnership. Gordon Bunshaft, FAIA, (1909-1990) received the Pritzker Architecture Prize in 1988 and remains the only SOM partner to have achieved this distinction. Adams counters Bunshaft's maxim that "the building speaks for itself" with

necessary critical context about this modernist moment at a time when the future of Bunshaft's iconic works is very much in question.



Lever House (1952) in New York City. Photo: Nicholas Adams



Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library (1963) at Yale University (New Haven, CT), Photo: Nicholas Adams

Bunshaft's landmark 1952 design for Lever House reshaped the Manhattan skyline and elevated the reputation of SOM, the firm where he would spend more than 40 years as a partner. Although this enigmatic architect left behind few records, his legacy endures in the corporate headquarters, museums, and libraries that were built within his distinctive modernist principles.

Bunshaft's career was marked by shifts in material. Earlier glass and steel structures, such as New York's Chase Manhattan Bank (1961), gave way to revolutionary designs in concrete, such as the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library (1963) at Yale University (New Haven, CT), and the doughnut-shaped Hirshhorn Museum (1974) in Washington, DC. Bunshaft's collaborations with artists, including Isamu Noguchi (1904-1988), Jean Dubuffet (1901-1985), and Henry Moore (1898-1986), were of paramount importance throughout his career.

Adams is Professor Emeritus of Art at Vassar College (Poughkeepsie, NY), where he taught from 1989 to 2018, after teaching stints at McGill University (Montreal), Lehigh University (Bethlehem, PA), UCLA, and Harvard University (Cambridge, MA). In addition to Bunshaft and SOM, he has written about Antonio da Sangallo the Younger (1484-1546) and Gunnar Asplund (1885-1940), and was editor of the Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians from 1992 to 1996.

Adams on Bunshaft: Sunday, March 17, 2024; 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 link sent upon registration.

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SAH/SCC PUBLICATIONS & VIDEOS

Catch up on previous SAH/SCC tours and Zoom programs. Go here to order.

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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

Ray Kappe-Apotheosis: eight-page brochure features five Kappe Houses from 1959 to 1966 in the Royal Woods development of the San Fernando

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

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

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

Meet Me At the Carousel: Large tri-fold brochure and docent scripts for selfguided tour of South Coast Plaza. \$5.

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

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

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

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

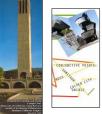
Rodney Walker: The Ojai Years:

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

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























- Gregory Ain: Notes From Another Los Angeles: Gregory Ain and the Construction of a Social Landscape is presented by the author Anthony Fontenot. \$5
- American Synagogues: Author/educator Anat M. Geva, PhD, Assoc. AIA, shares her book The Architecture of Modern American Synagogues, 1950s. \$5
- Architecture Unbound: Author Joseph Giovannini discusses his profusely illustrated and incredibly detailed book, Architecture Unbound: A Century of the Disruptive Avant-Garde, \$5
- 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
- Brains Meet Buildings: Author Michael A. Arbib speaks about the connection between neuroscience and architecture. \$5.
- Brutalists: In Brutalists: Brutalism's Best Architects, Owen Hopkins explores the architects who adopted this type of architecture and debunks its consideration as a śtyle". \$5.
- Bunker Hill: Author Nathan Marsak traces the architectural and cultural history of Los Angeles' early residential neighborhood, best known for its appearance in
- Robert Byrd: Author Chris Lukather explores the fairytale ranch houses designed by Robert Byrd. \$5.
- California Capitol: The history and recent preservation challenges of California's Capitol building in Sacramento are discussed by Dick Cowan, Wayne Donaldson, FAIA, and Paula Peper, FRÉE.
- California Modernism: Author Todd Cronan discusses his book Nothing Permanent: Modern Architecture in California \$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
- Detroit/Moscow: Christina E. Crawford and Claire Zimmerman explore the similarities and differences between the two cities. \$5
- Driving Force: Authors Stephen Gee and Darryl Holter look at LA's impact on the early automobile industry explored in Driving Force: Automobiles and the New American City, 1900-1930. \$5
- Harlev Earl: SAH/SCC Member Richard Stanley reveals how Harley Earl invented the modern automotive design studio. \$5
- **Buckminster Fuller:** Author Alec Nevala-Lee discusses the visionary life of "the inventor of the future." \$5.
- Golden 1: Architect and former SAH/SCC Board Member Rob Rothblatt presents the story of Golden 1 Center (AECOM, 2016) in Sacramento, CA. \$5.
- Googie Modern: Michael Murphy and Alan Hess tour through the drawings of Googie masters Armet Davis Newlove. \$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
- Hitchcock & Architecture: Author Christine Madrid French discusses The Architecture of Suspense. \$5.
- Jack Rogers Hopkins: Explore California Design Mayerick: Master Mid-Century Designer Craftsman about Hopkins, a contemporary of Sam Maloof, with editors Jeffrey Head and Katie Nartonis. \$5
- Irvine Ranch: Authors C. Michael Stockstill and H. Pike Oliver discuss Transforming the Irvine Ranch: Joan Irvine. William Pereira, Ray Watson, and the Big Plan. \$5

- Hugh Kaptur: Steve Keylon, author of The Modern Architecture of Hugh Michael Kaptur, presents the architect's work—with a guest appearance by Kaptur himself. \$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
- L.A. Housing: Multifamily housing is the topic for journalist Frances Anderton, Hon. AIA/LA. \$5.
- Metropolis in Latin America: Authors Maristella Casciato and Idurre Alonso shed light on the transformations that modified the colonial model of Iberian cities in America. \$5
- MGM Studios: The wide-ranging effect of MGM is proven by Hollywood historian Steven Bingen. \$5.
- Julia Morgan: Architectural historian and writer Kimberly Perette, Assoc. AIA, chronicles the life of trailblazing architect Julia Morgan, FAIA. \$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
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- Iohn Parkinson: Author Stephen Gee discusses the unsung genius of architect John Parkinson, designer of
- Jock Peters: Historian Christopher Long relays the architect and designer's "varieties of modernism" and his work in Los Angeles. \$5
- Alfred Preis: Co-authors present the book Alfred Preis DISPLACED: The Tropical Modernism of the Austrian Emigrant and Architect of the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl
- 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
- Rebuilding Cities: Author Andrew Demshuk looks at Three Cities After Hitler: Redemptive Reconstruction. \$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
- Unlikely Modernism: SAH/SCC Board Member David Coffey reveals Bakersfield's hidden legacy of modern architecture. \$5
- Warner Bros.: Former Warner Bros. archivist Steven Bingen takes you behind the gates at the famed studio. \$5
- lean Welz: Author/filmmaker Peter Wyeth uncovers the little-known architecture career of perhaps the leading South African painter, \$5
- Jean Welz, Part 2: Peter Wyeth provides insight and perspective about the little-known architect Jean Welz and the demolition of his seminal masterpiece Maison Zilveli.
- Paul R. Williams, FAIA: Author Stephen Gee, realtor Bret Parsons, and architect Marc Appleton, AlA, discuss the early residential work of the noted "architect to the stars." \$5
- Russel and Mary Wright: Author Jennifer Golub's special look at Dragon Rock at Manitoga, the home of the famed industrial designers. \$5

Winter 2024





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Havana Modern—Sunday, January 28, 2024	
reservation(s) at \$5 each =	\$
Peter Weber— Saturday, March 3, 2024	
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reservation(s) at \$5 each =	\$
Gordon Bunshaft—Sunday, March 17, 2024	
reservation(s) at \$5 each =	\$
☐ check enclosed (Make checks payable to SAH/SCC)	
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Peter J. Weber: Architect & Craftsman

SAH/SCC On-Site Tour, Riverside Saturday, March 3, 2024, 10 AM-1 PM

SAH/SCC goes to the Inland Empire to learn about the life and work of Peter J. Weber (1893-1983). We'll get a special tour of the architect's work on the Mission Inn (Arthur B. Benton, 1903 and 1910; Myron Hunt and Elmer Grey, 1914; G. Stanley Wilson, 1932) in Riverside as well as a tour of the home Weber built for himself (1932-1938).

Weber was born in San Francisco to first-generation immigrants from Luxembourg and Ireland. He worked as a junior draftsman for a series of notable architects in San Francisco including John Galen Howard, Albert Pissis, William B. Faville, Willis Polk, and Julia Morgan. He studied at the Wilmerding School of Industrial Arts and took part in San Francisco Architectural Club's *atelier* program, where he learned the *beaux-arts* process and style from local architects who had studied at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris.

In 1918, Weber settled in Riverside, and worked in the office of G. Stanley Wilson as lead designer and photographer. The design for his own home is eclectic and features salvaged materials.

Participants will meet at the Mission Inn for a walking tour, then drive themselves for a special tour of the Weber House, which has been under the stewardship of the Old Riverside Foundation since 1990.

Peter J. Weber: Saturday, March 3, 2024; 10:00 AM-1 PM; \$45 for SAH/SCC Members; \$55 for Non-Members; go to www.sahscc.org, and pay via PayPal or mail in order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom link sent upon registration.



Peter J. Weber House (1932-1938). Photo: Davestolte



The Mission Inn (1903-1932). *Photo: Thad Roan*

