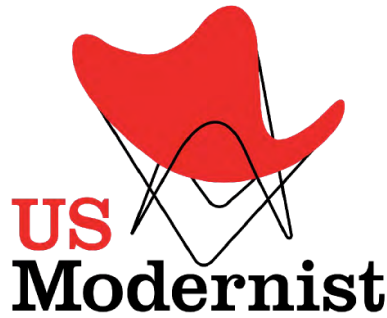


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**Monday, March 24, 2025**

Welcome, Modernist architecture fans, to the USModernist newsletter, sharing Modernist news and events since 2008! USModernist is an **award-winning** nonprofit 501C3 educational archive for the documentation, preservation, and promotion of Modernist architecture.

**USModernist  
Radio Podcast**

**Architecture  
Media Library**

**Architect and  
House Archives**



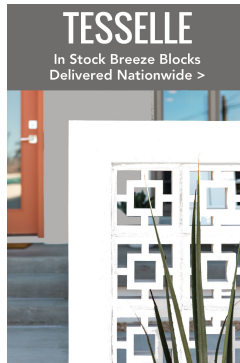
[View as Webpage](#)

News Editor: **Ron Gallagher** Newsletter Staff: **Virginia Faust, George Smart**  
Got Modernist News? Contact **Ron Gallagher** at [rpg.modernist@gmail.com](mailto:rpg.modernist@gmail.com)

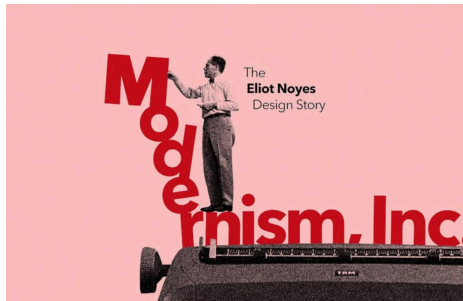
**Sponsorship:** Connect your product, service, or organization to USModernist's 64,000 weekly subscribers! Reach out to **George Smart**, 919.740.8407.

[Meet the USModernist Team](#)

 **CHAPPELL**  
Powered by COMPASS



### Featured Events



Modernism Inc. - Official Trailer | 13th Resene Arc



**Tuesday, April 1, 7pm:** *The NCModernist Architecture Film Series* is back – at the cherished Rialto Theatre in Raleigh NC. Join us for the new documentary **Modernism Inc.** about architect and industrial designer **Eliot Noyes**. Remote Q&A afterwards with Noyes' son, architect **Fred Noyes**. The NCModernist Architecture Movie Series is sponsored by **insitustudio.us**, **Matt Griffith** and **Zach Hoffman**. Doors open at 6:15pm. Do not park in the Fifth Third Bank across the street; they tow. **Tickets available at the door, or advance purchase!**



**Saturday, May 3:** The Haw River House! A 2020 George Matsumoto Prize Winner. Pittsboro NC. On one of the most extraordinary sites in central North Carolina, this exquisite property of 21 acres faces the banks of the majestic Haw River, with about a mile of private riverside trails - and wildlife including deer, otters, beavers, bald eagles, blue herons, ospreys, warblers, and kingfishers. Designed by [Arielle Condoret Schechter](#). [Tickets and details](#). Article in Mike Welton's [Architects+Artisans](#).



**Saturday, May 31:** Winston-Salem Modernist House Tour, featuring the work of STITCH Design Shop, one of North Carolina's hottest firms for Modernist houses. With additional offices in Greensboro, Boone, and soon Raleigh, STITCH has won multiple design awards from AIA North Carolina, AIA Winston-Salem, and NCModernist's George Matsumoto Prize. Enjoy a great day touring Modernist houses without the hassle of driving, and meet STITCH principals [Adam Sebastian](#), [Pete Fala](#), and [Ben Schwab](#). Includes transportation and lunch. [Details and tickets](#).

### Belong + Support



USModernist's unrivaled documentation and preservation work consistently delivers national impact, but our continued research is only possible through generous supporters like you. You can be part of our community with a [tax-deductible donation](#). There are new and creative [options](#) in addition to

direct donation, including insurance and estate gifts. If you're 70-1/2 or older, you can donate directly to USModernist from an IRA. If you're 73 or older, you can You can donate up to \$100,000 to USModernist which is excluded from taxable income and help avoid higher tax brackets. **With the recent boom in cryptocurrency, you may wish to support USModernist via Bitcoin, Ethereum, or XRP. [Details.](#)**



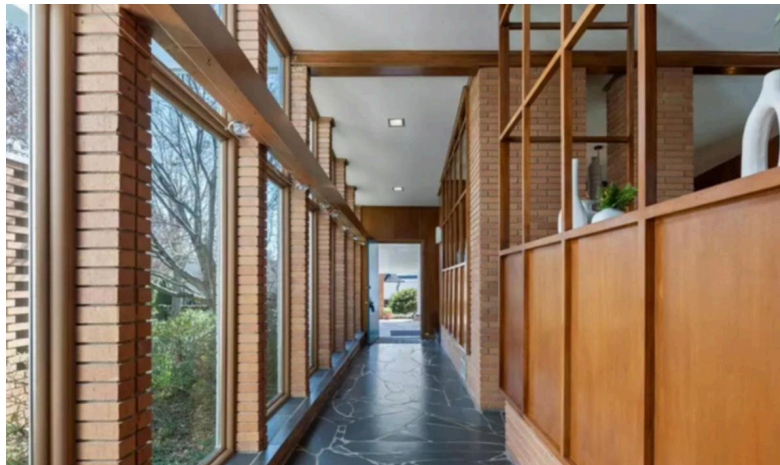
Do you have a basement/attic/storage unit full of contemporary furniture or art? Can't bear the thought of throwing these away, but your family doesn't want them? Your donation to USModernist supports our award-winning documentation and preservation programs. Get a great tax deduction and free pickup in North Carolina. Contact: **Sharon Glazener**, Art Director, 919.787.3515.

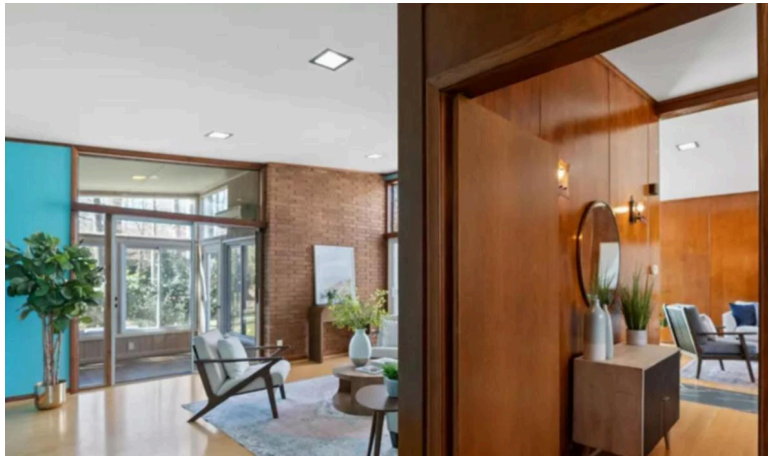


Join our national community of architecture fans supporting and preserving the Modernist architecture you love.

Become a USModernist **Mod Squad** member (or give a membership as a gift!) for as little as \$10/month, or \$120/yr. Photo by Ezra Stoller/ESTO. [Information.](#)

### Modernist News





**Endangered:** A developer is about to buy the immaculate **Jack Boyte-** designed Solomon Levine House, 2300 Cloister Drive, in the Cloisters neighborhood of Charlotte NC.

Under contract but not yet closed, the 1956 house is one of Charlotte's finest examples of mid-century modern. Up to now, owners Carol Ambrose and Andrew Beary were ardent preservationists, opening up the house for tours and attempting to get City historic landmark status from the Charlotte City Council in 2008 with enthusiastic support from the Historic Landmarks Commission and North Carolina State Preservation Office. All along, the owners considered themselves stewards of the beautiful property, with unique features such as a kosher kitchen, and promised neighbors not to sell to developers.

[Here's the survey and research report.](#)



On March 14, the Trump administration issued an executive order targeting the nation's only federal agency for America's libraries, the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), for elimination.

The IMLS provides essential funding to libraries and museums in all 50 states. The agency plays a crucial role in providing humanities access to Americans, especially in rural areas. Libraries of all types are only 0.003% of the federal budget and get more than 1.2 billion in-person patron visits every year, plus many more virtual visits. The National Humanities Alliance, the American

Library Association (ALA) and the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) are leading efforts to counter the attack on the IMLS. [Learn more here.](#)  
 Next steps: **Phone calls are more effective** than email for expressing views to Congressional reps. A platform 5Calls provides scripts that can be read directly or modified. Check out a script called [Save the Institute of Museum and Library Services.](#)

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**Rumored Destroyed:** Help us verify the status of the Apex Department Store., 100 Main Street, Pawtucket RI, which was scheduled to be destroyed this past weekend. Designed by [Andrew Geller](#) in 1960, it has been called the "[soul of Pawtucket.](#)" Others, like Modernist critic **David Brussat**, have long called for its demolition. It's now owned by the City of Pawtucket.

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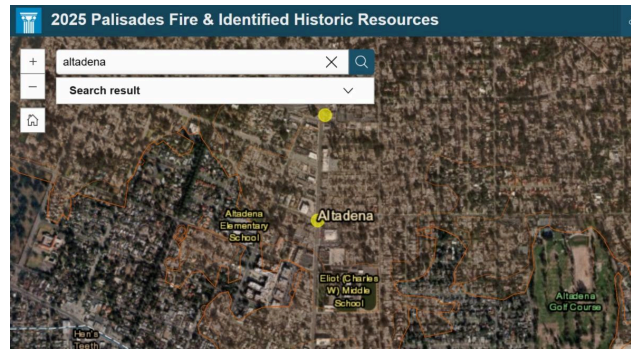
**Marian (Cindy) Pritzker**, matriarch of Illinois' Pritzker family and co-founder of the Hyatt Foundation's [Pritzker Architecture Prize](#), [has died at 101.](#)

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The multiyear litigation is over, and finally the Marilyn Monroe statue in Palm Springs was moved to where the town originally agreed to put it. Many thanks to protest leader **Trina Turk** and the hundreds of GoFundMe donors who pitched in to cover the legal costs.

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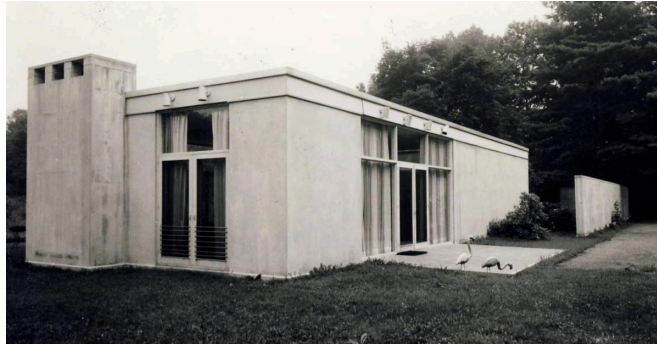
The World Monuments Fund (WMF) and the Los Angeles Conservancy (LAC) launched a coordinated effort to document and assess heritage sites affected by the devastating wildfires in LA in January. The fires, which burned over 50,000 acres and destroyed more than 16,000 structures, have inflicted a severe toll on the region's cultural heritage. [See the fire maps here.](#)



The 1963 Foley House designed by **John Hans Ostwald** in Berkeley CA sold for 101% of asking price in a [furious bidding war.](#)



**Endangered:** No good news for **Frank Lloyd Wright's** Walser House in Chicago. The deteriorating 1930s house made [Preservation Chicago's list of the seven most-endangered historic buildings](#) and is in foreclosure.



**Endangered:** The Alice Ball House in New Canaan CT, designed by **Philip Johnson**, is **up for auction April 22 due to around \$163000 in unpaid property taxes**. Not in the greatest shape, it could be a teardown unless a new, caring owner steps up. There is no minimum bid. **CTaxsales.com** explains the process. Bidding begins at 11am at the New Canaan Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan CT.



The Village of Southampton Architectural Review Board (ARB), continues to relentlessly pursue forced landmarking of five Modernist houses, three by **Norman Jaffe** (like the Bliss house at left), and one each by **Myron Goldfinger** and **Ward Bennett**.

At the last **epic six-hour meeting**, preservation experts representing the town and owners gave reports about whether the houses qualified for landmarking, then the owner attorneys tore into the ARB's aggressive lack of transparency, violation of town and national policies, disregard for homeowner rights, and absence of a public ARB vote to pursue this landmarking effort to begin with.

We're all in favor of Modernist preservation, but this is absolutely not the right way to go about it. Yet again, a meeting to make a final decision has been kicked many months down the road, this time to **Monday, September 22, 6pm ET. Watch it over Zoom.**



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





Two apartments that were intended for staff use when **Alvar Aalto** designed Finlandia Hall in Helsinki the 1960s **are now available for tourist rentals following an extensive renovation.**

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**Ralph Twitchell's** 1959 Andrews House in Sarasota FL **is on the market** for a bit under \$900,000.

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**Rudolph Schindler's** clients for the 1941 Druckman House in Los Angeles wanted privacy from the street and views from the back. **The house is for sale** for \$3M.

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**Edward Durell Stone** designed the 1956 James and Isa Kantor House on 2 acres of the former Tiffany estate in Oyster Bay NY. **The house is on the market now** for \$2.4M.

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A house that **Norman Jaffe** designed in East Hampton NY **has come onto the market recently** at \$2.2M.

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A **Frank Gehry**-designed office building in LA's Playa Vista area is back on track **with city Planning Commission approval** after a 2020 lawsuit forced environmental reviews.

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

In addition to our extensive **house archives** and massive **magazine library**, we are looking for **abandoned midcentury modern websites and architecture podcasts. Please be in touch!**

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USModernist's Executive Director **George Smart** spoke at the PRP4/DOCOMOMO-US conference in Boston last week and appeared on **WUNC Radio** and the **AAWA Podcast**. He will speak in Florida next week and in New York City the first week in April.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

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

## Upcoming Events




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



**JOIN US  
MARCH 26!**


Throughout March, customers can make donations at local Jersey Mike's restaurants. The campaign will culminate with Jersey Mike's "Day of Giving" on Wednesday, March 26, when 100 percent of the day's sales – not just profits – will support the **Fitch Family Comprehensive Pediatric Rehabilitation Program**.

Raleigh/Durham residents can make a true difference for kids when **100% of sales** on **March 26** at Jersey Mike's go to the Fitch Family Pediatric Rehabilitation Program.

  
 PRESERVE  
 MECKLENBURG

# ODELL

29 March 2025 | Noon  
Akers Mansion  
6501 Sardis Road  
Charlotte, N.C. 28211



**THE LIFE & ARCHITECTURE  
OF A.G. ODELL, JR. (1913-1988)**

Presented by:  
Stefan Pienkny, AIA, NCARB

Tickets: \$25/Member - \$35/Non-member | [www.preservemeck.org/donate](http://www.preservemeck.org/donate)

**April 6:** Havens House Sunset Tour, Berkeley CA. Visit one of the greatest Modernist houses by **Harwell Hamilton Harris**. [Details and tickets.](#)

**April 8:** Lecture on **Charles and Ray Eames'** Case Study House, California; Architecture Sarasota, Sarasota FL. [Tickets.](#)

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

**April 23:** Inaugural **Alan Golin Gass** Lecture, Denver Architecture Foundation. [Information and tickets.](#)

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

## THE STORE

Free, [registration required](#). Enter APRIL on the form.

**SOLD OUT! Saturday, April 26:** NCModernist Modapalooza tour of new and classic Modernist houses, featuring homes by architects [Erin Sterling Lewis](#), [Katherine Hogan](#), [Ellen Cassilly](#), [Jeannine McAuliffe](#), [Sophie Piesse](#), [Megan Toma](#), [Brian Shawcroft](#), and [Tina Govan](#).

**April 30-May 4:** The Society of Architectural Historians [annual international conference](#) in Atlanta.

**May 1-4:** Home + History Las Vegas, presented by the Nevada Preservation Foundation (NPF), featuring homes from the 1920s through the 1970s. The *Underground Celebrity Icons of Las Vegas Bus Tour* includes a star-studded mid-century modern neighborhood designed by Palmer and Krisel and concludes with a guided tour of an underground mansion featured in movies, TV shows, and music videos. Special guest **Alan Hess** will speak. Tickets start at \$35, with additional events to be announced soon. Details and tickets at [nevadapreservation.org](#).

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

SCHINDLER SPACE ARCHITECT Trailer | Miami Jewish Film...



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

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

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

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

**Saturday, May 31:** Winston-Salem Modernist House Tour, featuring the work of STITCH Design Shop, one of North Carolina's hottest firms for Modernist houses. [Details and tickets](#).

**Tuesday, June 10, and Saturday, June 21:** Restore Oregon tours in Portland of Pietro Belluschi's home (June 10) and two John Yeon houses (June 21).

[Information.](#)

**Saturday, June 14:** Glass House Summer Party, New Canaan CT. Noon. Details TBA.

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



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

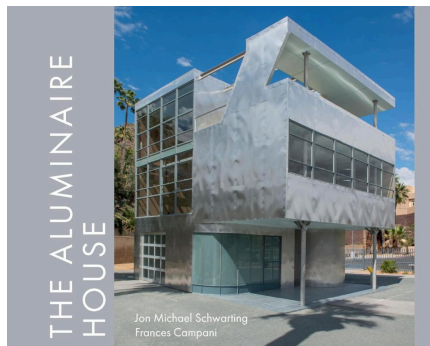
Extended Through June: National Building Museum in Washington DC: [Capital Brutalism](#).

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

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

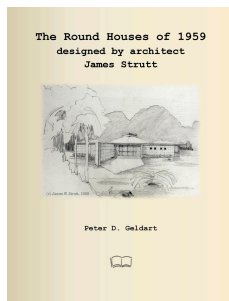
Through Winter 2026 at the National Building Museum in Washington DC: *A South Forty: Contemporary Architecture and Design in the American South*.

## New Books



Available now: *The Aluminaire House* by **Jon Michael Schwarting** and **Frances Campani**, an exciting review of the history, architecture, and rescue of the Aluminaire House, a midcentury modern experimental house designed by architects **A. Lawrence Kocher** and **Albert Frey** and now moving to its new, permanent home at the Palm Springs Art Museum.

The Aluminaire House was conceived and constructed as an exhibition house for the Allied Arts and Industry and Architectural League Exhibition of 1931 at the Grand Central Palace in New York City. The Aluminaire House is considered a masterpiece of modernist design, listed by Architectural Record as one of the most important buildings completed worldwide in the past 125 years. [Order.](#)



Available now: *The Round Houses of 1959*: **James Strutt**, written by **Peter Geldart**. Strutt (1924-2008) was an architect in the Ottawa, Canada region. He graduated in architecture from the University of Toronto in 1950 and taught at the School of Architecture at Carleton University from 1969, serving as Director 1987-1988. Influences included American architects **Frank Lloyd Wright** and **Buckminster Fuller**. For these round houses he abandoned bungalow and based his concept on a curve of rooms and an open living-dining area, surrounding a central core of services to reduce building costs yet have an ergonomic, inviting space. [Order.](#)

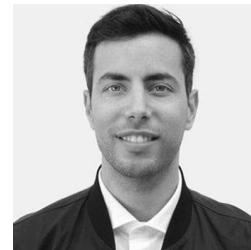
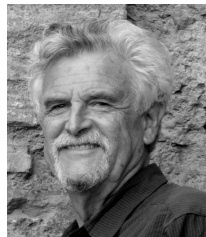
Available May 6: *Modern Floral: Timeless Interiors Inspired by Nature*, by **Charlotte Coote**. Modern Floral offers an abundance of inspiration on how to bring the colors, patterns, and textures of nature into your home. From designing with floral and antique textiles to color concepts and ideas for incorporating natural textures, this book demonstrates the endless



inspiration that comes from the timelessness and elegance of nature. With mood boards, hand-drawn illustrations, and step-by-step guides, Coote shows that drawing on the natural world is always a strong and grounding foundation from which to create.



### Latest Podcast



### #397/Richard Neutra: Raymond Neutra + Catherine Meyler + Noam Saragosti + Scott Goldstein + Special Musical Guests Louis Prima Jr. and the Witnesses

Kicking off our 2025 Modernism Week coverage from Palm Springs, it's all about **Richard Neutra** - with **Raymond Neutra** of the Neutra Institute; **Catherine Meyler**, owner of a celebrated Neutra house in Palm Springs; back in the studio, Neutra's VDL House Executive Director **Noam Saragosti**; and the story of Neutra's sadly destroyed Maslon House from filmmaker **Scott Goldstein**. Special musical guests **Louis Prima Jr. and the Witnesses**.

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



March Estate Auction, Mar 27, 2025, 10:00am  
Modern & Contemporary Auction, May 1, 2025, 10:00am  
Prints & Multiples Auction, May 2, 2025, 10:00am

www.lelandlittle.com



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

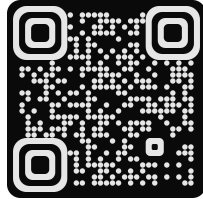
**Details.** The 2025 prize is sponsored exclusively by Fitch Lumber and MARVIN. The unique design competition features a blue-ribbon jury of internationally-known architects: **Dominyka Voelkle; Lissa So; Ed Niles; Charles McAfee; Bart Prince; James Biber; Julia Gamolina.**



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

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

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



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



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