

# OCCUPY

NEW YORK CHAPTER / THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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George S. Lewis



Margot A. Henkel

**GEORGE LEWIS: Professional Affairs**

**MARGOT HENKEL: Administration & Finance**

Lathrop Douglass has announced an important addition to the staff and change in titles. The chapter will operate with two staff members reporting to the Executive Committee.

George S. Lewis, AIA, was appointed on February 3d to the new post of Director, Professional Affairs. He will be responsible for the development and coordination of professional policies and programs, committee activities, public relations, student relations, representation at official hearings and the preparation of papers stating the Chapter's position on important issues. Mr. Lewis is a native of Massachusetts and a Harvard graduate, AB '38 and B. Arch. '42; he was an Engineer officer in Europe and joined the Chapter in 1948. He has had his own practice since 1951 and has been active on the Equal Opportunities and Educational Scholarship Committees. He is a design critic at Columbia and has taught at Cooper Union and Pratt.

Margot A. Henkel, who for 18 years as Executive Secretary and Executive Secretary-Treasurer, has been the administrative and financial mainstay of the Chapter, will continue with all her duties with her new title of Director, Administration and Finance. In 1967 she received the Chapter's special citation for her immeasurable contribution to the Chapter and the Profession. Born in St. Petersburg (now Leningrad) and educated in Tallin, Estonia, Mrs. Henkel was graduated in Liberal Arts from the University of Tartu. She has been manager of an Estonia law firm and director of a film company in Berlin. In 1940, she married George H. C. Henkel.

## THE URBAN CAMPUS: A MAJOR ISSUE

What should an architect's relationship be to the university trustees and administration; the faculty and students; the neighboring community? The are some of the questions that will be explored in a Seminar called "Architectural Design and the Urban Campus", cosponsored by the chapter's Schools committee and the Educational Facilities Laboratories. The seminar will be held in the new Ford Foundation Building from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. on Wed. March 19th. Panelists will include Jerry Avorn, Columbia University undergraduate on the editorial staff of "The Spectator" and co-author of "Up Against the Ivy Wall"; Dr. Seymour Hyman, Vice Chancellor of Campus Planning & Development, The City University of N.Y.; Prof. Sybil Moholy-Nagy, Pratt University; Walter Netsch, FAIA partner, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; and the Hon. Percy E. Sutton, President, Borough of Manhattan. Allan D. Green, of EFL, will act as Moderator.

C. Gates Beckwith is Chairman of the Schools Committee. Larry Lieberfeld is chairman of the Seminar Subcommittee. A reception will follow. The seminar is free. Please register in advance.

## THREE 1969 MEDALISTS FROM NEW YORK

We are proud that 3 of the 1969 AIA Medal winners were nominated by the NYCAIA. Jacques Lipchitz will receive the Fine Arts Medal; the N.Y. State University Construction Fund will receive the Citation of an Organization; and Ada Louise Huxtable will get an award for Architectural Critic. The awards will be presented at the convention in Chicago June 22-26, 1969. Recommendations were made by the Chapter Awards Committee when Herbert Oppenheimer was chairman.

We also placed in nomination Davis, Brody & Assoc. for the Architectural Firm Award; \*Lev Zetlin for the Allied Professions Medal; Ezra Ehrenkrantz AIA (California) for the Industrial Arts Medal; \*Samuel Gottscho, \*Lewis Checkman, Alexander Georges for the Architectural Photography Medal; \*Rockefeller Center for the Collaborative Achievement in Architecture Award and \*"Perspecta/Yale University Architectural Journal," for the Award for Criticism. Der Scutt is this year's Awards Committee Chairman.

\*Previously submitted (1967).



NEW YORK CHAPTER, THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS  
20 West 40th Street, New York, New York 10018 — 212-565-1866

George S. Lewis ..... Director, Professional Affairs  
Margot A. Henkel ..... Director, Administration & Finance

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Lathrop Douglass, FAIA, President	Arthur Rosenblatt
David F. M. Todd, FAIA, 1st Vice President	Giorgio Cavaglieri, FAIA
William J. Conklin, Vice President	Samuel M. Kurtz
Herbert B. Oppenheimer, Vice President	Leon Brand
Saul Edelbaum, Secretary	Edgar Tafel
Richard Roth, Sr., FAIA, Treasurer	Thomas F. Galvin

#### OCULUS COMMITTEE

Elisabeth Coit	Editor — Kurt Karmin
John Doran	John B. Schwartzman
	Alan M. Shapiro

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS: FEB. 5TH

- Approved appointment of George Lewis as Director, Professional Affairs.
- Approved change of title for Margot Henkel to Director, Administration & Finance.
- Agreed to prepare statement for other metropolitan Chapters outlining NYCAIA's position regarding the declining usefulness of the Mayor's Panel of Architects.
- Directed subcommittee that has been meeting informally with City Planning Commission to prepare report on advantages of Commission's discretionary powers.
- Set up a subcommittee to review a series of controversial subjects on which the Exec. Comm. might issue Position Papers.
- Heard Joseph Fuller, Fees Comm., explain proposed new fee schedule for NYCAIA and directed that the schedule be reviewed by a representative group of practitioners before its adoption.
- Decide against promoting substantially more restrictive regulations for the City's sign ordinance as being a goal too difficult to achieve.
- Adopt resolution requesting Mayor's Office to make certain improvements in Bldg. Dept. procedures for issuing and recording memoranda.
- Change name of Student Chapter Committee to Student Affairs Committee. (See "Oculus" report).
- Approved nomination of F. F. Montoya as 1968 recipient of James Stewardson Travelling Fellowship.
- Discussed proposed Seminar intended to more fully acquaint the High School Guidance Counsellors and minority decision makers with the principals of Architecture and its practice.
- Approved mailing of Oculus to all WAA members.

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE ELECTION

George J. Cavalieri, William B. Tabler, Richard G. Stein, Samuel M. Brody, and Charles E. Hughes have been elected to serve on the nominating Committee in 1969.

### SKETCHES

**Conference:** AIA-CEC Public Affair Conference at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C., March 19-20. Thursday, March 20th will be the day to meet your Senators and Congressmen. For Information, write Joint A-E Conference Committee, Suite 713, Madison Office Building, 1155 15th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20005.

**Workshop:** The AIA and the U.S. Office of Education are cosponsoring educational workshops. The New York area conference will be held in Trenton, N. J., on April 3-4. If you care to participate, write William L. Ensign, 1705 De Sales Street, Washington, D. C. 20036.

**Fellowships Available:** Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship in the field of Historical Preservation. Average stipend \$4,000. Ages 25-45. English-Speaking Union, 16 East 69th Street, TR-9-6800. Applications due April 1st. An American Metal Climax and the Assoc. of Collegiate Schools of Architecture Research Fellowship. \$25,000. B. of Architecture required. Write Mr. James E. Ellison, ACSA, 521 18th Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20006.

**Design Awards Program:** Submissions for the Westchester Chapter AIA 1969 Awards Program are due on April 1st. For Information, write to Richard E. Kaeyer, 20 South Broadway, Yonkers, N. Y. 10701.

**Lincoln Square:** First Vice Pres. David Todd testified at a City Planning Commission Hearing Jan. 29th in support of the Special Lincoln Square District.

**Discount:** The "AIA Guide to New York City" for \$5.75 each postpaid. Proceeds will go for the restoration of bronze ornamentation on the historic old Sun Clock at the corner of Broadway and Chambers St. Send checks to Friends of the Old Sun Clock, 76 Duane St., New York, N.Y., 10007.

**Gallery Passport, Inc.** offers in April and May four all-day tours to notable art collections and buildings, e.g. Princeton Museum and nearby Duke exotic gardens: Barnes Museum, Merion, Pa. The cost (\$25 each tour) includes a restaurant lunch. A trip to Boscobel, July 16th (\$30, 2 P.M. to 12 A.M.) provides dinner at the Garrison Inn and the "Sound and Light" program at Boscobel. Call the Gallery, MU 6-2244, for full details.

**European Tour:** The Martin Travel Bureau is sponsoring a tour through Europe for architects and persons interested in urban development and past and present architecture. Aly S. Dadras, AIA Chairman of the Department of N.Y. Institute of Technology will conduct the one month tour which departs July 31st. Call LA 4-0400.

**Slide Show Competition:** Those entering the 2nd AIA Chapter Slide Show Competition are reminded that entries must be under the name of the local chapter of a state organization.

**Honorary Members:** Thomas P. F. Hoving, Director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Jonathan King, Vice Pres. of Educational Facilities Laboratories have been elected Honorary Members of the A.I.A.



## OCULUS REPORT: A ROUGH AND TUMBLE DISCUSSION "AIA IS IRREVELANT!"

On Feb. 6th the Student Affairs Committee, David Glasser, Chairman, sponsored a discussion, "AIA Is Irrelevant!" with Columbia Professor Mario Salvadori, Percival Goodman, and students Peter Szego and Al Feigenberg. These are condensed excerpts, not direct quotes. Emotion may not show in print, but it was there.

**Glasser:** Student Chapter changed to Student Affairs Committee. There are no Student Chapters. Some students wrote on "AIA Is Irrelevant" flyer "Who cares?"

**Goodman:** The AIA must take political stands. When the Chapter voted against holding the convention in Chicago, nothing was publicly heard about it. At the N. Y. convention, a room was rented across the street from the Hilton to debate Vietnam: request to have this fact announced at convention was refused. Competitions are invaluable way to project young people into practice; in competition for own hq., AIA did not fight it through to highest court, let it go by as everyday business; any architect who took job now should be boycotted by profession. N. Y. Master Plan: never heard of AIA taking position or collaborating on it. Lower Manhattan Expressway: no AIA pro or con; should be fundamental. Imperial Hotel: no stand: AIA should have led. Registration: Why is NCARB privileged to have such powers? Why no AIA stand on antiquated registration laws? Exams have nothing to do with profession. AIA should combine with AIP, Engrs. We must formulate goals.

**Salvadori:** At Florence and Milan, buildings were occupied 6 mos. and 2 yrs; Columbia 6 days with same results. To make this restructuring work takes a tremendous amount of energy; quality of students and faculty must be superior to average school; therefore, students should participate in admission. Not immodest about designing tallest concrete structure in Johannesburg; asked by student what's good about that, answered, nothing.

**Dale:** (Student): Architects should not build for fascist nation which keeps blacks down.

**Salvadori:** Was involved in teaching South Africa how to build in concrete: good will come out of this.

**David Todd:** 90% of Goodman's remarks nonsense Chapter has been active in many areas. Must collaborate in advocacy planning. Must be thinking about profession in year 2000.

**Student:** Architects should be able to criticize work of other architects.

**Szego:** Exhibit at Corning on environment: just plain silly: park benches, etc., no meaning for people. Incidental, but no black person in any of the pictures.

**Feigenberg:** Architects design for other architects, give prizes for 45° angles. High rise buildings designed by accountants. As long as society is sick, the profession is irrelevant.

**David Schwartzman:** Panel is making all architects out to be insensitive. Not enough knowledge of what AIA is doing. AIA just gave \$10,000 to Howard University black student for prototype low income housing project. On AIA Hq., AIA gave strong support to the architect three times before the Fine Arts Commission, nothing more can be done. Is

profession as a whole irrelevant? This is more important than just AIA.

**Lathrop Douglass:** Danger that big business may take over profession.

**Dale:** That is an economic threat. The \$10,000 grant previously mentioned is a drop in the bucket.

**Bert Bassuk:** Are students considering that when they are out of school they may be registered to menial roles, bathroom partitions?

**Feigenberg:** That shows lack of innovating thinking. Students are already accomplishing things in the Harlem community. Bathroom details can be copied out of Sweets'.

**Cooper Student:** When AIA busts draftsmen's unions, this is "relevant" for them as employers. Kaufman, who is developing most of Manhattan (sic), said he always goes to Emery Roth; students asked why not Louis Kahn. That was not the point; the question was why Kaufman? Architects service the propertied class; the enemy is the social system which will not bring you 10,000,000 dwelling unit commissions.

**Arthur Holden:** Above statement about Kaufman-Kahn one of the truest things he ever heard. Architects have to coordinate with more different kinds of groups than any other field of activity, and they should lead; they can't get anywhere unless they understand how things get that way and promote understanding between groups.

**Salvadori:** Very wise thoughts. But it is hard to preach gentle behavior to a society in which the winners are the ungentle. Technical developments do not permit us to be patient. This may be all right for colleagues in the profession, but it is not enough for students and blacks. We must move with speed.

**Goodman:** Since it is possible in a democracy to have political parties, good idea to set up a 2nd chapter, avant-garde. This radical chapter would not require registration; anyone with B. Arch. could send delegates to the national convention.

**Feigenberg:** Students do not believe in democratic process as it exists. Schools have radical groups, action-oriented.

**George Rockrise:** People from this meeting should communicate positions to the newly-formed AIA Urban Affairs Center.

**Szego:** Fact that profession cannot create low cost housing proves it is irrelevant.

**Dale:** New housing act was conceived by lawyers not architects. AIA has no political power. In order to be effective, it must "dirty its hands."

**Sidney Katz:** Students thinking ten years ahead of profession. Anyone who thinks the entire country is not being affected by students doesn't know what is going on. We don't need the AIA as a father figure; we think for ourselves. I don't expect the AIA to fight my battles.

**Pratt Student:** At Pratt, students go into community, show people on a block how to do things themselves. Invite profession to take a look at what they are doing.

**Douglass:** Asked Goodman to take lead in preparing a paper for the Urban Affairs Center. (ed. note: this is now named Urban Design & Development Corp.).



## OCULUS REPORT: AN UNRESTRAINED DISCUSSION ON THE "EXPERIMENT AT PRATT".

"Experiment at Pratt", held on Feb. 13th was co-sponsored by the NYCAIA Architectural School Liaison Committee, Barry Jackson, Chairman, and the Pratt Architectural Club. Jeffrey J. Wittenstein was moderator. Panelists included faculty "Coordinates" John Belle, Stanley Salzman, Christopher Wadsworth; and students Harry Fishman, Barbara Ochroch, Morley Morgana, Ellen Buchanan, Marilyn Mammano. These excerpts are not direct quotes.

**Belle:** Hope this differs from last week ("AIA is Irrelevant!"). What is relevant is architectural education. After spring strike 80% of school voted for New School Committee to establish new goals and curriculum. We are operating under new framework now. Examples: choice of vertical (students from upper and lower classes working together) or traditional horizontal units; students going out into community or "storefront" operations; working in offices for credits; upper classmen teaching lower classmen. Students can tell us how it has worked.

**Fishman:** I've been working for City's Urban Design Group; 42nd Street development, Lower Manhattan Expressway. Learning political realities, how buildings get built, funding, research.

**Student:** Can't you learn more in an architectural office?

**Fishman:** No. Architectural offices don't work with the people. Work 25 or 30 hours per week. Wrote rest of curriculum. Still have to meet curriculum requirements for 2 semesters, but could loaf or charrette as I felt. Worked with Ron Shiffman community project for working drawing credits.

**Student:** Why not quit school and work on outside?

**Fishman:** Didn't want to go into Army. Political reality. Chose this program because traditional does not work.

**Salzman:** Harry's picture slightly distorted. Nothing in his curriculum that any ideal program does not contain. Taking experiences natural to him. Credits same. Feelings about war are personal. I'm 45, can't talk that area. I felt that piece of paper (degree) was beautiful.

**Student:** Why is that piece of paper relevant?

**Salzman:** It represented a goal. Life is a series of goals.

**Mannano:** Anyone concerned will do it his own way. Most students don't give a damn.

—How long will Pratt experiment?

**Belle:** Forever.

—What's a "storefront"?

**Ochroch:** Physically a dirty little hole on a ghetto street. If you want to know architecture, visit them. My experience is that they are a positive influence. Students are really doing architecture. Renovations would never have happened otherwise. Developed enthusiasm never possible at Pratt. Work done without community paying architects' fat fees.

**Nesbitt Garmendia:** Why did you say architects' fat fees?

**Ochroch:** Any fee involved is irrelevant.

**Shiffman:** Let's not get hung up on fees. Students are doing work that professionals don't want to dirty their hands on. They're functioning as architects and

helping community to understand.

**Sidney Shelov:** A lot of architects like Shiffman are doing this kind of work. Not afraid to dirty hands.

**Ochroch:** Who? I would like to model myself after Shiffman.

**Sidney Katz:** Important thing is education, students being involved with things that are relevant.

**Wittenstein:** We need new blood. Young turks appalled by most architecture. We back students 100%.

**Salzman:** New program not easy, but large offices participating report they are being rewarded. Students can cope with larger scope of architecture.

**Student:** Distressing that 90% are not involved with community projects. All don't have to go in storefronts but system must change. Profession should be changing to solve these problems.

**Manuel Herz:** Do students really know where they want or ought to go? Storefront O.K. as one experience.

**Buchanan:** What other aspects are there?

**Morgana:** How many grown-ups here are proud of being architects? How many students care about being called architects?

**Belle:** Students must decide on what being an architect means.

**Wittenstein:** Our Committee has been unable to define architecture. Everything we are talking about is architecture.

**Georgio Cavaglieri:** School has student for limited time. Faculty must determine what is important. Takes 15 years hard work until you can contribute to community.

**Jackson:** Old guard still thinks of architecture as upper middle class forte. Establishment must be thrown out.

**Student:** Fat cats are clients. People should be clients.

**Alan Schwartzman:** No longer on State Board of Examiners, but agree State has right of accrediting architectural schools. New York liberal. Accredits schools experimenting like Pratt.

**Thomas Galvin:** If client comes to you to build hospital, without that license you are liable if mistakes made.

**Daniel Schwartzman:** This discussion more intelligent, less sneers than with Columbia. Their solution: advocacy planning, and if you don't agree, be destroyed! Students and public not aware what AIA is doing. Recent T.V. film shows slums and music is "America the Beautiful". Shows architects know problems.

**Student:** If public has to be shown by T.V. that's proof the profession has failed.

**Galvin:** We must become political and lead the flag to Congress, demand housings, etc.

**Herz:** We've seen AMA do same thing. Good to see a school try to be relevant.

**Ochroch:** Give us more credit than being in clouds for 5 years. None of us see this as our whole education.

**Katz:** What can we do to help Pratt?

**Ochroch:** You don't understand & can't.

**Cavaglieri:** You won't be young forever.



## THE HOUSING AGENCY GAME

The NYCAIA Housing Committee, Edward T. Shiffer, Chairman, is sponsoring a seminar called "The Housing Agency Game: Three Case Histories Illustrating the Impact of Housing Agencies on Architectural Design". It will be held on Tuesday evening, Mar. 25th at Chapter Headquarters. Participants to be announced.

## OUR MEMBERSHIP GOALS

Of the 1,800 registered architects in the Chapter areas, approximately two thirds or 1,328 are Corporate Members. According to William C. Andersen, Membership Committee Chairman, we would like to have 100% of the registered architects as members. Membership is now at 1,531 which includes 14 Honorary, 18 Professional Associates and 171 Associate Members. The Chapter's territory includes Manhattan; Sullivan, Orange, Putnam and Rockland Counties; Southern half of Ulster and Dutchess Counties, and the Canal Zone.

Each year invitations are sent to all newly registered architects who live or work in Manhattan to a cocktail party in April. Invitations are also sent to Sustaining Firms inviting draftsmen, spec writers, designers, etc., to avoid segregating prospective associate members from corporate members. The Membership Committee is preparing a brochure on the Chapter to use in recruiting members. Special emphasis is being placed on increasing the number of Associates, particularly those prospective Corporates in the period between graduation and registration. No special effort had been placed on Student Members, because it was assumed Student Chapters exist. This may have to be changed. (See "OCULUS" report in this issue).

The Committee is also studying reasons why members drop out. The most common reason given by prospective members who do not join are high dues and "What do I get out of the AIA besides the JOURNAL?". Unfortunately, no special effort has been made to single out prospective minority group architects. There are about 14 AIA Negro Architects in the metropolitan area or one for each 1,000,000 inhabitants.

One obvious way to get new members is to personally ask them to join. Principals in firms might do this gracefully. Other members might invite non-members to attend some of the Chapter functions. The greater number we are the stronger we are.

## STEWARTSON FELLOWSHIP WINNER

The \$2,000 Stewardson Travelling Fellowship has been awarded to Mr. Fred F. Montoya, a staff member of the firm of Richard Stein here in New York. Montoya intends to travel through Europe and observe, among other things, examples of early modern architecture. He will sketch and photograph for a presentation to the Chapter after his return.

The award is made annually through a bequest of James Stewardson, a British architect who spent most of his professional life in New York. Nesbitt A. Garmendia is Chairman of Fellowship Committee.

## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

*Leon Brand* is Chairman of the Bard Awards Program 1969. *Paul Grotz* is a member of the Jury. March 10th is the deadline for entries. 6 West 48th Street, N. Y. 10036.

*Jaquelin T. Robertson*, of the City Planning Commission's Urban Design Group, has been named a member of the Institute's Urban Design Committee.

*David Eggers* and *Norbert N. Turkel* have been appointed Contributing Members to the Committee on Schools and College Architecture.

*Daniel Schwartzman* FAIA will be Chairman of the Jury for the 1969 R. S. Reynolds Memorial Award for Community Architecture.

*Robert W. Cutler*, FAIA, has been elected President of the Fifth Avenue Association.

*Isaiah Erlich* has been appointed by the National AIA to serve on the N.Y. Area Act. (A nationwide effort cooperation with the Small Business Administration to aid and encourage minority contractors in the building industry).

*Roger D. Glasgow* and *William D. Wilson* have been appointed to the Housing & Urban Development Committee of the Community Services Society.

*Edgar Tafel* was featured on the Names page of the Jan. 1969 issue of "Architectural & Engineering News".

## DESIGN AWARENESS IN GRADE SCHOOL

The primary effort of the Education Advisory Committee, according to Chairman Alan Schwartzman is being devoted to attempting to interest the NYC Board of Education in an environmental awareness program for elementary and intermediate school pupils. In Philadelphia, an experimental course in environmental awareness has been established in the public schools at the seventh grade level using a textbook prepared by the local Chapter. The Committee is reviewing the text and making an assessment of the results of the Philadelphia experiment. If the proposal is favorably received by the Board of Education, a manual for the guidance of teachers and consultation regarding the conduct of the program will be prepared.

To assist high school students who are interested in architectural careers, the Committee is coordinating its activities with the Student Chapter Committee, which will provide lists of students and junior faculty members from each of the City's Architectural schools who are interested in counselling high school students.

## PLAN EXAMINERS NEEDED

The recently adopted, completely revised Building Code requires expansion and reorganization of the engineering functions of the Dept. of Buildings, NYC. Positions are available for Jr. Engineer \$9,100 (degree), Ass't Examiner \$11,200 (+2 yrs experience), Plan Examiner \$1,950 (+P. E. License). Send resume' to Dept. of Buildings, 2 Lafayette St., N. Y. 10007. Attn: Thomas V. Burke, Director of Operations.



## BOOK REVIEW

### **Apollo in the Democracy: The Cultural Obligation of the Architect**

by Walter Gropius, McGraw-Hill, \$12.20

It is a cause for celebration when we can know more intimately one of the great architectural figures of our time. Gropius, 85 years old and as perceptive and profound as he has been for his whole professional life, has just published a collection of talks, articles and observations under the title "Apollo in the Democracy". It is a most relevant summary of the state of architecture today. It reflects Dr. Gropius' humanity and his grasp of technology's potentials and limitations in shaping our environment. Gropius' reasoned talks, together with the reprinted articles represent an encompassing philosophy for architecture, that has cultural, social, aesthetic and, of course, technological implications. They supplement and extend the ideas expressed by Gropius at the Bauhaus, in England, and at Harvard.

There is a shift in the area of concern from Gropius' earliest writings. He discusses the search for particularization within a systematic approach, the new scale of building assignments, the type of architectural organization that can do its work efficiently and still maintain individual responsibility, the education of the public to understand and demand a good physical environment, the priority of the "tree of life" over "the commercial jungle", the establishment of unity in diversity, the search for principles of building and planning. He fears the dulling result of extreme specialization, of the ever-tightening embrace of big organization. Discarding romanticism as an alternative, Gropius seeks a method that allows groups to work together with both a sense of individual responsibility and of co-responsibility for overall unity.

The book has a philosophical unity that is consistent with all Gropius has worked to achieve and discover. But there is room for fresh response to new personal discoveries, even in familiar areas. Gropius, in an article written in 1955, indicates how deeply he was affected by actually studying the buildings and life outlook of the Japanese during an extended visit.

The book is a warmly revealing document about Gropius himself. Throughout, one can sense his constant concern for the quality of life. His understanding, respect for, and affection toward his friends and co-workers is always visible. In 1938 I asked Dr. Gropius whether he felt any discouragement about starting a practice in a strange country with his own house as the only office job after the outstanding practices he had carried on in pre-war Germany, in Weimar, in Dessau, and in London. He said that while there was some nostalgia, it was a good thing to make clean breaks with the past at various times in one's life. He stressed the importance to him of being able to evaluate what he was doing without the encumbrances of a continuing situation. In his book is this same insistence on understanding what now has to be done.

*Richard Stein*

## URBAN DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT CORP.

Ralph Grayson Schwarz, a Ford Foundation executive for the past 6 years, will head the AIA's new Urban Design & Development Corp. located at Institute headquarters in Washington. The Corporation will "lead in the investigation and development of a 'humane environment' and in the development of the new architecture for that environment." It will "address itself immediately to the most urgent problem of today's environment — the crisis of the inner city, and particularly that of the Negro ghetto." The Steering Committee includes Max O. Urbahn, FAIA, Director of the New York Region.



"AIA Is Irrelevant!" Panelists as seen by a non-member

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Wed. Mar. 5 — Exhibit opening 6:00-8:00 P. M. David Porter's one-man show, Homage to the Box: Models For Mega-sculptures; reliefs, constructions, collage. Through Wed. Apr. 30th at Chapter Headquarters.
- Tues. Mar. 18 — Technical Evening Lecture at Chapter Headquarters, 5:15 P. M.
- Wed. Mar. 19 — School Committee Panel Discussion "Architectural Design and the Urban Crisis" at Ford Foundation, 320 East 43rd St., 1:30-5:00 P. M.
- Tues. Mar. 25 — "Housing Agency Game" seminar at Chapter Headquarters, 7:30 P. M.

## CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

Information received by the Secretary of NYCAIA regarding the qualifications of candidates for membership will be considered confidential.

### Corporate

David Paul Helpern  
Herman M. Karson  
Ronald Kolbe  
Harry J. Lutters

Fred F. Montoya  
Victor Stephen Muller  
Graeme Andrew Whitelaw  
John D. Wragg

### Associate

Faber Birren      Joel D. Kaufman      Eric E. Micheels  
Teodoro Changsut      Royston Kent

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

The NYCAIA welcomes the following new members:

### Corporate

Youssef S. Bahri  
John D. Cooke  
George E. Kennedy

Roland G. Middleton  
Roland J. Voisin

### Professional Associate

Harold Einhorn

### Associate

Jon W. Waynick

## OLKO ENGINEERING

*Consultants — Designers*

Structural and Civil Engineering

500 FIFTH AVE. NYC BR 9-2822