THE
POWER OF
DIVERSITY:
PRACTICE
IN A COMPLEX
WORLD

convention 2009
APRIL 18-21, 2009, SAN FRANCISCO

Register online at www.aiaconvention.com

The profession of architecture is in the midst of incredible change. As our world becomes
more complex and challenging, so does our work. From the clients we serve to the buildings
we design, from those who practice architecture to how the work is accomplished.

Come to the AIA 2009 National Convention and Design Expo to see the power
of diversity for yourself. Experience continuing education that extends beyond the
parameters of the convention hall. Choose from more than 175 educational tours that
allow you to complete essential learning needs while visiting contemporary and historical
landmarks in the Bay Area.

Gain knowledge from experts within the profession to support excellence in design, a
commitment to environmental well-being, and the advancement of new technology,
materials, and methods.

Register by March 15 and save!
Process. Merriam-Webster defines it as a natural phenomenon marked by gradual changes that lead toward a particular result; a series of actions or operations conducing to an end; a continuous operation or treatment. Process is something that I think about a lot, something that I believe plays a large role in my life, in my work, and in who I am. When asked to describe what sort of art I make, I usually refer to it as “process art”, and even though process art is not the most popular or well known movement in the art world, I could not imagine a more fitting description of my work or my mindset throughout the making. Much of my work involves various series of self-defined tasks, and the cast-offs of these tasks are what becomes the ‘art’ or product to be shown. An example of this self-defined process is a project in which I created my own tea ceremony, recording each cup of tea I drank within a specific period of time, creating ‘ink blots’ from the discarded tea bags. Even my love of glass and glassblowing ties back into process. The final product is not that important to me—it’s more a focus on the repetitive motions, the process of making. If there is something to show for it at the end – a cup or vase or bowl – great. If there is nothing to show, except for my sweat, great. Either way, spending my time working through each step, performing each action in sequence to strengthen my skills or explore the material is more valuable to me than creating some physical evidence of that time spent.

Similarly, I believe that architecture, and the act of designing, are directly tied to and wrapped around process. There is not necessarily a “right” way to go about this, but I am sure that many architects go through a series of steps as they create, with each individual and each new project informing that process. The act of creating, then evaluating, redesigning, showing to clients, continued page 2
reworking, et cetera is a process in and of itself. The need to evaluate where you stand and how to move forward is something the architectural community is familiar with, and within these pages, we take a look at the economy, and how local architectural firms have weathered past downturns. Through introspection, many firms have stood the test of time and trial, but not without being willing to look hard and make necessary changes. We hope that some of the stories told on these pages will be a help or inspiration to anyone out there wondering what comes next.

Just as businesses and individuals need to look inward and examine common practices and comforts, so too has Columns participated in some recent soul-searching. It’s no surprise that times are tough, and the near future does not necessarily hold a lot of promise. Even with a stimulus package passed, questions of viability and sustainability cannot be ignored. Non-profits especially are feeling the pinch, and as AIA Pittsburgh moves through 2009, choices have to be made to ensure that we are providing the best services to our members, addressing your needs. As such, we have decided to reduce Columns to a quarterly publication, with the sincere hope of bringing it back in 2010 in its bi-monthly form.

In the meantime, we are pooling our resources to provide every opportunity we can to serve you with the current recession in mind. Executive Director Anne Swager, Hon. AIA has been working with some local members to form the new Unemployed Architects Group. While it doesn’t have the sexiest name imaginable, it gets right to the point – there have been multiple rounds of layoffs, and this group meets for lunch biweekly at the AIA Pittsburgh office to connect and be a support to one another in similar situations. You don’t have to be a member to attend, we just want to help and encourage the community in whatever way we can. We are also currently working on our programming for Build Pittsburgh 2009, which is themed “Opportunities in Architecture for Challenging Times”. This full day of continuing education will focus on giving you the tools to be best prepared to weather the storm in these challenging times.

As we move forward into spring, as our days get longer and perhaps even a little sunnier, we will continue to move through our series of steps to create opportunities for you, to serve you the best we can. Let us know what you think, how we might be able to help you or others, and we will try to respond to your requests. That’s our process. ☛
SO MUCH TO DO... 
SO LITTLE TIME

BY CHIP DESMONE, AIA

The Pittsburgh Chapter of the AIA is continually recognized as among the most innovative and well run chapters in the nation. This is due, in no small part, to the energetic efforts of its executive director, Anne Swager, Hon. AIA, and all of its immediate past presidents whose collective visions have impacted everything I have the honor and privilege to inherit. My special thanks go to our retiring president, Paula Maynes, AIA, for her steady, calm, and strong leadership during the past year – a year that saw us break new records in fundraising, income, education, outreach, and advocacy.

This coming year will present a different set of challenges to our organization as we plan now for Build Pittsburgh (our annual continuing education conference), and subsequently, Design Pittsburgh. We remain ambitious in these plans, as Build Pittsburgh will grow with more class offerings and increased learning opportunities – opportunities that will come from each other and from the vital manufacturers who assist us in creating a better built environment. All of this during an incredibly difficult economic period.

We will soon revisit our Strategic Plan and recognize some of our goals and limitations. The AIA’s National and State chapters urge advocacy and engagement of its members in the political process, as decisions made by and during the political process impact our environment and our collective practices. On the local level, it is my expectation that AIA Pittsburgh will build upon our developing Policy of Public Engagement, begun under the stewardship of Paula’s presidency. These plans shall include discussions with the County Executive and Council, as well as the Mayor and City Council, on issues that impact our communities and our businesses through the built environment. It won’t be easy. However, we have a framework that we use at the National Grassroots Convention, as well as the statewide leadership event, Architects Day. Let us know if you would like to participate.

Why should we care about what goes on in the political arena around us? Because elected officials make decisions that impact our profession. These decisions impact our ability to practice architecture in a manner that best suits the requirements of our clients’ goals, and the greater good of the community at large. If we aren’t at the table when these decisions are made, laws and regulations will be created that will constrain our clients, our profession, and our communities. More than any other profession or organization, architects and the AIA are uniquely qualified to guide our region in developing our many resources in a functional, efficient, and elegant way while being recognized as authoritative stewards of our environment.

So, as government officials hurriedly draw up plans for an immense spending spree to help jump start our economy, we will be there at the national, state, and particularly the local level, to make sure that our voice is heard, that our priorities are considered, and that our membership is participating fully in our national recovery. And the Policy on Public Engagement will help guide us in our local efforts to gain a more significant voice in the process.
**PITTSBURGH'S FAVORITE ARCHITECTURE REVEALED!**

Over the past two months, AIA Pittsburgh has brought to you and the public two photographic exhibits on display at SPACE Gallery – America's Favorite Architecture and Pittsburgh's Favorite Architecture. In case you missed the chance to view these, America’s Favorite Architecture is a traveling exhibit that presents 150 images of the American Institute of Architects’ public poll, conducted in conjunction with AIA150. Pittsburgh's Favorite Architecture is an exhibit of 25 of the most iconic buildings in our region, with an online gallery and the opportunity to vote for your favorite. The polling for Pittsburgh's Favorite Architecture closed on March 9th, and the top three choices were announced on March 12th at the closing reception at SPACE.

Pittsburgh's choice for favorite architecture was the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, followed by Fallingwater and the Frick Fine Arts Building. Thank you to all who voted and participated to make this exhibit a success!

![The Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Fallingwater, and the Frick Fine Arts Building](image)

**LOOKING FOR WORK? MAYBE WE CAN HELP…**

Both AIA National and AIA Pittsburgh have services to help link employers looking to hire with architects looking for jobs. AIA has the Career Center, which is an electronic recruitment resource for the industry, and can be found at http://careercenter.aia.org. Locally, AIA Pittsburgh has an online Classified Ad page, which allows employers to post positions they are trying to fill. View ads at http://www.aiapgh.org/aiapgh/classifieds.aspx.

Additionally, AIA Pittsburgh has recently formed an Unemployed Architects Group, which meets for lunch biweekly at the AIA Pittsburgh offices downtown. You don’t need to be a member to attend, just someone looking for work, or a community of others in a similar situation. To learn more or be added to the email list, contact Anne Swager at aswager@aiapgh.org.
AIA NATIONAL CONVENTION IN SAN FRANCISCO!

The profession of architecture is in the midst of incredible change. As our world becomes more complex and diverse, so too does our work. From the clients we serve to the buildings we design. From those who practice architecture to how the work is accomplished.

Come to the AIA 2009 National Convention and Design Exposition and see the power of diversity for yourself. Gain knowledge from experts within the profession to support excellence in design, a commitment to environmental well-being, and the advancement of new technology, materials, and methods.

Convention 2009 is being held April 30 – May 2 at the Moscone Center in San Francisco. Take the time to register today! First-time architect, associate, and international associate members who join the AIA between May 18, 2008 and May 2, 2009, are invited to attend the 2009 national convention free of charge. To register, go to https://www.one-stop-registration.com/aia09.

LOCAL ARCHITECTS EXHIBIT ARTWORK

Syl Damianos, FAIA and Ray Gindroz, FAIA are preparing for an upcoming exhibit of their work at Concept Gallery in Regent Square. The opening reception will begin on Saturday, March 28th at 5 pm with a performance by the recipient of the 2008 Marilyn and Ray Gindroz Foundation award and will continue until 8 pm. The show closes on April 26th.
designed for hard times

A look at the economy's impact on the architectural community

BY JOHN ALTDORFER

Maybe between the time this publication goes to press and the moment you first read these pages, the nation's sad sack economy will suddenly reverse its seemingly endless nosedive into the deepest financial black hole most of us have ever witnessed and will start climbing back into the clear blue skies of prosperity.

But just in case that doesn't happen, remember that you never, ever kill the messenger.

So here's the scoop: this recession is scary business. Just check the AIA's Architectural Index, which recently belly-flopped to an all-time local low. With future construction billings in a dizzying decline, many area firms are postponing new hires, laying off employees, or closing shop altogether. Some area pros even warn that the worst might be yet to come.

"I've seen a lot of economic downturns in the 1970s, '80s, '90s, and early 2000s," says Phil Hundley, AIA, a principal and 33-year employee of DRS Architects. "But this is probably the worst. Financial institutions are going under. The automobile industry is bad. The housing market is shot. Those are things that we didn't see before. And it will probably get bleaker."
At this point, we haven’t lost any business, especially with our short-term projects that are moving forward. But some of the longer-term projects are taking a pause.

MIKE McDONNELL, AIA

Even firms with histories dating back to nearly the last days of the 19th century are finding this financial fiasco one for the ages.

“We’ve been in business for 100 years,” says Mike McDonnell, AIA, a principal at IKM Inc. “So we’ve weathered a few recessions and depressions. At this point, we haven’t lost any business, especially with our short-term projects that are moving forward. But some of the longer-term projects are taking a pause.”

As a result of that hiatus of jobs with three- to five-year time lines, IKM recently put its hiring on hold last year.

“We’re not pursuing new staff as aggressively as in the past year and a half,” says McDonnell. “That’s something that’s pretty consistent across town. But while we’re holding stable, other firms are making first-round layoffs.”

Yet, for all the dire signs that point to a lingering slump, many local architects maintain
a positive outlook and offer insights on how to survive and even thrive during this slide.

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT NOTHING LASTS FOREVER

Recessions and depressions always come to an end.

History shows again and again that however big the economic mess, eventually business rebounds, people go back to work, and clients start hiring architects again. Even better, the boom times usually last longer than the busts. To survive, firms must develop a strategy to endure the financial valleys between the peaks. Most architects will tell you that diversification is the key.

"We learned some hard lessons at DRS in the 1980s," says Hundley. "One of the main one's was to cultivate clients that would provide ongoing work during economic downturns. As a result, we developed a number of government, health care, and university clients for doing different types of work. Whatever state the economy might be in, there's always work going on at an Air Force base, post office, hospital, or college. Sometimes the projects are big. Sometimes they're not. But the approach keeps our workforce going and makes sure that the lows aren't as low as they could be."

While he works in a smaller market, Adam Trott, AIA, managing partner at Thomas J. Freeman Architects in Erie, Pennsylvania, says that government housing projects are helping to cushion the economic blows his firm suffered during the last half of 2008.

"A certain portion of our work involves HUD," says Trott. "That type of work tends to lag behind by a couple of years when it comes to financial trends. In that respect, we've been insulated from the problems in other markets."
On the other hand, Trott says the firm did lay off one of its five full-time employees when a client decided to put a project on hold. In another case, the credit crunch forced a client to scrap plans to build a new structure in favor of purchasing an existing building and renovating it. Freeman got that contract, but at a lower dollar total than the original proposal.

In Pittsburgh, a few clients are pulling the plug on work, and an even smaller number is scaling back on plans. Yet, for the most part, many clients actually seem to be bucking what might be the obvious reaction to a tight money situation.

WORKING ON A DREAM

During the last days of his reign of tyranny, Saddam Hussein was running a little short on liquid assets. As a result, the Iraqi dictator started reducing many of the grand plans tied to his residential construction projects. In his heyday, the Ba'ath strongman demanded solid gold faucets for the bathrooms in his numerous palaces. But as Saddam's power and resources waned, contractors resorted to splashing gold paint on ordinary plumbing fixtures. Dreams die hard, even for a despot.

Fortunately, the consensus among local architects is that clients are holding tight to their dreams and refusing to compromise in the face of economic uncertainty.

"A lot of my clients are empty-nesters who are buying that loft or smaller residence in the city that they've dreamed about for years," says Peter Margittai, AIA, owner of the small South Side firm that bears his name. "They want to carry out that vision of how they want their new home to look. They figure that if they're going to do this one last time, then they're going to fulfill their aspirations and do it right. That's the kind service I enjoy delivering."

Making dreams come true for clients is a huge attraction to the field of architecture for many practitioners. Hundley adds that architecture can provide a morale boost for the general public during an economic downturn.

"We have to look to the future," he says. "We have to build on the positive. You can design a building that will have an uplifting effect on people's lives for years to come. There are so many examples of wonderful projects that came about during economic hard times. And they still have a positive effect today."

Locally, the Cathedral of Learning on the Oakland campus of the University of Pittsburgh is one of the prime examples of Depression-era architecture that enhanced the city's skyline as it lifted the hopes of the general public. Construction started on the 555-foot tall Gothic Revival tower in 1926 and faltered when funds proved hard to get with the onset of the Depression. To keep the project on track, the university appealed to area schoolchildren to pitch in a dime to buy a brick to help complete the 42-story skyscraper, which was eventually dedicated in 1957.

Elsewhere in the city and region, the Gulf Tower become Downtown's tallest skyscraper in the early 1950s and Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater in the Laurel Highlands earned nearly instant status as an American architectural icon upon its completion in 1959.

"Once people have a vision, it's hard for them to scale back," says Margittai. "Their projects are a reflection of themselves and how they want the world to view them. It's hard to scale back on that type of dream. That's why architects look for clients who appreciate the time and care they put into making that dream reality."

TOMORROW NEVER KNOWS AND OTHER WORDS OF WISDOM

Despite some early rounds of layoffs, scrubbed projects, and office shutdowns, Pittsburgh seems to have fared well during the first months of the current economic malaise. In fact, a few firms interviewed for this article say that 2009 is shaping up well — so far.

"It's interesting to note that while some firms are letting people go, we're actually looking for a few good people to fill spots on our staff," says
We have to look to the future. We have to build on the positive. You can design a building that will have an uplifting effect on people’s lives for years to come. PETER MARGITTAI, AIA

Kathryn Jolley of DRS. “And because this is a tight market to find qualified people, we’ve expanded our search outside the region to find candidates who fit the bill.”

While DRS expands its sights beyond the area to find new hires, Jolley notes that the company is marketing its services more aggressively than ever before.

“What you’ll hear is that firms are cutting their marketing staffs during tough times,” says Jolley. “But in a down economy you have to work even harder at marketing to existing and prospective clients.”

Keeping a close eye on payables is another bit of advice from Jolley’s colleague at DRS.

“The other thing you need to watch is to make sure your payables don’t get too late,” says Hundley. “People do slow down their payments in slow times. We all need to make sure that we invoice properly and follow through on collecting payments. Cash is king during times like these.”

Another surprising discovery is that recession actually can be a good time to start a high-end project, if clients are properly schooled. IKM’s McDonnell recommends stressing a firm’s value-added services and creating clients who are better-informed consumers of architectural services.

“Many of our customers were changing plans before the recession, when the cost of construction materials was being driven up by the red-hot economy,” he says. “Now that there’s a slump, those prices have backed off and our clients are able to realize more value for their investments.”

Certainly not a Pollyanna, Margittai also sees a bright future for 2009 – despite what he sees in the news.

“I read the newspapers and understand what’s happening in respect to the economy,” says Margittai. “And it’s not good. But when I walk out the door, what I see isn’t the same. One developer I work with on the South Side can’t buy properties fast enough. So if he’s not panicking and is happy working with me, why would
I panic? So far, I'm booked pretty solid through at least the third quarter of 2009. On the other hand, I'm not fooling myself. I know all this could go away tomorrow.”

Mixing optimism with caution might just be the best advice for getting through this economic rough patch. At IKM, McDonnell relates a tale of a long-employee who's seen more than one financial tough time.

“One of our senior architects has been here for more than 50 years,” he says. “When he started there were some lean times, and the staff was cut in half. One of the partners at the time told him that he still had a job, but it would be on a day-to-day basis. Three decades later, he still jokes that he's still working day to day.”
In a prime example of practicing what he preaches, Lee Calisti, AIA, works out of an office that is part of the house he recently designed from scratch. Not only does this help to give clients a hands-on example of his portfolio, but also allows him to be a hands-on husband and father. *Columns* spoke with him about what it is like working from home.

**What is the office coffee policy?**
It's just me; I have to get it myself. Of course, I don’t get into trouble for eating someone else's lunch out of the refrigerator.

**How long have you been in this space?**
We moved in officially at the end of August 2007, although I operated my business in here from the beginning of July 2007, putting up with the construction noise in the background.

**Who designed the office/space?**
I did, but my wife had a major influence.

**Would you say the philosophy of the firm is expressed through the design? How?**
Yes. It is simple, modern, and green. However, the intention was built around the pursuit of adhering to a tight budget that the average homeowner, seeking to build a new house, could afford.

**Why was this location/neighborhood chosen as home base for the firm?**
It was not our original choice, but through a series of unusual circumstances, we were fortunate enough to find this lot. The site was an undeveloped lot in a 1960's city neighborhood. Since the infrastructure was already in place, no virgin land was disturbed. Also the proximity to the downtown area makes it easy for us to walk or ride a bicycle if desired. The “completion” of the street...
made it attractive to the neighbors who spent almost 40 years prior looking at an empty lot.

Did you do anything special to meet sustainable and accessibility standards?
From choosing a building site to selecting materials for use in the home, sustainability without excessive expense was the goal. The house serves as a “live/work” space which, beyond other benefits, eliminated the long commute of one person in the household. Through the use of a local contractor and many local materials, less energy was required to build it than the typical builder houses popular in the area. Solar orientation was also very important in the design process. Additionally, energy saving choices included spray foam insulation, low E windows, an extra high efficiency HVAC system and water heater, low or no VOC paint, and a number of recycled materials for flooring.

What/where is the client base? What are client reactions to the space?
My work currently is in Westmoreland, Allegheny, and Fayette Counties. Almost every one of my clients has been in my office. One major impact is having to clean up the house consistently in case I want to show a client around. The overall reactions are very positive. It is so much easier to show someone a detail or space in person than to draw or model it. They get it right away.

What amenities are unique to the office?
No commute, especially late at night. I am walking or biking distance to downtown Greensburg. I have been able to spend considerably more time with my son and wife. I have never missed school functions that happen during the day. Sometimes I am the only dad at field trips and school parties. It’s a blessing that I am very aware of daily.

How has the work environment influenced the way you work?
It is essential to be disciplined since there are more distractions. I am not sure I have mastered that, but at least I am aware that it exists.

In designing one’s own house and office you become aware of the accountability of design decisions in a way that could never happen otherwise. This house is an ongoing lab for ideas and experiments in construction. Moreover, I can truly sympathize with my clients when they have to make decisions based on cost. This awareness is not limited to residential architecture, but to all architectural work. It goes back to that simple question that clients would ask, “would you do this on your house?” I can answer that much better now.
FROM THE FIRMS

Astorino, along with their affiliate company, Fathom, applied innovative research techniques, never before used on a Veterans Affairs campus, for the design of the new Veterans Recovery Center. The Veterans Recovery Center is located on Pittsburgh’s H. John Heinz III Progressive Care Center and was dedicated in a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, November 25, 2008. Due to the complexity of this user group and the significant impact this type of facility has on all generations of our nation’s veterans, Astorino turned to Fathom – a unique design research company that offers a deep understanding of how subconscious thoughts and feelings can translate into more meaningful design – to help them truly understand these veterans and the issues that they face.

Burt Hill has been commissioned to design the interiors for the new Equitable Resources headquarters facility in Pittsburgh. The new facility is 257,000 sf, covers 12 floors in a downtown high-rise building, and will accommodate the company’s current needs and anticipated growth. The key goals for the design include creating a feeling of community and collaboration while enhancing privacy through traffic patterns. The new headquarters will house between 500–700 employees.

Desmone & Associates Architects have been hired by Baker Hughes International to design a new building for the company in New Stanton, PA. The new site will include a 64,000 sf office/workshop building, a separate 2,800 sf hazardous materials storage warehouse, over 180,000 sf of outdoor yard storage, and a gas tank farm. The firm has also been brought on by SingleSource Property Solutions to work on the expansion and relocation of its operational headquarters, as well as hired by low firm Reed Smith LLP to provide the interior design and construction drawing services for an office expansion for their Pittsburgh office.

Center Area and Monaca school districts recently hired Foreman Architects Engineers (FAE) to conduct a feasibility study to assist them with their pending merger initiative. FAE’s feasibility study will include extensive analyses of all school facilities in the districts, their capacities, and enrollment projections. Based on FAE’s findings, the firm will create construction options designed to facilitate the districts’ merger transition, as well as meet the regions’ future educational facility needs for the K-12 population. Additionally, Foreman Program and Construction Managers (FPCM) will team up with Cleveland-based Richard L. Bowen + Associates to manage the construction of four Ohio-based school programs. The two companies will jointly carry out project and site management responsibilities for these pending construction and/or renovation initiatives: Brookfield Local Schools, Trumbull County; Rittman Exempted Village Schools District, Wayne County; Indian Creek Local School District, Jefferson County; and Barberton City School District, Summit County. Foreman Architects and Engineers have also been hired by the Riverside Beaver School District to complete renovations to Riverside High School.

JSA Architecture Planning Engineering Interior Design has announced the completion of the new office fit-out for Fragasso Financial Advisors at 610 Smithfield Street in downtown Pittsburgh. The new office occupies the entire fourth floor of the building with approximately 17,500 sf. The dynamic office design facilitates a more cohesive interaction between departments and provides for increased conference space and a training room for 50 people. Abundant wall space is also provided throughout the office for the display of artwork, company honors/awards, and for flatscreen televisions which flash the latest business news. JSA project team included Thomas J. Mrozinski, Jr., AIA, team leader; Noelle Weaver, NCIDQ, project manager; Anita Myers, NCIDQ, director of interior design, and Jim Gaynor, PE, manager of engineering. General contractor was Shannon Construction.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Dana Steadman, AIA has joined Hayes Design Group – Architects as a senior associate. A longtime resident of Wexford, Dana has practiced in the Pittsburgh area for over 50 years. He holds an Architecture Degree from Syracuse University and is a LEED AP. Mr. Steadman brings diverse experience to the firm, with a focus on commercial and educational projects. Catherine Peek has also joined the firm as an associate. Catherine has moved to Pittsburgh from San Diego, where she practiced for several years with firms specializing in institutional projects.

Masco Construction Company, LP has announced that 22 employees have received their LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental
Design) accreditation from the U.S. Green Building Council. The employees are: Mark Belmar, Jeff Braun, Bill Charles, Jr., Ron Cortes, Bill Derence, Ed Elleinski, Pat Harvey, Clinton Hatfield, Dave Kimmel, Mike Kuchera, Chris Madden, Jim Majernik, Joe Manganello, Jack Mascaro, Pete Mastro, Scott Metzger, Matt Morris, Tony Sands, Jason Sheffield, Dave Stouden, Eugene Vannare, III, and Tim Wilson.

KUDOS

The Master Builders’ Association (MBA) and the Construction Advancement Program (CAP) awarded $4,500 scholarships to Kyle Kaminski and Kari Zeleznick, both students at the University of Pittsburgh School of Engineering.

AIA Pennsylvania has awarded Strada an Honor Award in Architecture for Design for Mifflin School. The Strada project team was John Martine, AIA, Alan Cuteri, AIA, Michael Stern, ASLA, Cas Pellegrini, AIA, and Tom Price, AIA. The client was Pittsburgh Public Schools and Yarborough Development, Inc was the contractor.

In the January 2009 issue of The Architectural Review (UK), studio d’ARC’s Live/Work Studio was selected as one of the Houses by Emerging Architects. The project was selected from over 100 international residential project entries submitted for the AR Awards for Emerging Architecture: 09.

Larry J. Payne, AIA, a senior associate with WTW Architects, has been appointed to a two-year term on the Marshall Township Planning Commission.

Greg Clark is the newest senior consultant for The Sextant Group. Formerly a principal at one of New York’s most prestigious audiovisual and acoustic consulting firms, Greg’s experience includes New York Metropolitan Museum of Art, RUSH University Medical Center, UNC Genomic Science Building, Infinity Tower Dubai, Mumbai International Airport in India, and even NYC’s new Brooklyn Bridge Park. While Greg has now relocated to The Sextant Group’s Pittsburgh office, his projects will continue to span the country and beyond.

MBA and CAP scholarship recipients

Mifflin School

Payne

SPECIALISTS IN LIGHTING RESTORATION AND DESIGN

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE METAL REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT
PATINATION | PLATING | REWIRING | SITE SPECIFIC ADAPTATION

1130 S. Braddock Avenue  |  Regent Square, PA 15218
Phone: 412.242.7050  |  Fax: 412.243.6721
www.typhoonlighting.com
ALLEGHENY CONSTRUCTION GROUP, INC.*
456 Washington Avenue, PO Box 425
Bridgeville, PA 15017
PHONE: 412-221-0500
FAX: 412-221-0188
CONTACT: Laura S. Deklewa
Commercial / Construction Management / Exterior / General / Industrial / Interior Renovations / Pre-Engineered Metal Buildings / Certified DBE/WBE

BURCHICK CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.*
500 Lawrence Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
PHONE: 339-9700 FAX: 339-9991
CONTACT: Joseph E. Burchick
E-MAIL: burchick@burchick.com
WEB SITE: www.burchick.com
Commercial / Construction Management / General / Industrial / Interior / Renovations

CAVCON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
211 Huff Avenue, Suite B
Greensburg, PA 15601
PHONE: 724-834-5220
FAX: 724-834-7533
CONTACT: M. Robert Phillips
E-MAIL: mrobert@caivcon.com
WEB SITE: www.cavcon.com
Commercial / Construction Management / General / Industrial / Design-Build / Metal Buildings / Project Management

JOHN DEKLEWA & SONS, INC.*
1273 Washington Pike, PO Box 158
Bridgeville, PA 15017-0158
PHONE: 412-267-9000
FAX: 412-257-4486
CONTACT: David Deklewa
WEB SITE: www.deklewa.com
General Construction / Construction Management / Design-Build / Development Services

DYNAMIC BUILDING CORPORATION
51 Pennwood Place, Suite 200
Warrendale, PA 15086
PHONE: 724-772-9020
FAX: 724-772-5770
CONTACT: John Nolan
E-MAIL: john@dynamcbuilding.com
WEB SITE: www.dynamicbuilding.com
Commercial / Construction Management / General / Industrial / Interior Renovations / Multi-Family / Design-Build

FLYNN CONSTRUCTION
600 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15221-2124
PHONE: 412-243-2483
FAX: 412-243-7925
CONTACT: Domenic Cons
E-MAIL: dcons@flynnconstruction.com
WEB SITE: www.flynnconstruction.com
Commercial / Construction Management / Exterior / General / Interior / Renovations

GENERAL INDUSTRIES
15 Arentzen Blvd.,
Charleroi, PA 15022
PHONE: 724-683-1600
FAX: 724-485-0990
CONTACT: Donald Iuill
E-MAIL: divi@genindustries.com
WEB SITE: www.genindustries.com
Commercial / Construction Management / Industrial / Pre-Engineered Metal Buildings / General Construction / Interior & Exterior Renovations

HARCHUCK CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.
4203 Route 66, Building II, Suite 222,
Apollo PA 15613
PHONE: 724-727-3700
FAX: 724-727-2800
CONTACT: David A. Harchuck
WEB SITE: www.harchuck.com
Commercial / Construction Management / General / Industrial / Interior Renovations

A. RICHARD KACIN, INC.
3875 Old William Penn Hwy.
Murrysville, PA 15668
PHONE: 724-327-6694
FAX: 724-753-0993
CONTACT: A. Richard Kacin, Pres.
Commercial / Construction Management / General / Industrial / Residential

KUSEVICH CONSTRUCTION, INC.
3 Walnut Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15223
PHONE: 412-782-2112
FAX: 412-782-0271
CONTACT: George Kusevich, Jr.
E-MAIL: gkjr@kusevich.com
WEB SITE: www.kusevich.com
Commercial / General / Renovations / Education / Design-Build

LLJ/CHI CONSTRUCTION, INC.
6100 Brooktree Road, Suite 110
Wexford, PA 15292-5275
PHONE: 724-934-8000
FAX: 724-934-8006
CONTACT: Mike Mason
E-MAIL: mmason@lljchi.com
WEB SITE: www.illchi.com
Commercial / Construction Management / General / Interior / Renovations

MARCco CONTRACTORS, INC.
100 Commonwealth Drive
PO Box 805
Warrendale, PA 15086-0805
PHONE: 724-741-0300 x35
FAX: 724-741-0335
CONTACT: Amy Fonzi
E-MAIL: afonzi@marcocontractors.com
WEB SITE: www.marcocontractors.com
Commercial / Construction Management / Interior / Renovation / Restaurants / Retail

MASCARO CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, LP*
1720 Metropolitan Street,
Pittsburgh, PA 15233
PHONE: 412-321-4901
FAX: 412-321-4902
CONTACT: Michael Mascaro
E-MAIL: mm@mascaroconstruction.com
WEB SITE: www.masparoconstruction.com
Commercial / Construction Management / General / Highway / Industrial Renovations

A. MARTINI & CO.*
320 Grant Street
Venona, PA 15147
PHONE: 412-828-5950
FAX: 412-828-6488
CONTACT: Anthony Martini
E-MAIL: amartini@martinigc.com
WEB SITE: www.amartini.com
Commercial / Construction Management / General / Industrial / Interior / Pre-Engineered Metal Buildings

MISTICK CONSTRUCTION
1300 Brighton Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15233
PHONE: 412-322-1121
FAX: 412-322-9336
CONTACT: M. Robert Mistick
Commercial / Construction Management / Exterior / General / Interior / Renovations / Residential

NELLO CONSTRUCTION COMPANY*
100 Houston Square, Suite 200
Cannonsburg, PA 15317
PHONE: 724-746-0800
FAX: 724-746-1966
CONTACT: Janet Torreiro
WEB SITE: www.nello.net
Commercial / Construction Management / General / Industrial / Interior Renovations

RAIMONDO CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.
131 South Lincoln Avenue,
Greensburg, PA 15601
PHONE: 724-837-3146
FAX: 724-837-3154
CONTACT: David A. Raimondo
WEB SITE: www.raimondoco.com
Commercial / Construction Management / General Construction / Interior & Exterior / Renovations / Pre-Engineered Metal Buildings

RYCON CONSTRUCTION, INC.
2525 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
PHONE: 412-392-2525
FAX: 412-392-2526
CONTACT: Todd Dominick
E-MAIL: todd@ryconinc.com
WEB SITE: www.ryconinc.com
Commercial / Construction Management / General / Industrial / Interior / Renovations

SOTA CONSTRUCTION SERVICES INC.
80 Union Avenue,
Pittsburgh, PA 15202
PHONE: 412-766-6430
FAX: 412-766-6434
CONTACT: Ernie Sota
E-MAIL: esota@sotaconstruction.com
WEB SITE: www.sotaconstruction.com
Commercial / Construction Management / Exterior / General / Industrial / Interior Renovations

TEDCO CONSTRUCTION CORP.
TEDCO Place,
Carnegie, PA 15106
PHONE: 412-276-9880
FAX: 412-276-6804
CONTACT: James T. Frantz
E-MAIL: jfrantz@tedco.com
WEB SITE: www.tedco.com
Commercial / Construction Management / General / Industrial / Renovations / Design-Build

TURNER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
Two PNC Plaza
620 Liberty Avenue,
21st Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2719
PHONE: 412-255-5400
FAX: 412-255-0249
CONTACT: Joseph Milicia, Jr.
Commercial / Construction Management / General / Interior / Renovations

WJM CONTRACTING INC.
P.O. Box 1324, Wexford, PA 15090
PHONE: 724-933-9136
FAX: 724-933-9147
CONTACT: William J. Gormley, Jr.
WEB SITE: www.wjmc.net
WEB SITE: www.wjmcinc.com
Commercial / Construction Management / Design / Build / General / Industrial / Pre-Engineered Metal Buildings

VOLPATT CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION
10 Castleview Road,
Pittsburgh, PA 15234
PHONE: 412-942-0280
FAX: 412-942-0280
CONTACT: Raymond A. Volpatt
E-MAIL: ray@volpatt.com
WEB SITE: www.volpatt.com
Commercial / Construction Management / Exterior / General / Industrial / Interior Renovations

A listing of area contractors and their professional services. To include your firm in this directory, call AIA Pittsburgh at 412-471-9548.

* Member of the Master Builders’ Association
† Member of Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc.
The Right Materials

- Fire Resistant
- Durable & Safe
- Aesthetically Valuable
- Low Maintenance
- Superior Longevity
- Design Flexible
- Fast Construction Time
- Cost Effective

The Right Way

Constructed by
Experienced Union
Craftworkers & Contractors

For answers to your masonry questions, call 1-800-IMI-0988.

International Masonry Institute

We Build For Life

300 Northpointe Circle, #303
Seven Fields, PA 16046
Ph: (724) 776-1930
Fax: (724) 776-4963
www.imiweb.org
Is it a Building?
Or a Monument to your architectural achievement?

Announcing the 2009 Brick in Architecture Awards

Its beauty stands the test of time. It embodies aesthetic achievement and enduring performance. It gracefully balances form and function. It is recognized as an outstanding achievement.

The Brick Industry Association is pleased to announce the 2009 Brick in Architecture Awards. Starting in January, you are invited to submit outstanding residential, non-residential and landscape architecture projects featuring clay brick and earn national recognition for your excellence in design.

Enter Now: www.gobrick.com/PittsburghAwards

Deadline: April 30, 2008

Contact Kelly Ewell at kewell@bia.org for more information.

Brought to you by the Pittsburgh Brick Distributor Council:

- Acme Clay Products, Inc.
- Donley Brick Company
- Pittsburgh Structural Clay Products, Inc.
- Redland Brick, Inc.
GENERAL SERVICES

ARCHITECTURAL PRODUCTS

BUNTING GRAPHICS, INC.
20 River Road,
Verona, PA 15147-1159
PHONE 412-820-2200 ext. 240
FAX 412-820-4404
CONTACT Jody Bunting
E-MAIL jody@buntinggraphics.com
WEB SITE www.buntinggraphics.com

CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATING

MORRIS PROPERTY & CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANTS, INC.
P.O. Box 15540,
Pittsburgh, PA 15244
PHONE 412-787-0720
FAX 412-787-0730
CONTACT Morgan P. Kronk
E-MAIL mkronk@mrn.com
Construction cost estimating and consulting / Owner’s Representative / Construction Management

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

THE GATEWAY ENGINEERS, INC.
1011 Alcon Street,
Pittsburgh, PA 15220
PHONE 412-921-4030
FAX 412-921-9960
CONTACT Jason Jesso
Civil / Testing & Inspection / Consulting / Environmental / Landscape Architecture

PASHIEK ASSOCIATES, LTD.
619 East Ohio Street,
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
PHONE 412-321-6362
FAX 412-321-9202
CONTACT Nancy Lonnett Roman RLA
E-MAIL flonnett@pashieka.com
WEB SITE www.pashieka.com
Environmental Green Design / Historic Preservation / Park and Recreation Planning / Site Master Planning / Streetscapes / Urban Planning

SITE SIGNATURES, INC.
300 Corbet Street,
Mt. Lebanon, PA 15208
PHONE 412-224-1997
FAX 412-224-1998
CONTACT Robert Jack
E-MAIL rjack@sitesig.com
WEB SITE www.sitesig.com
Land Planning / Urban Design / Sustainable Design / Specializing in Retail Development, Mixed-Use Development and Parks & Recreation Planning

TERRA DESIGN STUDIOS, LLC
2110 Sarah Street,
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
PHONE 412-481-3171
FAX 412-481-3173
CONTACT Cindy Tyler
E-MAIL ctyler@teradesignstudios.us
Site Master Planning / Children’s Gardens / Campus Planning / Urban Design / Estate Landscapes

OFFICE FURNITURE

FRANKLIN INTERIORS
Suite 600, 2740 Smallman Street,
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4720
PHONE 412-261-2525
FAX 412-285-4089
Complete project and furniture management / Reconfigurations and installations: non-union and union / Meeting any budget, we are your authorized Steelcase dealer.

PHOTOGRAPHY

ARTISTIC PURSUITS PHOTOGRAPHY
964 Davis Street,
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
PHONE 412-761-9416
CONTACT Robert Stowers
E-MAIL rodstowers@artisticpursuits.net
WEB SITE www.artisticpursuits.com
Photography Services / Custom Printing / Mounting & Framing / Original Fine Art Photographs of Pittsburgh

MICHAEL HARITAN PHOTOGRAPHY
184 Fireside Drive,
Pittsburgh, PA 15317
PHONE 412-941-2002
FAX 412-941-2002
CONTACT: Michael Haritan
E-MAIL michaelharitan@hotmail.com
WEB SITE www.haritan.com
Creative architectural photography of interiors, exteriors and landscape design / Building products, industrial and corporate / Digital and film formats / custom printing / Member: PPA Certified, ASMP

REPROGRAPHICS

F. L. HAUS COMPANY
921 Ridge Avenue,
Pittsburgh, PA 15212-6093
PHONE 412-231-7700
FAX 412-231-7709
CONTACT: Clem Sutton
E-MAIL csutton@flhaus.com
WEB SITE www.fhausplanningroom.com
PLANNING & DESIGN Document Management with ViewOrder – Drawings & Specs – Large & Small Format – B&W/Color / Digital Scanning / Printing / Plotting/Copying / Authorized Dealer for OCE Sales / Service / Supplies; Mounting / Laminating: Source for A/E/C Media & Supplies; Promotional Products / Embroidery / Screen Printing / Forms Printing / Pick-up & Delivery

TRI-STATE REPROGRAPHICS, INC.
907 Penn Avenue, Suite 700,
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
PHONE 412-261-3538
FAX 412-281-3344
CONTACT George R. Marshall
Document Management / Digital B&W, Plotting / Blueprinting / Specs & Binding / Large & Small Format Color Copies / Mounting & Laminating / Supplies / Pickup & Delivery

WASHINGTON REPROGRAPHICS, INC.
700 Vista Park Drive, Blvd. #7
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
PHONE 412-788-0640
FAX 412-722-0910
CONTACT: Laurie Harrison
E-MAIL lharrison@washingtonreprographics.com
WEB SITE http://washingtonreprographics.com
PHOTOGRAPHY

ARTISTIC PURSUITS PHOTOGRAPHY
964 Davis Street,
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
PHONE 412-761-9416
CONTACT Robert Stowers
E-MAIL rodstowers@artisticpursuits.net
WEB SITE www.artisticpursuits.com
Photography Services / Custom Printing / Mounting & Framing / Original Fine Art Photographs of Pittsburgh

MICHAEL HARITAN PHOTOGRAPHY
184 Fireside Drive,
Pittsburgh, PA 15317
PHONE 412-941-2002
FAX 412-941-2002
CONTACT: Michael Haritan
E-MAIL michaelharitan@hotmail.com
WEB SITE www.haritan.com
Creative architectural photography of interiors, exteriors and landscape design / Building products, industrial and corporate / Digital and film formats / custom printing / Member: PPA Certified, ASMP

SIGNAGE

KOLANO DESIGN
6026 Penn Circle South,
Pittsburgh, PA 15206-3921
PHONE 412-661-9000
FAX 412-661-9006
E-MAIL wk@kolano.com
CONTACT: William Kolano
WEB SITE www.kolano.com
Design of sign & wayfinding systems, design standards, fabrication packages and contract administration for facilities, corporate, transportation, education, medical, retail, government, hospitality

STORAGE & FILING

STUART DESIGN GROUP, INC.
P.O. Box 710,
Greenburg, PA 15601
PHONE 724-325-4566
FAX 724-327-9128
CONTACT: James G. Stuart, P.E.
E-MAIL info@stuartdesigngroup.com
WEB SITE www.stuartdesigngroup.com
Over twenty years of experience providing the most efficient on-site space/solution for corporate, healthcare, government, library & education clients

TECHNOLOGY

XCELIC CORPORATION
393 Vanadium Road, Ste. 205
Pittsburgh, PA 15243
PHONE 412-353-0800
FAX 412-204-8535
CONTACT: Patti Pribish
E-MAIL pribisch@xcelic.com
WEB SITE www.xcelic.com
Excellence in Infrastructure Consulting Building Technologies, VoIP and Wireless / A WBE certified company

WEB-BASED TRAINING

TURNER KNOWLEDGE NETWORK
620 Liberty Avenue, 27th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
PHONE 412-255-5400 x858
FAX 412-642-2940
CONTACT: James Mitrnick
E-MAIL jmitrnick@tkco.com
WEB SITE www.turneruniversity.com
AIA Accredited Courses: LEED Professional Accreditation (3.5 CES) / Building Envelope Series (22 CES) / MEP Fundamental Series (14.5 CES) / Mold Awareness/Moisture Control (1 CES) / Environmental Risk Management (1 CES)

A listing of area businesses and their professional services. To include your firm in this directory, call AIA Pittsburgh at 412-471-9548.
MASTERS PROGRAMS IN INTERIOR AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Creative
Current
Unique
Confident
Intelligent
Bold
Evolving
Enthusiastic

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE PROGRAMS
• MASTER OF INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE for students with a bachelor's degree in a discipline other than interior design or architecture
• MASTER OF SCIENCE IN INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE for students with an accredited degree in interior design or architecture
• Preparation for practice as an interior designer, higher education, or a doctoral program
• Program emphasis on social responsibility and a holistic design process in which interior design is integrated with the surrounding architecture, and the creation of interior spaces
• Curriculum structured around studio course sequence which culminates with a graduate tutorial that stresses evidence-based design

MASTER OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
• Post-professional degree offered for students with a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture or architecture; first professional degree offered for students with a bachelor's degree in any other discipline
• Curriculum prepares graduates to become license-eligible landscape architects
• Curriculum emphasizes environmental concerns and sustainability
• Learn to design the built environment of neighborhoods, towns, and cities while protecting and managing the natural environment
• Participate in design projects within the community, at Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater, and on Chatham's campus and arboretum

MASTER OF ARTS IN LANDSCAPE STUDIES also offered

chatham UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE FOR GRADUATE STUDIES
Woodland Road . . . Pittsburgh, PA 15232
800-837-1290 . . . admissions@chatham.edu
spaces of the imagination

The work of Giovanni Battista Piranesi

BY SEAN SHEFFLER, AIA


Currently gracing its walls is Architecture and the Spaces of the Imagination, a modest but powerful tribute to one of the most accomplished and influential architectural delineators in history: Giovanni Battista Piranesi. Born in 1790, Piranesi's formal training included studies of art and architecture, drafting and technical drawing, and also stage and set design. He established himself as a master architect, but found no clear success as one; instead, he earned his lasting fame through architectural illustration, representing spaces both real and imagined. The exhibit contains an impressive amount of selections from his best-known series of works, il Vedute di Roma (Views of Rome) and Carceri d'invenzione (Prisons of the Imagination).

Over the course of his career, Piranesi produced thousands of measured illustrations of the city for several architectural treatises, including
at least one of Piranesi’s own: *Antichità Romane
de’ tempo della prima Repubblica e dei primi
imperatori* ("Roman Antiquities of the Time of the
First Republic and the First Emperors"). Only
a handful of these plates are part of this collection,
giving a small glimpse into a visual feast of
Rome's greatest treasures, many of which have
changed little over the course of two centuries.
Villas, palaces, monuments, and cathedrals are
all rendered with the same sense of grandeur
by the careful hand of the artist. Beyond, vast
hillsides recede into the distance. Where archi-
tecture had given way to ruin, Piranesi relied on
his imagination to fill in the gaps, adding vases
and urns, figures and fabrics, injecting some
artistic license into the imagery. These *Vedute*
are refined, polished plates with controlled lin-
ework, an eclectic mix of architectural detail
and theatrical forced perspective, their incred-
ibly painstaking level of craftsmanship reveal-
ing the artist's enormous respect for the urban
fabric of Rome. Piranesi's creative play is most
evident in the image of *St Giovanni in Laterano*,
where the exaggeration of scale and forced per-
spective gives the impression of a gargantuan
soaring structure much larger than its actual
size, a hint of the works yet to come.

The true focus of the exhibit, the *Carceri*,
is a collection of only sixteen images produced
between 1745 and 1761, the staggering majority
of which have been included here. The works
contain the same level of detail and depth as the
*Vedute*, but their subject matter could not be
more surreal. The imagery is a visual cacoph-
yony of enormous stone masses reaching tower-
ing heights, built around enormous machines
with no clear purpose. Ropes and chains cross
the spaces, supporting drawbridges that lead
to nowhere. Stairs begin to climb only to end
abruptly, providing no escape from the hellish
depths below. Billowing smoke surrounds gro-
tesquely contorted figures, bound and shackled,
writhing in pain. The entire series evokes an
overwhelming sense of fear and dread. These
are not depictions of any real spaces, but rather
intricate tapestries of Piranesi’s architectural
interests woven together by his creativity. This
being a series of etchings, Piranesi’s linework
is more fluid and unrestrained than that of the
*Vedute*, giving some portions of these prints a
more sketch-like quality. Instead of the labor-in-
tensive metalwork of engraving, etching uses a
pointed needle to remove a soft wax-based ma-
terial from the surface of a metal plate. An acid
bath bites into the exposed metal, and prints are
then made from this etched plate. Piranesi con-
tinued to work these plates after the first series
of prints was made, turning a seemingly static
medium into a more temporal, plastic one. The
exhibit includes both versions of plate XI, *The
Arch with a Shell Ornament* (originally left un-
titled by Piranesi, the literal - and often cumber-
some - titles were added later by inheritors of
his collection) -- the differences in the linework
are subtle, but result in the deeper shadows and
more ominous tones for which the series has
become known. The impression is that the se-
ries was one of artistic experimentation more so
than finished presentation.

Juxtaposed, the two series are the yin to the
other's yang. The massive stone arches and dark
mysterious corners of the *Carceri* evoke a sense
of claustrophobia, which is relieved by the vast
clouded skies of the *Vedute*, much like darkness
being the absence of light. However, even with
the artist’s characteristic flourishes of the fan-
tastical, the limits of reality seem like restraint,
almost as if the imaginative freedom of the *Car-
ceri* were a release from the controlled precision
of the *Vedute*. There is a great deal of irony that
an artist would choose images of prisons as a
true outlet for the freedom of his creativity, but
it is here, freed from any sense of dutiful repre-
sentation of an actual built work, that the artist’s
imagination was fully allowed to run wild. The
*Vedute* established his fame and defined his ca-
reer, but the *Carceri* are truly his masterpiece, a
brave new world of architectural space.

Piranesi died in 1778 (and was subsequently
buried under his sole completed architectural
project, the restored church of Santa Maria del
Priorato), but his work continued to thrive. The
Vedute are credited with a resurgence of antiquity that became Neo-Classicism, while the Surrealist movement can trace its origins to the Carceri. Volumes have been written on Piranesi's motivations, most of which seems to center around the dark places of the artist's mind. Some even attribute the Carceri to a long and debilitating mental illness in his later years (Aldous Huxley, no stranger to brave new worlds himself, called them "metaphysical prisons made of nightmare and incomprehension"). Regardless of mood, this body of work has influenced countless illustrators, including M.C. Escher and Hugh Ferriss. The inclusion of several of Clyde Hare's well-publicized photographs of the Allegheny County Courthouse provides some local resonance. Richardson's heavy rusticated masonry arches, coupled with the moody shadows of Hare's photography, are thoroughly evocative of the Carceri imagery... even though the exhibit is careful to note that there are no known documented Piranesian influences on either of the two men. Instead, these images are presented side-by-side, inviting their own comparisons and conclusions.

Piranesi's world is one unencumbered by restrictions of material, scale, even gravity. Technically, the level of craft on display here is an inspiration to anyone who has ever attempted to represent a built work, existing or proposed, but there is far more to appreciate here. The dramatic angles and moody lighting of these compositions are a challenge to the now-ubiquitous antiseptic renderings of the digital age - these works contain mystery and passion that is missing from much of today's architecture, one where minimalist flat planes and simple "crisp" detailing have become the new cliché. Each one of these images captivates the viewer, drawing them into a world greater than the limits of the framed print, evoking a sense of space and place which has endured for two-and-a-half centuries. To make a lasting impression by defining space is the hope of all architects; here is a gallery full of works devoted to one who did just that.
BUILD PITTSBURGH OPPORTUNITIES
in ARCHITECTURE for CHALLENGING TIMES
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2009

AIA Pittsburgh's 8th Annual Continuing Education Conference
Join AIA Pittsburgh for Build Pittsburgh 2009. This full day of continuing education will focus on opportunities in architecture, so that you are best prepared to weather the storm in these challenging times.

David L. Lawrence Convention Center
1000 Ft. Duquesne Boulevard,
3rd Floor West Atrium, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Earn AIA/CES Learning Units
The day will begin with a kick-off breakfast and our keynote address, followed by a full day of continuing education seminars, and ending with an evening reception.

The Build Pittsburgh 2009 Exhibitors will be available to show you their latest products and services.

Stay posted for further details regarding Build Pittsburgh 2009. For questions and information, contact AIA Pittsburgh at 412.471.9548 or visit our website at www.aiapgh.org.

AIA Pittsburgh

INTRODUCING ROSETTA...
AN INNOVATIVE COLLECTION OF ROCKSCAPE PRODUCTS

- Natural beauty
- Design flexibility
- Structural stability
- Stunning quality
- Unique stone-textured appearance
- Installation efficiency

Rosetta product systems can be engineered to meet your specific needs. Visit discoverrosetta.com for tools ranging from testing reports to CAD details.

Visit lampus.com for information on the complete line of hardscaping and concrete building products.

R.I. Lampus Company
412-362-3800 • lampus.com

Omni-stone
Splash has the sweetest tile, hardware, faucets, fixtures and cabinetry anywhere.

www.exploresplash.com

1237 Freedom Road • Cranberry Township • 724-772-1060
Visit Splash at the Pittsburgh Design Center • 3011 Smallman Street in the Strip
Open to architects & the design trades • Mon-Fri 9-5, appointments recommended