Monday, May 1, 2017

The George Matsumoto Prize

Submissions open today: The George Matsumoto Prize for North Carolina Modernist residential architecture is a unique design competition featuring $6,000 in awards, a blue-ribbon jury of internationally-known architects, critics, and designers, and online public voting. The Prize meaningfully and powerfully engages the public with the architecture they love and showcases exceptional Modernist architects and designers in North Carolina. Open to
anyone, as long as the house is in North Carolina. Details.

In March, the Raleigh City Council voted against eliminating all modern houses and renovations in all of Raleigh’s historic districts. Due to a technicality, they must re-vote, an action which has been delayed several times because various members have been absent.

The Council re-votes tomorrow May 2 at 1pm in the Council Chambers. If you can’t make it, write the Council members and encourage them to stay the course and adopt the RHDC Development Guidelines as they voted in March.

Endangered: The 1946 Booth House, 319 Pound Ridge Road, Bedford NY, designed by Philip Johnson, his first house design to actually be built. Sold in 1955 to architectural photographer
Robert Damora and his wife architect Sirkka Damora who lived there for 55+ years. The family seeks a buyer who wants to retain and restore the house instead of building a McMansion. Contact r.damora@verizon.net.

NCMH Piedmont Modernist Tour, Winston-Salem/Lewisville NC, Saturday, June 10, 10am-3pm. Tickets are only $20/person with a special deal for families. Discover the best recent and
brand new Modernist houses in the Triad featuring the work of Adam Sebastian, Ben Schwab, Pete Fala, and Buddy Glasscoe. Details.

New on US Modernist Radio: HouseTrackers: Jan-Richard Kikkert and Paul Moore. A lot of Modernist houses you love from the 1950's and 1960's are going the way of unfortunate "renovations" or worse yet the bulldozer, largely because few people are aware of their architectural significance. Although most houses by famous architects are on project lists, it's difficult to find where they are actually located. We talk with two expert house trackers who have between them documented thousands of houses and flown tens of thousands of miles to visit them.

Six Richard Neutra houses for sale across the US.

Bringing Wright buildings to life. Hat tip fo Judy Colditz.

Michael Ross Kersting's latest house on Figure Eight Island.
There will be no newsletter on May 8 as NCMH goes to London, Brussels, and Amsterdam! To travel with NCMH means amazing Modernist design around the world, nation, state, and community; see upcoming Tours.

Saved: NCMH's former #1 on the endangered list, the Thomas and Cleon Hayes House, 1100 East Massachusetts Avenue, Southern Pines NC. Designed by Thomas Hayes. Many thanks to the new owners for buying it and for their plans to restore it!

Your unused Hilton points can support NCMH's work documenting, preserving, and promoting Modernist houses. Visit PointWorthy, signup for a free PointWorthy account, link your HHonors, then click to donate points.
May 6-7, 12-5pm each day. Among many energy-efficient houses, there are three Modernist houses by Arielle Schechter, Erik Mehlman, and Sarah Howell. Free admission. Details.

Saturday-Sunday, May 6-7, 12n-4pm each day: Preservation Durham's annual Spring Preservation house tour, this time in the West End neighborhood and the Burch Avenue neighborhood. With a nod to the Pauli Murray Project as it receives national recognition as a historical landmark, we’d like you to join us on a tour of places around the West End where people have gathered, lived, loved and built their lives as regular citizens and influencers alike. Tickets and details.

Connect with Mr. Modernism's Instagram feed and get daily doses of incredible Modernist houses from NCMH's Executive Director George Smart.
Trig Modern design center and showroom in Raleigh announces “The Cat’s Meow,” an auction of modern, professionally designed houses for cats to benefit SAFE Haven for Cats, a non-profit, no-kill shelter in Raleigh dedicated to finding homes for homeless cats and kittens. The auction will be held Wednesday, May 10, from 6-8 p.m., during a Cocktail Party in Trig Modern’s showroom in Dock 1053, 1053 East Whitaker Mill Road, Raleigh. The Auction and Party are free and open to the public. Anyone interested in participating by designing a cat house, providing in-kind donations, etc. should contact Ann Marie Baum 919.516.8744 or annmariebaum7@gmail.com.

Want to join our fun crew of Modernist fans? Sign up for the NCMH Mod Squad!
Thirst4Architecture, Thursday, May 18, 6-8pm, Leo Gaev Metalworks, 102 Lloyd Street, Carrboro, celebrating ten years in the Triangle! This exciting, informal happy hour is free and open to the public. We welcome Modernist homeowners, architects, artists, designers, realtors, engineers, contractors, property investors, building managers, materials and furniture dealers - or
anyone with a huge crush on great architecture. 2017 T4A's are sponsored by realtor Lesley McAdams. Free! Details.

Thirst4Architecture, Thursday, June 15, 6-8pm, Ellen Cassilly Architects hosts their newest completed building at GRUB, 1200 West Chapel Hill Road, Durham. This exciting, informal happy hour is free and open to the public. We welcome Modernist homeowners, architects, artists, designers, realtors, engineers, contractors, property investors, building managers, materials and furniture dealers - or anyone with a huge crush on great architecture. 2017 T4A's are sponsored by realtor Lesley McAdams. Free! Details.
NCMH's Executive Director **George Smart** speaks on **Mayberry Modernism**, North Carolina's legacy of amazing Modernist houses, at three locations this summer:

- West Regional Library (Cary) Monday July 10th at 7:00 PM
- Eva Perry Regional Library (Apex) Monday, July 24th at 7:00 PM
- Northeast Regional Library (Raleigh) Thursday July 20th at 7:00 PM