Monday, November 25, 2019

Get your company, studio, or practice involved in the wildly growing mid-century Modernist movement documenting, preserving, and promoting residential Modernist design across the US! Become a sponsor!

USModernist has an online store - with all the thoroughly ridiculous coffee cups, logowear, and mousepads you could possibly want! All proceeds benefit USModernist's ongoing documentation, preservation, and promotion work.
Los Angeles architect Ray Kappe died last week. He was a giant of Modernist design both as an architect and an educator. After serving as Founding Chairman of the Department of Architecture at California Polytechnic State University, Pomona, Kappe resigned in 1972 to start the Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc). Unlike many design school startups, SCI-Arc actually succeeded, turned out thousands of graduates, and is considered one of the top architecture schools in the country. Kappe attributed SCI-Arc's success in part to experience
he gained working in his parents' store. "I knew how to keep books - which most architects don't." See all his houses here. Coverage in DWELL. Coverage in CURBED.

Los Angeles architect Dion Neutra died this past weekend. He was 93. Since 1970, he presided over the Richard Neutra archive and worked to preserve Neutra properties around the world. He was instrumental in helping the Neutra VDL house become one of the most revered architectural sites in LA. Among many buildings, he championed saving the Kronish House in Beverly Hills CA (successful) and the Maslon House near Palm Springs CA (unsuccessful). Dion Neutra wanted the world to know that he was more than just his father's son - USModernist Radio interviewed him last February at Modernism Week, discussing his favorite solo project, the Huntington Library. He stars in a new documentary by PJ Letofsky about the Neutra legacy that premiered last February.

There's a Black Friday sale for everything, how about Mod Squad memberships? Mod Squad members provide financial support for USModernist and NCModernist, award-winning 501C3 nonprofit educational archives for the documentation, preservation, and promotion of residential Modernist architecture. The Mod Squad is a thriving community of people dedicated to Modernist residential design. Mod Squad members are into art, food, travel, furniture, fashion, and fun. Mod Squad Membership connects you with like-minded people, building new and meaningful relationships.
Through 5pm ET this Friday, join the Mod Squad for a year and get a bonus year free. New members only; does not apply to renewals. [Details and Mod Squad benefits](#).

[Paul Rudolph's Government Service Center in Boston MA is in imminent danger of destruction. You can sign the petition to save it here.](#)

[Paul Rudolph's original Walker Guest House in Florida is up for auction December 12.](#)
Just in time for Christmas, Jane Jacobs and I. M. Pei dolls.

Richard Neutra’s Lovell Health House in Los Angeles now has an online schedule of tours, events, movies, lectures, and other activities.
New York City @ Sotheby's: Monday, December 9, 6:30-8:30pm. You are invited to a conversation on Glass Houses by Design Legends: Mies van der Rohe, Philip Johnson, and Paul Rudolph. Featuring: Hilary Lewis, Chief Curator & Creative Director, The Glass House; Paul Goldberger, Architecture Critic and Contributing Editor at Vanity Fair; Scott Mehaffey, Executive Director, the Farnsworth House. Moderated by: Dr. Daniella Ohad, Design Historian. RSVP here.

Modernism in ... Charleston SC? Yep.

Hat tips to Daniel Perrin, Fred Noyes, Hilary Lewis, and Virginia Faust.
Producer Valentina Ganeva needs your help to produce a compelling new Rudolf Schindler documentary, including photos and video never before seen. Donate here. NCModerist will be screening the film when it premieres.
New on USModernist Radio: There’s a building at JFK airport in New York that people have been talking about for almost 60 years. At one time, it was the world's most modern airport terminal, bringing the Jet Age fully into public consciousness. This building had no peer; and its creator, Eero Saarinen, was one of the most visionary architects in the world. For years the airline TWA (later absorbed by American Airlines) used it as a glamorous gateway to the world, sending off passengers in an era in which people dressed up to fly and there was no such thing as airport security. The volume of passengers increased so much that the building had to be abandoned. After a few decades in mothballs, and dangerously close to demolition, Saarinen’s TWA terminal has been meticulously restored and expanded, with a world-class hotel adjacent and even better, a massive underground conference facility you’d never know was there.

Host George Smart was in New York for a huge gala opening inside that underground conference center. He talked with Richard Southwick, project partner in charge with restoration architects Beyer Blinder Belle. But first, George sat down in Los Angeles at the iconic Beverly Hilton with Saarinen’s son, Eric Saarinen. Then George is back in New York with architects Anne Marie Lubrano and Lea Ciaverra, of the not-surprisingly named firm Lubrano Ciaverra, for the brilliant new TWA hotel.
Join USModernist in Palm Springs for a fabulous evening fundraiser on February 19 under the stars at the famed Kirk and Anne Douglas House designed by architect Donald Wexler. Turn back time for a night of celebration and relaxation at one of the most famous – and beautiful – midcentury homes in Palm Springs! Proceeds benefit USModernist's ongoing nonprofit documentation, preservation, and promotion projects. You'll see a complete kitchen renovation by GE Monogram, plus you'll experience live music by the pool. Under the palms, we will shake the martinis and enjoy wonderful architecture, sparkling conversation, and delicious drinks and appetizers - all for a deserving cause. You'll tour the iconic property and meet other architecture fans and preservationists who love what you love. Tickets. This event is for ages 21 and older only.
NEW: USModernist-Curated Architecture Tours: In 2016, USModernist created wildly popular specialty European tours - exclusive to Modernist architecture - but they were only offered once a year. Now, through an alliance with Firebird, one of Europe's largest specialty travel agencies, you can experience unique USModernist-curated European Modernist architecture itineraries all year long! You will see - and visit - incredible architecture, art, and designer furnishings - truly thrilling opportunities to see the Modernist architecture you love. Details.
New book available now: Making Architecture: The Work of 180 Degrees Design + Build. The full color 226-page monograph features over 300 photographs of the firm’s body of work and describes their signature design/build process and philosophies in vivid detail. Highlights include the firm’s origin story and a behind-the-scenes peek into two of the most technically-advanced projects that 180 Degrees Design + Build has ever executed: Stone Court Villa with Marwan Al Sayed and the Desert Botanical Garden Horticultural Center with coLAB Studio. The book features 17 stories written by historian Alison King, founder of Modern Phoenix and a local specialist in desert modern architecture.
Wednesday, December 4, 7pm, American artist Andrew Wyeth's only grandchild, Victoria Wyeth, will be coming to Leland Little Auctions to lecture on her grandfather's art. Free. 620 Cornerstone Court, Hillsborough NC. The gallery will be selling 13 works by Andrew Wyeth later in the month.
Thursday, December 5, 6-8pm. Thirst4Architecture (T4A) at the under-construction Fairweather Condos, Raleigh's newest downtown housing, designed by Raleigh Architecture.

Thursday, January 16, 6-8pm. Thirst4Architecture (T4A) at the Lucy Daniels Building, designed by Frank Harmon, Oberlin Road at Cameron Village, Raleigh.

Thirst4Architecture (T4A) parties are free, exciting, informal events welcoming anyone with a huge crush on great architecture. T4A events focus on building relationships, sharing passion about Modernist design, creating strategic alliances, and connecting people. There are no presentations -- just come join the fun and make new design friends! The 2019 Thirst4Architecture Series is sponsored by Modernist Realtor Angela Roehl.
We have a brand-new, never used Xenyx 1202FX mixer for sale. $99. Retails for $139. The compact XENYX 1202FX mixer allows you to effortlessly achieve premium-quality sound, thanks to its 4 onboard studio-grade XENYX Mic Preamps and ultra-musical “British” channel EQs. Add to this a 24-Bit, dual engine FX processor with 100 awesome presets including reverb, chorus, flanger, delay, pitch shifter and various multi-effects – and the 1202FX becomes an incredibly versatile mixer for live performances. Here's the perfect gift for your garage band, or your new podcast, or your AV geek husband or wife. contact George Smart, 919 740 8407, or george@usmodernist.org.

Monday, December 2, 730pm, the NCModerneist/ModHomes Architecture Movie Series at the Chelsea Theatre, 1129 Weaver Dairy Road, Chapel Hill. The Chelsea is a beloved Chapel Hill art house theatre featuring fresh organic popcorn, craft beers, wine, and soft drinks! There are some great restaurants and coffee shops adjacent for pre- and post-movie gatherings. Sponsored again this year by Modernist Realtor Sarah Sonke, these visually and intellectually compelling movies about Modernist architecture and architects rarely get shown in commercial theaters. Also sponsored by Hill Country Woodworks. Details, schedule, movies, trailers, and ticket information!
Frey Part 1. Albert Frey, the unpretentious Swiss-born mid-20th century architect, aided in the introduction of Corbusian-influenced Modernism to the US. Through an innate curiosity about the American landscape, he developed an extraordinary design style, blending industrial techniques and a love of nature. The film explores Albert’s early life in Europe through his New York architectural accomplishments in the 1930s. Followed by phone Q&A with producer Jake Gorst.

Vacancy, not development, is the enemy of mid-century Modernist houses. Preserve and protect the architecture you love by buying or renting before the bulldozers come a few
years from now. Visit our exclusive statewide list.

USModernist and NCModernist are part of Modernist Archive Inc, a North Carolina 501C3 nonprofit educational archive providing donors, volunteers, and advocates the information and organization they require to passionately engage the documentation, preservation, and promotion of residential Modernist architecture. Get connected to exciting tours, parties, design competitions, and the podcast named as #2 in DWELL’s top nine architecture podcasts, USModernist Radio.

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