USModernist and NCModontist 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 show named as #2 in Dwell's top architecture and design podcasts, USModernist Radio. View newsletter in browser. See past newsletters.

Monday, February 3, 2020

Note: There will be no newsletter on Monday, February 17.

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.
New on USModernist Radio: #129/Children of Genius: Annie Gwathmey: Charles Gwathmey was a native of North Carolina and got interested in architecture at an early age. Charlie, as he was known,
studied architecture at the University of Pennsylvania and at Yale University under Paul Rudolph, then went into partnership with Richard Henderson and later Robert Siegel. Over a career spanning five decades, Charlie and Bob designed some of the country's most iconic Modernist houses (for celebrities and CEO's such as Jerry Seinfeld, Steven Spielberg, and Michael Dell) and buildings such as the Guggenheim addition and the US Mission to the UN, both in New York. Gwathmey died in 2010, but the firm lives on as Gwathmey Siegel Kaufman. Today we talk with Gwathmey's daughter Annie Gwathmey, an actress, producer, and teacher known for films such as Romeo Must Die and My Father's House. She attended Cornell and Sarah Lawrence College and joins us from LA. With us in the studio, guest co-host Paige Wagoner Claassen, an architectural historian whose Instagram architecture feed Claasshaus has happy fans all over the world. USModernist Radio is sponsored by Angela Roehl and Nichiha.com. Listen to past shows.

The most endangered building in every state.

For forward-thinking Angelenos, Greta Magnusson Grossman's modern design ethos was gospel.

Frank Lloyd Wright's famous Taliesin school will close. Blaming ensues.

Wright's Hollyhock House announced a digital archive of the house, including 500 blueprints starting in 1918.

Architecture Digest names the 20 best interior designers.

Skidmore Owings and Merrill designs for moon colonies.

Five tiny houses you can buy on Amazon.

Five container houses you can buy, not on Amazon.
Photographer Robin Hill's Side by Side exhibition opens May 24 at The Farnsworth House in Plano IL. The show is a series of photographs that highlight similarities and differences between two iconic modern glass houses, the Farnsworth House by Mies Van der Rohe and Philip Johnson's Glass House. Curated by Hilary Lewis.

WeWork fires chief architect Bjarke Ingels for political reasons relating to Brazil. Meanwhile, Ingels opens a huge new exhibition at the National Building Museum.

There are so many ways you can be part of USModernist and NCModernist! Here are some of the things we need:

1. Are you up early or way late searching the web? Why not put those off-hours research skills to use helping us locate and document Modernist houses across America? Volunteer as little or as much as you want, and be part of the websites that are now the largest open digital mid-century Modernist archives in the world! Contact Archivist Carie Chesarino at carie@ncmodernist.org.

2. Does someone you know collect architecture magazines, perhaps hundreds or thousands of them, in their attic, basement, or storage unit? We need certain ones, and we'll pay to ship them to us. Contact George Smart at george@usmodernist.org.
3. Have you got an iconic mid-century chair or clock (Eames, Nelson, Barcelona, Bertoia, etc.)? Donate to NCModernist and get a great tax deduction - and we can pick it up! Contact Rebekah Laney at Rebekah@ncmodernist.org.

Hat tips to Daniel Perrin and Virginia Faust.

MODERNISM WEEK

Some of the upcoming events at the 2020 Palm Springs Modernism Week include:

Monday February 17, 2 pm: Alan Hess and Preserve Orange County offer a panel discussion about Orange County's largely unheralded Modern architecture, from Schindler and Neutra to Lautner, Pereira, Eichlers, and Disneyland. Tickets: Beyond the Orange Curtain: Modern Life, Work and Play in Orange County.
THE MARVIN® CONVERSATION SERIES
CELEBRATING ALEXANDER GIRARD

PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM
FEBRUARY 17 – 21

SPEAKERS: Eames Demetrios • Christine Marvin • Deborah Lubera Kawsky • Monica Obniski • Barton Jahncke • Joel Turkel • Brooke Hodge • Paul Makovsky • Amanda Dameron • Mercedes Kraus • Sean Anderson • Michela O’Connor Abrams

MARVIN® • Palm Springs Art Museum
Wednesday, February 19, 5pm! Join USModernist for a fabulous evening benefit party 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! 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 architecture fans and preservationists who love what you love. [Tickets and details]
February 22, 2020
2:00 - 4:30PM
PALM SPRINGS CULTURAL CENTER / CAMELOT THEATRE
2300 E BARisto ROAD, PALM SPRINGS
FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE EVENT, PLEASE VISIT:
MODERNISIMWEEK.COM/I/MW20/SOOL

PS MODCOM PRESENTS

BIRTH OF THE COOL
A SYMPOSIUM ON CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTURE, ART, DESIGN, AND CULTURE AT MIDCENTURY

Moderator Liz Armstrong who wrote the book, BIRTH OF THE COOL, will be joined by an extraordinary panel taking us back to one of the hippest, most creative times and places in our modernist history.

Peter Bart: A legendary Hollywood raconteur and insider who saw it all as editor in chief of Variety for over 20 years as well as a producer and executive at MGM and Paramount studios.

Michael Boyd: A world class collector and designer whose knowledge and lifelong pursuit of great design makes him indispensable to any discussion of it.

Tracy Conrad: President of the Palm Springs Historical Society, architectural writer and historian, cultural entrepreneur, and jazz aficionado, with highlights of the rat pack style of jazz at "The Chi Chi."

Brad Dunning: A designer and author whose client list is a who's who of creativity and whose passion for design and its history are reflected in all of his work and writing.

Lorraine Wild: Graphic design historian and an amazing graphic designer in her own right. Lorraine will guide us through this often overlooked but immensely important and visually stunning art form that connected everything else together.

February 22, 2-4:30pm. Tickets and details.
At Modernism Week, Marsha Gordon and Louis Cherry premiere their latest documentary - about artist Vernon Pratt.  [Tickets and details.]
Available Now: Haunted Bauhaus by Elizabeth Otto. The Bauhaus (1919–1933) is widely regarded as the twentieth century's most influential art, architecture, and design school, famous for bringing functional and elegant design to the masses. Art historian Otto uncovers a movement that is vastly more diverse and paradoxical, tracing the surprising trajectories of the school's fascination with occult spirituality, gender fluidity, queer identities, and radical politics. She explores the role of radical politics on both the left and the right—during the school's Communist period, when some of the Bauhäusler put their skills to work for the
revolution, and, later, into the service of the Nazis.
Available March 26: Bauhaus Women: A Global Perspective, by Elizabeth Otto and Patrick Rossler. The story of the Bauhaus has usually been kept narrow, localized to its original time and place and associated with only a few famous men such as Walter Gropius, Marcel Breuer, Paul Klee, Wassily Kandinsky, and László Moholy-Nagy. Bauhaus Women: A Global Perspective bursts the bounds of this slim history by revealing 45 Bauhaus women unjustifiably forgotten by most history books and how, through these cosmopolitan female designers, artists, and architects, it sent the Bauhaus message out into the world and to a global audience.

Available Tomorrow: Souto de Moura: Memory, Projects, Works. The architect Eduardo Souto de Moura has won many accolades, including the 2011 Pritzker Architecture Prize. Based in Porto, Souto de Moura studied under Fernando Távora and worked under fellow Portuguese architect Álvaro Siza, with whom he continues to collaborate. Souto de Moura established his own practice in 1980, and his wide-ranging influences, including Mies van der Rohe and Donald Judd,
can be seen in the stunning variety of his work, from his acclaimed private houses, to the striking Paula Rego Museum in Cascais and the Braga Municipal Stadium, to his work in historical contexts such as the Convento das Bernardas in Tavira.

OTHER TOURS and EVENTS


CELEBRATE OUR STATE’S 1960s DECADE SERIES
A TOUR OF 1960s MODERNIST HOUSES
March 28, 2020
Join Our State as we kick off the 1960s Decade Series with NC Modernist for a fascinating day touring new and recently renovated Modernist homes.

Day Trip Includes:
- Tour of eight houses in Durham and Raleigh
- NC Modernist tour guides
- Our State hosts
- Breakfast, lunch, snacks, and beverages
- Deluxe motor coach transportation

For reservations or more information, visit ncmodernist.org/ourstate

SOLD OUT! 1960’s Modernist House Tour: Saturday, March 28. Details. But the one below still has some seats.
New Modernist Houses Tour: Saturday, April 18. Enjoy a great day touring brilliant new and recently renovated Modernist houses and buildings around Durham, Carrboro, Chapel Hill, and Pittsboro without the hassle of driving! Modapalooza includes the delightful company of fellow Modernist architecture fans, breakfast, snacks, drinks, a delicious lunch, and free wifi in our luxury restroom-equipped, air-conditioned bus. You'll also meet many of the architects, designers, and builders - like Arielle Schechter, Paul Snow, Louis Cherry, Jason Hart, Heather Washburn, Dail Dixon, Doug Pierson and Youn Choi, and Jenny Hoffman. Details and tickets. Note: This tour has totally different houses from the Our State Tour, above, so yes, go ahead and book both!
Only 2 seats left! USModernist's all-Modernist Tour May 1-3 of Washington DC! Includes Glenstone, one of the largest private Modern art collections in the world; and Hollin Hills Homes and Gardens, open only once every two years. Details and tickets. Nearly everything's included: flight, hotel, tours, dinners, breakfasts, wifi - you'll be amazed at what we'll see!
Modernist architecture tours of Europe

USModernist, an American not-for-profit that promotes and preserves mid-century modernist architecture, has collaborated with Firebird Tours to offer the first modern architecture tours of Europe. Travellers can explore their passion for modernism in eight European counties, including Sweden and Belgium. Each tour includes expert guides and stays in a collection of design-focused hotels. Tours can be booked for groups as small as two people, on dates that suit them. The trips are curated by George Smart, founder and director of USModernist.
Modern Phoenix Week is March 13-22. Box office opens on February 1 at 8 am!
Tonight, Monday, February 3, 730pm. The NCModernist/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
Eileen Gray: Gray Matters (2014, 76 min). Eileen Gray was an artist and architect whose vision and creative imagination changed the way we live with furniture and with houses. Featuring interviews with the foremost Gray scholars, auction experts, museum curators and collectors, the film explores one of the most influential but least known modernist icons with focus on the continuing relevance of Eileen Gray’s newly restored masterpiece, the Villa E1027. After the film, a panel discussion on the impact of Eileen Gray moderated by architects Ellen Cassilly and Sarah Huffman.
Thursday, February 13, 6-8pm, The Nest, 414 Fayetteville Street, 4th floor, Raleigh. Co-hosted with Martin Evans PhotolImaging.

Thursday, March 19, 6-8pm, Visual Art Exchange, 309 West Martin Street, 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 2020 Thirst4Architecture Series is sponsored by Modernist Realtor Angela Roehl.
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.

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Shop at AmazonSmile and Amazon will make a donation to:
North Carolina Modernist Houses

Get started

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