USModernist and NCModernist are part of Modernist Archive Inc, a 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. 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.

Monday, March 9, 2020

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!
Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara win the 2020 Pritzker Prize. See nine of their projects.
New on USModernist Radio: #134/Skyscrapers with Carol Willis. From London to Tokyo to Dubai, the skyscraper is a part of every modern city, but no city has done it better, or longer, than New York. Starting in the 1920's, the booming economy, use of steel, and advanced engineering took skyscrapers into reality for the first time. Who wakes up one day and says "Hey, I want to create a museum"? Carol Willis does. In 1996, she founded the Skyscraper Museum in Manhattan and still runs it to share the history, allure, and future of tall buildings - plus a new class of thin and incredibly expensive structures called supertall. USModernist Radio is sponsored by Modernist realtor Angela Roehl and Nichiha.com. Listen to past shows.

The ongoing movement to decentralize and rebuild the LA County Museum of Art marches its way towards $1B in projected costs, loses a major funding source, and has a lot of people upset. Director Michael Govan is undeterred.

The restoration of Albert Frey's Cree House.

The Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture at Taliesin votes to un-close itself, but for now that's largely symbolic. The school still needs massive funding plus way better relations with the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation who owns the buildings.

Dezeen's A-Z guide to high tech architecture.
After too long an absence, Jody Brown is back with his hilarious Coffee with an Architect series.

San Jose debuts tiny house temporary community for the homeless. Andrea Urton is the director of HomeFirst, the agency behind this new and highly effective movement. Habitat did the construction. Residents are limited to 60-day stays as they continue down the path to self-sufficiency with the ultimate goal of securing permanent housing.

Sign the petition to save the Boston Government Center building designed by Paul Rudolph.
There's a [draft plan](#) to eliminate Modernism (or any non-classical style) in most new Federal buildings called Make Federal Buildings Great Again. Sadly, we are not making this up. It was first reported by [Architecture Record](#). Generated by [Justin Shubow](#) of the National Civic Art Society (listen to our [2019 interview](#)) the policy would designate classical architecture as the preferred style for Federal buildings, altering the sensible, decades-old policy that new buildings should place major emphasis “on the choice of designs that embody the finest contemporary American architectural thought.” The document specifically cites the [US Federal Building](#) in San Francisco (photo above), the [US Courthouse](#) in Austin, and the US Wilkie Ferguson Courthouse in Miami for having little aesthetic appeal. The AIA issued a [letter](#) to the White House opposing the plan, as did Docomomo-US. The National Trust for Historic Preservation weighed in, too, releasing a [statement](#) in opposition to the order, as did the Architectural League, the [American Society of Landscape Architects](#), and the [Society of Architectural Historians](#). Even [Victor Lundy](#). Please visit the AIA’s [website](#) and add your voice to the issue. [Click here](#) to tell President Trump this is a really bad idea. Spoiler: he'll write back. To peer inside the thinking of those opposing Modernism, [check this out](#).
New Modernist Tour: Saturday, April 25. Modernist Winston-Salem! Enjoy a great day touring brilliant new and recently-renovated Modernist houses and buildings around Winston-Salem without the hassle of driving! Includes the delightful company of fellow Modernist architecture fans, snacks, drinks, a delicious lunch, and free wifi in our luxury restroom-equipped, air-conditioned bus. Featuring architects, designers, and builders Adam Sebastian, Buddy Glasscoe, Pete Fala, Kenneth Burge, Quinton Pilsworth, Lamar Northup, Phil Szostak, and Ben Schwab. Sponsored by SECCA, the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, where we’ll have a party at the end of the tour! Details and tickets.

Palm Springs Life reports on new progress to rebuild Albert Frey’s Aluminaire House at one of two sites.
There are so many ways you can be part of USModernist!

1. Support our mission by becoming a member of the [Mod Squad](mailto:Mod.Squad@usmodernist.org)

2. Connect us to collectors/libraries of architecture magazines in their attic, basement, or storage unit. USModernist is collecting and scanning almost 3 million pages of the great magazines from the 20th century. We need certain [ones](https://www.usmodernist.org), and we'll pay for shipping.

3. Have you got an iconic mid-century chair, table, or clock (Eames, Nelson, Barcelona, Bertoia, etc.)? Donate it to NCMmodernist and get a great tax deduction - and we can pick it up in the Raleigh, NC area!

4. Donate a collection of [Sunset Magazine](https://www.sunsetmagazine.com), a great chronicle of Western architecture that folded a few years ago.

5. Explore our [Masters Gallery](https://www.usmodernist.org/masters), featuring nearly every iconic house in America by the great masters of 20th century Modernism. Warning: highly addictive!

Contact [Rebekah Laney](mailto:rebekah@usmodernist.org) at rebekah@usmodernist.org or [George Smart](mailto:george@usmodernist.org) at george@usmodernist.org

Hat tips to [Daniel Perrin](https://www.usmodernist.org/daniel-perrin) and [Virginia Faust](https://www.usmodernist.org/virginia-faust).
Back to the Future
THE 35TH ANNUAL RHODE ISLAND STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONFERENCE
Saturday, April 25, 2020 • CCRI Knight Campus + Greater Warwick

Keynote Speaker
George Smart
Founder and Executive Director, USModernist

Twenty-three tours & preservation workshops

REGISTER by April 15 at preservationconferenceri.com
Docomomo US National Symposium
Registration is now open

CHICAGO: CROSSROADS OF MODERN AMERICA

June 3-6, 2020
Chicago, Illinois
SAVE THE DATE

2020 Summer Party
Saturday June 13
12 to 4 pm
New Canaan, CT
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.
New book available now: *Downsize: Living Large in a Small House* by Sheri Koones focuses on practical ways to live well at home once you’ve streamlined your belongings and are living more compactly. “It scares people to think of moving into a smaller space, but every single person I interviewed who has made the transition says they are so happy they did,” Koones says. “Time and again, people used the word ‘liberated’ to describe their move to a smaller space, with homes requiring far less time and money to maintain.”
NC MODERNIST HOUSES
Now Open for Submissions: The George Matsumoto Prize is North Carolina's highest honor exclusively for Modernist residential architecture. NCModernist created the Matsumoto Prize in 2012 honor of George Matsumoto, one of the founding faculty members of North Carolina State University's College of Design. Matsumoto created some of North Carolina's most well-known and well-loved Modernist houses. The Matsumoto Prize is open to any architect or designer of a Modernist house in North Carolina built within the last five years. Submission details. Submitting is fast and easy! Deadline May 1. The 2020 Matsumoto Prize is powered by

NICHIA
POWERING MODERN DESIGN
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.
Only 2 seats left! **Modapalooza 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.**

The UNC Charlotte School of Architecture Summer Design Academy is a one-week program that will introduce high school students to the discipline and study of architecture. Students work in a studio setting in the School of Architecture and explore a variety of contemporary architectural issues through a series of design projects. Applications are now available for the 2020 program June 14-20. **Apply now.**
Chapel Hill High School seeks architects to speak to their students. Having real professionals on campus gives students a huge advantage when exploring and choosing a career path. Contact Will McSwain, (919) 929-2106 x 44212.

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

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