Monday, June 8, 2020

Get your firm, organization, company, studio, or practice connected to fans of the mid-century Modernist movement documenting, preserving, and promoting residential Modernist design across the US!  Become a sponsor!
Vote for your favorite house in this year's 2020 George Matsumoto Prize, North Carolina's highest honor exclusively for Modernist residential architecture. Voting is open to anyone! We've got a record number of NC houses from the mountains to the coast. Limited to one vote per email address. Addresses that are or appear to be machine-generated or fraudulent will not be counted. However, if you want to vote more than once, say from a home email and a work email, that's fine. The 2020 George Matsumoto Prize is powered by Nichiha. Voting closes at 5pm ET, July 1. Vote here.

It's Frank Lloyd Wright's birthday today! Celebrate with a special online panel discussion with staff from the Westcott House, Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy, and Wright sites across the nation are teaming up with PechaKucha to present a live online global event with each talk lasting only 400 seconds. Free. Donations encouraged. Details.
From Dezeen: A to Z guide to high-tech architecture.

Virtual tour of Rockefeller Center in New York City. Hat tip to Leilani Carter.

International artist Christo passed away, leaving behind decades of highly memorable projects.

The Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Pappas House in St. Louis has a new owner, longtime FLW fan Michael Miner, plus plans to open to the public for limited tours.

Access to legacy publications has never been more critical for Modernist preservation. Many thanks to the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, especially Art Archivist Librarian Malia Van Heukelem, for donating approximately 200,000 pages of architecture magazines to the USModernist Library. That's about the height of a five-story building, if you stack them all up. The USModernist Library is the world's largest open digital collection of major US 20th-century architecture publications, with approximately 2.8 million searchable pages - all free to access. Other sponsors and donors include the Smithsonian Institution, Atomic Ranch, Philip Kennedy-Grant, AIA New York, AIA Virginia, AIA Chicago, AIA North Carolina, AIA National, the Savannah College of Art and Design, Robert Keil,

**New Mod Squad Membership Deal!** Mod Squad members provide financial support for USModernist and NCModernist and our award-winning work with the documentation, preservation, and promotion of residential Modernist architecture. This thriving community of people dedicated to Modernist residential design is into art, food, travel, furniture, fashion, and fun. Mod Squad membership connects you with these like-minded people, building new and meaningful relationships! We have re-engineered Mod Squad memberships with a **new, less expensive, more convenient membership plan**! Now you can be a deeper part of the community for only $9.99 a month - **plus your first month is free**. Applies to new members - or renewals! [Details](#).

Professor **Siobhan Moroney** of Lake Forest College is researching the 1945 Chicagoland Prize Homes architectural competition, sponsored by the Chicago Tribune. Nearly 1,000 entries came to the Tribune jury, which awarded 24 $1,000 prizes. In February 1946, the Art Institute of Chicago exhibited 172 of the entries (including the winners), and in 1948, the Tribune published Chicagoland Prize Homes, a compilation of 92 designs (including the 24 winners). To further the project, Professor Moroney is seeking information about submissions, designs displayed at the Art Institute, known houses built from winning designs (about two dozen have been identified so far) and families who lived in Prize Homes houses. Contact her at [moroney@lakeforest.edu](mailto:moroney@lakeforest.edu).

**New: #147/Modernism Week Photography:** Nowhere in the world celebrates Modernism better than Palm Springs, California. Every February, they have a huge architecture and design festival called Modernism Week which actually lasts 11 days. We were there earlier this year interviewing nearly all the major speakers and special guests.
When we can't go to Modernist houses ourselves, architectural photographers bring them to us, both new and iconic, by waking up at 5am to get the right light, or taking hours to set up a shot only available a few minutes. Hired by architects, magazines, and occasionally clients, architectural photographers ultimately become historians, their body of work becoming a visual timeline to the evolution of design, materials, and photography itself.

**Darren Bradley** travels the world on architecture assignments and runs the wildly successful Instagram feed @modarchitecture. In 1998, he and his wife rented a mid-century modern house in Palm Springs, and he was smitten. He began researching, exploring and appreciating Modernist architecture more and more. Returning guest **Andrew Pielage** is an architectural and travel photographer based out of Phoenix who has photographed some of the best architecture and most beautifully stunning landscapes on the planet and talks about his quest to shoot every **Frank Lloyd Wright** building in the world. USModernist Radio is sponsored by Modernist realtor **Angela Roehl** and **Nichiha.com**.

New to podcasts? You can also listen to USModernist Radio through any computer. See past shows.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

September 26: The Charlotte NC Mad About Modern Tour will change to a virtual format. Details TBA.

October 15-18: Modernism Week Fall Preview in Palm Springs, CA, features a variety of new and favorite events including architectural walking tours, festive cocktail parties, home tours, stimulating lectures. [Tickets available](#) beginning at noon PT on Sunday, August 1.

October 23-24: New Canaan Modern Tour will change to a virtual format. Details TBA.

November 6-8: The SAF presents SarasotaMOD Weekend 2020 honoring Carl Abbott.

**GET INVOLVED!**

There are so many ways you can contribute to USModernist! Here are five:
Look for daily giveaways on all the Mr.Modernism, USModernist, and NCModernist Instagram feeds!

Have you got old architecture magazines, new architecture books (especially coffee table books), or any architecture documentaries on DVD or Bluray (even VHS)? We'll provide free pickup or shipping, and you'll get a nice tax deduction! Contact George Smart at george@usmodernist.org.

Have you got an iconic mid-century chair, table, or clock (Eames, Barcelona, Noguchi, Nelson, etc.)? We'll provide free pickup or shipping, and you'll get a nice tax deduction! Contact Rebekah Laney at rebekah@usmodernist.org.

Getting a little bored at home? USModernist's crowd-research project needs volunteers to scout the internet, as we more fully document 8,000 iconic Modernist houses across America. It's incredibly fun to put together clues, in your sweatpants from your laptop, to find America's rich legacy of Modernist design. Email carie@usmodernist.org.

When you schedule a free conversation about solar for your house, USModernist receives a $50
Endangered House Alert! Vacant for seven years, the Bill Hopkins design at 4124 Picardy in Raleigh is up for sale as a teardown. Evoking Charles Gwathmey, one of Hopkin's inspirations as a young architect, the house may be too far gone to recover. But hey, some people like a challenge. Could it be
Architect Charlie Bates died last week at 91. He was the project architect for one of the most beautiful NC Modernist churches, the award-winning 1959 Holy Comforter Lutheran Church in Belmont NC. He went on to create many buildings in Hilton Head SC. See his work [here](#).

June 18, 5-7pm. Architecture Panel, sponsored by RTP180 and RTI Intl. North Carolina's buildings have a colorful story to tell! Restoration architecture, architecture resiliency, small space designs, the RTP landscape and more will be covered in a virtual panel with Edwin Harris | Co-founder and Design Principal of Evoke Studio Architecture, Bentley Ruggles | Dewberry and NCALSA, George Elvin | NCSU/author, Elizabeth Van Orden | US Environmental Protection Agency, Architect. Free. [Details](#).

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. Visit our exclusive statewide list [here](#).