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## Architect as Patron: Zajfen in Laguna Beach

SAH/SCC Tour & Talk

Saturday, July 26, 2014, 2-4PM

Architect as Patron is heading to the beach! The series—which focuses on issues and opportunities that designers face when building their own homes—goes to Laguna Beach on July 26th. Join us to experience stunning views from the lyrical home created by L. Paul Zajfen, FAIA, RIBA. Nestled in a hillside, this sustainable house blurs the line between inside and outside, lifts one's spirits, and connects you to nature, the ocean, and the sky.

Zajfen, a design principal at LA-based CO Architects, took a simple, volumetric approach to the design, exploring the transparency of the volumes, and how the building elements frame space and views that exploit the potential of the site. The steel-framed, multi-level home is broken into two masses, with the living room element pulled apart as a pavilion connected by a bridge to the kitchen/dining room element. Separating these two creates an outdoor courtyard surrounded by living spaces. The living room seen from the courtyard appears to be floating in space.

Designed to minimize energy consumption, the home's large glass walls enable both natural lighting and ventilation, eliminating the need for artificial lighting (during the day) and cooling. All the west-facing window walls have sensor-controlled motorized exterior sunshades that block 86% of solar radiation, while maintaining views. Photovoltaic and solar hot water panels are located at the highest roof. The flat roofs are planted with succulents in a design pattern that connects them to the hillside contours when viewed from within.



The transparent layers of interior and exterior space create an atmosphere that evokes a sensation of spatial generosity, visual stimulus, and peace. "The house establishes a precedent in Laguna Beach for designing an appropriate, contextual, and sustainable dwelling," says Zajfen. "Quite simply, it feels wonderful to be in this house." Join us, and find out for yourself.

*Architect as Patron: Zajfen in Laguna Beach—July 26, 2014; 2-4PM; \$15 each for SAH/SCC Life and Patron Members; reservations required; space is limited; seating will be made available to general membership should the opportunity arise, on a first-come first-served basis; registration—see order form on Page 6, call 800.972.4722, or go to [www.sahscc.org](http://www.sahscc.org); waiting list—email [info@sahscc.org](mailto:info@sahscc.org).*



All photos: Tom Bonner

# SAH/SCC President's Letter

## Design Evangelist

In the past few President's Letters, I've thanked both Arline Chambers and Svetlana Petrovic for their contributions to keeping SAH/SCC humming and serving the membership. I would be remiss not to mention the longest-serving member of our team: our newsletter editor, Julie D. Taylor.

Some 18 years ago, Julie took over as editor of SAH/SCC News from Richard Rowe. Through her vision, leadership, and editorial skills, it became an award-winning publication filled with Chapter activities and the first comprehensive calendar of architectural events in Los Angeles.

Julie's contributions to the organization, however, have far exceeded her role as newsletter editor. Julie conceptualized and led the very first of our popular Modern Patrons programs in which we engage original owners of modern residential architecture in a meaningful dialogue about the experience of commissioning a noted Southern California architect to design a home for them. Julie was also responsible for our Members' Celebration at City Hall some years ago—a memorable event for all who attended. And she once again brought her considerable talents to the table for the panel discussion last year at Wilshire Boulevard Temple.

As principal of her firm Taylor & Company, Julie brings expertise and experience as a design industry publicist, marketer, writer, editor, and critic to the marketing and public relations efforts for her architecture and design clients. As author of the books *Outdoor Rooms* (Rockport, 1999), *Bars, Pubs, & Cafés* (Rockport, 2000), and co-author of *Spa: The Sensuous Experience* (Images, 2006), Julie has demonstrated that she not only talks the talk: she walks the walk.

Not surprisingly, therefore, she was awarded Honorary AIA/LA status by the American Institute of Architects and was recently named Public Director to the National AIA Board of Directors. The AIA California Council presented its Allied Achievement Honor Award to Julie for her "design evangelism."



Julie (center) with the California AIA delegation lobbying for architects at Senator Feinstein's office during the recent AIA Grassroots conference in Washington, DC.

This newsletter features the latest in a series of events Julie has planned for SAH/SCC, exploring contemporary architects designing their own homes. Following in the footsteps of Dorothy Measer's Anthem House in Venice, the next installment will take us all on an adventure to Laguna Beach where Julie's thoughtful program will raise questions about what it means to design space while addressing contemporary issues of sustainability.

So please join me in thanking Julie for her many contributions to SAH/SCC and congratulating her on national recognition by the AIA. We are incredibly fortunate to have her as part of the SAH/SCC family.

—Sian Winship

### Tour and Event Information:

1.800.972.4722

info@sahscc.org



SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

SAH/SCC NEWS is published bi-monthly by the Society of Architectural Historians Southern California Chapter. Subscription is a benefit of membership.

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**Administration:** Arline Chambers

July/August 2014 issue deadline for newsletter information and ads: June 10, 2014. Please send all ad materials, and news to the attention of the editor:

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# John Parkinson's Iconic Vision

**SAH/SCC Lecture & Walking Tour,  
Downtown LA  
Saturday, June 14, 2014**

Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 14th, as SAH/SCC explores architect John Parkinson's legacy in downtown Los Angeles. Stephen Gee, author of the book *Iconic Vision: John Parkinson, Architect of Los Angeles* (Angel City Press, 2013), will share his research on this important, yet little known, contributor to our built environment. Attendees will be provided with a four-color self-guided walking tour brochure and will be encouraged to visit the locations on foot after the lecture.

Our hope is for those who are interested to meet up informally at a no-host cocktail hour event at a downtown watering hole at the end of the day to discuss their adventures and observations.

Although Parkinson is best known for his design of Los Angeles City Hall (Parkinson & Parkinson, with John C. Austin and Albert C. Martin, 1926-8) and Bullock's Wilshire (Parkinson & Parkinson, 1928), he designed dozens of important buildings in downtown Los Angeles. There are still several major intersections where all four (or nearly all) of the corner buildings were designed by this seminal figure.

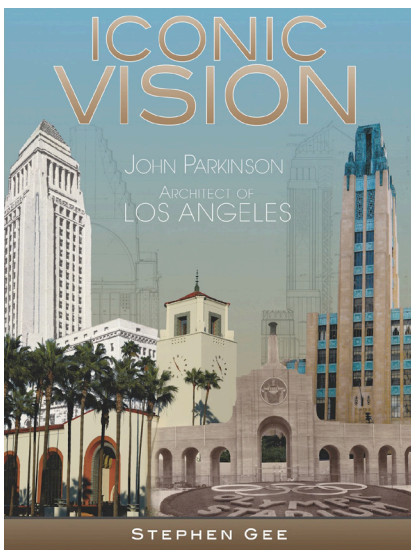
Participants will also be encouraged to visit the Central Branch of the Los Angeles Public Library (Bertram G. Goodhue and Carleton M. Winslow, 1922-26) for a viewing of a new exhibit on Union Station (1934-9), another Los Angeles icon by Parkinson & Parkinson. Joined in practice by his son Donald to form Parkinson & Parkinson (during which time he was most prolific), he also had an earlier partnership with Edwin Bergstrom. After Parkinson's death in 1935, his son continued to carry on the firm's architectural traditions and name for 10 more years.

Details are being finalized now for location and ticket price. Visit [www.sahscc.org](http://www.sahscc.org) and your email inbox for more details.

*John Parkinson's Iconic Vision—June 14, 2014; check [www.sahscc.org](http://www.sahscc.org) for details.*



The Beaux Arts-style Union Oil Building by Parkinson and Bergstrom (1911).



A Hugo Balin tile mural on the Art Deco Title Guarantee Building by Parkinson & Parkinson (1929-31).

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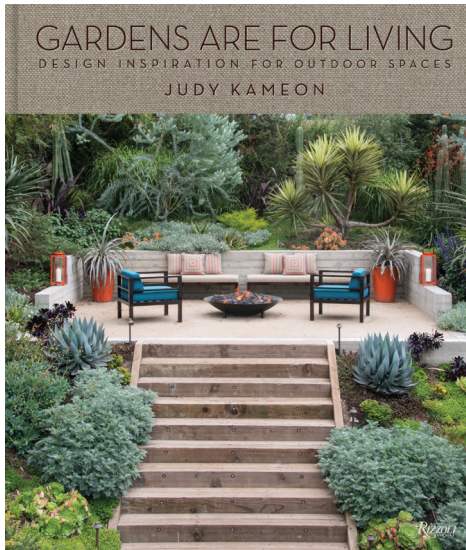
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# Bookmarks

## Gardens Are for Living: Design Inspiration for Outdoor Spaces

by Judy Kameon; Foreword by Jonathan Adler; Principal photography by Erik Otsea

Los Angeles-based landscape designer Judy Kameon is known for her naturalistic gardens and residential landscapes. Walking through her projects—as this reviewer has been privileged to do—is a sensuous experience, as the elements are beautiful, tactile, fragrant, and tasty. This book is not only a glossy showpiece of her achievements, but a platform to share her ideas and methods to fully enjoy a civilized life outdoors.



A Santa Monica native, Kameon immediately lays the groundwork for her approach by looking at mid-century outdoor spaces that exemplify the Southern California lifestyle. After the first chapter on inspiration, the following sections deal with more specifics: front yards, gathering and play spaces, flower and vegetable gardens, outdoor cooking, and entertaining. The final chapter imparts ways to incorporate “California Style” outside of the Golden State.

Numbered chapters are wittily introduced with clever photographs and brief intros. Lush photography is bolstered by detailed captions that comprise most of the text, along with how-to lists, as well as drawings of specific plant specimens.

Rizzoli New York; hardcover; 224 pages; \$50.

## Shingle Style: Living in San Francisco's Brown Shingles

by Lucia Howard and David Weingarten; Foreword by Daniel P. Gregory; Photography by David Duncan Livingston

Who knew a modest rectangular piece of wood would have such meaning and complexity? Before showing exquisite examples of “Brown Shingles” (as such houses are known) from the Bay Area, the authors trace a serious architectural and social history of the seemingly ordinary building material. Its East Coast use on summer mansions for the wealthy displayed traces of conspicuous consumption. In Northern California, however, shingles were representative of social causes, poetry, and “bohemian rusticity.”

Generous spreads of houses built from 1891 to 1913 show new photography along with, in most cases, an archival reference image. Detailed close-ups of the wood elements themselves could almost be considered “shingle porn” for their sensual appearance. A postscript chapter shows shingles used in homes from 1966 to the present, displaying both modernist idioms as well as idiosyncratic applications.

A touching last chapter pays tribute to the architectural historian John Beach (1935-1985), who pioneered the study of the Bay Region Style. Eccentric in both dress and behavior, he nevertheless communed with such architectural luminaries as Bruce Goff, Esther McCoy, David Gebhard, Charles Moore, and Charles Jencks. With this coda, the authors stress that “without historians, there is no history.”

Rizzoli New York, hardcover; 208 pages; \$50.



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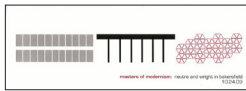
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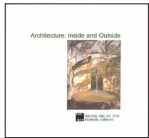


# SAH/SCC PUBLICATIONS



\_\_\_\_\_ at \$5 each

**Masters of Modernism:** eight-page, two-color brochure featuring works of Richard Neutra and Frank Lloyd Wright in Bakersfield.



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**Architecture: Inside and Outside:** 5"x5" folded color brochure featuring Santa Barbara's Lotusland, Casa del Herrero, and Val Verde



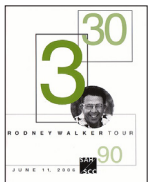
\_\_\_\_\_ at \$12 each

**Out of the Shadow:** 24-page, two-color brochure from Phoenix travel tour featuring the work of Frank Lloyd Wright, Al Beadle, Blaine Drake, Paolo Soleri, Edward B. Sawyer, Bennie Gonzales, and Will Bruder



\_\_\_\_\_ at \$3 each

**A Block in Glendale:** pocket-size fandeck of cards featuring five diverse properties— including a Paul Williams residence—plus historical background information on the Brockmont Heights subdivision



\_\_\_\_\_ at \$8 each

**Rodney Walker 3 30 90:** 12-page brochure featuring nine homes on five sites, as well as the architect's use of the three-foot module



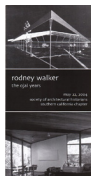
\_\_\_\_\_ \$4 each

**Greta Magnusson Grossman:** 3.5" x 8" 2-page color brochure featuring two residences by Greta Grossman.



\_\_\_\_\_ at \$8 each

**Space and Learning:** eight-page, four-color brochure on the historical and contemporary legacy of LA school architecture, featuring projects by Richard Neutra, Thom Mayne, Rios Clementi Hale Studios, and others



\_\_\_\_\_ at \$5 each

**Rodney Walker: The Ojai Years:** tri-fold, black-and-white brochure featuring Walker's important residences in Ojai, with pictures and article by historian David Mason



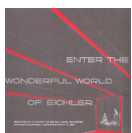
\_\_\_\_\_ at \$2 each

**Kesling Homes:** bi-fold, two-color brochure from the "Kesling Modern Structures" tour



\_\_\_\_\_ at \$2 each

**Union Station and MTA Transit Center:** bi-fold map for a self-guided walking tour including historical facts and photos



\_\_\_\_\_ at \$10 each

**Modernism for the Masses:** tri-fold brochure with inserts of detailed floor plans of Eichler homes visited on the Orange County tour



\_\_\_\_\_ at \$10 each

**The Historic and Modern Spirit of Ventura:** 20-page guide from Ventura tour



\_\_\_\_\_ at \$5 each

**David Gebhard Review:** essays on the Works Project Administration by Robert W. Winter, Orville O. Clarke, Jr., and Mitzi March Mogul



\_\_\_\_\_ at \$4 each

**Killingsworth: A Master Plan for Learning:** 11"x17", four-color walking tour brochure of the Cal State Long Beach campus features history of master plan development by architect Edward A. Killingsworth, FAIA.



\_\_\_\_\_ at \$8 each

**Ray Kappe-Apoptosis:** eight-page brochure features five Kappe Houses from 1959 to 1966 in the Royal Woods development of the San Fernando Valley.



\_\_\_\_\_ at \$8 each

**Conjunctive Points:** four-color, 11"x17" brochure featuring a 20-building walking tour of the Hayden Tract, designed by architect Eric Owen Moss and developed by Samitaur Constructs.

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# SAH/ORDER FORM

JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!

SAH/SCC is a 501c 3 nonprofit organization dedicated to providing its members with opportunities to learn about and experience the rich architectural heritage of Southern California and beyond. Our volunteer board members create tours, lectures, travel tours, and other events that explore the ideas behind the architecture as well as the buildings that result from them. From modern to craftsman, from Spanish Colonial to contemporary, our programs are the best-kept secrets in Southern California!

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

- Advance notice of all SAH/SCC events—important because they usually sell out just to members
- 20-30% discounts on tour and event ticket prices
- Bi-monthly E-news with printable newsletter
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**\$45 Individual** - All the membership benefits above for a single individual.

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All event ticket sales are final.

We are sorry, refunds cannot be accommodated.

\*SAH/SCC PRIVACY POLICY: The SAH/SCC never sells, rents, or shares your mailing or email address. Electronic communications enable us to operate economically and efficiently.



## A 'Brand' New Library Awaits

Stay tuned for more details of SAH/SCC's July tour and discussion on the restoration of Glendale's Brand Library & Art Center. The original home of Leslie C. Brand was designed by Nathaniel Dryden in 1904, and has just enjoyed an exterior and interior renovation by Gruen Associates. Headed by Debra Gerod, FAIA, the restoration included uncovering and rehabilitating the original hand-painted ceilings, recreating original door and window openings, and bringing back into prominence the Mansion's original character. Members of the restoration team will discuss the process at an SAH/SCC tour and talk in July. More info to come in the July/August SAH/SCC News.