Lawrence Halprin: Alternative Scores

SAH/SCC Gallery Talk & Tour, Los Angeles
Sunday, October 1, 2017, 3-5PM

Spend a fall afternoon with SAH/SCC as we explore the work of legendary landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, FASLA. SAH/SCC Life Member and gallery owner Edward Cella will take us on a behind-the-scenes look at his new exhibition, “Lawrence Halprin: Alternative Scores—Drawing From Life” at Edward Cella Art + Architecture. Cella is opening up the gallery special for SAH/SCC on a Sunday.

Brooklyn-born Halprin (1916-2009) was educated at Cornell University and the University of Wisconsin before studying at Harvard University’s Graduate School of Design with László Moholy-Nagy, Walter Gropius, FAIA, and Marcel Breuer, FAIA. By the mid-1960s, Lawrence Halprin & Associates gained recognition for urban landscape redevelopment projects, as well as for his work at the northern California community of Sea Ranch (Moore Lyndon Turnbull Whitaker, 1964).

The exhibition features the breadth of Halprin’s drawing during several decades. “Halprin’s daily practice of drawing was a means to not only record his diverse visual experiences, but was a tool for engaging with the trials and tribulations of war, the ecstasies of life, and the rawness and beauty in nature,” shares Cella. Lost for decades, these drawings were found only after Halprin’s death.

This event will feature a gallery talk by Cella and light refreshments. “Lawrence Halprin: Alternative Scores—Drawing From Life” runs concurrently with the A+D Museum’s “The Landscape Architecture of Lawrence Halprin,” the travelling exhibition organized by The Cultural Landscape Foundation.

Lawrence Halprin—Sunday, October 1, 2017; 3-5PM; Edward Cella Art + Architecture, 2754 S. La Cienega Boulevard, LA; $15 for SAH/SCC members, $20 for non-members; reservations—see order form on Page 6, call 800.972.4722, or email info@sahscc.org.
SAH/SCC President’s Letter

Over this summer we lost one of the great residential architects of his time: William Krisel, AIA. Krisel’s gift was his ability to deliver avant-garde approaches to light and space in a way that could be replicated by developers. His brilliant mind and artistic eye improved the quality of life for thousands of residents in Southern California and beyond.

Krisel was uniquely qualified to serve. Born in Shanghai in 1924, he lived a privileged life and could speak several languages by the time he was a young man. While enrolled at the USC School of Architecture, he worked for both Victor Gruen, FAIA, and Paul László. Never lacking in confidence, Krisel spent his military service as a translator for General “Vinegar Joe” Stillwell in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater. Upon his return, he partnered with Dan Saxon Palmer, AIA, to form Palmer and Krisel, Architects.

Although the firm is best remembered for its work with the Alexander Construction Company for the father-son team of George and Robert Alexander, Palmer and Krisel’s early work for other developers in tracts in Parkwood Covina and Midland La Mirada demonstrated their willingness to push the envelope of design for homes that adhered to strict FHA (Federal Housing Administration) standards. “I always remembered that every line I drew cost money,” he shared with me once over lunch.

Bill lived to be honored by the City of Palm Springs for his tremendous contributions to that city’s built environment. Yet, without denigrating that contribution, I counter that he was far more than just a Palm Springs architect. He was a master architect who built in dozens of states across the country—and in multiple typologies.

After splitting with Palmer in 1966, he partnered again with Abraham Shapiro, AIA, and followed developers into the high-rise projects that empty nesters and urban densification necessitated. Coronado Shores condominiums (1972) are a remarkable achievement in which Bill’s talents in planning, design, and economy created a group of high-rise buildings that never compromised privacy or views.

Krisel’s legacy includes an impressive body of commercial work as well as his famed residential projects. His ability to engage the eye from the automobile was something he learned early on in Gruen’s office. He used it to his advantage in myriad projects, most notably in tract housing, where he created an architectural cadence that wooed buyers who recognized there was something different and appealing about Palmer and Krisel developments.

More elegant than their Googie cousins, Bill’s commercial projects engaged the consumer with the subtle opulence of simplicity and good design.

At an SAH/SCC screening of the documentary on Bill’s work—“Bill Krisel, Architect” (Jake Gorst, 2010)—I had the pleasure of leading him in a Q&A session with the audience. I played the straight man and let him be the star that he was. His sharp wit and uncompromising manner shone through. He was always generous to me with his time and his memories. He will be missed.

—Sian Winship
Soriano: Romantic Technologist

SAH/SCC Salon, Long Beach
Sunday, October 15, 2017, 11:30AM-1:30PM

SAH/SCC Life Members and Patrons are invited to a special afternoon exploring the 1940 Kimpson/Nixon Residence by Raphael Soriano, FAIA, in Long Beach. The program will include a discussion about the history and architecture of the residence by owner/architect, Alan Pullman, AIA, founder of Studio One Eleven, and his wife Stephanie Pullman.

“The Kimpson/Nixon Residence is regarded as one of Soriano’s purest achievements in International Style residential architecture,” explains SAH/SCC Board Member and event organizer, Mark Piaia, AIA. Located in what is now the prestigious neighborhood of Alamitos Heights, the home is noted for its dramatic geometric form, which was created to fill the interior with natural light through a horizontal band of windows that runs the length of the structure.

Soriano directly oversaw the building of the home, which he designed for indoor-outdoor living in the Southern California climate. He reportedly designed the house during a six-month hospital stay after a car accident; this may have helped inspire him to design and architecture, hosted by the Herman Miller showroom (Lynch/Eisinger/Design, 2009) to explore the Great Lakes State’s contributions to modern design in architecture, automobiles, furniture, and education.

Soriano Salon—Sunday, October 15, 2017, 11:30AM-1:30PM; Long Beach; $25 for SAH/SCC Life and Patron Members; space is limited; tickets will be made available to general membership at $35 each should the opportunity arise, on a first-come first-served basis (call or email to be on the waiting list); reservations may be made available for sale and signing.

Don’t miss the opportunity to experience a wonderfully intact and a truly remarkable example of Soriano’s International Style residential designs.

SAH/SCC will take a virtual trip to the Midwest to explore the Great Lakes State’s contributions to design and architecture, hosted by the Herman Miller showroom (Lynch/Eisinger/Design, 2009) in Culver City. Brian D. Conway, Michigan’s State Historic Preservation Officer, and Amy L. Arnold, Preservation Planner for the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office, will be joined by contributing authors Alan Hess and SAH/SCC Member Emily Bills for a look at Michigan’s contributions to modern design in architecture, automobiles, furniture, and education. Their new book, Michigan Modern: Design That Shaped America (Gibbs Smith, 2016), will be available for sale and signing.

Authors on Architecture: Michigan Modern
Saturday, September 23, 2017, 2-4PM

SAH/SCC will take a virtual trip to the Midwest to explore the Great Lakes State’s contributions to design and architecture, hosted by the Herman Miller showroom (Lynch/Eisinger/Design, 2009) in Culver City. Brian D. Conway, Michigan’s State Historic Preservation Officer, and Amy L. Arnold, Preservation Planner for the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office, will be joined by contributing authors Alan Hess and SAH/SCC Member Emily Bills for a look at Michigan’s contributions to modern design in architecture, automobiles, furniture, and education. Their new book, Michigan Modern: Design That Shaped America (Gibbs Smith, 2016), will be available for sale and signing.

Authors on Architecture: Michigan Modern—
Saturday, September 23, 2017, 2-4PM; Herman Miller, 3641 Holmrege Ave., LA; free; registration strongly requested—call 800.972.4722, email info@sahscc.org or go to www.sahscc.org.
Authors on Architecture: Schrank on Modernism and the Body

SAH/SCC Talk & Book Signing, Santa Monica Saturday, September 9, 2017, 1-3PM

Please join SAH/SCC and the Santa Monica Public Library (Moore Ruble Yudell, 2006) to hear author Sarah Schrank, Ph.D., as she explores the significance of the sun to modern concepts of healthful architecture. Her topic, “Sunshine Architecture: Naked Living and the Rethinking of the American Suburbs,” will focus on post-World War II suburban nudist experiments and the ways in which standard 1950s and 1960s tract homes, mostly in Florida and California, were adapted to allow for modern concepts in indoor-outdoor living.

Schrank is an editor for and contributing author to the new book, Healing Spaces, Modern Architecture, and the Body (Routledge, 2017), co-edited with Didem Ekici. The collection brings together 12 scholarly essays focused on the relationship between the modern architectural history of North America and Europe and modernist obsessions with health and the body. The essays interrogate unusual ways of thinking about architectural settings, nature and natural environments, and urbanism and physical well-being, keeping in mind the limitations of utopian design and the tension between healing the body and controlling it.

Healing Spaces, Modern Architecture, and the Body’s examination of how health and the body have been intentionally integrated into the design of the built environment helps expose processes of judging bodies “good” or “bad” while celebrating inherently playful architectural elements as many of the architects, designers, doctors, and homeowners simply tried to make living spaces that bring pleasure, joy, and alleviation of pain.

Schrank is Professor of History at California State University, Long Beach, where she teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in United States women’s history, urban history, and the history of the body. She received her Ph.D. in United States history from the University of California, San Diego, and has held research fellowships at the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation of the Huntington Library, The Wolfsonian-Florida International University, and the Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies at Princeton University.

Authors on Architecture: Schrank—Saturday, September 9, 2017; 1-3PM; Santa Monica Central Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.; free; seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis; 310.458.8600.

Schrank on Modernism and the Body

Healing Spaces, Modern Architecture, and the Body
Edited by Sarah Schrank and Didem Ekici

Schrank is an editor for and contributing author to the new book, Healing Spaces, Modern Architecture, and the Body (Routledge, 2017), co-edited with Didem Ekici. The collection brings together 12 scholarly essays focused on the relationship between the modern architectural history of North America and Europe and modernist obsessions with health and the body. The essays interrogate unusual ways of thinking about architectural settings, nature and natural environments, and urbanism and physical well-being, keeping in mind the limitations of utopian design and the tension between healing the body and controlling it.

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SAH/SCC PUBLICATIONS

- **Masters of Modernism**  
  Eight-page, two-color brochure featuring works of Richard Neutra and Frank Lloyd Wright in Bakersfield. **at $5 each**

- **Architecture: Inside and Outside**  
  5”x5” folded color brochure featuring Santa Barbara’s Lotusland, Casa del Herrero, and Val Verde. **at $3 each**

- **Irving Gill: Los Angeles**  
  10-page booklet featuring photos and articles on Gill and three residential projects in LA. **at $6 each**

- **Rodney Walker 30 90**  
  12-page brochure featuring nine homes on five sites, as well as the architect’s use of the three-foot module. **at $8 each**

- **Greta Magnusson Grossman**  
  3.5” x 8” 2-page color brochure featuring two residences by Greta Grossman. **at $4 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 $8 each**

- **John Parkinson, Downtown**  
  11”x17”, four-color brochure featuring a self-guided walking tour of Parkinson buildings in Downtown LA’s historic core and beyond. **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 $2 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**

- **David Gebhard Review**  
  Essays on the Works Project Administration by Robert W. Winter, Orville O. Clarke, Jr., and Mitzi March Mogul. **at $5 each**

- **The Historic and Modern Spirit of Ventura**  
  20-page guide from Ventura tour. **at $10 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 $4 each**

- **Ray Kappe—Apotheosis**  
  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. **at $8 each**

- **Designed for Learning**  
  11”x17” walking tour map and brochure of the University of California, Santa Barbara, campus. **at $4 each**

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**SAH/SCC PUBLICATIONS**

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SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS / SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER NEWS September/October 2017
SAH/SCC is a 501c3 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
- FREE tickets to our annual Members’ Celebration event
- Special Members-Only E-Alerts about upcoming events
- A tax deduction for your membership dues
- The knowledge that you are supporting our mission to increase public awareness of Southern California’s architectural heritage

**MEMBERSHIP LEVELS THAT FIT YOUR NEEDS!**

*Fill out the order form below or join online at www.sahscc.org.*

**$45 Individual** – All the membership benefits above for a single individual.

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**$125 Patron** – All the membership benefits above, plus priority reservation at our popular and exclusive “Patrons Only” programs, such as “Modern Patrons” and “Contemporary Patrons.” Includes two names at the same address.

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**SAH/SCC EVENT TICKETS**

**Halpin Tour—October 1, 2017**

- **SAH/SCC member ticket(s) at $15 each** = $______
- **non-member ticket(s) at $20 each** = $______

**Soriano Salon—October 15, 2017**

- **SAH/SCC member ticket(s) at $25 each** = $______
- **non-member ticket(s) at $35 each** = $______

**‘God Is in the Details’ Architecture Quiz**

See how well you did determining these Southern California architectural gems.

Eames House, Charles & Ray Eames, 1949

Ennis House, Frank Lloyd Wright, FAIA, 1924

The Broad, Diller Scofidio + Renfro, 2015

Lovell Beach House, Rudolf Schindler, 1929

The Getty Center, Richard Meier & Partners, 1997

Salk Institute, Louis Kahn, FAIA, 1963

LACMA, William L. Pereira & Associates, 1964

Holiday Bowl, Armet & Davis, 1958

Photos: Julie D. Taylor