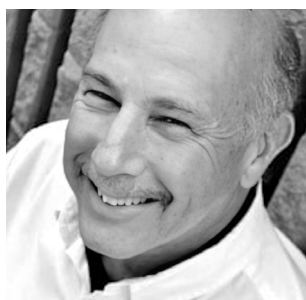


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## Authors on Architecture: Hess on The Palm Springs School

**SAH/SCC Zoom Program**  
**Sunday, May 25, 2025, 1-2:30 PM Pacific**



Alan Hess

Join SAH/SCC for a talk with the renowned author Alan Hess on his new book, *The Palm Springs School: Desert Modernism 1934-1975* (Rizzoli, 2025).

Much more than a resort destination, Palm Springs has served as a laboratory of the Modern, where so much architectural innovation and design took form. From the steel-and-glass boxes of Richard Neutra, FAIA, to the earthy organic homes of John Lautner, FAIA, and everything in between, the solutions of architects and designers—including notably William F. Cody, FAIA, E. Stewart Williams, FAIA, and Albert Frey, FAIA—were diverse and are ever more relevant in the face of contemporary challenges.

These architects addressed questions that still hold urgency: How to design sustainably in harsh climates? How to use technology efficiently and creatively to meet those challenges? How to build affordable and high-quality mass-produced housing? How to reflect a region's culture, economy, and distinctive atmosphere?

The book establishes the definitive record regarding the specific contributing factors in the development of the Palm Springs School and adds powerful new insights about desert architecture.

Hess is an American architect, author, lecturer, and advocate for 20th-Century architectural preservation. This is his 22nd book on the built environment.



Crafton Hills College (E. Stewart Williams, FAIA, 1966).

Photo: Julius Shulman; ©J. Paul Getty Trust. Getty Research Institute, LA

*Hess on The Palm Springs School—Sunday, May 25, 2025; 1-2:30 PM Pacific; \$5. Go to [www.sahscc.org](http://www.sahscc.org), and pay via PayPal or mail in order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom link sent upon registration. NOTE: Included is a link to the recording to view at your leisure.*



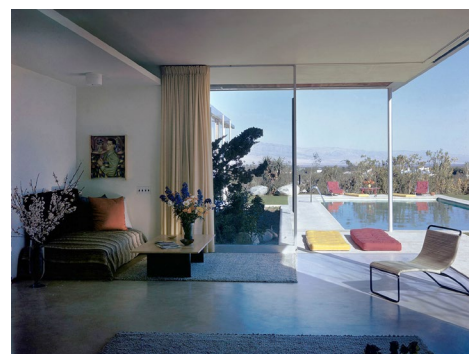
Arthur Elrod House (John Lautner, FAIA, 1968).

Photo: Leland Lee; courtesy of Palm Springs Art Museum



Steel Development Homes, now Alexander Steel Homes (Wexler & Harrison, 1962).

Photo: Dan Chavkin



Edgar J. and Liliane Kaufmann House (Richard Neutra, FAIA, 1946).

Photo: Julius Shulman; ©J. Paul Getty Trust. Getty Research Institute, LA

# SAH/SCC President's Letter



First Merry Ovnick Fellow Luke Leuschner

SAH/SCC is delighted to announce that the first Merry Ovnick Fellowship recipient has been selected: Luke Leuschner. Luke is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Architecture at the University of California, Berkeley.

Luke was the lead researcher for the exhibition "Albert Frey: Inventive Modernist" at the Palm Springs Art Museum's Architecture and Design Center in 2024. He is currently writing a manuscript on Rudolph Schindler's architectural works in the Southern California desert. Luke, himself, grew up in Palm Desert.

In his own words, Luke defines his study interests as "the desert itself and which architects have utilized, defined, or denied the qualities of the frequently misconstrued landscape." He has engaged in projects that seek to expand the typical knowledge base of architectural history, always attempting to imbue them with a critical lens. Luke's work on R.M. Schindler, FAIA, arose not because he was interested in the work itself per se, but because it exposes a different chapter of the desert's cultural history, from eugenics to Queer history.

The Fellowship honors SAH/SCC Past President and longtime Board Member, Merry Ovnick. It provides \$1,000 annually to support graduate student travel to the SAH Annual International Conference. In 2025, the Conference will be held in Atlanta, GA.

Merry's love and appreciation for Southern California was palpable. Of the several applications we received, Luke's best reflected Merry's legacy.

Please join me in congratulating Luke on his selection and wish him safe travels to Atlanta and in thanking our generous donors, including Emily Bills, Ted Bosley, Ken Breisch, John Ellis, Michael Gibson, Lambert Giessinger, Stuart Leslie, Jay Platt, David Ross, and Nancy Smith.

—Sian Winship

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

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**Julie D. Taylor**, Editor

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DESIGN OF  
PALM SPRINGS'  
GARDEN OF EDEN  
STEVE TREINAN  
FOREWORD BY ALAN HESS



## Authors on Architecture: Treinan on Canyon Country Club

**SAH/SCC Zoom Presentation**  
**Sunday, April 27, 2025, 1-2:30 Pacific**

Join SAH/SCC author and SAH/SCC Patron Member Steve Treinan discusses his new book, *Canyon Country Club: History and Design of Palm Springs' Garden of Eden* (Palm Springs Preservation Foundation, 2025). Now known as the Indian Canyons area of Palm Springs, Canyon Country Club was the city's answer to the 1950s expansion of golf-driven real estate development in the eastern end of the Coachella Valley.

It was also the first substantial development on land leased from the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, representing a transformational moment in the city's history.

The architectural exploration of the neighborhood includes both well-known names from the "Palm Springs School" of architecture as well as lesser-known individuals, offering an introduction to a new group of Palm Springs architects and designers.

Treinan serves on the board of directors of the Palm Springs Preservation Foundation. His research and writing focus on Southern California's contribution to mid-20th-century art, culture, and the built environment. He holds a BA in English from Loyola Marymount University (Los Angeles) and an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of San Francisco.



Steve Treinan



Rice Residence (William Krisel, AIA, 1969).

Photo: Daniel Ryan

*Treinan on Canyon Country Club—Sunday, April 27, 2025; 1-2:30 PM Pacific; \$5. Go to [www.sahscc.org](http://www.sahscc.org), and pay via PayPal; or mail in order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom link sent upon registration. NOTE: Included is a link to the recording to view at your leisure.*



SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS / SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

**NEWS**

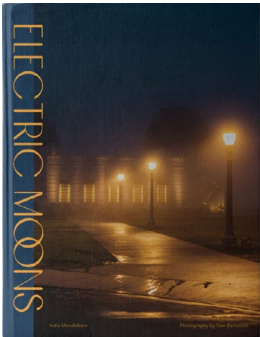
Spring 2025

2





India Mandelkern



## Authors on Architecture: Mandelkern on Electric Moons

**SAH/SCC Zoom Program**  
**Sunday, April 6, 2025, 1-2:30 PM Pacific**

Join SAH/SCC for a fascinating look at something we see every day and probably give little thought to: the street lights of Los Angeles. In her book, *Electric Moons: A Social History of Street Lighting in Los Angeles* (Hat and Beard Press, 2024), India Mandelkern examines the art and politics of street lighting in LA from the 1880s to the present.

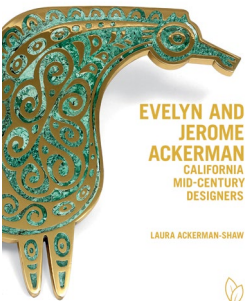
Flitting between social history, cultural anthropology, urban studies, and the history of design, *Electric Moons* illustrates how street lighting helped frame larger debates about civics and surveillance, infrastructure and traffic, the definition of public space and who should have access to it. Through her own conversations with politicians, planners, preservationists, artists, and dreamers, Mandelkern argues for the streetlight's vitality to urban life: a totem for the modern era.

Mandelkern is a Los Angeles native and a graduate of Middlebury College (Vermont). She received a Ph.D. in History from the University of California, Berkeley. Since then, she has worked as a curator, consultant, and critic, and has written on various topics—from food and wine to art and design—for many publications. A certified sommelier, she is currently writing a book about wine.

*Mandelkern on Electric Moons—Sunday, April 6, 2025; 1-2:30 PM Pacific; \$5. Go to [www.sahscc.org](http://www.sahscc.org), and pay via PayPal; or mail in order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom link sent upon registration. NOTE: Included is a link to the recording to view at your leisure.*



Laura Ackerman-Shaw



## Authors on Architecture: Ackerman-Shaw on Ackerman

**SAH/SCC Zoom Program**  
**Sunday, June 1, 2025, 1-2:30 PM Pacific**

SAH/SCC welcomes Laura Ackerman-Shaw, who will give an overview of her parents' influential work based on the new book *Evelyn and Jerome Ackerman: California Mid-Century Designers* (Pointed Leaf Press, 2025). Jerome (1920-2019) and Evelyn (1924-2012) were the (other) prolific artist-couple central to the development of mid-century design in Southern California. They presented modernist craft—in weaving, carving, ceramics, tapestries, and mosaics—and made it accessible to the middle class.

Their works were celebrated for the combination of bright colors and craftsmanship, with an artisanal attention to detail. Ackerman-Shaw, having discovered new material in her parents' archives, expands their legacy and impact on post-war design in America. In the fall, their work will be featured in the exhibition "Material Curiosity by Design: Evelyn and Jerome Ackerman, Mid-Century to Today" at Craft Contemporary in Los Angeles.

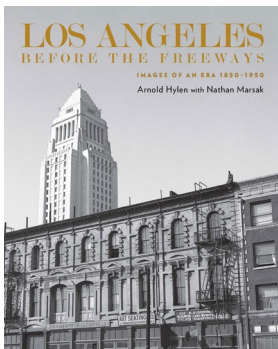
Ackerman-Shaw spend 35 years in publishing prior to establishing Ackerman Modern to steward her parents' design legacy through exhibitions, publications, and licensing. She sits on the advisory board of Manitoga/Russell Wright Design Center (see Page 5 to order a video about Manitoga). On May 29, 2025, she will be doing a book signing in West Hollywood at CB2. Ackerman-Shaw received both BA and MA degrees in English literature from Stanford University (Palo Alto, CA).

*Ackerman-Shaw on Ackerman—Sunday, June 1, 2025; 1-2:30 PM Pacific; \$5. Go to [www.sahscc.org](http://www.sahscc.org), and pay via PayPal; ; or mail in order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom link sent upon registration. NOTE: Included is a link to the recording to view at your leisure.*

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Nathan Marsak

## Authors on Architecture: Marsak on LA Before the Freeways

### SAH/SCC Zoom Program

**Sunday, May 4, 2025, 1-2:30 PM Pacific**

Join SAH/SCC as we celebrate the reissue of *Los Angeles Before the Freeways: Images of an Era 1850-1950* (Angel City Press, 2025) with its author Nathan Marsak. The book gives a lush, visual tour of a Los Angeles that no longer exists—one of elegant office buildings and stately mansions that were razed in the name of “progress.” Featuring stunning black-and-white photography from Arnold Hylen that captures a forgotten era, the book contains an original essay by the photographer that provides historical background and context for the time period. This new edition contains additional, never-before-seen photographs from Hylen and newly unearthed information from historian Marsak on these lost architectural treasures.

Originally published by Dawson's Book Shop in 1981, *Los Angeles Before the Freeways* has become a cult classic among LA's architectural historians. Now fully updated in a larger, more elegant format with expanded captions that provide additional context for Hylen's essay, *Los Angeles Before the Freeways* will be a treasured read for Angelenos of all stripes.



Civic Center from the former site of First Los Angeles High School.

Photo: Arnold Hylen



East side of Figueroa Street between Fifth and Sixth Streets in downtown LA.

Photo: Arnold Hylen

Marsak studied under the eminent historian of Los Angeles, Reyner Banham, at University of California, Santa Cruz, and completed his graduate work with noted Sullivan/Wright scholar Narciso G. Menocal at University of Wisconsin (Madison). He worked on the curatorial staff of Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art and served as historian for the LAPD Museum archives. He is also the author of *Bunker Hill Los Angeles: Essence of Sunshine and Noir* (Angel City Press, 2020) and *Los Angeles Neon* (Schiffer, 2002).

*Marsak on LA Before the Freeways*—Sunday, May 4, 2025; 1-2:30 PM Pacific; \$5. Go to [www.sahscc.org](http://www.sahscc.org), and pay via PayPal; ; or mail in order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom link sent upon registration. NOTE: Included is a link to the recording to view at your leisure.

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# SAH/SCC PUBLICATIONS & VIDEOS

Catch up on previous SAH/SCC tours and Zoom programs. Go [here](#) to order.



## Architecture: Inside and Outside:

5"x5" folded color brochure featuring Santa Barbara's Lotusland, Casa del Herrero, and Val Verde. \$3

**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. \$8

## Designed for Learning: 11"x17"

walking tour map and brochure of the University of California, Santa Barbara, campus. \$4

**David Gebhard Review:** essays on the Works Project Administration by Robert W. Winter, Orville O. Clarke, Jr., and Mitzi March Mogul. \$5

**Irving Gill: Los Angeles:** 10-page booklet featuring photos and articles on Gill and three residential projects in L.A. \$6

**Greta Magnusson Grossman:** 3.5" x 8" 2-page color brochure featuring two residences by Greta Grossman. \$4

## The Historic and Modern Spirit of

**Ventura:** 20-page guide from Ventura tour. \$10

**Ray Kappe—Apotheosis:** eight-page brochure features five Kappe Houses from 1959 to 1966 in the Royal Woods development of the San Fernando Valley. \$8

**Kesling Homes:** bi-fold, two-color brochure from the "Kesling Modern Structures" tour. \$2

**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. \$4

**Masters of Modernism:** eight-page, two-color brochure featuring works of Richard Neutra and Frank Lloyd Wright in Bakersfield. \$5

**Meet Me At the Carousel:** Large tri-fold brochure and docent scripts for self-guided tour of South Coast Plaza. \$5.

**Modernism for the Masses:** tri-fold brochure with inserts of detailed floor plans of Eichler homes visited on the Orange County tour. \$10

**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. \$5

**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. \$8

**Union Station and MTA Transit Center:** bi-fold map for a self-guided walking tour including historical facts and photos. \$2

**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. \$5

**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. \$8

► **Gregory Ain:** *Notes From Another Los Angeles:* Gregory Ain and the Construction of a Social Landscape is presented by the author Anthony Fontenot. \$5

► **American Icons:** Author Sam Lubell expounds on US architectural icons.

► **American Synagogues:** Author/educator Anat M. Geva, PhD, Assoc. AIA, shares her book *The Architecture of Modern American Synagogues, 1950s*. \$5

► **Architectural Pottery:** Authors Dan Chavkin, Jeffrey Head, and Jo Lauria share a midcentury modern design enthusiast's dream. \$5

► **Architecture Unbound:** Author Joseph Giovannini discusses his profusely illustrated and incredibly detailed book, *Architecture Unbound: A Century of the Disruptive Avant-Garde*. \$5

► **Arts & Crafts Movement:** Arnold Schwartzman shares about his book *Arts & Crafts: From William Morris to Frank Lloyd Wright*. \$5

► **Auto Design:** Victoria Lautman discusses the legacy of car design in Los Angeles with designer John Frye.

► **Avatar:** Victoria Lautman discusses complex motion-capture technology with artists from the film. \$5

► **Reynier Banham:** Authors Todd N. Gannon and Richard J. Williams discuss their books about Banham, writer of *Los Angeles: The Architecture of Four Ecologies*. \$5

► **Behind the Iron Curtain in 1969:** John Ellis, FAIA, retraces his steps as a student at Cambridge to visit the work of the Russian Constructivists and Alvar Aalto, Hon. FAIA. \$5

► **Blueprints for Modern Living:** Journalist Victoria Lautman discusses the 1989 MOCA exhibition "Blueprints for Modern Living: History and Legacy of the Case Study Houses" with its curator Elizabeth A.T. Smith.

► **Brains Meet Buildings:** Author Michael A. Arbib speaks about the connection between neuroscience and architecture. \$5.

► **Brutalists:** In *Brutalists: Brutalism's Best Architects*, Owen Hopkins explores the architects who adopted this type of architecture and debunks its consideration as a "style". \$5.

► **Bunker Hill:** Author Nathan Marsak traces the architectural and cultural history of Los Angeles' early residential neighborhood, best known for its appearance in film noirs. \$5.

► **Gordon Bunshaft:** Nicholas Adams spreads the word from his book *Gordon Bunshaft and SOM: Building Corporate Modernism*. \$5

► **Robert Byrd:** Author Chris Lukather explores the fairytale ranch houses designed by Robert Byrd. \$5.

► **California Capitol:** The history and recent preservation challenges of California's Capitol building in Sacramento are discussed by Dick Cowan, Wayne Donaldson, FAIA, and Paula Pepper. FREE.

► **California Eden:** Authors Susan Chamberlin, ASLA, and Christine Edstrom O'Hara highlight landscapes from the professional to the vernacular.

► **California Houses:** Prolific design author Michael Webb shows contemporary architecture from his book *California Houses: Creativity in Context*.

► **California Modernism:** Author Todd Cronan discusses his book *Nothing Permanent: Modern Architecture in California*. \$5.

► **Church of the Epiphany:** SAH/SCC President Sian Winship and preservation architects Escher GuneWardena introduce viewers to the oldest Episcopal church in L.A. \$5

► **William F. Cody:** Authors of a new book on the Palm Springs architect explore his modern works in the west and southwest. \$5

► **Corbu:** Historian Maristella Casciato explores the notebook Le Corbusier kept while he traveled India.

► **Detroit/Moscow:** Christina E. Crawford and Claire Zimmerman explore the similarities and differences between the two cities. \$5

► **Driving Force:** Authors Stephen Gee and Darryl Holter look at LA's impact on the early automobile industry explored in *Driving Force: Automobiles and the New American City, 1900-1930*. \$5

► **Tony Duquette:** Journalist Victoria Lautman talks with Hutton Wilkinson about the legendary Hollywood creative designer and artist.

► **Harley Earl:** SAH/SCC Member Richard Stanley reveals how Harley Earl invented the modern automotive design studio. \$5

► **Craig Ellwood:** Author Keith York shares his research on iconic designer Craig Ellwood. \$5

► **Buckminster Fuller:** Author Alec Nevala-Lee discusses the visionary life of "the inventor of the future." \$5.

► **Irving Gill:** Rev. Dr. Mark Hargreaves shares his observations on sacred architecture in San Diego through his book *The Sacred Architecture of Irving J. Gill*.

► **Golden 1:** Architect and former SAH/SCC Board Member Rob Rothblatt presents the story of Golden 1 Center (AECOM, 2016) in Sacramento, CA. \$5.

► **Googie Modern:** Michael Murphy and Alan Hess tour through the drawings of Googie masters Armet Davis Newlove. \$5.

► **Elizabeth Gordon:** Author Monica Penick introduces viewers to one of the most influential magazine editors of the mid-20th century. \$5

► **Grand Central Air Terminal:** Longtime SAH/SCC Board Member John Berley discusses the history and renovation of LA's first commercial airport.

► **Griffith Observatory:** SAH/SCC Member William "Stuart" Leslie talks about the architecture of a Los Angeles icon: Griffith Park Observatory and Planetarium. \$5

► **Growing up Modern:** Authors Julia Jamrozik and Coryn Kempster discuss their new book, *Growing up Modern: Childhoods In Iconic Homes*. \$5

► **Havana Modern:** Discussion on *Havana Modern: Critical Readings in Cuban Architecture* by the book's editor Rubén Gallo and contributor Miguel Caballero. \$5

► **Hitchcock & Architecture:** Author Christine Madrid French discusses *The Architecture of Suspense*. \$5.

► **Jack Rogers Hopkins:** Explore *California Design Maverick: Master Mid-Century Designer Craftsman* about Hopkins, a contemporary of Sam Maloof, with editors Jeffrey Head and Katie Nartonis. \$5

► **Irvine Ranch:** Authors C. Michael Stockstill and H. Pike Oliver discuss *Transforming the Irvine Ranch: Joan Irvine, William Pereira, Ray Watson, and the Big Plan*. \$5

► **Frank Israel:** Todd Gannon discusses Israel's enduring legacy on LA architecture.

► **Japanese Architecture:** Journalist Victoria Lautman discusses Japanese architects' influence on LA with architect Takashi Yanai, FAIA, and SAH/SCC President Sian Winship.

► **Kappe House:** A special trio, whose roots extend back over six decades, each represent an important segment of this SoCal architecture masterpiece. \$5

► **Hugh Kaptur:** Steve Keydon, author of *The Modern Architecture of Hugh Michael Kaptur*, presents the architect's work—with a guest appearance by Kaptur himself. \$5

► **Florence Knoll:** Dr. Ana Arujo talks about her book *No Compromise: The Work of Florence Knoll*, about a leading force of modern design. \$5

► **L.A. Housing:** Multifamily housing is the topic for journalist Frances Anderton, Hon. AIA/LA. \$5.

► **Metropolis in Latin America:** Authors Maristella Casciato and Idurre Alonso shed light on the transformations that modified the colonial model of Iberian cities in America. \$5

► **MGM Studios:** The wide-ranging effect of MGM is proven by Hollywood historian Steven Bingen. \$5.

► **Julia Morgan:** Architectural historian and writer Kimberly Perette, Assoc. AIA, chronicles the life of trailblazing architect Julia Morgan, FAIA. \$5

► **Movie-Made LA:** Author/educator John Trafton discusses the nexus of architecture in LA and the city's role as the home of the film industry in his book *Movie-Made Los Angeles*.

► **Neutra in Latin America:** Catherine Rose Ettinger discusses her 2018 book *Richard Neutra: Encounters with Latin America*. \$5

► **New West:** SAH/SCC Life Members Wolfgang Wagener, AIA, RIBA, and Leslie Erganian explore history through hand-tinted postcards. \$5

► **Newport Cottages:** Author Michael C. Kathrens provides superb visuals of *Newport Cottages Between 1835 and 1890*. \$5

► **John Parkinson:** Author Stephen Gee discusses the unsung genius of architect John Parkinson, designer of many LA icons. \$5

► **Jock Peters:** Historian Christopher Long relays the architect and designer's "varieties of modernism" and his work in Los Angeles. \$5

► **Alfred Preis:** Co-authors present the book *Alfred Preis DISPLACED: The Tropical Modernism of the Austrian Emigrant and Architect of the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor*. \$5.

► **Preserving Los Angeles:** Author Ken Bernstein and photographer Stephen Schafer reveal how LA's preservation programs saved architectural and cultural jewels of the city. \$5

► **Will Price:** Author George E. Thomas makes the case for Will Price as an early modern architect working in Philadelphia. \$5

► **Public Housing:** Scholar Nicole Krup Oest shares her thesis-turned-book, *Photography and Modern Public Housing in Los Angeles*. \$5

► **Rebuilding Cities:** Author Andrew Demshuk looks at *Three Cities After Hitler: Redemptive Reconstruction*. \$5

► **David Wyn Roberts:** Architect, author, and SAH/SCC Member Cory Buckner provides a rare and very personal look at the work of Cambridge modernist David Wyn Roberts. \$5

► **Aline & Eero Saarinen:** Author Eva Hagberg relays the architectural love story from her book *When Eero Met His Match: Aline Louchheim Saarinen and the Making of an Architect*. \$5

► **Santa Barbara:** Author Doug Woods shows how people make their home in the coastal "paradise".

► **Santa Monica Pier:** Author James Harris conveys the rich history of the Santa Monica Pier, a beloved, internationally recognized icon.

► **Millard Sheets:** Author Adam Arenson discusses the work of Millard Sheets and his association with Home Savings and Loan. \$5

► **The Stepwells of India:** Author Victoria Lautman conducts a personal tour of the mysterious and magnificent stepwells in India. \$5

► **Louis Sullivan:** Author Patrick F. Cannon presents the work of the Chicago architect. \$5

► **Sun, Space, Self:** Historian Daniel Paul gives the first Merry Ovnick Fellowship Fundraiser Lecture.

► **Wayne Thom:** Author and SAH/SCC Member Emily Bills examines the architectural photography of Wayne Thom, who documented SoCal modern architecture. \$5

► **Unlikely Modernism:** SAH/SCC Board Member David Coffey reveals Bakersfield's hidden legacy of modern architecture. \$5

► **Warner Bros.:** Former Warner Bros. archivist Steven Bingen takes you behind the gates at the famed studio. \$5

► **Water & Sacred Architecture:** Anat Geva, PhD, Assoc. AIA, examines architectural representations that tie water, as a physical and symbolic property, to the sacred.

► **Jean Welz:** Author/filmmaker Peter Wyeth uncovers the little-known architecture career of perhaps the leading South African painter. \$5

► **Jean Welz, Part 2:** Peter Wyeth provides insight and perspective about the little-known architect Jean Welz and the demolition of his seminal masterpiece Maison Zilvelli. \$5.

► **Paul R. Williams, FAIA:** Author Stephen Gee, realtor Bret Parsons, and architect Marc Appleton, AIA, discuss the early residential work of the noted "architect to the stars." \$5

► **Russel and Mary Wright:** Author Jennifer Golub's special look at Dragon Rock at Manitoga, the home of the famed industrial designers. \$5

► **X202:** Author Peter Wyeth explores the work of British industrial designer James Leonard and the mystery of Leonard's X202 chair.

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

# SAH/SCC MEMBERSHIP FORM

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
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## SAH/SCC EVENT TICKETS

Go [here](#) to purchase online.

**Electric Moons—Sunday, April 6, 2025**

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**Canyon Country Club—Sunday, April 27, 2025**

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**Before Freeways—Sunday, May 4, 2025**

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**Palm Springs School—Sunday, May 25, 2025**

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**Ackerman—Sunday, June 1, 2025**

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## Bookmarks

Julie D. Taylor, Hon. AIA



Gibbs Smith, 2024,  
hardcover,  
168 pages, \$40

### The Aluminaire House

By Jon Michael Schwarting and Frances Campani

A chronicle of obsession, a testament to perseverance, and a fairy tale of luck, the story of the Aluminaire House is beautifully presented in this book by the architects who spent 37 years championing the 1931 house by Albert Frey and Lawrence Kocher. They take us through the history of the building from an idea, to demonstration house, country weekend home, endangered treasure, teaching tool, and finally to an appropriate resting place in Palm Springs. (After a 10-year process, it went on display as part of the Palm Springs Art Museum in 2024.) Exhaustively illustrated with an impressive amount of photographs, sketches, and plans, the book details every aspect of the house. The authors place the house in the wider context of issues about prefabrication, affordable housing, and modernism.



Rizzoli, 2025,  
hardcover,  
256 pages, \$85

### The Palm Springs School: Desert Modernism 1934-1975

By Alan Hess

This extensive and well-researched history sets Palm Springs in a wide context of architectural history, looking at the work done in the desert from viewpoints on modernism, preservation, culture, and influence. It looks back, historically naming a "Palm Springs School," as at the time, even though most were steeped in modernism, there wasn't a cohesive movement. Different from other "schools," Hess notes: "They had no charismatic leader, no dominant personality ... like Frank Lloyd Wright was for the Prairie School or Paul Rudolph was for the Sarasota School. They were a college of equals addressing the same basic issues in their own individual ways." Even so, while concerning itself with the vast range of modern architects throughout the area, the book zeroes in on the Mount Rushmore of Palm Springs architects: William F. Cody, Albert Frey, E. Stewart Williams, and Donald Wexler (I would have added William Krisel). Essays by additional historians—including SAH/SCC President Sian Winship's "From Reservation to Real Estate Empire"—investigate various aspects of history and context.



Gibbs Smith, 2024,  
hardcover,  
200 pages, \$35

### Palm Springs Tiki: Polynesia in the Desert

By Sven Kirsten and Peter Moruzzi

Combining two fun themes of mid-century delight, *Palm Springs Tiki* taps into the vast knowledge of Kirsten on Tiki (this is his fifth book on the subject) and Moruzzi on Palm Springs (his third). The book is so richly illustrated with historic ephemera (menus, matchbooks, ads, newspaper clippings) and photos (luau revelers, exotic food and drink, expressive buildings) that the mid-century good times jump off the pages. The authors convey the fertile setting for the craze to emerge: Southern California's historic penchant for "early escapism" mixed with "America's postwar opening to foreign cultures". This tale of Tiki acknowledges such purveyors of Polynesiania as Don the Beachcomber, Chi Chi nightclub impresario Irwin Schuman, and designers Cliff and Lou Sawyer, among many others setting the trends in music, fashion, food, and design.