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## Authors on Architecture: Suisman on the Boulevards

SAH/SCC Lecture & Book Signing  
Saturday, January 31, 2015



Images: Courtesy Doug Suisman

Take a journey down LA's boulevards with architect, urban planner, and author Doug Suisman, FAIA, at SAH/SCC's Authors on Architecture. Suisman will discuss the new edition of his book *Los Angeles Boulevard: Eight X-Rays of the Body Public* (ORO Editions, 2014). First published 25 years ago, the book was a response by "a 32-year-old architect (born and educated on the East Coast) trying to make sense of the urbanism of Los Angeles," according to the author's updated introduction.

The first part of the book originally appeared as a "pamphlet" published by the LA Forum for Architecture and Urban Design. Eight chapters—with names that take the term "body" public to heart ("Umbilical," "Girdle," "Suture," "Pathogen")—explore how the boulevards establish the framework for the public realm, and how architecture and

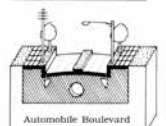
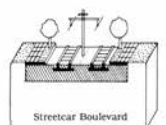
urban design play critical roles in place-making along the boulevards and in the districts and neighborhoods that line them.

Following is "Boulevards in Practice," new text that shows projects from Suisman's firm, which is known for designing the LA Metro Rapid bus system and The Arc, an award-winning scheme for the West Bank and Gaza. These 10 projects range in location from Atlanta and LA to Copenhagen and Pittsburgh. The most recent project, The iQuilt Plan, brought Suisman back to his home town of Hartford, CT, where, as a 10-year-old kid riding the bus, he first started making sense of urbanism.

*Los Angeles Times* architecture critic Christopher Hawthorne, who also undertook a massive journalistic exploration of LA's boulevards, contributed the foreword.

Following the presentation, the book will be for sale and signing by the author.

*Authors on Architecture: Suisman—Saturday, January 31, 2015; 1-3PM; Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium at the Santa Monica Central Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica; free; seating is available on a first-come, first served basis; 310.458.8600.*



# SAH/SCC President's Letter

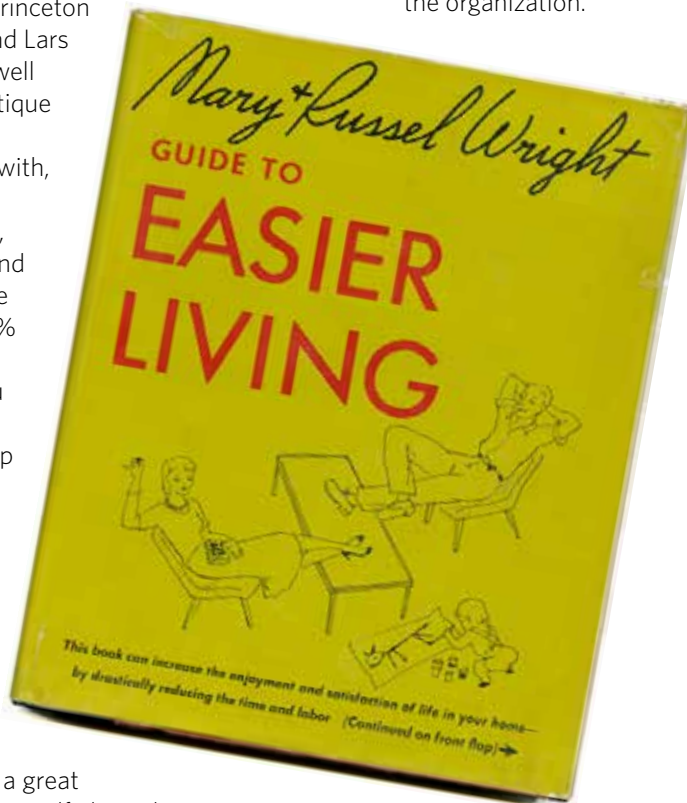
As 2014 draws to a close (how frightening!), many of us are struggling with gift ideas. Just in time for the holidays, SAH/SCC has a brand-new membership benefit that can help you find interesting gift ideas. SAH/SCC members now enjoy discounts at the Designers & Books Online Book Fair ([onlinebookfair.designersandbooks.com](http://onlinebookfair.designersandbooks.com)).

This website brings together some of the most important names in architectural publishing, including MIT Press, Princeton Architectural Press, and Lars Müller Publishers, as well as some fabulous boutique publishers SAH/SCC members are familiar with, such as DoppelHouse Press. The latest in art, architecture, design, and photography books are all there at 10% to 50% discounts for SAH/SCC members. All you have to do is enter the SAH/SCC membership discount code (14CBXAA) when checking out.

There is even a rare books dealer, Modernism101, where you can get 10% off. And like the best of holiday shopping, it is a great place to buy one for yourself along the way. Haven't you been wanting to read *The Collected Writings of Alvin Lustig*? And who can't use Mary and Russel Wright's *Guide to Living Easier*? Or how about filling in that home library with the catalogue from the "California Design, 1930-1965" Los Angeles County Museum of Art show?

This is an ongoing program and is one of the many perks of being a member of SAH/SCC. We are constantly looking for ways to make membership even more meaningful and to bring you educational programs and materials that broaden and deepen the understanding of Southern California's built environment.

This is the time of year when our mailboxes become stuffed with appeals from nonprofit organizations offering a last-minute tax donation and the opportunity of a feel-good moment during the holidays. Please consider adding SAH/SCC to your list of charitable donations this holiday season. Go to the SAH/SCC website at [www.sahscc.org](http://www.sahscc.org) and click on the "Make a Donation" button on the right hand side of the page. Upgrading your membership is a great way to support the organization.



It's also the season to spread the cheer. Give memberships to your friends and families. They'll get the book discount code, too. SAH/SCC memberships are reasonably priced, are guaranteed to fit anyone, and are always in style.

To all who were not able to attend the Members' Celebration at the Village Green this year, thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events in 2015!

—Sian Winship

## Tour and Event Information:

1.800.972.4722  
[info@sahscc.org](mailto:info@sahscc.org)



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## Postcard From La Jolla

Three dozen SAH/SCC members enjoyed a triple treat (talk, exhibition, tour) on a beautiful August day in La Jolla. We gathered for goodies on the lawn in front of Wisteria Cottage, a little house with a long history. It started as a simple beach cottage in 1904. In 1907, heiress Virginia Scripps hired up-and-coming architect Irving Gill to enlarge and remodel it for use as a guest cottage. He also added the namesake wisteria arbor.

Throughout the years, the cottage housed a private school and a popular bookstore before the Revelle family donated it to the La Jolla Historical Society (LJHS). In May 2014, LJHS completed a rehab of the cottage as exhibition space, opening up ceiling and walls and adding museum lighting and climate control. Architect Ione Stiegler, FAIA, talked about the preservation standards and rehab challenges. SAH/SCC Life Member Diane Kane shared her research on the history of the house and Gill's work.

LJHS director Heath Fox conducted a tour of the space and its current exhibition, "Climate Change: Midcentury Modern La Jolla." The show presented new ideas in the arts, design, and architecture that emerged from La Jolla during the 1950s and '60s.

To top it off, docents took us on a walking tour around the neighborhood to see other Irving Gill works, including La Jolla Women's Club (1912-13), the La Jolla Recreation Center (1914-16, with Louis Gill), Ellen B. Scripps House/Museum of Contemporary Art SD (1908), and George Kautz House/Inn at La Jolla (1913), among others.

We finished with another gathering for coffee and fruit. It was a beautiful day in a charming space, graciously hosted by LJHS.

—Merry Ovnick



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# Village Green Day

The 2014 SAH/SCC Members' Celebration at the Village Green apartments in Baldwin Hills started in the Community Building, which is original to the 1941 complex. We heard a presentation that focused on the history of the development and of the movement that led to the planning of the complex. We learned about the "Radburn Idea," which was a new way of thinking about urban design. It proposed that buildings be arranged around large landscaped green belts, and that pedestrian and automobile circulation be separated.

This started out in Radburn, NJ, where developments of this type were first tried in the US. The planning principles were brought out to California, where versions of this type of development were built. The design has a very open and spacious feeling. The apartments themselves are also very large, even by today's standards. Patios and balconies provide outdoor living space and add variety to the straightforward design of the buildings.

We toured three units, two of which were two-story townhouses. These were side by side and it was interesting to see the differences and similarities between the two and see how the different families lived. The other unit was a one-story bungalow on the end, affording it exposure on three sides, which let a lot of light into the apartment. All of the units had hardwood floors, fireplaces, and tiled bathrooms.

The speakers at the presentation were very knowledgeable about the project and its design and history. What I didn't realize is that they were also residents of the complex. They obviously were very proud of where they live and I was thankful that they were kind enough to allow us into their homes. So, all-in-all, a great afternoon seeing and learning something new.

—Brent Eckerman



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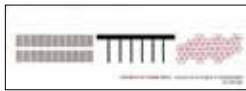
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# SAH/SCC PUBLICATIONS



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

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



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

**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 \$5 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 \$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-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.

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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!

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## Historic Sites on Tour

Many intriguing sites filled with history are nearby and accessible to visitors. Below is a partial list of places to visit. Please check for days and hours before you go.

**Andres Pico Adobe, Mission Hills,**  
[sfvhs.com/AndresPicoAdobe.htm](http://sfvhs.com/AndresPicoAdobe.htm)

**Banning Residence Museum, Wilmington**  
[banningmuseum.org](http://banningmuseum.org)

**Camarillo Ranch House** [camarilloranch.org](http://camarilloranch.org)

**Campo De Cahuenga, Universal City**  
[campodecahuenga.com](http://campodecahuenga.com)

**Centinela Adobe, Inglewood**  
[laokay.com/CentinelaAdobe.htm](http://laokay.com/CentinelaAdobe.htm)

**Dominguez Ranch House, Compton** [dominguezrancho.org](http://dominguezrancho.org)

**Eames House, Pacific Palisades** [eamesoffice.com](http://eamesoffice.com)

**El Molino Viejo, San Marino** [old-mill.org/history.asp](http://old-mill.org/history.asp)

**Gamble House, Pasadena** [gamblehouse.org](http://gamblehouse.org)

**Heritage Square, Lincoln Heights** [heritagesquare.org](http://heritagesquare.org)

**Hollyhock House, Los Feliz** [hollyhockhouse.net](http://hollyhockhouse.net)

**Hugo Reid Adobe, Arcadia** [arboretum.org](http://arboretum.org)

**Lanternman House, La Canada-Flintridge**  
[lanternmanfoundation.org](http://lanternmanfoundation.org)

**Lasky-DeMille Barn, Hollywood** [hollywoodheritage.org](http://hollywoodheritage.org)

**Leonis Adobe, Calabasas** [leonisadobemuseum.org](http://leonisadobemuseum.org)

**Lopez Adobe, San Fernando**  
[laokay.com/halac/LopezAdobe.htm](http://laokay.com/halac/LopezAdobe.htm)

**Olivas Adobe, Ventura** [olivasadobe.org](http://olivasadobe.org)

**Rancho Los Cerritos, Long Beach** [rancholoscerritos.org](http://rancholoscerritos.org)

**San Buenaventura Mission, Ventura**  
[sanbuenaventuramission.org](http://sanbuenaventuramission.org)

**San Fernando Mission, Mission Hills**  
[missiontour.org/sanfernando](http://missiontour.org/sanfernando)

**San Gabriel Mission** [sangabrielmission.org](http://sangabrielmission.org)

**Stagecoach Inn Museum, Newbury Park**  
[stagecoachmuseum.org](http://stagecoachmuseum.org)

**Sepulveda House, Los Angeles** [sepulvedahome.com](http://sepulvedahome.com)

**Schindler House, West Hollywood** [makcenter.org](http://makcenter.org)

**Watts Towers** [culturela.org](http://culturela.org)

**Will Rogers Home, Pacific Palisades** [willrogers.com](http://willrogers.com)