

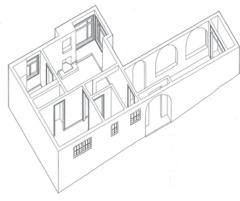
Three Fall Events Celebrate Irving Gill

Lecture, Exhibition, & Home Tour September 17th and 24th; October 22nd

Join SAH/SCC this fall as we celebrate the work of Irving J. Gill (1870-1936) with three separate events and tours. This series is organized in conjunction with the upcoming exhibition "Irving Gill: Simplicity and Reform," and is co-sponsored by SAH/SCC and the Art, Design & Architecture Museum at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and held in conjunction with the Southern California Chapter of Docomomo US.

Gill was lauded in his time by Lewis Mumford as "one of the great leaders of modern architecture," and by Henry-Russell Hitchcock, who insisted that Gill's buildings were "more premonitory of the next phase of modern architecture than any other American work of the period." Truly, Gill's ornamental restraint and elegant proportions set the groundwork for Southern California modernism.

Join us at any or all of these special events this fall as we get to know the work of a seminal early Southern California modernist.



Bella Vista Terrace (1910), Sierra Madre. Image: HABS.

Authors on Architecture: Hines on Gill

Lecture, Miles Playhouse, Santa Monica Saturday, September 17, 2016, 2-4PM

One of Southern California's most important authors and historians, Thomas S. Hines, Ph.D., will kick off our month-long Gill celebration with the lecture "Modernist Cottages: The Democratic Architecture of Irving Gill." His book Irving Gill and the Architecture of Reform: A Study in Modernist Architectural Culture (The Monacelli Press, 2000) is known as the definitive monograph on this important architect.



Photo: Marvin Rand/HABS

As a professor of history, architecture, and urban design at UCLA, Hines has turned his attention to other formidable architects in books that include Richard Neutra and the Search for Modern Architecture (Rizzoli, 2006) and Burnham of Chicago: Architect and Planner (University of Chicago Press, 2008, 2nd ed.). His essays have been published in Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Journal of Urban History, and Architectural Record, as well as The New York Times and Los Angeles Times. Hines has held Guggenheim, NEH, and Getty fellowships. The lecture is free to the public and will include a reception afterward with light refreshments on the patio of the historic Miles Playhouse (John Byers, 1929) in Santa Monica.

Authors on Architecture: Hines on Gill—Saturday, September 17, 2016; 2-4PM; Miles Playhouse; 1130 Lincoln Blvd., Santa Monica; free; seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

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SAH/SCC President's Letter

It has been 19 years since SAH/SCC held "Irving Gill: Fundamental Truths," a day-long tour in San Diego. How time has flown! In the tour brochure for that event, longtime SAH/SCC Board Member John Berley observed, "history has left Gill in a place of relative obscurity."

I'm glad that condition has been somewhat mitigated over time and am equally as glad to know that the upcoming exhibition "Irving Gill: Simplicity and Reform" at the University of California, Santa Barbara, will contribute significantly to the appreciation of the architect as not only one of Southern California's greatest talents, but also as a progenitor of modernism.

It was the great architectural historian Esther McCoy who observed in *Five California Architects* (Reinhold Publishing Corporation, 1960) that Gill's anti-ornament houses predated the Steiner Residence (1910) by Adolph Loos in Vienna by two years.

Yet, curating a tour of Gill's work in Los Angeles has been very difficult. Unlike in San Diego, most of Gill's work here has been demolished or remodeled beyond recognition. Of course the greatest (worst?) example of this was the destruction of the Dodge House (1916) during the 1970s, which was a seminal event in fueling the preservation movement for modern architecture. Long before modernism was "hot," advocates for the Dodge House framed the fight as potentially losing a milestone of the modern movement.

The mourning reached far and wide. In an article in *The New York Times* titled "Blue Monday in Los Angeles," Ada Louise Huxtable offered that the demise of the Dodge House was not just an example of "how we throw our national heritage away," but also a means of explaining





Dodge House (1916). Photo: Marvin Rand/HABS.

"the crisis of confidence between people and government, and people and real estate." She noted, "After Saturday, early Monday is the most popular time for landmark demolition. It has the obvious virtue of catching people napping, while avoiding overtime rates."

SAH/SCC believes that education is a fundamental truth. People who know about and understand architecture will be less likely to discard it. Join us for our important series of Irving Gill events (see Pages 1 and 4) as we celebrate the work of this remarkable talent.

—Sian Winship

Welcome New SAH/SCC Board Member

At our next event, please make a point of welcoming Kimberly Bahnsen McCarron to the Executive Board of SAH/SCC. She recently joined us after returning home to her native Southern California. Kimberly's professional experience as a preservationist and designer in the Midwest and East complemented her architectural studies at the University of Washington (BA), Seattle, and University of Southern California (M.Arch.). Kim is thrilled to be back home and working on the region's historic fabric as a designer at Page & Turnbull.

Tour and Event Information: 1.800.972.4722 info@sahscc.org



SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

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Authors on Architecture: Serraino <u>on Creativity</u>

SAH/SCC Lecture & Book Signing Saturday, October 29, 2016, 2-4PM

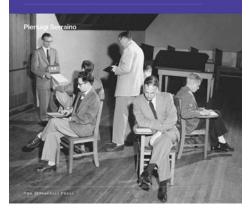
A fascinating, but little-known, study of architects in the late 1950s is intricately uncovered by author and architect Pierluigi Serraino, AIA, in his book *The Creative Architect: Inside the Great Midcentury Personality Study* (The Monacelli Press, 2016). SAH/ SCC's "Authors on Architecture" welcomes San Francisco-based Serraino to discuss his newest book.



Pierluigi Serraino, AIA. Photo: Vittoria Zupicich

The Creative Architect

Inside the great midcentury personality study.



Among the 40 architects contributing to the study, held at Berkeley's institute of Personality Assessment and Research, were Eero Saarinen, FAIA, Louis I. Kahn, FAIA, Philip Johnson, FAIA, George Nelson, Richard Neutra, FAIA, Eliot Noyes, Pietro Belluschi, FAIA, Serge Chermayeff, and A. Quincy Jones, FAIA. This august group participated in both solitary and group testing of their creative abilities. Deploying an array of tests reflecting then-current psychological theories, the study sought to answer questions that still apply to creative practice today: What makes a person creative? What personality traits are necessary to actualize that creativity?

Although originally intended for publication, the findings are only now being made available. Serraino culled through primary documents from numerous sources to show how some of American's greatest architects evaluated their own creativity—as well as that of their peers and how they perceived their place in architectural history.

Serraino is an expert chronicler of modern architecture, having contributed to many magazines and journals, as well as authoring several books, including *Modernism Rediscovered* (Taschen, 2000), *Eero Saarinen* (Taschen, 2005), and *NorCalMod: Icons of Northern California Modernism* (Chronicle Books, 2006). Herman Miller's LA showroom (Lynch/Eisinger/Design, 2009) will generously host us as we enjoy this intriguing look into the creative minds of modernism.

Authors on Architecture: Serraino—Saturday, October 29, 2016; 2-4PM; Herman Miller, 3641 Holdrege Ave., LA; free; registration strongly requested—see order form on Page 6, call 800.972.4722, email <u>info@sahscc.org</u>, or go to <u>www.sahscc.org</u>.



Mosaics tests by (I-r) Eero Saarinen, Richard Neutra, and Philip Johnson. Image: Institute of Personality and Social Research, University of California, Berkeley/The Monacelli Press.

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White/Morgan Residence (1917), Hollywood. Photo: Marvin Rand Estate.



Clarke Estate (1919-21), Santa Fe Springs. Photo: Marvin Rand Estate.



Irving J. Gill (1870-1936). Photo: Irvina L Gill papers Art, Design & Architecture Museum, UCSB.



Horatio West Court (1919-1922), Santa Monica. Photo: Marvin Rand Estate.

Irving J. Gill: Simplicity and Reform Exhibition Tour UC Santa Barbara Saturday, September 24, 2016 10:30AM-12:30PM

SAH/SCC members will travel to Santa Barbara for an exclusive, behind-the-scenes tour of the Art, Design & Architecture Museum exhibition "Irving Gill: Simplicity and Reform" with curator Jocelyn Gibbs. In addition to conducting a personal guided tour of the exhibition, Gibbs has gathered a selection of additional materials curated specifically for SAH/SCC members to view.

The behind-the-scenes exhibition tour is a drive-yourself event so that members can make it a day trip or spend the weekend in beautiful Santa Barbara at their leisure. Group size is limited and advance reservations are required. Lunch is not included; attendees are welcome to snack on campus, lunch in nearby Isla Vista, or explore one of Santa Barbara's fine restaurants.

Simplicity and Reform—Saturday, September 24, 2016; 10:30AM-12:30PM; Art, Design & Architecture Museum, 552 University Rd., University of California, Santa Barbara; \$25 for members; \$35 for non-members; see order form on Page 6, call 800.972.4722, email info@sahscc. org, or go to www.sahscc.org. (Transportation and lunch are not included.)

Irving Gill: Los Angeles Home Tour LA, Santa Monica, Santa Fe Springs Saturday, October 22, 2016, 9AM-5PM

The Southern California chapters of SAH and Docomomo US present "Irving Gill: Los Angeles." This home tour brings the UCSB exhibition "Irving Gill: Simplicity and Reform" to life, and offers glimpses inside three important Gill houses in the Los Angeles area: Horatio West Court (1919) in Santa Monica, the Chauncey and Marie Rankin Clarke Estate (1919-21) in Santa Fe Springs, and the White/ Morgan Residence (1917) in Hollywood.

Deluxe coach transportation, an educational brochure, and gourmet box lunches will be provided on this exclusive day-long tour.

Irving Gill: Los Angeles—Saturday, October 22, 2016; 9AM-5PM; meeting location in Culver City area TBA; \$55 for SAH/SCC and Docomomo US/ SoCal members; \$65 for non-members; see order form on Page 6, call 800.972.4722, email info@ sahscc.org, or go to www.sahscc.org.

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





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



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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.



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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-andwhite brochure featuring Walker's important residences in Ojai, with pictures and article by historian David Mason.

at \$5 each



at \$2 each

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



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



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



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 \$10 each

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





Killingsworth: A Master Plan for Learning: 11"x17", fourcolor 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 Vallev



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 \$4 each

Designed for Learning: 11"x17" walking tour map and brochure of the University of California, Santa Barbara, campus.

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SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS / SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER



SAH/ORDER 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!

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- Advance notice of all SAH/SCC events—important because they usually sell out just to members
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- FREE tickets to our annual Members' Celebration event
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SAH/SCC EVENT TICKETS

Gill Exhibition Tour, Santa Barbara—September 24, 2016

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Gill House Tour, Los Angeles—October 22, 2016

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Serraino on Creativity-October 29, 2016

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<u>Bookmarks</u>



Walter S. White: Inventions in Mid-Century Architecture

by Volker M. Welter

Spanning the period of postwar modernism from 1946 through the mid-1980s, this deeply researched and richly illustrated monograph on Walter S. White (1917-2002) illuminates the

work of the little-known modern designer, architect, and inventor. A companion to the recent exhibition of the same name at the Art, Design & Architecture Museum at UCSB, the book by SAH/SCC Life Member Volker M. Welter captures the aesthetic, climactic, and technological synergies present in postwar Southern California.

Born in San Bernardino, White eschewed formal education in favor of a "learn-by-doing approach." And while he revered Frank Lloyd Wright, he opted early in his career for stints in the offices of Rudolph Schindler, Harwell Hamilton Harris, and Clark and Frey. These pure modernist influences coupled with engineering wherewithal propelled White to establish his own prolific practices in Palm Desert and Colorado Springs, CO.

Ongoing experiments with pre-fab construction take us from the Designs for GI Student Living (c. 1945) constructed in the Hollywood Hills to a series of pre-fabricated mountain cabins (1960s-1970s), many of which were built in Colorado. Clearly, however, it is with White's patented "Hypar" (hyperbolic-paraboloid) roof that his finest expressive designs become reality.

The text is both insightful and accessible, which is essential to understanding White's inventive approaches to construction. The volume is also punctuated with a series of short essays on various White projects and technologies by doctoral students at UCSB—a noble nod to the University's role in turning out the next generation of architectural historians. The book is a worthy addition to the shelves of any lover of Southern California modernism.

Art, Design & Architecture Museum, UCSB; 108 pages; hardcover; \$40.

