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Authors on Architecture: Anderton on L.A. Housing

SAH/SCC Zoom Presentation

Sunday, November 6, 2022, 1-2:30 PM

Pacific Time

Noted architecture and design journalist and critic Frances Anderton, Hon. AIA/LA, will give SAH/SCC a virtual tour through Los Angeles based on her brand-new book, *Common Ground: Multifamily Housing in Los Angeles* (Angel City Press, 2022). For more than a century, Los Angeles has been a laboratory for exceptional experiments in multifamily housing—from the bungalow court to courtyard apartments to lofts and co-living spaces with rooftop gardens—all centered on shared outdoor space that enhances the spirit of community.

Starting with the bungalow courts and apartment-hotels of the 1910s, Anderton's book guides readers through the development of classic garden apartments to contemporary mid-rise "urban villages," co-living, and the return of low-rise backyard complexes. She finds early gems by Arthur and Nina Zwebell, R.M. Schindler, Richard Neutra, John Lautner, and Ralph Vaughn, among others. Those traditions are carried on today by such firms as Michael W. Folonis Architects (pictured on the book cover), Koning Eizenberg, Brooks + Scarpa, and Lorcan O'Herlihy.

During the 20th and 21st centuries, the multifamily housing ideas generated in L.A. have been widely influential across the US. As housing becomes a national focus, L.A.'s creative and practical solutions are more important than ever. *Common Ground* shows that well-designed connected dwellings work as good architecture



Rose Apartments in Venice (Brooks + Scarpa, 2022).

Photo: Jeff Durkin/Breadtruck Films

and good social systems, proof positive that multifamily housing can be aspirational, not second in status or style to a single-family home.

Always interested in how buildings affect people, Anderton talks to residents of multifamily buildings, who share their stories, and also turns to her own experience living in a midcentury apartment complex designed by Frank Gehry. "I was surprised to find how many people felt like I did—happy and safe in their connected dwelling," notes Anderton. "Yet also feeling a sense of not

being fully realized Angelenos, because we've become so inculcated with the idea that life in our own single-family house is the fullest American experience."

*Authors on Architecture: Anderton on Housing—
Sunday, November 6, 2022; 1-2:30 PM PST; \$5; go
to www.sahsc.org, and pay via PayPal or mail in
order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom connection
information sent upon registration.*



Beverly-Landau Apartments in Beverly Hills (Sam Reisbord and Alvin Lustig, 1949).

Photo: Jay Connor, courtesy Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT): Cary Graphic Design Archives, Alvin Lustig Papers.



Manola Court in Silver Lake (R.M. Schindler, 1926-1939).
Image: Charmaine David

SAH/SCC President's Letter

We get mail. Lots of it. One of the topics that seems to be flooding the SAH/SCC inbox these days is ADUs, or Accessory Dwelling Units. Some people are trying to stop them from becoming ubiquitous in their neighborhoods. Others are trying to erect them to make a little more money on their home investment, or as a relatively low-impact way to add housing to accessible neighborhoods without disrupting the existing character.

Earlier this year, I had the privilege of sitting on the California Preservation Foundation jury for the annual Preservation Awards. One of the most interesting, and in my view, progressive projects presented was the ADU guidelines for historic districts, developed by South Pasadena.

First things first. What is an ADU? An ADU is a housing unit with independent living facilities located on the same parcel as an existing residential property. ADUs can house friends, relatives (such as adult children and aging family members), and caregivers, offering them proximity and privacy. ADUs can also provide a steady source of rental income to homeowners to help pay a mortgage.

They may be attached or detached, the conversion of an existing structure—such as a garage—or even a partial home conversion. They are usually around 1,000 square feet in size.

The City of South Pasadena recently commissioned Architectural Resources Group (ARG) to study and provide design guidance on how owners of historic properties can create ADUs that do not disrupt the feeling of historic neighborhoods or compromise the integrity of the historic building on the property. The city has a rich history of architectural and cultural resources, and is wise to be proactive on this topic before irreversible damage could be done.

Recommendations focus on such issues as the visibility of the ADU from the public right of way. Other issues are size and massing. ADUs can be up to 1,200 square feet, and there are some historic properties that are 1,000 feet or fewer. Obviously, an ADU that is larger and more dominant than the primary dwelling is not preferred. Orientation is another aspect for consideration. The guidelines generally suggest that the ADU have the same orientation as the primary dwelling.

Overall, this is a document that planners in cities all over Southern California can use to inform and guide homeowners in their development of ADUs for historic properties. And frankly, it should probably be applied to all properties so as to not compromise the feeling of our neighborhoods.

Housing in Los Angeles and Southern California is an issue that is not going away any time soon. The region has long been known for its single-family residences. Architectural history has focused on this aspect of our built environment. We commend forward-thinking South Pasadena for electing to do something about it. The design guidelines can be found [here](#).

—Sian Winship



Image: Alexander Isley

Moon Over Modernism

Saturday-Sunday, November 12-13

Moon Over Modernism celebrates two of Los Angeles' world-famous residential gems—Case Study House #22/Stahl House (Pierre Koenig, FAIA, 1960) and Sheats-Goldstein House (John Lautner, FAIA, 1961-63). Benefiting USModernist, America's largest open resource

for Modernist architecture, the weekend event offers various levels of participation—from home tours to special VIP parties. Saturday evening is a cocktail party at Sheats-Goldstein featuring jazz vocalist Rose Mallett and her band. SAH/SCC Life Member Crosbie Doe is the presenting sponsor. Sunday, the Stahl House is open 12-8PM for champagne tours. Tickets and additional information: <https://usmodernist.org/la>.

USModernist is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization, founded by George Smart, Hon. AIA, that provides documentation for nearly every iconic Modernist house in America with the mission to educate the public to preserve Modernism. USModernist Library is the world's largest open searchable digital collection of major US 20th-century architecture magazines (including SAH/SCC News), offering more than 4 million downloadable pages from publications dating from 1890 to the present.

Tour and Event Information:
ph: 1.800.972.4722 e:info@sahsc.org

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

Editor: Julie D. Taylor, Hon. AIA

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Winter 2022 issue deadline for newsletter information and ads: December 10, 2022. Please send all ad materials, and news to the attention of the editor:

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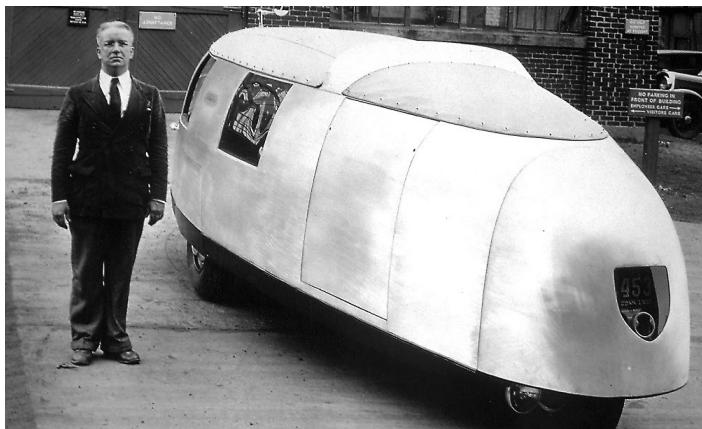
Authors on Architecture: Nevala-Lee on Fuller

SAH/SCC Zoom Presentation

Sunday, November 13, 2022, 1-2:30 PM Pacific Time

Join author Alec Nevala-Lee as he discusses his new book, *Inventor of the Future: The Visionary Life of Buckminster Fuller* (Dey Street Books, 2022). This fascinating profile of the creative genius has been called "the first complete portrait of both the man and the myth."

During his lifetime, Buckminster Fuller (1895-1983) was hailed as one of the greatest geniuses of the 20th century. As the architectural designer, inventor, and futurist best known for the geodesic dome, he enthralled a vast popular audience as well as the establishment, and was praised as a modern Leonardo da Vinci.



Fuller with Dymaxion Car #1.

Photo: courtesy Alec Nevala-Lee.

Inventor of the Future is the first authoritative biography to cover all aspects of Fuller's career. Drawing upon thousands of unpublished documents and dozens of interviews, it reconstructs the true origins of his most famous inventions, including the Dymaxion Car and the Wichita House.

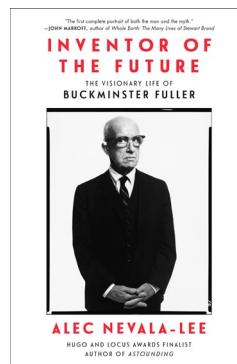
Author Alec Nevala-Lee was a 2019 Hugo and Locus Awards finalist for *Astounding: John W. Campbell, Isaac Asimov, Robert A. Heinlein, L. Ron Hubbard, and the Golden Age of Science Fiction* (Dey Street Books, 2018), which was named one of the best books of the year by *The Economist*. He's the author of three novels, and his nonfiction work has appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, *Salon*, and the *Daily Beast*.



Dymaxion Deployment Unit.



Author Alec Nevala-Lee
Photo: Brian Kinyon



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Victor Gruen, FAIA.
Photo: courtesy Gruen Associates



South Coast Plaza: The Grandest Mall of All

SAH/SCC & Docomomo On-Site Tour Sunday, October 23, 2022

Join SAH/SCC and Docomomo US/Southern California Chapter for a celebration of the grandest mall of them all: South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa. Participants will tour the mall, learn about its architecture, and relish the days when bell-bottoms were big, the cool kids were hangin' out, and lunch was a corn dog and an Orange Julius. This on-site self-guided tour includes a supportive brochure and knowledgeable docents. The tour will be preceded by a virtual panel discussion on October 12th.

Designed by Victor Gruen Associates, South Coast Plaza opened on March 15, 1967. The area's first indoor, air-conditioned mall was anchored by the May Co. and Sears, Roebuck and Co. Seventy specialty shops were included in the million-square-foot development.

Developed by the Segerstrom family, the nation's largest independent producer of dry lima beans, South Coast Plaza was designed to be the first segment of South Coast Town Center—to serve a projected population of more than one million people by 1970.

Learn how South Coast Plaza has grown and evolved throughout the years and take time to appreciate the history of its planning, architectural features, and attractions. Be sure to take a spin on the inside carousel designed by Victor Gruen, FAIA (1903-1980)! Watch your email for more details.

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Authors on Architecture: Bingen on MGM

SAH/SCC Zoom Presentation Sunday, November 20, 2022, 1-2:30 PM Pacific Time

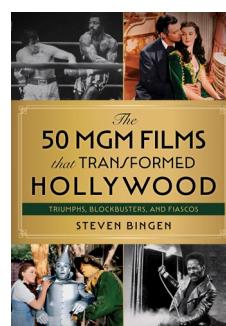
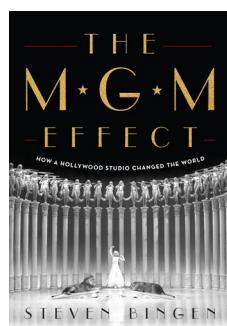
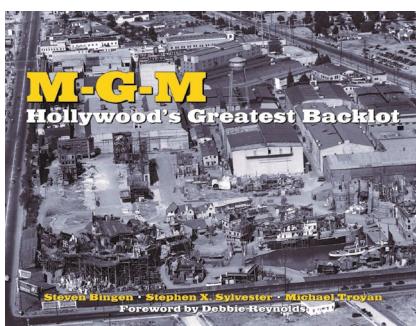
In celebration of the publication of two new books this year—*The 50 MGM Films That Transformed Hollywood: Triumphs, Blockbusters, and Fiascos* and *The MGM Effect: How a Hollywood Studio Changed the World* (both from Lyons Press, 2022)—film historian, author, and friend of SAH/SCC, Steven Bingen, will make a return engagement to Zoom for a look at another legendary Hollywood studio.

Members may recall that during the pandemic, Bingen presented on the architecture of Warner Bros. and led us all on a fun and fascinating tour of the studio back lot. (If you missed it, you can order the replay on page 5 or at www.sahsc.org.) For our audience, Bingen will concentrate on the architecture of MGM—as explored in a previous book, *MGM: Hollywood's Greatest Backlot* (Santa Monica Press, 2011)—and share more from his new books on the historic studio.

Bingen has long worked within the motion picture industry—both in production and as a writer and historian. He held a staff position at Warner Bros. Corporate Archive, where he aided in the preservation and management of that studio's legend and legacy.

A charismatic and extremely knowledgeable presenter, Bingen will share his take on Culver City's Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio and transport us back in time to Hollywood's golden age.

Authors on Architecture: Bingen on MGM—Sunday, November 20, 2022; 1-2:30 PM PST; \$5; visit www.sahsc.org and pay via PayPal or mail in order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom connection information sent upon registration.



SAH/SCC Mailing Address Change

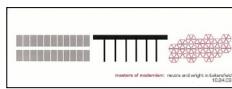
New mailing address is P.O. Box 491952, Los Angeles, CA 90049.

(We are no longer accepting mail at Sherman Oaks address.)

SAH/SCC PUBLICATIONS & VIDEOS

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

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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



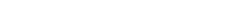
Modernism for the Masses: tri-fold brochure with inserts of detailed floor plans of Eichler homes visited on the Orange County tour. \$10



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



The Historic and Modern Spirit of Ventura: 20-page guide from Ventura tour. \$10



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



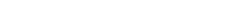
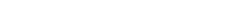
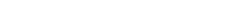
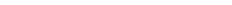
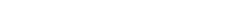
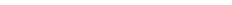
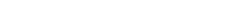
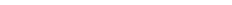
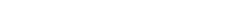
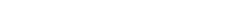
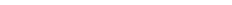
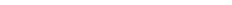
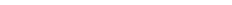
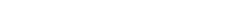
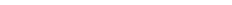
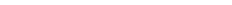
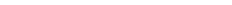
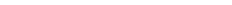
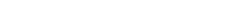
Ray Kappe—Apotheosis: eight-page brochure features five Kappe Houses from 1959 to 1966 in the Royal Woods development of the San Fernando Valley. \$8



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



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
- 20-30% discounts on tour and event ticket prices
- Quarterly 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!

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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.

SAH/SCC EVENT TICKETS

Alfred Hitchcock—Sunday, October 2, 2022

____ reservation(s) at \$5 each = \$ _____

LA Housing—Sunday, November 6, 2022

____ reservation(s) at \$5 each = \$ _____

Bucky Fuller—Sunday, November 13, 2022

____ reservation(s) at \$5 each = \$ _____

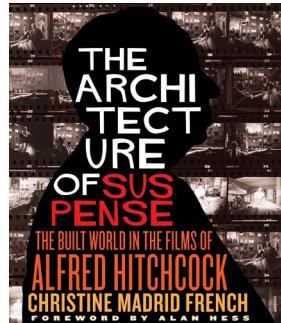
MGM—Sunday, November 20, 2022

____ reservation(s) at \$5 each = \$ _____

check enclosed (Make checks payable to SAH/SCC)

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Authors on Architecture: French on Hitchcock & Architecture



SAH/SCC Zoom Presentation
Sunday, October 2, 2022, 1-2:30 PM
Pacific Time

Christine Madrid French will show us where architecture and art collide, as she presents her new book, *The Architecture of Suspense: The Built World in the Films of Alfred Hitchcock* (University of Virginia Press, 2022). A native of Los Angeles, French is an historian, author, and screenwriter specializing in architecture, Hollywood, and film.

The inimitable, haunting films of Alfred Hitchcock took place in settings, both interior and exterior, that had a deep impact on our experiences of his most unforgettable works. In this new book, the author reveals how Hitchcock's relation to the built world was profoundly informed by an intense engagement with location and architectural form. In an era marked by modernism's advance, the famed director turned to some of the most creative mid-century designers in film.

In her presentation, French will relay untold stories about actual buildings that served as the inspiration for the infamous Bates Motel of *Psycho* and the Hotel Empire in *Vertigo*. Her analysis of *North by Northwest* uncovers the Frank Lloyd Wright underpinnings for Robert Boyle's design of the modernist house as the prototype of the cinematic trope of the villain's lair. In the book, she also shows how the widespread unemployment of the 1930s resulted in a surge of gifted architects transplanting their careers into the film industry. These practitioners created sets that drew from contemporary design and referenced real structures, both modern and historic.

Authors on Architecture: French on Hitchcock—Sunday, October 2, 2022; 1-2:30 PM PST; \$5; visit www.sahsc.org and pay via PayPal or mail in order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom connection information sent upon registration.