

Newsletter

No 66 Fall 2011

AIA UK



A Chapter of
The American
Institute of Architects



Final Jury



First Place Team - Canterbury University

Canterbury University Wins AIA UK Student Design Charrette

Shannon Piatek, Assoc. AIA

This year the AIA UK coordinated the annual design charrette with the British Institute of Interior Design (BIID) - inviting interior design students to work alongside architecture students and simulate the close interaction which exists in the workplace. Ten enthusiastic teams, representing over fourteen universities from across the UK, filled the Architectural Association on the 22nd of October for the annual and always popular event.

This year the brief for the students was to create their own scheme for the extension to the British Museum, which is currently under construction. The extension was to include a 1,200 square metre gallery space for special travelling exhibitions. The gallery space was the main focus of the design efforts during the condensed time frame.

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ATA UK



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UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, January 18
Herman Miller Showroom
61 Aldwych, London

KEYNOTE LECTURE

Tuesday, March 6, 6:30pm
Ricardo Legorreta
RIBA Headquarters
66 Portland Place

FILM NIGHTS

January 24, 2012
BFI Screening Room
Film TBC

BUILDING TOURS

Resuming in early 2012
Dates and Tours TBC

SOCIAL NIGHTS

Resuming in early 2012

2011 Annual Student Design Charrette, cont.

Shannon Piatek, Assoc. AIA

Callprint were the event sponsor and they provided students with their site photos, plans, enlargements and other materials for models on demand - racing between the AA and CallPrint's shop throughout the day. We thank them for their continuous support of this event because without their help, it would be very difficult to produce such great quality of work in one day!

After the intense six-hour design and production period of the day, the students presented their work to their peers and the distinguished jury which included both architecture and interior design professionals. The teams prompted provocative discussions throughout the day which filtered into the presentations and critique. Paul Finch, OBE, was the head of the jury which included architect and founding chapter President Stephan Reinke, RIBA, FAIA, as well as University of Brighton's senior lecturer in Interior Architecture Graeme Brooker.

Third prize went to students representing Chelsea College of Art and Design; second place was presented to students from University of Cambridge. First prize was awarded to a team of third year architecture students from Canterbury University - the team included Harry Varnavas, Sam Edwards, Frazer Day, Pharis Kanchanamai, Yvonne Jackson, Sarah Norbury, Andrew Woolford, and Lucy Smith. The winning design for the museum extension, which was presented with a high level of graphics and stunning models, included a series of exterior ramps creating framed views into the exhibition galleries, offering visitors a chance to see the exhibits from alternate vantage points. The building forms rose from the voids created by the intersecting ramps and were very sculptural against the more traditional existing façade. Other design elements included suspended ceilings on a pulley system so that the ceiling height could be adjusted to create a more intimate gallery space depending on the scale of temporary exhibition.

Thanks to all the mentors who volunteered their time to inspire the creative minds of the future and to Callprint, the event sponsor. We are looking forward to hosting the event again next fall and we look forward to seeing you there!

Annual General Meeting

Elizabeth Waters, AIA

The AIA UK will be holding their annual election of officers and directors at the 2012 Annual General Meeting on January 18. The evening will include a brief overview of the Chapter's activities over the past year as well as a discussion of what events are being planned for 2012. For those of you seeking CES credits, there is normally a short, but lively presentation from Mark Catchlove of Herman Miller. The AGM is also a chance to meet a wide range of AIA UK members and to visit the new showroom of Herman Miller, a long-time chapter supporter. It is important for as many members as possible to attend the AGM as it is a great opportunity to give feedback to the Board and influence the Chapter's plans for the next year.

We have finalized our board officers and directors for 2012, but if you are interested in getting involved with the chapter, please come along to the monthly board meetings to find out more about the organization of our chapter. We are always looking for new and enthusiastic volunteers to help with help with organizing events as well as bringing new ideas to the table.

If you would like to get involved in our chapter or would like to attend the AGM, please email our chapter executive at chapterexecutive@aiauk.org.

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Clapham Manor Primary School



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Fiona McKay
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London Library



Clapham Manor Primary School

AIA UK Building Tours

Wade Scaramucci, AIA, RIBA

Monthly building tours have continued into the winter, providing opportunities to visit unique buildings and sites around the capital. These tours provide practical knowledge concerning London specific issues, as well as units of CES / CPD accreditation. Recent tours have included Pottersfield Park Pavilions and Snowfields by DSDHA and we also held a London walking tours, which was led by Paul Hyett.

In September, the group toured the award-winning London Library by Haworth Tompkins. This tour focused on the bold architectural response based on the client brief to incorporate a half mile of new shelving every year. While the main focus of the project was based around the Victorian Reading Room, Issue Hall and 1890s book stack, the whole site retains the feel of the bespoke, containing all the authentic idiosyncrasies of an historic institution.

The final building tour of the year was held on the 19th of October and featured the award-winning Clapham Manor Primary scheme by de Rijke Marsh Morgan Architects. Architect Philip Marsh gave a short introduction to the project and then conducted a walking tour of this delicate extension. The addition itself is comprised of classrooms, performance space, staff facilities, reception and improved access, while retaining external play space. This building successfully re-establishes the school as a beacon for the local community it serves and has also influenced the upgrading of surrounding public space.

A number of future tours for 2012 are currently being scheduled including the Chelsea Academy by Feilden Clegg Bradley, the City of Westminster College by Schmidt Hammer Lassen architects and a summer walking tour by Paul Hyett.

Feedback and suggestions for buildings of interest are always appreciated and can be forwarded directly to wscaramucci@ahmm.co.uk.



Bowling Night

2012 Keynote Lecture: Ricardo Legorreta

Elizabeth Waters, AIA

Hosted by the AIA UK Chapter and in conjunction with the RIBA, the 2012 Keynote Lecture will be delivered by AIA Gold Medalist Ricardo Legorreta - one of the foremost architects of the Americas. Legorreta also won the prestigious 2011 Praemium Imperiale Arts prize.

Legorreta is a global architect whose vibrant work is influenced by the light, textures and colours of his native Mexico. Major projects around the world include the Hotel Camino Real in Mexico City, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Monterrey, the Metropolitan Cathedral of Managua, Carnegie Mellon College of Business & Computer Science in Qatar and Salesforce.com in San Francisco. Through his work at home and abroad, Legorreta reflects on what he refers to as the 'beautiful profession' and the inspiration and values behind his designs.

The lecture will be held on Tuesday, March 6, 2011 at the RIBA Headquarters, 66 Portland Place. The event will begin with a drinks reception and introductions from both the RIBA and AIA UK Chapter Presidents. Details of the event will be posted on www.aiauk.org and tickets will go on sale in early January 2012 via the RIBA website. We look forward to seeing you there!

AIA UK Social Nights

Etain Fitzpatrick, AIA

The AIA UK chapter kicked off its series of Social Nights with a night of bowling held on the 7th November at the All Star Lanes in Holborn.

The participants ranged in both bowling and architecture experience. Interns to experienced professionals, as well as some of our beloved sponsors, bowled their carefully chosen balls down the alleys, and sometimes gutters, of this fashionable venue. Bowlers looked eagerly on while some pins yielded to offer spares and strikes, while others only wobbled seeming to defy gravity. The architects gave a valiant effort to beat the sponsors, but even one of our newest members - Libby Troyers - couldn't quite beat Stephen Hyde from Overbury. Stephen bowled consistently throughout the night and really showed the architects his skills!

A great time was had by all and most noted a discernible improvement in skill all while meeting interesting and fun people in the process. The social events will continue throughout next year with other types of similar events - please check www.aiauk.org for updates. If you have any for social events please contact chapterexecutive@aiauk.org.



Casa Japon, Ricardo Legorreta - Photo by Katsuhisa Kida

Casa Kona, Ricardo Legorreta - Photo by Lourdes Legorreta



American University in Cairo, Ricardo Legorreta - Photo by Yona Schley

2012 Annual Design Awards

Stephan Reinke, FAIA, RIBA

The AIA UK Chapter will once again be staging our Design Excellence Awards Programme in 2012. Promoting and recognizing Design Excellence is one of the critical “three legs of the stool” for our Chapter. The second “leg” being an active engagement with the academic community and the third being fellowship among AIA, RIBA and design professionals.

Our Design Excellence Awards Programme has a rich history of remarkable jurors and exceptional winners and has from the start included a special Student Award.

This year the Jury will be Chaired by our Founding President, Stephan C. Reinke FAIA RIBA. Stephan was the Chair of the inaugural AIA Awards Jury in 1994, which featured Sir Philip Dowson, Zaha Hadid, Rick Mather and David Leventhal. The Jury convened for the afternoon at the Royal Academy in one of the John Madejski Fine Rooms - the beautiful General Assembly Room.

The first awards ceremony also doubled as the Chapter's second AGM and was staged in the Martini Room high atop the New Zealand House on a beautiful clear night. In a packed house of the London design community with RIBA President, Frank Duffy, in attendance, a carousel slide projector with a portable screen was employed to set out the policy goals of the Chapter, the slate of officers (elected by robust vocal acclamation) and of course, images of the Design Award Winners.

As always the jury was on hand to present the awards, with a brief presentation by the winners.

An excited, multi-disciplinary team from Bath University picked up the first Student Award and Nicholas Grimshaw came forward to pick up the top Design Excellence Award for his Waterloo Eurostar Station. He was asked to say a few words and therefore used the platform to say in good humour - “I hope we British architects will get an opportunity to work in the US the way the American's are working in London.” Grimshaw now have a studio in New York.

The chairs were stacked away and a lively reception then followed on a sparkling evening, overlooking Trafalgar Square, Whitehall and London's West End.

We all look forward to the 2012 AIA UK Excellence in Design Awards and we hope to see you there. More details to come in the upcoming months - please visit www.aiauk.org for updates.



2011 Design Awards, Sadler's Wells



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Emerging Professionals: IDP Version 2.0

Brianne Page, Assoc. AIA

The third and final phase of the Intern Development Program (IDP) 2.0 changeover is fast approaching! On April 3rd the electronic Experience Verification Reporting (e-EVR) system will be shut down for reprogramming. When it reopens on April 5th, the IDP 2.0 changeover will be complete. So what does this mean for emerging professionals who are in the process of becoming qualified in the United States?

Firstly, the experience hours are changing - the number of credits and types of credits will be revised. Secondly, the largest potential benefit for those of us living overseas is the definition of 'IDP supervisor,' which is currently under review. The definition is being considered to allow "a person registered to practice architecture in a U.S. or Canadian jurisdiction to serve as an IDP supervisor. This means that registered architects will be able to supervise interns within their office even if they are not registered in the jurisdiction where the office is located." The decision should be made in early 2012. For further information regarding the IDP 2.0 changeover, please visit the NCARB website: <http://ncarb.org/Experience-Through-Internships/IDP-2.aspx>

As several intern architects in the UK are completing their licensure in the United States, several more are beginning the process, leaving the ARE study materials in high demand. There are still exam materials available and more to be returned following the holiday, so if you are interested in borrowing any of the materials, please contact Brianne Page at bpage@kpf.com

Film Nights

Alex Miller, Assoc. AIA

Throughout 2011 the AIA UK chapter screened several films that examined different aspects and scales of architecture. Overall the series highlighted the interactions between architecture and its inhabitants and the way that both adapt to each other.

Architecture and film are closely intertwined as they both deal intimately with light, space, and the human experience. "Havana: The New Art of Making Ruins" explored the decay of buildings and city fabric as well as the resilience of their inhabitants. March's screening of "Koolhaas Houselife" zoomed in on the experience and detail of a single house for a client with a disability and the upkeep of a prototype. May's screening of "Hue and Cry" shifted the focus to post-war London. While we enjoyed the light humour of the early Ealing Comedy, we were treated to a glimpse of many parts of the city ravaged by war. The June screening of "Inception" shifted from the reality of architecture to the possibility of architecture. In this film, the architecture is a shifting manifestation of the thoughts and desires of its creators and inhabitants. The stunning visual effects take centre stage, yet the overall message is that we inhabit a world very much of our own making and perception.

For 2012 we are hoping to bring an equally stimulating and eclectic mix of films, dealing with topics such as sound and scale. We have requested a screening of Patrick Keiller's "Robinson in Space" for January 24. Please watch this space for further film screening announcements.



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