

# AIA UK

## NEWS

Reinke to Chair  
International Markets  
PIA

## NEWS

Annual Presidential  
Report

## EVENT

The Ben Franklin House  
Tours and Lecture  
Series Continue

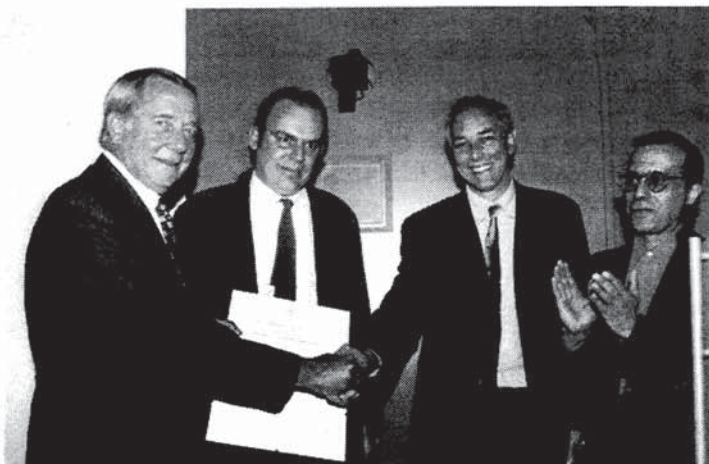
## EVENT

AIA/RIBA  
Liaison Meetings

Number 21

January 1998

## Excellence in Design Award Recipients



**Left:** Jack Leingang, CEO of Otis, presents Chris Wilkinson and Jim Eyre of Chris Wilkinson Architects with their award. Lee Polisano, AIA, represented the AIA Excellence in Design Awards jury.



**Right:** David Nelson and Simon Reed accepts an award on behalf of Chris Wilkinson Architects

## Five Share Honours at AIA/OTIS Awards

The London/UK Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in conjunction with Otis, chose this year to honour no less than five of the eighty impressive submissions to the jury, at the ceremony held on 8th December at the Royal Society of Arts.

"Of the seventy entries this year," said Lee Polisano, for the AIA jury, "twenty were in close contention. But it was impossible to distinguish between the final five, all of whom, we considered, deserved the highest recognition."

Jack Leingang, Chief Executive of Otis UK, sponsor of the event for the third year running, voiced his support for and affirmed Otis' valued relationship with the AIA Excellence in Design Awards, remarking, "I am genuinely enthralled by the five projects and am keen that they be given their due".

Paskin Kyriakides Sands were honoured for the design of the Putney Bridge Bar and Restaurant, which the jury described as "a jewel" and "good for the urban fabric". The building was designed for restaurateur Trevor Gulliver on an awkward site by the river, which dictates the linear wedge shape of the building.

The ground floor Bar and Café feature major openings onto a riverside terrace to derive maximum benefit from the prospects. The upper floor Restaurant is on a split level allowing all seats a view and setting off the riverside elevation as a series of terraces. The restaurant is linked visually and dramatically to the ground floor by a conical window at the thin end of the wedge, situated over the entrance continuing down to the ground.

The South Quay Footbridge earned Chris Wilkinson Architects another of the five awards. The bridge, that opened in May 1997, spans the dock between

South Quay and Heron Quays in London's Docklands. The brief called for a structure capable of being shortened to accommodate a future narrowing of the dock as well as being opened for shipping. The solution was an 's' shaped bridge comprised of two identical halves - one fixed, the other able to swing open.

The design is a cable stayed bridge featuring two raking sculpted steel masts and a sinuous oaken deck curved in both plan and elevation. "The elegance of the bridge," said Jim Eyre of Chris Wilkinson, "is de-

## Five Share Honours at AIA/OTIS Awards cont.

rived from relatively few elements: the lines of the deck, the visual counterpoint of the raking masts and the splay of the cables." The jury commented, "the bridge immediately improves the urban and daily human experience of the Docklands."

Rick Mather's modern design for a house in Hampstead struck the jury for its beauty as much as for its success in gaining planning permission, when permission had already been granted for two semi-detached Georgian style house. "This beautiful house succeeds as a complete statement," said the jury, "very few residential

projects are carried through to this level. The spatial sequences and capturing of sunlight enrich the occupants' experience."

The South African client briefed the architect to include roof gardens, a swimming pool and an abundance of natural light into the new family residence. The result is a house that uses structural glass extensively, including the balustrading to the roof gardens, the large rooflight over the double height living space, the glass floors that provide light deep into the swimming pool in the basement, and the glass stairs. Lying in the pool it is possible to see through to the third storey.

Ian Ritchie was the architect for the Crystal Palace Concert

Platform, London. "The essence of this project is the visual relationship between the beauty of the existing English garden landscape and the design of the concert platform," explained Ritchie, "the success of the project will be measured by both the public's and musicians' appreciation of the acoustic quality." The design also takes into account the vulnerability of built structures in parks to vandalism and other social misbehaviour.

The material of the surface of the concert platform is untreated steel, Corten A, which will gain a greater sense of gravitas as it darkens naturally. It is balanced by the levitas proffered by the lake around the stage island, and the oak of the platform stage, which over time will become silver.

Foster & Partners were honoured by the AIA for their design of the American Air Museum in Britain, Duxford. Visitors enter through a tunnel to find themselves facing the nose of the B-52 Stratofortress around which the building was devised. The vault, elliptical in plan, raises upwards towards the fully-glazed elevation facing the operational historic airfield, thus accommodating the tail of the B-52. At the other end, the structure is partially dug into the landscape. The jury "commend the work for retaining its austerity and for the beautiful control of light within the space as well as the engineering as an integral part of the image of the architecture."

## Excellence in Design Award Recipients cont.

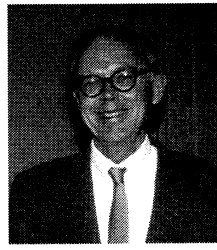
### PASKIN KYRIAKIDES SANDS

Mr Paskin & Mr Kyriakides accepted their award for the Putney Bridge Bar & Restaurant



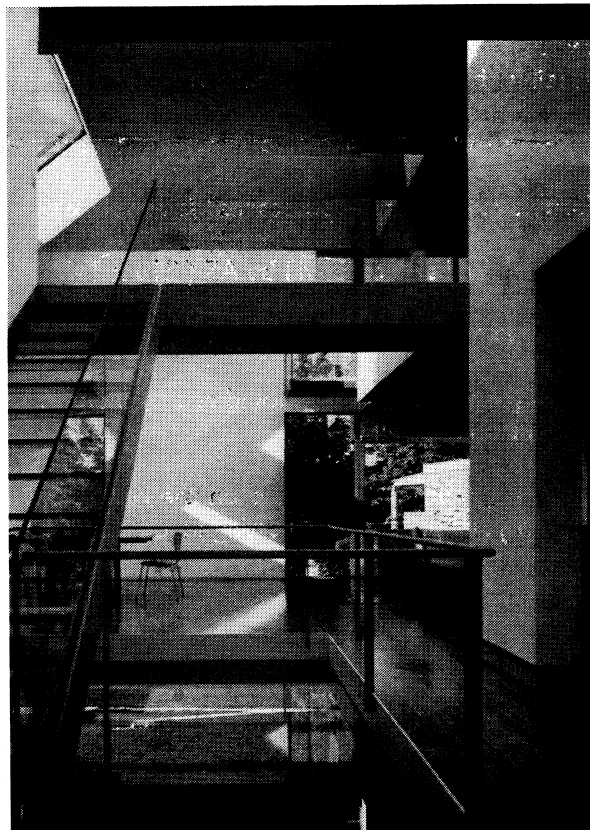
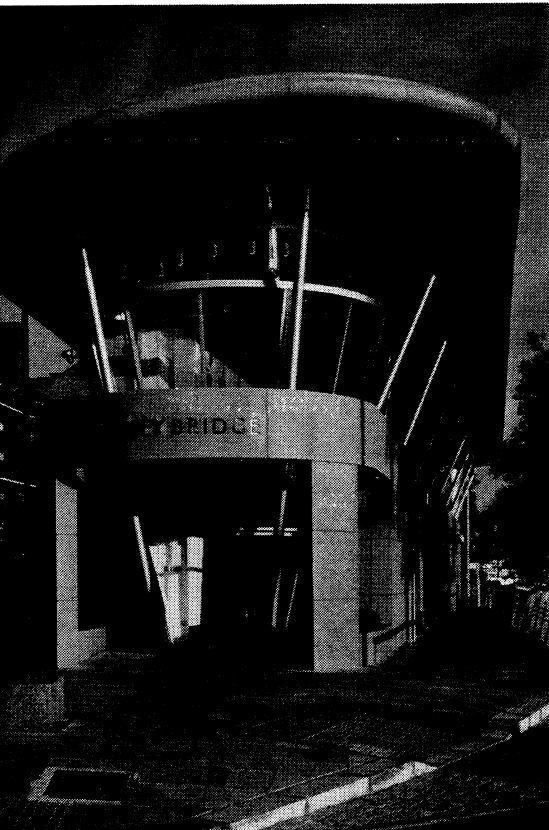
### RICK MATHER ARCHITECTS

Rick Mather accepted their award for a house in Hampstead



### IAN RICHIE ARCHITECTS

Ian Richie accepted their award for the Crystal Palace Concert Platform





## International Professional Interest Area

Stephan Reinke AIA, begins 1998 as the Chair of the Institute's five member International Advisory Board and of the 1200 member AIA International Markets and Practice PIA. Some of Stephan's initiatives are:

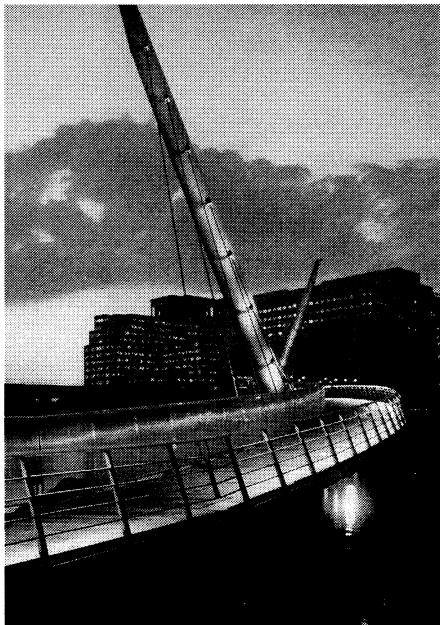
- Promoting excellence in international design
- Improving and enhancing communications with PIA members to provide greater international opportunities
- Providing and supporting beneficial forums:
  - AIA/CE conference in Lisbon, early May
  - Six events at the AIA '98 San Francisco convention (two focused on the London Chapter)
  - AIA International Conference, London
- Promote transportable credentials and reciprocity
- Support International Chapter activities; London/UK, Continental Europe, Hong Kong
- Develop AIA International Contract Documents
- Promote representation of International Chapters

Stephan will be in Washington for the PIA Council meeting in February, during Grassroots, and would welcome your suggestions, ideas, complaints regarding International Practice and the efforts of the AIA.

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CTS  
Award for  
Platform

CHRIS WILKINSON  
ARCHITECTS  
South Quay Footbridge



FOSTER & PARTNERS  
American Air Museum



## Annual Report from the President

For those of you who may not have been able to attend the AGM on January 14th at Kohn Pedersen Fox, I would like to inform you how the chapter fared during 1997:

The membership has grown steadily at a rate, exceeding the target set by the membership committee at the beginning of the year. The UK chapter remains one of the fastest growing components in the national organisation.

We have made considerable progress in organising our services to the membership. The greatest benefit has been hiring Karen Whittle as part-time Executive Administrator to the chapter. Karen produces the newsletter and chapter directory and maintains the membership database for local and national use. She is now the person who resolves idiosyncracies that are important to individual members. Her involvement has meant that your records are established here, that they can be checked locally, and that you will receive more frequent updates than before.

This year the chapter also registered with the Inland Revenue and purchased liability insurance for UK-based activities.

For the first time, the chapter was able to exhibit the work of member firms. Thirteen firms supplied boards illustrating one or more projects, most of which were done in the UK for display at the RIBA. The program was made possible by the London Region and complemented the visit and speech of AIA President Raj Barr-Kumar at the RIBA's First Monday in September evening.

The newsletter continues to be published every other month, and has often grown from the traditional four to six pages. Thanks to the generosity of CallPrint, it is now printed rather than photocopied, which improves the quality of the pictures if not the photography. Members said that they wanted more information on continuing education, and most issues have carried at least one article about courses available in the UK that qualify for US learning units.

This year, the chapter began a series of historic restoration seminars based on the Benjamin Franklin House, co-sponsoring these talks with the Friends of the Benjamin Franklin House. Other educational events included a visit to the Globe Theatre, led by the Chairman of the Building Committee, and an evening with Roland Poletti discussing the Jubilee Line Extension.

As you can read elsewhere in this issue, the Excellence in Design Awards, sponsored by Otis, were again very well done. For the first time this year, the Awards were focused on US/UK architectural practice, and the number of entries grew dramatically. But quantity did not compromise quality, and the contributors were superior by all standards.

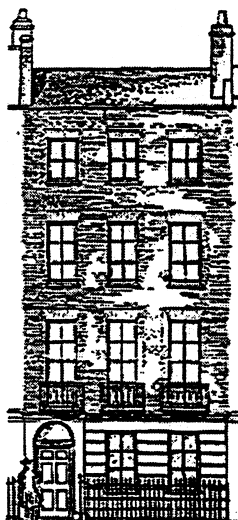
For fun, we enjoyed the Herman Miller-sponsored Annual Garden Party, where software donated by AutoCad was raffled, the Student/Professional Charrette and the summer Bar-B-Q in Bedford Square.

It has been a pleasure and honour for me to serve as President this year, and I thank you for this opportunity. I wish that we had received reciprocity, but perhaps we will next year.

Justine M. Kingham, AIA

## Bones Found in the Ben Franklin House!

You have a chance to witness history in the making by attending the Ben Franklin lecture series that started off with a sold out evening seminar last September. The preservation process and transformation continues with future lectures. The next lecture, 19th February, will cover project management and health & safety issues. Ann also promises to reveal details of the body found in the basement! The evening will commence at 6.30 p.m. with a Ben Franklin House tour, 36 Craven Street, WC2, and adjourn to a wine and cheese discussion. Contact Ann Keigher at 373-9980 immediately to reserve your position. Space is limited and six learning units are available.



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**AIA UK**

Number 21 January 1998

The newsletter of the London/UK chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

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## AIALondon/UK

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## AIA/RIBA Liaison Meetings

The Chapter Board of Directors meet at least two times per year with the RIBA President David Rock, Director General Dr. Alex Reid, Deputy Director & Director of Education Chris Colbourne and the Director of International Affairs & Membership Ian Pritchard, to discuss matters of topical concern to both Institutes. These meetings have been taking place since the founding of the Chapter in 1994 and have fo-

cused on issues such as reciprocal licensing/registration, joint recognition of education training and qualifying standards. They have also focussed on Quality Based Selection of Architects (QBS or the method set up by the Brook's Act in the US), joint recognition of RIBA/CPD & AIA/CES Learning Units and hosting joint members' evening at the RIBA.

These liaison meetings have been useful in furthering a professional understanding between both institutes, which collectively represent

some 85,000 members and associates worldwide.

Noel Hill is the AIA Chapter Director for the liaison meetings. Noel chairs the meetings at the RIBA every February and September. Noel is also a member of the RIBA London Region Executive Council.

Any items for future agendas would be most welcome for consideration and wider discussion. Contact Noel on 0171-435-2462, or email [nehi1archit@aol.com](mailto:nehi1archit@aol.com) with any comments/suggestions.

## Events

**29 January:** Architectural Opportunities in Portugal, 10.00 am, RIBA. Tel. 0171-307-3684.

**11 February:** Board Meeting, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, 46 Berkeley Street, London, W1, 6.30pm.

**19 February:** Ben Franklin Phase 1 Project Management and Health & Safety Lecture, 36 Craven Street, WC2. Ann Keigher at 0171-373-9980. Space is limited. Six LU's.