

AIA/UK

Number 27

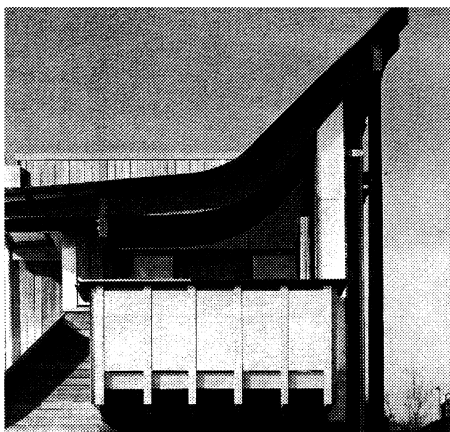
February 1999

Five Firms Win AIA Chapter Design Awards

Three museums, a house/shop and a parkland visitors' centre were recognised for the excellence of their design by the AIA London/UK Chapter. It is the fifth year that the London/UK Chapter, supported by Otis Elevators, has recognised outstanding completed projects. Call Print this year also joined in sponsoring this event.

Overall, the jury said of the winning entries, "given the choice, we have chosen the smaller, more modest entries. They are more interesting than the big ones. They have reasons for doing things and are multilevel. They are beyond and bigger than pure architecture."

Penoyre and Prasad, London, created Eastbrookend Country Park Visitors' Education Centre as a building "to touch the ground as lightly as possible." The commission, won by competition, was to produce an environmentally sensitive design that created a focal point on reclaimed industrial land. It was conceived "as a modern day barn in the countryside and as an organism that can open up with the day and close with the night."



Above: Visitors' Centre, Dagenham, by Penoyre and Prasad. The jury said "not the usual vocabulary of sustainable buildings - vernacular without being literal - works well in the bleak landscape and is not monumental - reflects the visual and actual ecology of the area (bird observation) - 3 dimensionally interesting."



Above: Paul Smith, Westbourne House, by S.H. Architects. The jury said "Bridges the flavour of light and simplicity (minimalist) with the merchandise (traditional) - each room has had a minimalist treatment so that it takes on the story of the clothes it is displaying and establishes its own identify - new experience in retailing, beyond design - expression of our times - controversial renovation - control of degree of intervention."

Sophie Hicks of S.H. Architects Limited redesigned a Victorian villa in London's Notting Hill Gate to become the flagship store for fashion designer Paul Smith. In order to ensure that the feeling of "house" was maintained throughout, the architects' brief included furniture design and the sourcing and adaptation of antiques. The jury cited this project for its "close synergy between client and architect" and for its "new attitude to existing buildings."

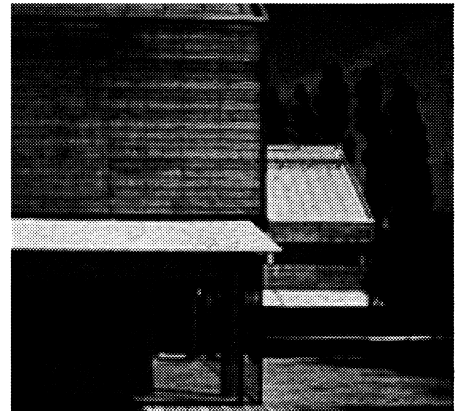
David Chipperfield Architects won for River & Rowing Museum. David Nelson said in his opening remarks "its recognisability worked against it." The jury admired the nature of the spaces created and the use of simple forms. It "locked into the location very well and added to the bigger picture around the site." Also, the use of materials, although very simple, recombined into something very different.

Munkenbeck + Marshall were named for the Roche Court Sculpture Gallery, a glass walled passage between the

main gallery and an orangerie. "It was fairly obvious what to do," said Stephen Marshall in accepting the award. The question was how to detail it and elevate the main idea. The jury found the gallery "attractive for being very simple," and for maintaining "the memory of the gap between the two buildings linked."

The Museum of Scotland by **Benson + Forsyth**, was acknowledged as a design "within the language of Edinburgh architecture. It's a building that talks to other buildings." The architects found it significant that this building for the collection of Scottish social history is the

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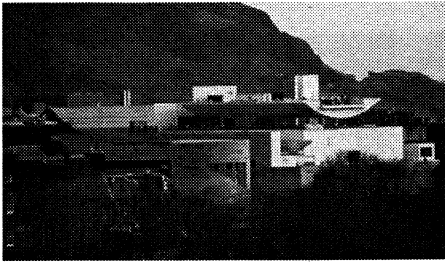


Above: River & Rowing Museum, Henley, by David Chipperfield Architects. The jury found it "lyrical, very calm and serene - captures spirit of culture of boating and river, decks, ferro-concrete - an icon - all the detail is in the beautiful shape."



Above: Roche Court Art Gallery, Wiltshire, by Munkenbeck + Marshall. The jury comments were "The 'link' between modern and traditional - minimalist - reduces visual impact to bare minimum - transparency - penetration of back light on walls into space - good for sculpture - retains memory of space."

Design Awards cont.



Above: The Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh, by Benson + Forsyth. The jury commented that this was "well crafted; offers user experience in space-teasing - seductive - sequence of framing - complex - adventuresome."

last major publicly funded building to be completed in Scotland this century. "In terms of architectural and urban design" said the firm's statement, "it provides a marker of where Scotland currently stands as a culture."

About 20 percent of the projects entered in this year's Excellence in Design Awards were international, including two London projects designed by a small firm from the US and one from France.

"Given this international scope," said Lorraine King, AIA, in her opening remarks on behalf of the Chapter, "we were somewhat surprised that this year's winning projects have all been designed by primarily British architects for projects in the UK."

"The sole judging criteria for our awards is, of course, neither location, nor nationality," said Lorraine, "but simply design excellence. Each year our jury is empowered to define the extent to which excellence is determined by aesthetic, social or functional characteristic."

The jury chairman was David Nelson of Foster & Partners, and one of the winners of last year's Design Award. Other jury members were Nigel Coates, Professor of Architecture at the Royal College of Art, Steve Hodder, a principal in his own firm, Rick Mather, AIA, of Rick Mather Architects and a former winner of the Design Award, and Karen Cook, AIA, with Kohn Pedersen Fox.

Letter from the Newly Elected President - Steven Steimer, AIA

I would like to start off by thanking all of you for your votes and support. I accept the challenge of leading us to the year 2000 and I will give my all to achieve our mutual goals.

Also, I would like to thank KPF for providing the venue for the AGM. Your hospitality as always is greatly appreciated. Thank you.



Above: Steven Steimer, AIA

This January, we start our journey toward the millennium with a Chapter that is financially sound, and has been left with a strong feeling of professional camaraderie. This past year has seen many offices open their doors in a spirit of fellowship. This is all due to the vision of Bob Schmidt whose leadership guided us in this accomplishment. I would like to personally thank Bob for his strong commitment and his contributions to our Chapter this past year. Your example and achievements are what will inspire me on.

When I was asked if I would consider leading the Chapter this year, my first thoughts were to look at the AIA's mission statement to see how we could improve the Chapter's vision to bring us closer in line with the aims and goals of the Institute. I would like to share with you the institute's mission statement, which is as follows:

"The objects of the AIA shall be to organise and unite in fellowship the members of the architectural profession; to promote the aesthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession; to advance the science and art of planning and building by advancing the standards of architectural education, training and practice; to co-ordinate the building industry and the profession of architecture to ensure the advancement of the living standards of people through their improved environment; and to make the profession of ever-increasing service to society."

In addressing our aims for the future, let's look at the mission statement and use it to guide us through the Chapter's objectives for the upcoming year.

The first aim as this year's President is to **"organise and unite in fellowship the members of the architectural profession."**

As we face the upcoming year, we will continue to unite our membership by providing more social and educational events and will continue to solicit firms to open their doors in the spirit of camaraderie with their fellow professionals. Fellowship and friendship can only occur through extensive contact and communication, so we will create as many occasions as we can for members to meet and connect.

All of our events would not be possible without the help and support of our corporate sponsors. We will continue to seek corporate sponsorship from businesses in our industry to promote further connections within our trade.

This year we will also be looking into staffing the Chapter. This will help create visibility within the community, provide continuity for leadership and help administer the Chapter's efficiency.

This year I will be pushing to increase our membership by at least five percent to secure a larger, stronger Chapter at the beginning of the twenty-first century. Along with an increase in the membership we need to maintain the membership. We are a unique Chapter of the AIA and therefore have unique needs that do not necessarily mirror other AIA chapters.

We need to question, what do we want out of the Chapter? This can only be understood by having feedback from you, the members. Without your participation we will not be able to assess whether or not we are creating a policy that best fits everyone's needs. I would encourage all members to participate and lend their voices to influence the direction that we take.

The second aim is **"to promote the aesthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession."**

On January 26 at the RSA, we presented the winning entries to our Fifth annual AIA London/UK Chapter Excellence in Design Awards. This year, we included a special section of the awards that honoured excellence in design by UK-based students for projects in the UK. Good design needs recognition and promotion.

The third aim of the mission statement is to **"to advance the science and art of**

Letter from Past President, Robert Schmidt, AIA



Bob Schmidt, AIA

In a speech presented at the Annual General Meeting, out-going President Robert Schmidt provided an overview of the past year's events and shared his thoughts on the responsibilities of Board members. Excerpts from that speech follow.

The Board serves the membership in two fundamental ways:

At the local level they organise and co-ordinate Chapter events and oversee the day-to-day administrative tasks of the Chapter.

At the National or international level Board members represent Chapter issues to the Institute's Board of Directors in Washington.

Over the past year our events were quite varied and generally well attended. In establishing events for the year we seek to build upon the previous year and aim to provide opportunities for members to earn Learning Units. Members that attended all of last year's events would have earned well in excess of the 36 LU's required each year by the Institute.

These events included:

- Ben Franklin House Seminars (on-going programme on the restoration of this important building).

- Design Charette: November at Canary Wharf, sponsored by Call Print. The jury was Cedric Price, Chris Wilkinson, Paul Finch and Bob Phelan.

- Design Awards Programme and Presentation: Awards were announced at a reception on 26 January, 1999.

- International Practice PIA: September – Participants from 15 countries heard keynote addresses from Sir Norman Foster, Hon FAIA, and Terry Farrell, Hon FAIA. A number of Chapter members participated and made presentations.

- AIA/RIBA Member's Evening: Early December at the RIBA HQ. Fred Koetter, FAIA, Terry Farrell Hon FAIA, and Charles Jencks discussed urban design.

- Open House Events: We established a programme of open house evenings at member firms. To-date, Gensler, SHC and KPF have hosted evenings.

- Special Presentations: SOM presented its designs for Lisbon Expo 98 at their offices in June.

Board members meet regularly each month; in addition, twice each year we meet with the leadership of the RIBA to discuss issues of common interest and opportunities to support one another's activities and programmes.

With regard to representations made to the Institute in Washington these included:

- At Grassroots '98, we made a presentation to the National Board about Chapter activities.

- Advertising Campaign: Agreement was reached not to charge additional advertising fees for foreign-based members in May 98. (Board members lobbied at the National Convention in the Spring).

- Regional Status: AIA National Board amended the by-laws to allow international chapters to be represented on the Board by the

Institute Secretary in the Autumn. The alternative--to be represented by an established state-side region--was not considered acceptable.

- Reciprocal License Agreement between the UK and USA – ARB and NCARB: Discussions have continued with NCARB and ARB to establish a common agreement based on educational standards.

Finally, with regard to our relationship with the Institute at National level, I was pleasantly surprised at the very real and genuine interest they have in our Chapter. This was evidenced not only by the activities I just mentioned, but also by the attendance at Board meetings on different occasions by 1998 National President Ron Altoon and 1999 President Michael Stanton, and a very strong representation by National at September's PIA meeting. Clearly, they see growth in the Institute by way of international chapters and they see our success as a model for the formation of chapters elsewhere.

Financially, as a Chapter we are very fortunate to have corporate sponsorship from Otis Lifts, Herman Miller, Call Print Reprographics and Franchi International, and we are most thankful to them. They support us not only with materials and services, but most importantly with cash contributions. This allows us to provide the high quality of programmes and activities that have come to be associated with our Chapter as well as to keep our local membership charges relatively modest.

Over the past year or so we have been able to establish a reserve fund that will be used in the coming years as a basis for formalising the Chapter Executive position. We feel committed to this, as it will help all of us to do our Chapter business more efficiently and, therefore, will allow opportunities to better serve the membership; this is a major issue our 1999 Board will address.

In closing I'd like to extend a formal thank you to members of the 1998 Board for their support and dedication to the Chapter.

Finally, my congratulations to Steven Steimer and the 1999 Board of Directors and again, my thanks to the Chapter members for allowing me the privilege of representing you over the past year.

MA Urban Design

The MA Urban Design (Europe) is a course run jointly by the University of Westminster in London and the Czech Technical University in Prague. Programme directors claim it is a new departure in postgraduate urban design courses.

It is based in two contrasting but vital urban centres--London and Prague. Taught by experienced lecturers and professors involved in cutting edge research and practice, the course is conducted entirely in English. The curriculum follows an integrated approach to design studio and lectures, and includes other European centres for optional visits and short study trips.

Further details may be obtained from: http://www.wmin.ac.uk/Env/UDP/Pages/euro_ud.htm or <http://www.wmin.ac.uk> under new courses. Further details may be obtained by emailing: ubdes@wmin.ac.uk

Autodesk Training for AIA members on Alaska Cruise

Westark College and the University at Sea have joined forces to provide a new location for AIA training on an Alaskan cruise. Training will be conducted on Architectural Desktop and 3D Viz software packages with a brief overview of ACADLT 98.

John Janzen, an Autodesk Consultant and winner of the Top Gun Award at Autodesk Design World, will help you learn and earn 24 CEUs or 72 LUs. The courses will be both lecture and lab.

This occurs during a 7-night cruise on MS Westerdam during May 22-29, 1999. Families are welcome.

For further information, contact anichols@systema.westark.edu or phone 800-926-3775, fax 813-527-3228.

Members

We welcome your comments and suggestions. If you have any interesting ideas or articles for future publications of this newsletter, please fax us on 0171:730-8922.

Due Date on Learning Units Postponed

The AIA national board has extended the deadline for accruing continuing education credits. AIA members now have until 30 September 1999 to complete the 1997 requirements and until 30 September 2000 to meet the 1998 requirement.

AIA members must complete 36 learning units each year in order to maintain their membership.



The Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects Annual Livery Banquet

The Annual Livery Banquet will take place at Mansion House, EC4 by kind permission of The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor on Monday, 29 March 1999, 7.00 for 7.30pm

In attendance will be The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor Alderman Lord Levene KBE. The other principal guest is Sir Christopher Harding.

This is an excellent opportunity to entertain guests and introduce potential new members to the Company.

Applications for tickets (£65.00 each) should be made to the Clerk as soon as possible and in any event not later than **Friday 19 March** with a cheque and names of all guests. Formal cards, which are necessary for admission to Mansion House, will then be sent to you.

If an application is received after **19 March** it may not be possible to include your name in the list of those attending. It is regretted that refunds, less 10%, can only be made if advice of cancellation is received by this same date.

Dress is white tie and tails and decorations but it is not discourteous to wear a dinner jacket (black tie) with a white shirt.

Urban Planning Seminar in Spain

Super Cities in the 21st Century will be the topic of the 1999 Global Super Projects Conference in Madrid on 2-5 May 1999. It aims to focus attention on investment opportunities among cities with supportive governments and superior social, cultural and business amenities.

H.E. Juan Carlos II, King of Spain, will open the session and give an overview of the conference. Professor Peter Hall of the Bartlett School of Planning will give the keynote address. The mayors of Madrid, Buenos Aires and Lisbon, among others, will discuss issues raised by Hall. Dinner will be hosted by the Spanish Prime Minister.

Further information is available from Karen Medernach, World Development Federation, 35 Technology Parkway, Suite 150, Norcross, GA30092, USA, Tel: 001-770-446-6996 or fax +770-263-8835.

Papers Sought

Places, the quarterly journal edited by Donlyn Lyndon, invites submissions of articles related to sustainable design; call 718-399-6090 for details **The Classicist**, the journal of the Institute for the Study of Classical Architecture, is seeking papers and/or examples of work done in the classical manner, call 212-570-7374.

New Members '99

The AIA London/UK Chapter would like to give a warm welcome to our following new members: **David Hughes, International Associate**, of Swanke Hayden Connell Architects and **Ernest J.A. Zabarte, Associate AIA**, of RTKL UK Limited, and look forward to seeing you both at this year's upcoming Chapter events.

planning and building by advancing the standards of architectural education, training and practice”.

CES (the continuing education system) enables us to keep current, master new knowledge and skills, plan for the future, and responsibly meet the role society entrusts to a professional. CES is a mandatory requirement by AIA national for membership. This year we will continue to provide CES information and events to advance our knowledge.

This year we will host the fifth annual Student/ Professional Design Charette. The purpose of the event is to create an opportunity for students and professionals to work side by side in creating a solution to a design problem. I am sure that everyone who has participated in the past would agree that it not only is an educational experience for the students, but it is also a great learning experience for the professionals.

This year, as a new commitment to the education community, I would like to set up a scholarship programme for students in our region. With the help of our sponsors we shall endeavour to extend a helping financial hand to individuals who may not have had the opportunity to further themselves only for the reason of financial constraint.

The fourth aim is to **“coordinate the building industry and the profession of architecture to ensure the advancement of the living standards of people through their improved environment”.**

Over the past decade we have seen our world become smaller. We have watched more and more businesses and manufacturers from all nations invest in buildings and create products for the building industry. The London/UK Chapter is not just part of this global vision; it is a result of architectural global practice. In thinking globally we must advocate the breaking down of any and all barriers to promote the good practice of architecture. In the coming year, we will continue to co-ordinate and liaise with the RIBA, the ARB, and the NCARB to foster understanding between the architects of our two countries. We hope not only to re-establish reciprocity in educational qualifications and ultimately architectural registration, but also to address all regional issues of mutual concern and interest.

The final aim in the institute's mission statement is **“to make the profession of ever-increasing service to society”.**

Raj Bar-Kumar past president of the AIA believes that “Architects must assume a great responsibility as leaders in their community”. Through this vision he initiated a programme called Legacy. The programme's goal is to each year instigate a community project in the host city of the national convention. I too share the belief that we must engage ourselves with the community in which we live and practice. During the next year I am committed to creating a new programme that will get in touch with our community and help benefit those who are in need. I challenge the Chapter membership this year to join me in leaving behind a meaningful and lasting legacy to our community.

These are the visions that I have for our Chapter. To paraphrase Ron Alton “Lend us your voice, give your time, become a participant.” Together we can build a stronger foundation for the London/UK Chapter of the American Institute of Architects at the start of the twenty-first century.

Thank you- Steve Steimer, AIA
steven_steimer@gensler.com

Profile: Health Care Firm Opens in London

Architecture and Strategy are the watchwords of a new American architectural firm, which has started a practice simultaneously in London and Dallas. Jonathan Bailey, AIA and G. Travis Leissner, Associate AIA, have joined with three non-architectural partners to establish Jonathan Bailey Associates UK Ltd. The firm began work in early 1998 specialising in health care. Jonathan and Travis were both trained in the US and had previously worked at firms including HKS, Leo Daly and RTKL in Dallas, Los Angeles and London. Jonathan is well known in the US, UK and internationally, as an award-winning architect specialising in this field.

So far, they are working with two separate UK consortia on private

finance initiatives (PFIs) for the National Health Service. The PFIs allow private development to invest in facilities in place of the NHS. They have been hired by the contractors participating in design flash-build proposals for the remodelling and new construction of hospital facilities near Isleworth, London and Dudley, West Midlands.

Although the US is the strongest health care market in the world, Travis believes the UK market is a “growing market” that is also strong with six to seven percent of GDP being spent in this sector. He sees a need in the UK for design to become more “patient-centred.”

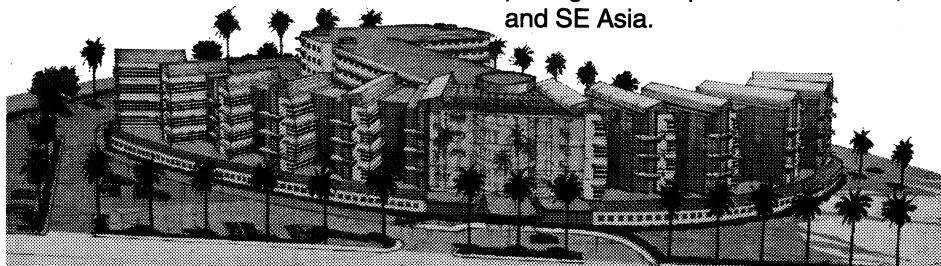


Above Left: G. Travis Leissner, Assoc. AIA, Director. Right: Jonathan D. Bailey, NCARB Cert., NCIDQ, AIA, Chief Executive

The other three partners are Nick Shapland, Managing Director of the London office; and Tom Dwyer and Mike Wright, partners in the Dallas office. Nick has a banking and investment background and has experience in structuring PFI projects. Mike and Tom both have strong backgrounds in hospital development, operations and real estate investment.

By offering the full spectrum of professional services needed for health care development projects within one firm, Jonathan Bailey Associates expects to offer a continuum of expertise. The firm completes their package by also being willing to put equity into their projects.

Where next? They see growth opportunities in the hotel market as well as the health care field, and they are exploring office expansion in the US, UK and SE Asia.



Above: Fort Bonifacio Medical Centre. The scope of services include space programming, master planning, and architecture design competition. It is conceived as a minimum 300-bed facility and the masterplan will allow for possible long term expansion to 450 beds.

Michael Lischer Starts Firm

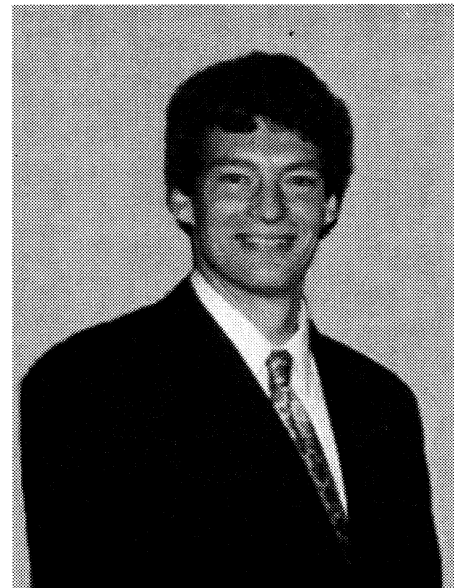
In January, Michael Lischer established his own firm, Sport Concepts, after nearly 15 years with HOK Sports Facility Group. While there, he helped that sector of HOK to grow from 15 people to more than 300.

His new firm is a consulting practice that offers a broad range of services to cities, sports teams and whom ever is interested in developing sports and entertainment facilities. Beyond architecture, his services will include advice on site selection and analysis, and putting together financing and property development.

Michael believes that sports and entertainment are not two separate practice areas. Sports today have become entertainment, and modern sports facilities must become more flexible facilities than traditional stand-alone sports stadia have been.

Among his first clients is the Hungarian Football Association. He is assisting them in their quest to co-host the European Championships with Austria in 2004 by advising them on updating their stadia and helping with their proposals.

Michael's office is on Piccadilly in London, and you can congratulate him by telephone at 0171-917-1702 or by e-mail at sport.con@dial.pipex.com.



Michael Lischer, AIA, RIBA

AIA London/UK

The First International Chapter of the American Institute of Architects
26 Walpole Street, London SW3 4QS
Fax/messages 0171-730-8922 www.iauk.org



Justine Kingham AIA
26 Walpole Street
London SW3 4QS
UK

Events

March 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31: The Architecture of the Jubilee Line Extension Tour: A preview of some of the new stations of the Jubilee Line Extension in advance of the line's opening. Price: £8/£6- includes entry to Museum. Contact: LT Museum Resource Centre on 0171 379 6344 2.00pm - 5.00pm.

March 25: Architectural Images of the North 1700 - 1950: Drawings and photographs selected from the British Library. Contact RIBA Heinz Gallery: 0171 307 3628, RIBA Heinz Gallery, 21 Portman Square, W1.
Weekdays 11-5pm, Sats 11-2pm

Editors: Justine Kingham, Michael Lischer, Karen Whittle
Group Photographs: Noel Hill

Chapter Membership Information: Michael Lischer,
sport.con@dial.pipex.com

herman miller

franchi
International

Call Print

OTIS

AIA National Information & Assistance: 001-
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