

# AIA/UKNEWS

#### NUMBER 30

Newsletter for The First International Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

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#### AIA/UK

Benjamin Franklin House 36 Craven Street London WC2N 5NG email AIA-UK@usa.net Tel/Fax: 0171 930 9124 www.aiauk.org Fifth Annual AIA London DESIGN CHARRETTE for Students and Professionals Exploring In Betweeness in the City

November 6th at Toynbee Hall, 28 Commercial Street, Whitechapel (Aldgate East tube) 9am-6:30pm.

"When night comes, the city's inhabitants are to retire to their homes: this is what the authorities want. But what happens to those who have no home? 'Going about at night' on the streets was not allowed until the middle of the nineteenth century, and those who ignored the prohibition had to reckon with sanctions and endure the accusation that they endangered security and morality.

What happened to those who were on the streets neither for pleasure nor with 'dark' intentions, but because of unavoidable necessity?"

Nights in the Big City
Joachim Schlor

Since the Late Victorian Period, when the homeless population in the city became visible, there have been ongoing efforts by individuals and institutions to attempt to deal with the issues related to this population.

This year's design charrette will explore a part of the city of London which has historically been perceived as the lesser side: the East End.

The East End maintains its vitality through socio-economic extremes and the cultural milieu present in the area. The economic differences provide impetus for further services to aid the population that lives there. The larger task at hand is to explore the relevance of architecture for an area of the city that acts as a home for the outcasts from the social norm.

How can architecture provide relevance to this

population? How can architecture mediate between site and need?

All Students, Educators, Professionals, and in particular, AIA members, are invited to challenge their preconceptions of the dilemma facing the city's transient population. Working in teams with an urban site in East London and the aspirations of Crisis, the call is to investigate refuge, resettlement, and community within the realm of architecture and the city; to create a place for those who have no place.

Confirmed jury members are:
Edward Jones (Dixon Jones Architects)
Fred Koetter (Koetter, Kim & Associates)
Rick Mather (Rick Mather Architects)
Paul Finch (Architect's Journal)
Valerie Owen (RIBA Chairperson, London)
Carolyn Clark (CRISIS)
Norman Krangel (Call Print)
Steve Jolly (Call Print)

Admission is £10 for Professionals and £5 for students. Contact Yasin Visram (<a href="wvisram@kka.co.uk">wvisram@kka.co.uk</a>) or Vanessa at 0171 930 9124 for more information.

#### Reciprocity Debate Continues...

Many of you may have seen the article in Building Design (September 24) entitled "New Plan to Shame US into Recognition," or Paul Hyett's piece, "Americans Establish Themselves Here. Shouldn't It Work Both Ways?" in Architects' Journal (October 14). Michael Stanton, President of the AIA, and Norman Koonce, CEO of the AIA, replied to the former, and Steven Steimer, UK chapter President, and SOM replied to the latter (see Letters to the Editor, Architects' Journal, October 21).

(continued Page 2)

OCTOBER 1999

e-mail AIA-UK@usa.net

www.aiauk.org

#### New AIA Executive Secretary

As of August, the AIA has an executive secretary. Vanessa Paulsen, native New Yorker and a recent architecture graduate of Columbia University, will be working full-time at the Benjamin Franklin House, the 'official' HQ for the AIA in London. She'll be doing the newsletter, coordinating events and membership, and taking care of other odds and ends, as well as helping with the Ben Franklin House charity. Contact her direct on 0171 930 9121 or BenjaminFranklinHouse@msn.com

#### AIA/UK

# AIA's European Chapter Sends Aid to Turkey

In an effort to ameliorate the situation caused by the destructive earthquakes in Turkey in August, AIA's European chapter is starting a special drive, beginning with a target of \$10,000. They are already well on the way, but they would appreciate help from the London-UK chapter. Checks (a suggested donation of \$500 per member) may be sent to the Chapter mailbox. Funds will mostly go to the Red Crescent, but they are on the lookout for other options. Contact Chapter Vonier member Tom (76646.1100@compuserve.com) for more information. Or write to: AIA Continental Europe Boite Postale 208- Etoile F-75770 Paris Cedex

# Letters to the Editor?

France

Your comments and contributions are always welcome. Let us know about any news, competitions, promotions or exciting new projects.

Email AIA-UK@usa.net Tel/Fax 0171 930 9124

AIA/**UK** *NEWS*December deadline:
21 November

#### Reciprocity (continued)

Both articles blamed the AIA and NCARB for a lack of progress on reciprocity, which is not exactly the way the Chapter's Subcommittee on Reciprocity views the situation. The AIA is overwhelmingly in favour of re-establishing reciprocal licensing with the UK, and has been since the agreement was first dropped by NCARB. The AIA Board of Directors passed a resolution two years ago to urge the matter forward. A year ago, Barbara Kelly, chairwoman of the ARB, indicated at a meeting with NCARB in Washington that ARB had to tend to two issues in the UK before they could continue the dialogue with NCARB. Last summer, their senior staff executive also resigned. Admittedly, both sides are not acting with urgency, but they are talking.

While the AIA has pressed and continues to press NCARB to negotiate bilateral inter-recognition agreements, the fact is that the AIA does not control what NCARB does, nor when it does it, any more than RIBA directs ARB. Nor does NCARB control what the state licensing authorities will approve, as the state authorities continue to decide this issue. The most productive action that chapter members can take at this time is to write to NCARB to encourage them to move faster in their deliberations and become more proactive in their international policies. Contact Lenore Lucey, Executive Director, NCARB, 1735 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20006 or <a href="mailto:lmlucey@ncarb.org">lmlucey@ncarb.org</a>, and send a copy to mail@yakeley.com or IKing97900@aol.com

Hyett introduced a secondary concern in his AJ article suggesting that the AIA lobbied against reciprocity and in favour of trade protectionism. Russell Keune, AIA Vice President for International Relations, clarified the background for us. "The AIA did not lobby the US Trade Representative to remove architectural services from the

Transatlantic Economic Partnership (TEP). We were shown the EU's TEP proposal and asked for our opinion. We gave the UST our best professional opinion. It was the decision of the Trade Representative not to pursue the regulated professions – architecture, accountancy, and law - in this initial TEP agreement. Only engineering is left in the first round as a test application of the EU's proposal."

"The TEP proposal shared with the AIA was not limited to the UK but included all of the EU member states," continued Russell. "This would have translated to the US agreeing to have one mutual recognition agreement that encompassed all EU members, and it was to have been accomplished in an extremely short time frame. Based on the AIA's experience with NCARB and NAFTA [Mexico and Canada] it was totally unrealistic and unachievable."

Article by Justine Kingham

# CES Requirements Update

AIA National announced late this summer that the 36 Learning Units (LUs) requirement for 1997 is waived *only* for AIA members with a non-USA mailing address. This waiver does not affect state continuing education (CE) requirements for licensure. So if you are already licensed in any state that has mandatory CE requirements for licensure, you will still have to meet those even if you are living abroad.

The CES waiver for non-USA mailing address AIA members will be under review with AIA National. The 36 LUs necessary for AIA membership will most likely be required for next year, so please do not assume that you do not need to be continuously earning LUs; you do!

If you have any questions regarding CES, please contact Jennifer Kyner at 0171 786 7701.

# Submission deadline for Design Awards: 10 January 2000

Admiring the view over Covent Garden, ROH, 28/7/99



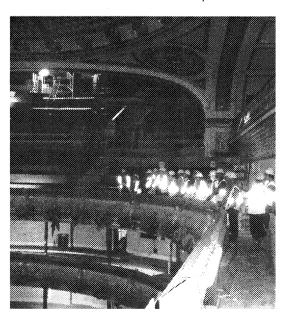
AIA/UK

### Royal Opera House Tour

On Wednesday, the 28th of July, the AIA London chapter toured the Royal Opera House (ROH) in Covent Garden. Charles Braughton, project architect with Dixon Jones/BDP, led a tour that lasted approximately ninety minutes. AIA members were able to see all areas of the project, including the extensive back-of-house works that will transform the ROH into a state of the art performance facility. The project includes the creation of a large public space in the floral market portion of the building. This space will be open to the public at non-performance times, and promises to be a positive addition to the urban landscape in the Covent Garden area.

Afterwards the group convened at the Axis Bar in Aldwych, and met up with other AIA members who, because of limited numbers, were not able to join the tour. A pleasant evening was had by all, in what is proving to be a popular attraction: the monthly AIA pub night, which generally attracts twenty to thirty AIA/UK members.

Article by Lester Korzilius



AIA Members in the ROH site, 28/7/99

# An Elegant AIA Evening The Riverboat Cruise down the Thames

The AIA/London UK's summer Riverboat Cruise on the Thames was a glowing success. On a balmy clear night on Friday, 16 July, over 100 revellers boarded the cruise boat Naticia at Embankment Pier. After a welcome speech by Steve Steimer, President of the AIA/London UK chapter, the group sat down to a delicious dinner buffet and then danced the night away to the sound of a live band.



The Thames, Big Ben & Parliament

photo: SRB

The cruise lasted four hours, during which party-goers had the opportunity to enjoy the spectacular sights along the Thames, including the Millenium Dome, which was the object of lively comment and discussion. The sponsor for the event was Herman Miller, who, in addition to a substantial contribution towards the event, also donated the grand prize for the raffle, the high-tech Aeron chair. Other raffle prizes distributed during the cruise were several books on the recent works of well known firms such as SOM, HOK, Gensler, RTKL, and Michael Wilford.

As the Naticia sailed back to the pier at the end of the evening, many guests expressed how much they enjoyed the event and voiced a desire to have it repeated in the not too distant future.

Article by Elizabeth Casquiero

INTERESTED IN NOMINATING SOMEONE FOR THE 2000 BOARD?

Board Meetings are the first Wednesday of every month. Contact Steve Steimer for info.



# Calendar 1999-2000

**NOVEMBER** 

6 Saturday 9:30am-6pm DESIGN CHARRETTE @ TOYNBEE HALL

11 Thursday 1:30pm
'Making London Greater Briefing the Mayor' @
RIBA 66 Portland Place
(see enclosed leaflet)

18 Thursday 6-8pm

A Tribute to Paul Rudolph American Embassy at 1 Grosvenor Square,WC1

23 Tuesday 6:30pm 'Recovering Bad Debts' AIA/RIBA Seminar @ RIBA

30 Tuesday 5:30pm

Tour of Tate Gallery, Bankside. Meet at 25 Sumner Street (off Southwark Street; Blackfriars tube)

Pub Night: Venue TBD

**DECEMBER** 

8 Wednesday 6:30pm CES: Facade Engineering @ Ove Arup

JANUARY
31 Monday Time TBD
DESIGN AWARDS
PRESENTATION



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Timothy Gale Secretary
Lorraine King Treasurer

Vanessa Paulsen Chapter Executive

Courtney Miller Bellairs Editor

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#### The AIA/UK Newsletter

The Newsletter is published about every two months.

The Newsletter is a service provide by AIA members in the UK to the profession, the public, and anyone interested in the activities of design professionals working abroad.

Notes to the editor, suggestions, criticism, etc. are welcome. Submissions may be sent to cmiller@clara.net or posted to "News" at the above address. Typed, double-spaced material and images intended for publication must reach the editor by the deadline date. Appropriate submissions are edited and published as space and time permit, and at the discretion of the AIA London/UK Board of Directors.

# ARB Update

Andrew Finch, Registrar of ARB, replied to the Chapter in August that ARB would not change its policies, and the text of his letter is printed below. He was replying to letters reprinted in the July issue of AIA/UK News, a copy of which appears on **www.aiauk.org**. Finch resigned less than two weeks later, and the chapter is seeking to meet with ARB representatives to continue discussions.

"I refer to our previous correspondence. As you will know the question of the regulatory status of AIA Chapter members was considered at a meeting of the Board on 13 July 1999.

Whilst the Board fully appreciates the points made by you, it was felt that it would be inappropriate for the Board to make special provision for American architects either by, in effect, excluding them from the current statutory regime or by introducing an addition to the existing statutory scheme.

Clearly, the position of your members does raise difficult issues and if there are any further questions that you have please do not hesitate to contact me and I will do my best to answer them."



**∠** herman miller

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