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SMALL EVENTS ADD VARIETY & SPICE TO THE SPRING CALENDAR

Filling the void between the AIA seasonal set pieces - January Design Awards to June Boat Trip - is sometimes a problem. This year, a fortuitous combination of short notice events provided crowd drawing variety and earned well deserved CEU's.

Plans are already afoot for the next series. The Chapter maintains high standards and caters for a surprisingly wide variety of interests. ***Please check out CALENDER 2001 for future confirmed and speculative events.*** The calendar is published in various locations with outside organisations and has the potential to generate an international guest list.

Sport Event

Early March - cold and otherwise unfriendly - seemed a good time to enjoy watching ice hockey and socialising at the London Arena. The London Knights won, the drinks were cold and the company great. However, is there any chance that - before next year - the London Arena might succumb to an exterior design make over?

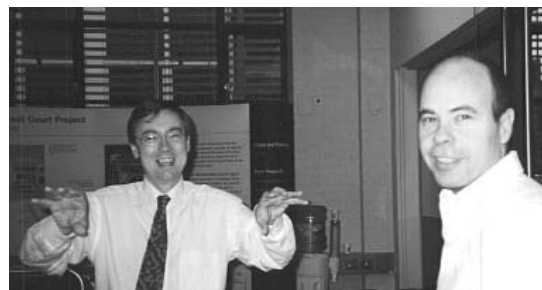
Art Event

April's Art Event was held in a more pleasant Avenue - the SE1 Gallery @ Workplace in Southwark. The gallery is run by Director Chris Barlow, former interior designer now a specialist in "art for the workplace." Barlow presented several case studies of his firm's recent work, dispelling the myth that today's businesses choose only vapid 2-dimensional posters as representative of "art." The firm's list of artists work in every conceivable media and style - product art, mobiles, textiles & carpets, sculpture & glass, modern & traditional.



SE 1 Workplace's Chris Barlow and event organiser, Courtney Miller, Assoc AIA, share a relaxed moment at the Gallery.

The Ice Hockey night was organised by Michael Lischer, AIA RIBA, of Sports Concept; the Art Evening was organised by Courtney Miller Assoc AIA, Artist and Tutor in Visual Studies and Architecture Design at Greenwich University; the Spiders, Snails and Structural Engineers lecture was organised by Bruce Danzer, AIA, from Studio Architecture; and the British Museum tour was organised by Lester Korzilius, AIA, of Foster and Partners.



Buro Happold's Mike Cook and Foster's Lester Korzilius, AIA, Chapter President, discuss future directions in design - surpressable inflatables or on site material growth? Read on.....

The latest innovation was the high tech "art wall." What at first appeared to be a giant screen saver mesmerising the audience proved on inspection to be a subtle manipulation of art images, establishing mood and message as desired.

As well as catering to business clients, SE1 Workplace is conscious of its place in the community and works with local groups to increase architecture and art awareness. The main gallery display was devoted to a presentation of young people's work documenting their "Voyage to School." There was clearly potential here for future AIA involvement.

Lecture Event

On 20 April, Mike Cook, Buro Happold structural engineer and partner, presided over a seminar entitled "Spiders, Snails and Structural Engineers" that was both practical and philosophical. Looking for designs that fostered sustainability and minimal material use, Cook was led to a review of spiders (tension structures) and snails (compression structures).

SMALL EVENTS - Cont'd

2 participation...

Contains Chapter news on events to attend, membership issues and interest areas.

Calendar 2001

MAY

.....
17 Thursday
6:30pm

"Dimensions in Sustainability" seminar by environmentally acclaimed engineers, Battle McCarthy at 57 Poland Street.

30 Wednesday
6:30pm

Studios Architecture Open House at 11-29 Fashion Street, London E1.

JUNE

.....
15 Friday
7:00pm

BOAT TRIP! Back by popular demand.

27 Wednesday
6:30pm

Prefabrication Seminar at Forge Lewellyn, London.

JULY

.....
Are you fit enough for a bike trip?

Pub Night in conjunction with Fresh Art.

AUGUST

.....
Building Tour / Pub Night at the "Spa," Canary Wharf. Interiors by Phillipe Starke; main building by Koetter Kim.

SEPTEMBER

.....
"The New Urban Agenda," seminar by Alan Baxter.

Visit to the Eden Project???

OCTOBER

.....
8th Annual Student Charette.

NOVEMBER

.....
Beaux Art Ball or Murder Mystery night?????

SMALL EVENTS - Cont'd

The 40 plus attendees were then led through the fundamentals of different building types with examples drawn from the extensive Buro Happold repertoire.

Along the way, Cook discussed potential future materials and trends. Is anyone ready yet for buildings that grow on site, using micro materials developed from new physics? Will future buildings satisfy other needs beyond the fundamentals of comfort and security? Now that computers allow us to conceive and analyse almost any structure, what will the future relationship between architect and engineer bring?

Tour Event

By far the most popular of the Spring events was the British Museum Great Court visit on 28 March. Over 60 members attended the tour, led by Giles Robinson, Foster and Partners' project manager.

What started out as a "routine" Pub Night, became a popular attraction when Foster and Partners were persuaded to give the insider's story on the development of a new national monument, including a detailed description - complete with personal anecdotes - of the design process.

Madrid Conference Attracts Record Attendance

Over 100 AIA members and guests attended the **Continental Chapter's Madrid Conference** in late April. Between late dinners (one amidst the splendour of the Tyssen Museum) and early morning seminars, attendees toured the Escorial, the Botanical Gardens, the Opera House and the Royal Palace, achieving a balance between new and old architecture and **earning 12 Continuing Education learning units on the way.**

The Fall Conference will be held in Budapest from **14-16 September**. Bookings are now being taken at the conference hotel, the historic Gellert Hotel overlooking the Danube.

Check out the Chapter's web site on www.aiaeurope.org for more details and a list of Design Award winners.



Giles Robinson, from Foster and Partners, discusses the long term advantages of quality stonework at the British Museum Great Court, while ancient relics listen intently.



BM photography by Sasha Sattar-Lothore, Koetter Kim

It's a Boat Trip!

Although other Avenues, other activities were discussed, the AIA Summer Cruise is back by popular demand.

The Nauticia will leave from Westminster Pier at 7:00pm on Friday 15 June.

An exciting evening is planned, complete with a buffet dinner and a six-piece band.

Start praying now for good weather. Space is limited, so register early via "events @aiauk.org" or by return of the mailed invitation.

The possibility of a Beaux Art Ball or Murder Mystery night in November is still under discussion.

Any thoughts on a preferred alternative social event will be welcomed.

Sponsorship by

 **herman miller**

Prepare now for LONDON OPEN HOUSE 22-23 September 2001

Volunteers with architectural knowledge are needed to guide the over 350,000 visitors who participate in this popular extravaganza.

Volunteers receive a badge entitling them to jump the queue at heavily subscribed venues. They might also be eligible for CEUs (self reported).

Find out more about this worthwhile charity. Contact Nicolette Spera nspera@londonopenhouse.org or visit the web site w.londonopenhouse.org.

Have you got an idea for a CES Event or Pub Night? Let us know!

Join the Chapter's Mentoring Programme and Meet the Future

The gulf between architectural practice and schools of architecture is a time weary tale. In an effort to bridge this divide, the AIA London / UK Chapter set up a **Mentoring Programme** last year under the initiative of the then Student Representative, Amy Kasper.

The programme matches architects to students for an initial informal meeting, giving the students a chance to find out about the profession and discuss their future paths and at the same time giving the professionals an insight into the younger generation's motives.

So far, 10 student/mentor matches have been arranged. While the programme does not formalise future interactions, most students and mentors have maintained initial contacts and developed them into invaluable, longer term professional relationships.

The feedback from students is encouraging. *"As students, we often feel disconnected from the 'real world' and I really value the contact with practicing architects."* *"I talked for hours with my mentor and we're meeting next week for advice on my portfolio."*

Although one does not need to be an American to participate, students are often intrigued by the American connection. *"I've always wanted to work in the US,"* says one student speaking on behalf of many, *"so it's helpful to learn what the education and work are like over there."*

When you remember your student days - the frantic all-nighters, the haze of decision making - you might also recall that one person whose guidance influenced and shaped your career. Joining the Mentor Programme offers you the chance to give something back to the profession.

The Mentor Programme is run by this year's Student Representative, John Prior. If you are interested in being a mentor or know of students who needs guidance, please contact the London/UK office.

STUDENT CHARETTE!

Plan ahead to attend this year's November Student Charette. Keep in contact with info@aiauk.org for details.



Anyone willing to take on Jury Duty?

The AIA London/UK Chapter has also been developing contacts with universities, offering AIA professionals as design jury members.

The long term ties with Portsmouth University led to a request for jury members in March. Other local universities have also expressed an interest.

Contact the London/UK Chapter Office if you are interested.

Have you checked your CES Credits?

As of the last count, a serious percentage of Chapter members did not have sufficient CES credits. Our backlog of reporting event attendance is now up to date, leaving the responsibility for compliance with the Members.

To check your AIA/CES credits or **self report new ones** visit MyAIA, the new internet portal for the exclusive use of AIA members. The portal is accessed by logging on at "www.AIA.org." (Note - MyAIA replaces e-Architect.com.)

When you first open the portal, you will see the "guest" view. To log on, enter your NEW AIA member number and password in the login box.

Your NEW number can be found on the last CES transcript or on the 2001 renewal notice. If you cannot find it, call AIA Information Central 001 800 242 3827. Your password is your last name in all lower case and without spaces.

Scroll down the site until you find the Continuing Education Transcript Search on the left hand site.

The Chapter is committed to providing as many CE events as possible generally with free attendance and refreshments. It is up to the Members to take advantage of this service.

REMEMBER - If you attend an RIBA Continuing Education event, you can self-report it in most states. Although the form does not have a place for this, you can identify the RIBA as the provider by quoting the RIBA CES number, D007.



The RIBA is the only non-US organisation officially recognised as a source of points based on a world wide agreement.

INTERNSHIPS - Listing of Positions Available

Although the AIA has no intention of becoming an employment Agency, we are often approached by US students seeking internship positions in the UK and vice versa.

If your firm can offer an internship, please let us know at the main office and we will direct any enquires to you.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT - An allied profession develops its own identity

As the National AIA continues to debate the controversial issue of exclusivity, the London/UK Chapter seeks to broaden its membership by drawing in a wider circle of professionals. While the Chapter will continue to maintain the clear distinction between Architects and Associate or Affiliated members, ALL professionals with common interests and standards in the building, interior, property and construction industries will be welcomed and encouraged to participate.

Facilities Management is of interest to AIA members as a relatively new profession that is beginning to assume a higher profile. Whereas previously, Facilities Managers tended to grow into the profession by chance, academic and accredited routes are now being established, with several excellent undergraduate and graduate degree programmes available.

In the US, the International Facilities Management Association (IFMA) has established a process that - like the AIA - offers professional accreditation and title. Other countries have established their own similar professional associations.

Elizabeth Casqueiro, AIA, IFMA, is currently Principal Manager for Property and Facilities Management for the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development. She came to the UK after being a Project Manager in the World Bank's Global Real Estate Division in Washington, DC, where she undertook site selection, construction and fit out work for Bank offices in over 100 countries.

She has found that the Facilities Management profession in the UK is highly developed, *"more so, in some ways, than in the US, where the legislation and complexities surrounding health and safety, real estate and construction are less involved and overarching."*

Whatever its differences, Facilities Management is a profession where architectural skills - a flair for space planning and interiors and a strong understanding of building plant performance - are useful. The emphasis on electrical and mechanical systems allies the profession closely with engineering; however, Casqueiro believes that architects *"bring a more holistic approach to their understanding of a building and this can be invaluable."*

Good Facilities Management includes a wide range of activities:

Security	Utilities	AV Equipment
Life Cycle Costs	Space Planning	Alterations
Leasing	Purchasing	Artwork
Insurance	Catering	Kitchen Equipment
Health / Safety	Furniture	Disaster Recovery
Lift, Escalators, Plant and Fabric Maintenance		



Elizabeth Casqueiro, AIA, IFMA - combines the skills of Architect and Facilities Manager.

As Facilities Manager, Casqueiro is responsible for developing and controlling a budget of £5 million (inclusive of £1 million for capital expenditure) for a 400,000 sq ft facility. She has a staff of 8, including space planners, CAD operators and engineers. There are also 16 in house contractors - electricians, mechanical service men, carpenters, decorators, BMS operators, etc. Her team is responsible for managing over 80 outsourced maintenance contracts.

In her previous employment as a Project Manager, Casqueiro had complete responsibility from a project's start to its completion. As a Facilities Manager, the work is more structured and dominated by the demands of the building's life cycle and planned maintenance requirements - yearly plant shutdowns; weekly testing for Legionella; nightly cleaning; and seemingly endless testing of lifts, cradles, fire alarms, etc. Although there is pleasure in the necessarily disciplined routine, Casqueiro admits *"there are times I miss the intensity and finite nature of pure project management."*

No discussion on Facilities Management can avoid anecdotes of maintenance mishaps. It is apparent that designers still make decisions without an understanding of how buildings are used. This can lead not only to disasters, but also to those niggling day to day problems. Casqueiro cites the example of designer specified carpet tiles that have a gradual colour and gradation across a large office area. This works well at first, but, as the tiles become worn and need replacing, the integrity of the design can be destroyed by incorrect replacement. Interesting

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT - Cont'd

Benjamin Franklin House Looks Toward Completion

Since the Phase I stabilisation work stopped on the Benjamin Franklin House in the late 1990's, the Charity has concentrated on fund raising activities in preparation for the next effort - completing the interior restoration and turning the building into a museum and science centre.

Phase II works are now programmed to begin on site later this year - it is hoped in September. This will consist of painting, decorating and fireplace restoration on the basement, ground and first floors. The top two floors require panel restorations, plastering and M&E installations prior to painting and decorating.

The target date for the completion of the entire project is 4 July 2002. By this time, the building will also have its allotment of period furniture and a completed, state of the art Audio Visual presentation of the life and times of Ben Franklin.

The AIA London / UK Chapter has been an active supporter of the restoration work for the last four years, monitoring the site progress in a series of well-attended seminars and presentations.

Until the projected museum is in full operation, the Chapter will continue to use the Benjamin Franklin House as its London address, making a small donation each year for the privilege. The Charity and the Chapter also share the services of the same administrative assistant, currently Robert Stern.



Ann Keigher, Associate AIA, the volunteer project manager of the Ben Franklin restoration project, can be reached on 020 7930 9121 or at "benjaminfranklinhouse@msn.com."

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT - Cont'd

facade detailing can be a cleaning nightmare. A reliance on bespoke materials can mean significant replacement costs at a later date.

From interior/exterior material selection, space planning considerations to plant selection, a good Facilities Manager's input into a project can assist in its long term success and sustainability.

"Most importantly," says Casqueiro, "a strong Facilities Manager can generate significant cost savings over time and is in a position to affect the ability of the institution to retain quality staff through the condition and quality of the working environment."



The Benjamin Franklin House, just off Trafalgar Square, provides the London/UK Chapter with its office and mailing address.

RIBA Liaison Meetings Continue

The AIA London/UK Chapter maintains positive contacts with the RIBA through twice yearly Liaison Meetings.

Richard Hastilow, RIBA CEO, and Ian Pritchard, RIBA Director of International Affairs and Membership met with the Board in April to discuss areas of joint professional interest.

Top on the Agenda - as ever - was US/UK licensing reciprocity and the seemingly eternal delays in achieving an accord. Despite good will, good intentions and a recent initiative spearheaded by Chapter President, Lester Korzilius, AIA RIBA, little has been or can be achieved independently by US and UK officials now that negotiations are on-going through the EU.

Other topics included Continuing Education, the AIA Louis Sullivan trophy/medal, Part III courses, etc. In particular, there was interest expressed in holding further joint AIA/RIBA events, emulating the successful Peter Jencks, Fred Koetter and Terry Farrell lecture several years ago.

Readers Respond to the Alsop Challenge

Well not all that many actually, but there have been a few comments back on Will Alsop's controversial remarks earlier this year on the quality of current American architecture.

Once reader politely responded that she had just returned from the UK and found the architecture there to be "very nice and generally clean."

Is that what American architecture is about; politeness, niceness and cleanliness? The mailbox remains open.

Donations to the Friends of Ben Franklin House are always welcome!



AIA / U K N E W S

AIA / U K

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

Notes to the editor, suggestions, criticism, etc. are welcome. Submissions may be sent to AIA-UK@usa.net or posted to "News" at the above address. Typed material and images intended for publication must reach the editor by the listed 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.

Lorraine Dale King, AIA,
Editor



LONDON OPEN HOUSE

**The AIA supports the London Open House
charity on 22-23 September.**

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The First International Chapter of The American Institute of Architects