



Excellence in Design Awards 2005

AIA London / UK

This year represents the 11th Annual Excellence in Design Awards programme organised by the AIA London / UK to honour projects by UK based architects and from architects throughout the world for projects in the UK. The awards are not given by category and over the years cited projects have varied significantly in type and size depending upon the composition of the jury. The six professional awards for 2005 in particular represent an unusually wide range of building types. Just as interesting is the geographic distribution of the selected projects, three of which are located in continental Europe.

The awards gala was held on the evening of 22 March at the Royal Society of Arts in London. Following welcoming remarks by Jim Baker, AIA London President and Keith Millay, the organiser of the 2005 awards, a brief address was given by Bob White of MACE, sponsor of this year's programme. The awards themselves were presented by Ted Cullinan and Roger Zogolovich, co-chairs of the 2005 jury. In accepting the awards each winning project was the subject of a brief powerpoint presentation by a representative of the design team. As in past years these presentations proved the highlight of the evening for the 120 individuals in attendance.

As part of the awards programme the Chapter also confers The Noel Hill Student Travel Award for outstanding commitment to design excellence by rising student talent. This award is based on a portfolio of work submitted to the jury. The recipients this year were Mr. Noam Andrews and Mr. Myung Ho Lee, both of the AA. Each received a cash payment of £1000 to support their proposed itinerary.

The evening ended with a reception and opportunity for those attending to discuss the winning projects directly with the designers. The professionals honoured this year and related projects are summarised on page 2.

Keith Millay

Who we are -

In preparing the new membership directory, some interesting facts about our membership have emerged. We sorted through the demographic information that we have and discovered the following. Of our 160 members, twenty-five percent, or 40 members are female. Sixty-two percent, or 100 members work in "traditional" architectural practices. Of these, forty-four percent work in American practices and thirty-five percent work in offices with over 100 employees. Interestingly, a similar number of members work in offices of less than 10 employees.

These facts tend to dispel the notion that our membership all work for large American practices. In fact only twenty-eight percent of our membership work in American practices and only sixteen percent work in American practices with more than 100 employees.

Take a look at the more detailed analysis which is included in the 2005 Directory published in May.

Michael Lischer



We're definitely not in London any more! - report from the 2005 AIA National Convention held in Las Vegas

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upcoming events

AIA London/UK Summer Gala Event 30 St. Mary Axe

Sponsored by Herman Miller Ltd



Photograph by Grant Smith

SAVE THE DATE

14 JULY 2005 AT 6:30 PM

An opportunity to socialise with your friends and colleagues from the AIA, RIBA, Herman Miller and others and get the inside view of the latest addition to London's skyline. The evening includes a presentation by Sara Fox of Swiss Re on the design and construction of the project from the client's perspective. Mark your diary now! 1 CES unit.

Please contact the AIA Chapter Executive at 020.7930.9124 or email at chapterexecutive@aiauk.org for additional details and reservations.

Super Saturday

Clear Air Architecture 05

Review of new design concepts that will shape buildings. Hilson Moran, among others in this day long event.

Date: 24 September 2005

Venue: TBC / 6.0 CES - HSW units

AIA London /UK
Ben Franklin House
36 Craven Street
London WC2N 5NF
t: 020.7930.9124
e: info@aiauk.org
w: www.aiauk.org



Sauerbruch Hutton Architects
for the
Fire and Police Station
Government District, Berlin

The Excellence in Design Award Winners for 2005

upcoming events (cont)

AIA London / UK Student Design Charrette 2005

New Public Spaces for London
Date: mid October 2005 TBC
6.5 CES - HSW units

AIA London / UK Key Note Lecture

The keynote speaker in November
will be **William Pedersen** FAIA
FAAR, a Design Principal for Kohn
Pedersen Fox Associates PC, which
he founded in 1976 along with A.
Eugene Kohn and Sheldon Fox.

Date: November 2005 TBC
Venue: RIBA (TBC) / 1.5 CES units



Grimshaw
for the
Zurich Airport 5th Expansion:
Landside & Airside Centres
Zurich, Switzerland



Stephen Davy Peter Smith Architects
for the
Swallow Place
London



Brisac Gonzalez Architects
for the
Museum of World Culture
Gothenburg, Sweden



de Rijke Marsh Morgan
for the
Kingsdale School
Dulwich, London



Grimshaw
for the
Rolls-Royce Manufacturing Plant
and Headquarters
West Sussex, UK

.....on the boards

Edwardian Architecture

A second historic building tour guided
by **Benedict O'Looney**, architect and
lecturer in Architecture History at the
Architectural Association, is planned
for later this summer on Edwardian
Architecture. 1.5 CES units

Additional building tours and lectures
are planned; watch your post for details.
The schedule of events organised by
the chapter represents over 30 CES units
throughout the year.

Architecture Week

A reminder that Architecture Week 2005
is the 17th to the 26th June - lot of great
events, tours and talks etc etc... for more
information go to -
<http://www.architectureweek.org.uk/>

AIA Continental Europe Conference

Helsinki's Exceptional Architecture - May 2005

The AIA Continental Chapter biannual conferences have always been a most enjoyable way to earn CEUs and the May 2005 Helsinki Conference was no exception. Helsinki cannot compete with Florence's antiquities or Porto's balmy charm, but it made up to the attendees with a combination of modern classics – Alvar Aalto and Eliel Saarinen – and international architecture with a twist, right up to present day.

Although it would be stretching it to say that Finnish architecture is extreme architecture, it cannot be denied that the northern climate gives it a distinctive character of its own. Façade colour becomes important in breaking the monotony of grey skies. An architectural competition is won on the basis of an enclosed pedestrian route. Triple glazing and double skin facades are commonplace. And where else are an architect's designs routinely depicted at night and covered in snow?



AIA members on the lake below the homes and studios built by Gesellius, Lindgren and Saarinen (HVIITRÄSK) in 1901. These natural settings an inspiration in much Finnish Architecture over the last century.

The Continental Chapter has sponsored 21 conferences since the first in Paris in 1994, but the major 4 day events will be held less frequently in the future. The next one – in Undine, Italy – is not scheduled until the autumn of 2006. It is not that they are running out of worthy cities, but the organisational burden is taking its toll.

Attendance exceeded 110 representing cities from across Europe and including a few from the States. London / UK Chapter members attending included Rich Droz, Lorraine King, Lester Korzilius and Keith Millay.

Lorraine King

Evenings Out

AIA London/UK members and friends have been out seeing new galleries, new architecture, and old timber frames.

In April the AIA had a private tour of the V&A Architecture Gallery given by the gallery's curator, who described the influence of architecture on society while walking through the gallery's extensive collection of drawings and models. In May the AIA visited the LABAN Dance Centre. The tour, given by a recent graduate, explored how Herzog & de Meuron's design was inspired by the fluid movement of dance and how dance students and the Deptford community interact and use the building. In June, the AIA return to class and attended a historic walking tour of Timber Frame Buildings given by Benedict O'Looney, architect and lecturer in Architecture History at the Architectural Association.

If you missed out on these events, don't worry more building tours are planned in the upcoming months.

Kristy Sels



The LABAN Dance Centre 'Spiral' from the AIA London tour in May.



Benny O'Looney (seated) explains a detail, regarding one of the many transformations of London, during the walking tour in June titled "Timber framed buildings which survived the Great Fire".

Sold Out in las vegas

Some 24,000 AIA delegates were on hand (about a third of the total membership!) to help Vegas celebrate its 100th anniversary. In addition to the other 90,000 daily visitors it was small wonder that almost everything we wanted to attend was sold out long before we got there. Message for conventioners and visitors to Las Vegas, book early, book often! If not 'Sold Out' and long lines for shows, restaurants, taxis and whatever else will greet you. There are no lines however in the casinos, plenty of room at the slots.

We last visited The Strip some 30 years ago and did not recognise the place. A few statistics: over 100,000 hotel rooms including 18 out of 21 of the largest hotels in the world! The latest addition, the Wynn, is reported to have cost \$1,000,000 per room, and looks every bit of it. Even in May, Vegas is hot, over 100 degrees Fahrenheit every day but totally air-conditioned to chilly temperatures indoors. We stayed at the MGM Grand, 5,005 rooms which is, more or less, linked to its sister the Mandalay, AIA convention centre, via a tram and long, long, long walks – total transfer time about 45 minutes.

The scale of the Vegas convention was huge. Huge exhibition, huge continuing education programme with enough classes to meet the educational requirements of a small college. It all appeared to run remarkably smoothly helped in part by what we found to be the consistent courtesy of the locals.

Apart from all that, R. K. Stewart, FAIA, from San Francisco (Principal in Gensler) was elected President. Happily, Stewart has a reputation for supporting the Institute's international agenda. And, speaking of that, perhaps the high point of the Convention was the passage of a Bye Laws amendment permitting the addition of an International member on the Board of Directors, passed by a margin of 5 to 1! Details of the how and who will follow, but in the meantime, thanks to good international cooperation between the international chapters and Washington, some eleven years after the founding of our Chapter we and the other three International Chapters (Continental Europe, Hong Kong and Japan) will finally be properly represented in Washington. This was an appropriate ending to a glittering Convention and – p.s. we came back with our purse intact. Next year LA – will it be sold out?

Jim Baker

Member Profile

Anderson I



I experience London, and architecture generally, to be a sort of vortex. But, as inescapable things go, both are exceptionally stimulating and rewarding.

I first came to London for the doldrums of the mid-70's, for a junior year abroad at the Architectural Association. I returned to the University of Texas, Austin, with my horizons substantially broadened, and some resolve to never again subject myself to the dreariness that London was then.

For a complex cocktail of out-of-date and unpopular ideologies, I chased UT Austin with a pair of Masters degrees in structures and architecture at M.I.T., a brilliant and unique place for its willingness to facilitate the combination of related studies.

After nearly 10 years of practice in Boston, I was caught off guard with an offer to launch a London office for a Boston-based architecture practice. We hit the ground running by securing commitments for numerous large interior contracts at Canary Wharf for large corporate tenants, as well as extensive work directly for O&Y.

A significant part of a career in architecture seems to be recession management (RM). The downturn of the early '90's impelled me to study sculpture at Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design. This proved to be a hugely satisfying period focused very fundamentally on materiality. And, this surprisingly gave me the sense of having finally completed a proper training to really 'build'.

This odd multifarious training has since landed me in a heap of teaching: an interweaving of structures, architecture, aesthetics and sculpture for the AA, Ruskin School sculpture at Oxford University, 'Rural Studio' in Alabama, Central Saint Martins, UEL, Aarhus School of Architecture in Denmark, Soane Museum, Canterbury School of Architecture, and Kent Institute of Art & Design.

A sculpture practice limps forward as well, with a well-received two-person show last year at the Royal British Society of Sculptors, and a current significant commission for the British Cement Association. And architecture practice has raised its head again recently in the form of a commission for an equestrian centre in Colorado, being done in collaboration with 51% Studios, a practice I taught with at the AA. We are currently developing a proposal to elegantly span 50 metres over the main arena with a timber structure!

Architecture and London for me now bear no resemblance to London and architecture as first glimpsed here in the '70's. Exciting things to be stuck with.

Anderson Inge,
(in his spare time Treasurer, AIA London/UK)



A.Inge
Home on the Range
cast iron
height 50 cm



A.Inge
Horton Hears a Who
concrete, steel, timber
height 120 cm

chapter notes

AIA London / UK Constitution

Work continues on the draft update of the chapter constitution. It has now been submitted to AIA National in Washington DC for review. The document will soon be posted on our local web site for comment by the London membership.

Director Nominations

With approval by the AIA convention to add an International member to the AIA Board of Directors, nominations are currently being taken for this position locally. Email candidate names to: chapterexecutive@aiauk.org

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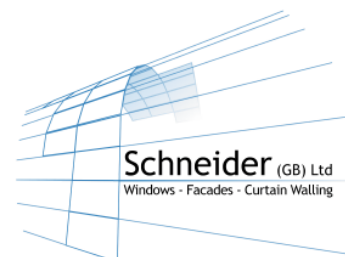


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