



Upcoming Events

05.10.2006

Event Title: London Design Festival - Making Space

Description: The AIA has arranged a private tour of the Making Spaces Exhibit guided by Victor Callister the manager of the Street Scene Initiative.

"The City of London is a leader in the development of well-designed public spaces and its exhibition Making Spaces celebrates its acclaimed and innovative Street Scene initiative. The exhibition includes photographs and film of the public spaces that have been created in the city in collaboration with designers, artists and architects through Street Scene. Creative and interactive, it encourages visitors to the City's open spaces to take their own photographs, which will then be incorporated into the exhibition."

Location: 30 Spital Square, London - Time: 18:30 - CES Credits: 1.0

For registration contact:

AIA London/UK,
Benjamin Franklin House, 36 Craven Street, London WC2N 5NF
T/F 020 7930 9124, Email: chapterexecutive@aiauk.org
Further Information: <http://www.londondesignfestival.com/>

14.10.2006

**Event Title: Student Design Charrette:
"Articulating the Envelope"**

Description: A one-day juried design competition for students of architecture from the UK and abroad. Students will work in teams of 6-8, mentored by a professional architect. Student teams representing their Schools are welcomed, as are individuals who will be married up with other teams on the day.

Theme: The 2006 AIA Student Design Charrette will focus on the aesthetic possibilities of the building envelope. The challenge will emphasize the visual experience of 'façade', as it determines the visual experience of the building as a 3-dimensional 'object'. The brief for the day-long design exercise has been developed to minimize attention to more extensive urban issues, or on the resolution of intricate internal spatial relationships.

Location: Architectural Association, Main Lecture Hall, 36 Bedford Square, London WC1

Time: 9:00 – 18:00, CES Credits: 6.0 - Cost: £10.00

For more information and registration contact:

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uk based architects

Elected Honorary Fellows

Eva Jiricna and Michael Wilford received the prestigious award of being elected Honorary Fellows of the AIA. They were elevated to the College of Fellows at the Convocation Dinner at the convention in Los Angeles in June.

The jury said of Ms. Jiricna, "She thrives on the freedom of expression, debate, and ideas that characterized a unique era in London. She has created landmark buildings in London, and in her native city of Prague, serving as a role model for peers and students."

The jury's comments about Mr. Wilford were, "From the earliest days of his renowned partnership with Sir James Stirling, it was clear that Michael Wilford was brilliant as well; brilliant as a designer and disciplined in the very best sense as an architect."

The origin of honorary fellowship goes back to the beginning of the Institute and is embodied in the Institute's byelaws. The byelaws state the qualifications for honorary fellowship as; "An architect of esteemed character and distinguished achievements who is neither a U.S citizen nor a resident of the United States and who does not primarily practice architecture within the domain of the Institute."

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Kentish Vernacular by Bike

In the serious pursuit of Continuing Education points, it has become obvious that not all CEs are created equal. Self-reported CE points do not qualify in certain States and – perhaps – should be discounted. And – despite the excellent planning and rigorous administration of the London Chapters CE events, no one – in fact – checks to insure that those attending a lecture actually listen to it and deserve their credit. Admittedly, building tours also generate full attention. Indeed – it is difficult for anyone to fall asleep on one.

But without doubt, the most deserving CE credits should be reserved for those participating in AIA sponsored Bike Tours. Not only does one have to plan weeks in advance – training sessions, trial runs, bicycle maintenance, etc. – an intensive, quality learning experience is virtually guaranteed on the big, bike trip day itself. Bike Tour CE credits clearly should be double counted.

Unlike previous Tours, this year's (03 June 06) was a distinctly countryside event and concentrated on rural Kentish villages. Our Guide – Benedict O'Looney (Benny – by the end of the day), from the Architectural Association – hails from Kent and was able to select supreme examples of vernacular Kentish architecture conveniently located on predominately flat and exquisitely car-less B roads. It was all down hill (or at least a minimal slope) from Headcorn to the Romney Marsh for the 10 AIA members brave enough to volunteer.

Yes – there is a possibility that our understanding of local materials might have benefited from first hand experience of the green sand hills and a visit to an actual quarry; however, those of us who stinted somewhat on the pre-Tour training sessions were grateful for our Guide's choice of route. Besides – we could see these and other stone bearing hills in the near distance and the sense of geology, geography and vernacular was made explicit enough.

Benny has an unerring sense of what tidbits of information please architects so that full attention is absolutely guaranteed. In any event, lack of attention by one attendee was rewarded by – almost – falling into a roadside ditch.

With true AIA pre-planning, the weather was perfect on the day. And like all perfect English June days, its only defect was a surfeit of perfect-ness. Our educational rambling ended at 19:00, when we realised abruptly that we had been having so much fun that had not only missed tea, we had also missed the local train back to Ashford and civilisation.

Meandering across Romney Marsh looking for another train station ended up less an ordeal than a surreal bonding experience that we will all never forget. We arrived back at Charing Cross at 23:00 tired but smug in the knowledge that our 5 CE points were **quality** CE points – a badge of honour few others have earned.

The next – back-by-popular-demand Benedict O'Looney tour – is a walking tour of new architecture in Bankside, Borough and Bermondsey on 21st October – *see page 3*.



Above, AIA London on the move in rural Kent, on a perfect English June day.

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21.10.2006**Event Title: New Architecture in Bankside, Borough and Bermondsey – A Walking Tour with Benedict O’Looney**

Description: In recent years the Southwark Planning department has shown a remarkable commitment to contemporary design, encouraging developers to work with progressive designers and commissioning young practices where possible for their own projects. This architecture walk offers an introduction to some of the new schemes moving from established designers such as Alsop’s new Palestra building on the Blackfriars Road to a series of smart new schemes by lesser known Southwark architects transforming the streets around Bermondsey. This walk will demonstrate how Southwark is London’s most architecturally ‘happening’ Borough.

The guide and commentator for this tour is Benedict O’Looney architect and lecturer in Architectural History at the Architectural Association. Many of you will know Benedict from last year’s insightful and entertaining AIA architectural tours.

Location: (meeting point) Southwark Jubilee Line Station

Time: 10:30 - 17:30 including a lunch break - CES Credits: 6.0 - Cost: £8.00

For more information and registration contact:

AIA London/UK,

Benjamin Franklin House, 36 Craven Street, London WC2N 5NF

T/F 020 7930 9124, Email: chapterexecutive@aiauk.org

23.10.2006**Event Title: Idea Store - Building Tour**

Description: Designed by David Adjaye Associates the architectural design aims to provide a flagship Community Centre, emblematic of its mission to provide interactive and accessible education opportunities while enhancing community cohesion.. As well as the traditional library service the facility offers a wide range of adult education classes, along with career support training, a creche, meeting areas, cafes and arts and leisure pursuits.

Location: 321 Whitechapel Road, London E1 1BU

Time: to be confirmed - CES Credits: 1.5 H&S

For more information and registration contact: AIA London/UK, as noted above

23.10.2006**Event Title: Camden Roundhouse - Building Tour & Performance**

Description: This magnificent Grade II* listed building, was originally built in 1846 as an engine shed. During the 1960’s and 70’s it became a venue for rock groups such as the Pink Floyd, Jimi Hendrix and the Doors. The facility has recently been renovated as a creative environment for young people to engage artists, professionals and peers. The tour will be led by Siggie Nep, the interiors team leader for architect, John McAslan & Partners. Following the tour, one can stay for the evening’s performance with the Dresden Dolls, the theatrical rock, punk cabaret, manic-musical, neo-glam-torch band.

Location: The Roundhouse, Chalk Farm Road, Camden London NW1 8EH

Time: 18:00 - CES Credits: 1.5 CES 1.5 H&S

For more information and registration contact: AIA London/UK, as noted above

chapter notices

The AIA Makes a Difference

The AIA works on many fronts to not only serve its members, but to contribute to society at large. A few recent examples are:

On June 6, the U.S. Council of Mayors voted unanimously to approve a resolution prompted by the AIA position statement that calls for the immediate energy reduction of all new and renovated buildings. The goal is by the year 2030, all buildings will be carbon neutral – meaning they will use no fossil fuel energy.

The Institute’s new vice president / president elect, Marshall Purnell, FAIA, has been asked to assist in the search of a new U.S. Capital Architect. Some lawmakers were suggesting the position should be filled by a lawyer or contractor!

Through discussions with the NCARB, the AIA was able to influence their decision to permit architectural graduates to sit part of the Architects Registration Examination, required for licensing, immediately upon graduation. Previously, architects in training had to work for three years before sitting the exam.

Since 1993, the AIA, other professional associations and the regulatory bodies of the United States, Canada, and Mexico have been negotiating a Mutual Recognition Agreement for architectural qualifications that would facilitate the mobility of architects in North America. This agreement has just been ratified by the Institute’s Board of Directors and this initiates the final step of defining the regulations and procedures for reciprocity in North America.

And finally, the AIA will participate in the upcoming Venice Biennale for the first time.

AIA Architect Gets a Makeover

AIArchitect, the Institute's weekly newsletter emailed to all members, is going through some major changes. The launch of the new look AIArchitect takes place this month! Editor Stephanie Stubbs said, "the revised publication provides more useful information for practitioners, is easier to navigate, and allows archived material to be found more easily".

The new look AIArchitect is just one initiative to come out of a major study of the Institute's communications. The study, completed earlier this year by outside consultants, concluded the Institute over communicates and under informs its membership. The new AIArchitect is the first step at streamlining the Institute's communications strategy and to provide more timely and useful information for its members. Other initiatives in the pipe line include a new web site, podcasts for continuing education, and a new "glossy" magazine!

If you are not receiving AIArchitect weekly, the Institute does not have your correct email address! Your National records can be updated on line at www.aia.org, click on the link in the upper left called "For Members", create an online account, if you do not already have one, and once in the member's section, click on Member Services. Here you can update your contact details, pay your membership, and update all aspects of your National records.

New AIA Mission Statement

The AIA's Long Range Planning Advisory Group has been hard at work developing a new strategic plan for the Institute. This includes a new mission statement, goals, and strategies to achieve those goals. This has been hotly debated at recent board meetings with the following recently ratified by the National board.

Mission Statement

The American Institute of Architects is the voice of the architectural profession and the resource for its members in service to society.

This mission is supported by four goals. These are:

Member focused – Increase value to members through programs and services that effectively meet, anticipate, and exceed their needs.

AIA focused – Optimize organizational culture, structure, and resources to achieve excellence.

Society focused – Promote the AIA as the authoritative voice for quality design and the built environment.

Profession focused – Be the recognized leader for knowledge about the practice and profession of architecture.

These goals will be achieved through a myriad of strategies supported by new programs! The next few years will be exciting as the AIA positions itself to better serve its members, the profession, and society.



The AIA London/UK summer gala proved a magical evening on 7 July at the Serpentine Gallery in Kensington Gardens, this year's pavilion designed by Rem Koolhaas & Cecil Balmond.

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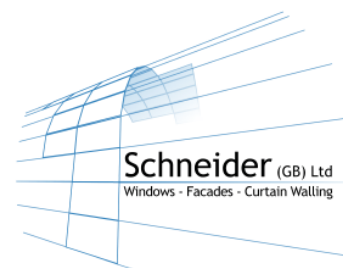


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