AIA/UK · London

The First International Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

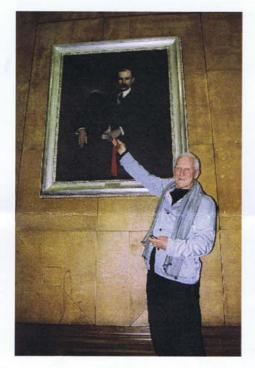
news



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AIA/UK Keynote Lecture "United Visions" Exhibition

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the founding of the AIA and also the 100th year of the AIA Gold Medal Award, first awarded to Sir Aston Webb, RIBA in 1907. On the evening of Tuesday 15th May 2007 the annual AIA/UK Keynote Lecture was given by Antoine Predock, the most recent AIA Gold Medal Award, at the RIBA on Portland Place.



Following the Keynote Lecture was a special exhibition in Jarvis Hall titled "United Visions" displaying the varied works of UK architects working in the US, and US (ish) architects working in the UK — a healthy crosspollinisation of ideas.

As part of the exhibition, an AIA Presidential Citation was bestowed by David R Proffitt, AIA National Secretary, representing President RK Stewart, to Jack Pringle as RIBA President, marking both the AIA's 150th, and the 100th anniversary of the AIA Gold Medal awarded to past-president of the RIBA Sir Aston Webb (see pg 3).

AIA Gold Medal winners, Antonine Predock 2006 and Aston Webb 1907

Summer Soiree at the V & A

THE Summer Soiree of 2007 was held at the Victoria & Albert Museum on Tuesday 10th July -- in celebration of the induction of two outstanding UK designers for their International contribution to architecture and design, both induced this past year as Honorary Fellows of the AIA for design.

Chris Wilkinson, Hon. FAIA OBE (Officer of the British Empire), a principal of Wilkinson Eyre Architects, elected in April 2006 to the RA - this year's AIA Honorary Fellow; and also appointed Commissioner of English Heritage. He has twice won the Stirling Prize in 2001 for the Magma Science Centre outside Rotherham, and 2002 Gateshead Millennium Bridge on the River Tyne.

David Chipperfield, Hon. FAIA CBE as honorary AIA/UK member - he is this year's AIA Honorary Fellow and a Honorary Member of the Florence Academy of Art and Design. He won the AIA/UK Excellence in Design Award in 1998 for the River Rowing Club Henley. This past June it was announced he had twice won the RIBA European Award for the Museum of Modern Literature, Marbacham Neckar, Germany and the America's Cup Building, Valencia, Spain. These have therefore been mid-listed for the RIBA Stirling Prize award in October.

Upcoming Events

St Pancras Parish Church Tour

Private tour with the church architect to be followed by light refreshments No admission fee; the tour is free in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the AIA. Send your note of interest by e-mail to chapterexecutive@aiauk.org giving your name and e-mail address. Thursday 19th July at 6.30pm St Pancras Church, Euston Road, London, NW1 2BA 2 HSW CES Credits

St Pancras Parish Church (a Grade 1 Listed Building) is a unique Greek revival church in central London. It was completed in 1822 by the architect. William Inwood, who modeled St Pancras on the Ionic Temple of the Erectheum on the Acropolis in Athens. It is particularly well known for its distinctive 'caryatids' standing on the north and south sides. The church was part of a larger master planning concept initiated by likeminded Greek oriented intellectuals. It was an extension of the Greek inspired Regent's Park designed by architect John Nash. The Church is now in need of extensive restoration; donations for refurbishmint and upkeep will be welcome. website: www.stpancraschurch.org



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AIA/UK Keynote Lecture 2007

Antoine Predock FAIA presented the AIA/UK 2007 Keynote Lecture at the RIBA Jarvis Hall on 15 May. This was held in conjunction with the United Visions exhibition, and RIBA President Jack Pringle and AIA National Secretary David Proffitt, AIA gave introductory remarks. Antoine Predock titled his lecture 'West East' giving a clue to his desert beginnings and current projects in the Far East.

Predock began his academic career studying engineering and it was through a fortuitous encounter with architect Don Schlegel that Predock focused his attentions on architecture. Early projects in New Mexico led to more significant projects such as the Arizona Science Center. A sense of earth, place, and light were consistent themes of these projects.

Predock's design process includes the use of large collages and clay models. The use of sculptural modelling is evidenced in projects such as the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts that has a commanding presence in its mountainous setting.



National Palace Museum, Taiwan

The AIA Gold Medallist in his later projects showed a keen appreciation for the importance of the architectural procession through and around a building. The Canadian Museum of Human Rights currently in design showed a mastery of integration between massing, place, and promenade through an uplifting series of spaces.

The National Palace Museum in Taiwan, also in design, is a phenomenal project that creates a 'Jade Mountain' of marble and glass to house significant cultural artefacts.

Predock showed numerous other projects during the course of his lecture, and concluded with a lively question and answer session. For those that missed the lecture, an audiovisual recording can be viewed on the AIA/UK website.



Arizona Science

EVENTS

Unilever House Tour Building Tour

5th September, 6:30pm - Please Check the AIA / UK web site nearer to date for tour registration and meeting point. (sorry no photography) No admission fee; the tour is free in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the AIA.



Unilever Interior

AIA/UK "Founding" Series of Lectures,

in Association with the Architectural Association (AA)

Venue: AA 36 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3ES

On every Tuesday evening from 6:30PM in Oct. and November - Please Check web site nearer to date for tour registration and meeting point.

Confirmed: Ron Arad, Michael Gabellini of Gabellini Sheppard, NYC, both past AA alumni. Invited: Rafael Viñoly, Eva Jiricna. Pending: Asymptote, Michael Wilford, David Chipperfield



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AIA & RIBA Citations - 15 May 2007

RIBA - The Royal Institute of British Architects

Presidential Citation Awarded to the American Institute of Architects

This Presidential Citation is awarded to the American Institute of Architects to celebrate the special relationship that has existed between the AIA and the RIBA these past 150 years, and to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the AIA Gold Medal.

With great generosity of spirit, in 1907 the AIA awarded its inaugural Gold Medal to the President of the Royal Institute of British Archtects, Sir Aston Webb. In his speech of thanks he said that 'all architects on this side of the water deeply appreciate the fact that on the jubilee day of your Institute, and the institution of your Gold Medal, you should send it over to the other side'. He also predicted that this would do 'a great deal to strengthen the good feeling and friendship which already exists between the architects of both countries'.

Today, I am proud to express on behalf of the RIBA continued appreciation of our mutually held values in design, ethics and service to the public and our commitment to sharing knowledge and information.

Jack Pringle, President, RIBA

AIA - American Institute of Architects

Presidential Citation awarded to the Royal Institute of British Architects

to celebrate the special relationship that has bound both organizations togethersince the very founding of The American Institute of Architects, in a spirit of fellowship and mutual respect. In our shared responsibility and quest to be wise in the use of the Earth's abundance and be the better angels of human ideals, let us together heed the words of Ruskin to ensure that the stones we have touched will be held sacred because our hands have touched them, and that our children's children will honor us as faithful stewards of what will be their legacy.

RK Stewart, FAIA, President

On Tour with Beni O'

In what might normally be considered a mundane stretch of London landscape between Victoria Station and Trafalgar Square, Benjamin O'Looney found a wealth of architectural interest for his 10 Mar 07 AIA Walking Tour.

The tour stared with the public review of the proposed re-development of the station area. The current London/UK Chapter President, KPF's Kevin Flanagan, walked us through the complex presentation.

Then – Beni's tour started in earnest looking at sculpture and architecture around the Station and Hotel from the late 1800s. In this Edwardian period, the collaboration between the two disciplines was at its height. Further along, the London Underground Building, 1927-29, represented a late flowering of such integrated design, with the superstars of current sculpture – Jacob Epstein, Henry Moor, Eric Guild – participating as partners in the total design. Queen Anne Street – represented the earlier, Georgian tradition in sculpture. Later, at the Middlesex Crown Court, the Gothic style of Parliament was combined with Art Nouveau to create a pleasantly sculptured facade. Parliament Square also offered scope for Beni's latest passion – monumental sculpture sans architecture – and a chance to look at leisure at those grand personages so often passed in haste. With the evolution of the integrated tradition in mind, the remainder of Whitehall took on a more comprehensible perspective.

The tour ended at Trafalgar Square with a belated respite in sight of the oldest and most precious sculpture of the tour – King Charles I on horseback – saved from destruction by an ardent Royalist of the day.

EVENTS

Please note: July 27th is deadline for early registration discount.

Design Excellence/ Design Build

September 27 - 29, 2007 Venue: Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Headquarters London, United Kingdom An International Conference, London Web site: http://www.aia.org/db Presented by: AIA /UK, AIA International Committee, AIA Design Build

Learn from leaders in the industry through educational sessions and project tours about design excellence through designbuild in the international marketplace.

Proposed topics:

International design-build competitions, Public/private partnerships and international design-build project delivery methods, The architect's changing role in the industry

Invited speakers:

Zaha Hadid, Hon. FAIA, 2004 Pritzker Prize laureate Graham Stirk of Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners, 2007 Pritzker Prize laureate Harold Adams, FAIA, RIBA, RTKL Associates and 2007 Advisory Group chair, AIA International Committee Patrick MacLeamy, FAIA, Hellmuth, Oata + Kassabaum

RK Stewart, FAIA, AIA president Sunand Prasad, RIBA, RIBA president Rebekah Gladson, AIA, DBIA president

Al Gore on Global Change & Sustainabilty

The AIA/UK and the RIBA are working together to bring the Honorable AI Gore, Nobel Prize nominee, to speak at the Royal Festival Hall on the 27th Nov. ember at 6:30pm -- in recognition of his leadership in the field of Global Change & Sustainability-final details are being reviewed, as is final confirmation awaited, so please watch this space.



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Excellence in Design Awards

At the annual Gala, held at the Royal Society for the Arts on 5th April 2007, the American Institute of Architects/UK Chapter honoured excellence in the design of completed buildings by UK architects anywhere in the world, and by architects of any nationality in the UK, with three winners and four commendations.

Winners

Gianni Botsford Architects' Light House in London was cited by jury chair Deborah Saunt of DSDHA for its outstanding achievement in providing "a sense of openness in a really constrained site. It should be taken seriously as it's really testing something, and could serve as a model of backlands development for other potential uses."

The Collection in Lincoln by Panter Hudspith was lauded as a "beautiful sculptural piece, different and really beautifully detailed. It is very cleverly sited: routes through the museum are set up around things experienced outside the museum."

The jury considered Zaha Hadid Architects' design for Maggie's Centre in Fife "a brave commission that raises awareness of the psychological needs of cancer care as well as the clinical," and recognised that "going there is something that takes you outside of your daily condition," citing the "user-friendly village-like spaces inside."

Commendations

Buschow Henley's St John's Therapy Centre in London was praised as a "positive example of bringing about good quality architecture for not much money. Its powerful street presence communicates positive messages about health to the wider public, including issues of access and visibility."

About KPF's Ruth Deech Building at St Anne's College, Oxford, the jury commented, "There's a place for quiet architecture; this is a large building that's broken down and handled quite carefully on the site with subtle moves, beautifully detailed."

de Rijke Marsh Morgan won an accolade for their Wansey Street Housing in London: "It's playful and clever and serious at the same time very few people can pull that off. It deals with complex issues and does it rather well."

John McAslan + Partners' Lanvender Sure Start and Children's Nursery for Southampton University was cited as a "simple solution, elegantly done, with a clear and consistent use of materials."

Jury member Professor Robert Mull of London Metropolitan University, presenting the **Noel Hill Student Travel Awards**, commended both recipients for well defined projects. Aimee O'Carroll's project to study public space in Japan was seen as a complement to her portfolio project of an extension to the Tate Modern, and Emily Penn's portfolio demonstrated an impressive range of investigations which gave the jury confidence that she would benefit greatly from her travels to observe sustainability in China.

The 2007 AIA/UK excellence in design awards jury was:

Bob Allies, Allies and Morrison Architects - Mary Bowman, Gustafson Porter - Cécile Brisac, Brisac Gonzalez Architects - Chris Carroll, ARUP Advanced Geometry Unit - Robert Mull, Department of Architecture, London Metropolitan University - Peter Murray, Wordsearch - David Partridge, Argent - Deborah Saunt, DSDHA - Graham Stirk, Richard Rogers Partnership



AlA/UK Award Winner - Light House - for a slide show of all winning projects go to the Chapter web site, www.aiauk.org

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