

Newsletter

No 58 June 2009

ATA UK



A Chapter of
The American
Institute of Architects



AIA Manchester Conference

Lester Korzilius, AIA, RIBA

The AIA UK and AIA Continental Europe chapters jointly hosted a conference in Manchester on 23-27 April. The theme of the conference was regeneration in the context of Manchester.

John Lorimer, the Capital Programme Director for Manchester City Council gave the opening address and outlined how they used their £400m capital budget to drive regeneration in the city. Seminar topics included an overview of Manchester's development, urban design, education, transportation, and sports developments. These were interspersed with a number of building tours, most notably the Manchester Civil Justice Centre, designed by Denton Corker Marshall and short listed for last year's Stirling prize. Another treat was a lecture by Stephen Hodder (a former AIA UK design award winner) followed by a tour of his Stirling Prize winning Centenary Hall at the University of Salford. The gala dinner at the Imperial War Museum attracted over one hundred delegates, partners, and participating speakers.

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Finsbury Avenue Square



Wellcome Trust/EBI Campus

AIA UK Building Tours

Yee Tak Lau, AIA

This summer, the AIA UK has had a great building tour series, having visited Finsbury Square, the Wellcome Trust/EBI Campus, St. Marylebone School, and the Addition to the Royal Observatory in Greenwich. We got the chance to hear from the architect, the client and the users of these excellent projects and it was a great chance to meet and catch up with fellow AIA UK members and friends. The after tour pub sessions is becoming a tradition that we hope to continue!

In May, our group travelled to Cambridge for a field trip. At the Wellcome Trust/EBI Campus, we were greeted by architect Bruce Nepp and the client team: Louisa Wright, Mark Green and Don Powell. Bruce did a brilliant tour with us explaining the challenges of designing the award-winning East Wing Extension for the EBI. We were then delighted to hear a presentation from the client team about the buildings. It was a great inspiration for our group to hear from a team of satisfied and enthusiastic end-users.

The St Marylebone School tour had a great turnout of approximately 40 people. Architect Phillip Gumuchdjan and his team told us about the complex delivery sequence of the addition to the school. The project is an exemplar for designing great spaces with a limited budget and various constraints on a sensitive site. The clever solution reflects a high standard of design and execution and we were all amazed when the full height garage door opened to the light well.

On the evening close to the Summer Solstice, the AIA UK thought it would be ideal to visit the Royal Observatory with architect Andrew Dean from Allies and Morrison. It was a nice Friday evening in Greenwich, with about 20 members and friends admiring the carefully aligned conic sculptural piece for the planetarium. The other highlight of the building is the creative solution in allowing accessibility from the main courtyard while adding underground space for the astronomy centre.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TOWNSCAPE DRAWING SESSIONS

July 11 & 12

Various Locations

Register: info@drawingatwork.co.uk

BIKE TOUR

Saturday, July 18

East Beach Cafe with Heatherwick Studio

RSVP: richard.spencer@hok.com

MOVIE NIGHTS

Friday, September 4

BFI Screening Room

Movie TBC

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS

Pub Night

September/October, Date TBC

AIA INT'L CONFERENCE

October 4-6

Abu Dhabi

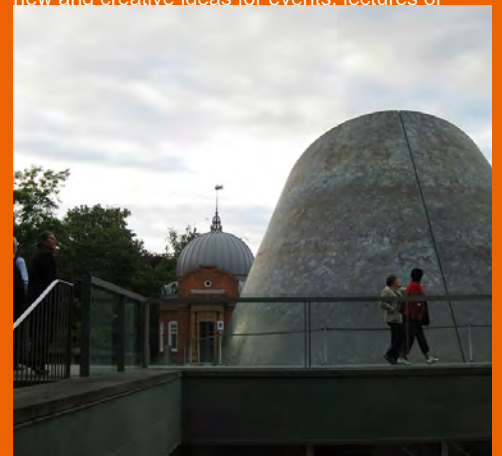
STUDENT DESIGN CHARETTE

Saturday, October 24

Architectural Association

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

If you are interested in getting involved, we are looking for help with events coordination, media representation, a historian and IDP/ARE mentors. If you feel that you can contribute to the chapter for any of these specific roles or if you have other new and creative ideas for events, lectures or



Royal Observatory

AIA UK Movie Nights

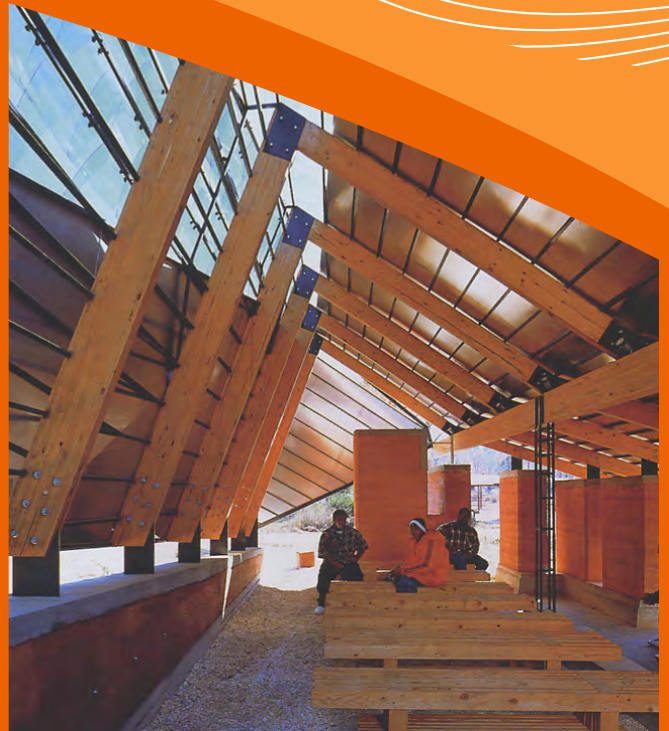
Andrew Wade, Assoc. AIA

On June 16, the AIA UK presented its second film of 2009, The Rural Studio Film, in the fully booked BFI Screening Room. This award-winning documentary followed Rural Studio co-founder Samuel Mockbee and his Auburn University students through the construction of several projects, including private homes, places of worship, and community markets.

The unique design-build education of the Rural Studio focuses not only on developing design and construction expertise, but also on the social responsibility of architecture and the role of the architect within society. Each year, students of the program build for free on land provided by the client, leaving their contribution to the built environment as a gift upon completion.

We were delighted to follow the film with an interview and discussion session with two rural studio graduates, Amy Holtz and Paul Kardous. They were able to elaborate on the specific projects and overall philosophy of the studio proposed in the film, animated by their personal stories and experiences with the Rural Studio.

The AIA UK is pleased to continue its diverse range of films in September with the third film of the year. Details will be available through the mailing list and website in the coming weeks.



Emerging Professionals

Elizabeth Waters, AIA

The AIA UK Emerging Professionals Group held an ARE/IDP Spring Session this past May. The presentation was given by Elizabeth Waters and Brianne Page, covering key tips on how to complete US licensure while living abroad.

We are also pleased to announce that the complete set of ARE 4.0 materials is now available to all AIA UK members, which was supported by the Emerging Professionals Grant from AIA National. Kaplan 4.0, MEEB, the AIA standard documents, David Ballast Non-structural topics, Archiflash cards and the Norman Dorf Solutions books are all available for checkout to AIA UK members through Brianne Page at bpage@kpf.com.

In an effort to promote socializing and support of the ARE/IDP process among young professionals in London, we will be holding informal Pub Nights approximately every two months. Our first session was held on Tuesday, June 30 and it turned out to be a successful evening with interesting people and hopefully productive conversations! We look forward to seeing you at the the next pub session in the fall!



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The Barbican & Corbusier Tour Series

Josye Utick, Assoc. AIA

On Friday, 8 May, members and friends of the chapter gathered at the Barbican Centre for a private tour of 'Le Corbusier at the Barbican' exhibition, lead by Corinna Gardner, assistant curator of the Barbican Art Gallery. This event marked the first of a three part series reviewing Corbusier's oeuvre, the impact of his ideas on UK architects and the subsequent spaces created from this influence.

Next in the series exploring Corbusier's influence was the Barbican Centre itself. Peter Morris, founding partner of Alford Hall Monahan Morris Architects (AHMM), was invited to discuss, on Thursday, 28 May, the challenges his firm faced when handling the interiors refurbishment. This discussion involved the review of the original concepts of the centre by Chamberlin, Powell and Bon, the actualization of these concepts in the built form, the subsequent interventions of the art centre by other architectural practices, and AHMM's re-addressing and refining the intent of the original design via the refurbishment.

The series concluded with a private tour of the Barbican and Golden Lane Estates on Thursday, 11 June. This guided tour examined the public spaces of these grade II listed estates and how their design offers a model of city living.

The organizers would like to thank Corinna Gardner, Peter Morris and Paul Lincoln for their participation and would like to extend a special thank you to Tim Waterman for helping to generate the idea of the series.



2009 Excellence in Design Awards : Winners Announced

At the annual Gala, held at Lasdun's iconic Royal College of Physicians on the 26th of March, 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 four winners and three commendations. The award winning architects presented their projects to an audience of AIA members, guests and enthusiasts.

WINNERS



America's Cup Building
Valencia, Spain
David Chipperfield Architects



Casa Kike
Costa Rica
Gianni Botsford Architects



St. Martin-in-the-Fields
London, UK
Eric Parry Architects



Am Kupfergraben 10
Berlin, Germany
David Chipperfield Architects

STUDENT WINNER

Paulo Moriera
London Metropolitan University
Noel Hill Student Travel
Awards Programme



Wellcome Trust/EBI Campus



HIGHLY COMMENDED

The Cremorne Riverside Centre
London, UK
Sarah Wigglesworth Architects

Bollinger Jewelry Gallery, V&A
London, UK
Eva Jiricna Architects



St. Marylebone School

AIA Manchester Conference, cont.

Monday was an optional add-on day trip to Liverpool. This was superbly hosted by the RIBA in Liverpool, with Mustaq Salerie and Alistair Sunderland taking time out of their professional lives to give the AIA a personalised tour of Liverpool Architecture.

For those that attended all events, there are a whopping 26 hours of Continuing Education credits available!

By all accounts the conference was a resounding success and both chapters will be looking forward to planning further joint events.



AIA National Convention San Francisco

Michael Lischer, FAIA, RIBA

AIA UK chapter members Mike Hardiman, Michael Lischer, and Chapter President, Richard Spencer attended the AIA National Convention and Design Exposition in San Francisco. This annual event took place on April 30th, and May 1st through the 2nd.

The AIA UK delegation met with representatives from the other three international chapters at a number of events including the AIA International Committee's reception and the overseas members meeting, chaired by the Institute's International Director, Ralph Learner from Hong Kong.

At the national business meeting the international members expressed support for a by-laws change to establish a new membership category called AIA International. If passed, this would better recognize the qualifications of internationally registered architects than the current International Associate category and importantly, would facilitate the establishment of additional overseas chapters. Unfortunately, the motion failed by a very small margin. The International Committee is committed to this by-laws change and it is expected to be voted on again at next year's convention.

The convention was attended by 22,400 registrants and over 900 exhibitor. For the first time people could attend the convention virtually and more than 10,000 virtual convention seminars were accessed via a live web streaming option!

The 2010 National Convention and Design Expo will be held June 10 – 12 next year in Miami, Florida!

2010 AIA Officers Elected

Delegates to the AIA National Convention in San Francisco elected Clark D. Manus, FAIA, to serve as the 2010 AIA first vice president/president-elect and 2011 Institute president. Mickey Jacob, FAIA, and Peter G. Kuttner, FAIA, were each elected to serve as vice presidents from 2010 through 2011; and John W. Rogers, AIA, ACHA, as the Institute's treasurer beginning in 2010. As first vice president/president elect, Clark will serve with and support the AIA's 2010 president, George Miller, FAIA. George is from New York City and is a partner at Pei Cobb Freed & Partners.

AIA UK

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