

Newsletter

No 73 Winter 2014

AIA UK



A Chapter of
The American
Institute of Architects

AIA UK 2014 Excellence in Design Awards Winners Announced

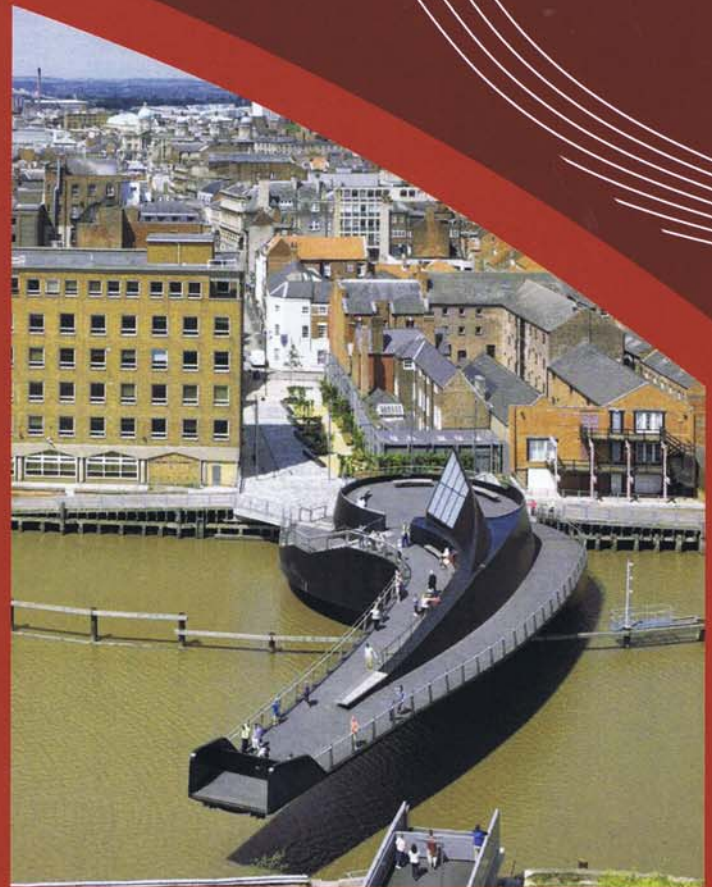
Brianne Hamilton, AIA



On March 27, the 20th annual AIA UK Excellence in Design Awards Gala took place at L31 Paramount atop the Centre Point Tower. Everyone enjoyed the views out over the growing city sprinkled with cranes. The evening celebrated excellence in the design of UK building and work completed by UK based architects. An esteemed jury chaired by A. Eugene Kohn selected three professional winners and three honourable mentions. The jury members presented the winning projects to an audience of AIA members, guests and entrants.

In parallel with the professional awards, the chapter recognised future talent through the Noel Hill Student Travel Awards Programme. Entries were sought from students currently enrolled in UK universities for a portfolio of their work and a proposal for study/travel experience abroad. This year a single award was given to Sarah Jane Fourness of the University of East London. Sarah will be using the Laufen sponsored £1000 prize to take part in the Kotor Architectural Prison Summer School in Montenegro.

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Scale Lane Bridge



Everyman Theater Liverpool - photo by Philip Vile

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ORTUS

Duggan Morris Architects

AIA UK Excellence in Design Awards, cont. Brianne Hamilton, AIA

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Winner | Britten-Pears Archive | Stanton Williams |
| Winner | Bonhams, 101 New Bond Street, London | Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands |
| Winner | The Shed | Haworth Tompkins |
| Honourable Mention | Everyman Theatre | Haworth Tompkins |
| Honourable Mention | Scale Lane Bridge | McDowell + Benedetti |
| Honourable Mention | ORTUS, The Home of Maudsley Learning | Duggan Morris Architects |
| Noel Hill Student Travel Award | Sarah Jane Forness | University of East London |

Following the presentations, Alex Lifschutz gave an energetic speech about how the client's trust in their selection of contractor and consultants made the Bonhams project a success. Paddy Dillon from Haworth Tompkins and John Langley from the National Theatre both spoke about the benefits gained by the architect (progressing research in sustainable theatre design) and the client (a new, more participatory and energetic audience) through the Shed project.

The exemplary jury members A. Eugene Kohn FAIA RIBA JIA, Hugh Broughton RIBA, Hank Dittmar, Malcolm Reading FRSA RIBA and Justin Cratty AIA honoured the AIA UK Chapter with their time and deliberation for the Excellence in Design Awards. We would like to give thanks to our chapter and event sponsors Armstrong and Desso. Without their support this event would not have been possible.



The Shed

©Philip Vile



Britten-Pears Archive

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Bonhams, 101 New Bond Street, London

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Sarah Jane Forness

AIA UK Annual General Meeting 2014

Robert Rhodes, AIA

On January the 15th we held our Annual General Meeting, following a drinks and canapé reception hosted by our long time and valued sponsor, Herman Miller. The AGM provides the forum for the chapter to review the essential business and administrative maintenance of our operations. The essential activities of the AGM involve approving the 2013 budget and electing the Board and Officers for 2014. The evening also included an enlightening talk by Oliver Baxter of Herman Miller entitled, "People Place Potential: how to create places where people reach their full potential".

2013 was a year of several significant milestones thanks to the combined efforts of our dedicated Board and support from our sponsors. It was a record year for membership, with our numbers surpassing 220 in total. The Chapter offered over 70 continuing education credits this past year, also a new record. In 2013 we celebrated the decision by NCARB to allow – after significant lobbying on the part of the international chapters of the AIA – the international delivery of the Architect Registration Exams in London, Hong Kong and Dubai. For our chapter this is particularly important, as it allows licensure to be an affordable proposition for our members currently taking advantage of our exceptional Emerging Professionals programmes and events. We also had the pleasure of hosting a visit from AIA National President Mickey Jacob, FAIA and AIA National CEO Robert Ivy, FAIA; gentlemen who were both gracious enough to participate in our 2013 Excellence in Design Awards ceremony last year.

The AGM concluded, as it usually does, with a look to the coming year. The highlights in 2014 begin with our annual Excellence in Design Awards Gala in March, and the joint Conference planned with AIA Continental Europe for London in April and the sister conference in Paris in October. Also planned will be our usual Signature Events, such as the Summer Gala, the Keynote Lecture and The Student Design Charrette. Through the hard work of our dedicated members and the continuing support of our generous sponsors, 2014 will be even better than 2013!



UPCOMING EVENTS

**A TALE OF TWO CITIES:
LONDON CONFERENCE -**
Joint Venture AIA UK and AIA Continental
Europe
April 10-13
www.aiauk.org

**LONDON CONFERENCE
EXTENSION DAY**
North London Villages
April 14th - 9:15 am-4:30 pm

TECHNICAL LECTURE
Wood Potentials in Building Facades
April 29th - 6:30 pm
Herman Miller Design Centre

BUILDING TOUR
TBC - May

SUMMER GALA
TBC - June

**AIA NATIONAL
CONVENTION**
June 26-28th
Chicago, Illinois



Design Awards Gala Photos

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Chapter Tours Highpoint One and Two

Michael Lischer, FAIA

On a cold evening in February a record number of AIA UK members and guests attended another in the Chapter's series of building tours. Organized by Fatos Peja, attendees were treated to a fascinating and intimate tour of the iconic Highpoint One & Two apartment buildings in Highgate, North London. Berthold Lubetkin, a pioneer of modernist design in Britain, and the engineer Ove Arup designed these wonderful modernist buildings by in 1935 and 1937. Strongly influenced by Le Corbusier, these listed buildings are beautiful examples of the 1930s modern style.

Architect Sandra Coppin and Carolyn Parmeter, both residents in the buildings, led the tour and provided great insight into the clever use of space and features that would be popular in today's apartments. We visited Carolyn's flat in One and Sandra's in Two. Both flats feature many original details and have been sympathetically restored to respect the modernist style. Key features include ribbon windows that can be completely opened without mullions and a structural panel and slab system that maximizes useable floor space.

Highpoint Two contains fewer apartments and was designed for more affluent owners including Lubetkin, who owned the penthouse! Staff quarters were provided accessible only by a service stair permitting maids and butlers to circulate among the apartments unseen by the owners! The 12 four bedroom apartments have double height living rooms that frame fantastic views to the west across Highgate.

Special thanks to Carolyn and Sandra for guiding us around two of the most recognized London modernist landmarks! Visit the AIA UK's website for information on future Chapter building tours.



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View from 2014 Design Awards Gala Venue

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AIA UK Facade Lecture Series

Terracotta Facades at
Central St. Giles - 4 Nov 2013
Etain Fitzpatrick, AIA

terracotta facades at Central St. Giles by the Renzo Piano Building Workshop (RPBW). Project Architect Maurits Van der Staay described the transformation of the site from a closed, impenetrable block of grey government offices to a colourful and open multi-use development.

Built at a cost of £450 million and completed in May 2010, Central St Giles is RPBW's first building in the UK. Maurits described the detailed development of the glazed ceramic façade panels. As a material, terracotta is closely linked to the brick which is found throughout London and the colours were inspired by the vibrant storefronts found in nearby Neil's Yard.

The design and technical details of the façade panels took a total of three years to develop. Studies at various scales were meticulously made and remade until a final design was reached. The ceramic elements on the building were fabricated by NBK in Germany and then mounted on the unitised facade units for installation. Why the choice of these colours? Well - why not?

Last November, AIA UK launched its Façade lecture series with a talk on the multi-coloured

Design Awards 2014 Gala

© Agnese Sarvito

Wood Potentials in Building Facades - 29 April 2014 Lorraine King, AIA

Michael Schindler Jr, Managing Director of Schindler Fenster + Fassaden, a German design, fabricator and installer of high quality bespoke facades, will be the speaker at the next lecture in the series. Michael will speak on the varied uses of wood in facades, with possibilities ranging from wood or wood/composite windows to fully unitized wood systems and structural components.

The lecture will be progressed via examples of recent Schindler projects and will touch not only on technical design development, but also issues of cost, maintenance, production and sustainability.

Over the course of 2014, we hope to continue the Façade series with lectures on glass, metal and other innovative materials. A separate lecture concentrating on sustainability issues in respect of innovative façade types is also being considered.

The AIA UK Chapter would like to promote more technical lectures following on from the Façade series. We are very interested to hear your ideas on possible subjects.



2014 CHAPTER SPONSORS

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AIA Grassroots Conference

Justin Cratty, AIA



AIA National Officers and International Chapter Officers including AIA UK President Justin Cratty

The 45th Annual AIA Grassroots Leadership and Legislative conference was held in Washington DC, March 19th – 21st. The AIA UK joined architects representing chapters from across the globe to help shape the new image of the AIA after the recent repositioning.

This is the first year that the International Chapters have met at grassroots as the International Region. The AIA-UK took part in multiple meetings with AIA International Region in which we worked on setting the Regions Sponsorship Program and Goals for the upcoming year. We are proud to have been one of the founding chapters and look forward to growth in the Region.

We also met with several executives from NCARB to discuss the upcoming changes, including updating the ARE to the 6.0 version in 2016. NCARB is proud to announce that over 100 tests have been taken internationally since the initial offering of the ARE abroad last Fall.

Please be sure to save the dates for this year's AIA National Convention which will be June 26-28th in Chicago, Illinois. During AIA National Convention, we will vote for the 2015 board of directors and proposed by-law changes. If you are able to attend this conference it is a great way to understand more about the AIA, gain CES credits and visit architecturally significant and inspiring cities.

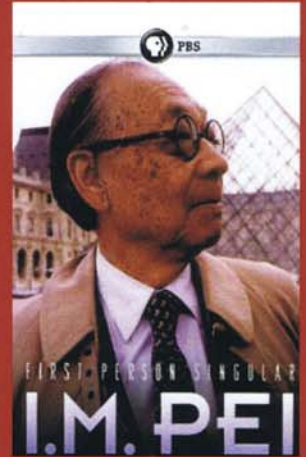
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AIA UK Film Nights

Chris Musangi, AIA

The 2014 Film series started in early February with the screening of Peter Rosen Productions 'First Person Singular: I.M. Pei' at the BFI. This documentary focuses on the celebrated architect I.M. Pei, in which he speaks about his early years in China, his schooling at MIT & Harvard, his philosophy and methods of creating architecture, and his experiences with clients such as Jacqueline Kennedy & Francois Mitterand. I.M. Pei leads viewers through The Bank of China, The Louvre, The Miho Museum and several other of his famed structures.



This film was the pioneer of the new ticket system through Eventbrite. In the past, people have signed up, reserved several spots, but would not attend. A small ticket fee encouraged attendance, giving us the biggest turn out of any film night.

The second film 'Great Expectations: A Journey through the History of Visionary Architecture' was screened in early March. This documentary presents an astonishing global journey charting visionary, innovative, futuristic, utopian and often bizarre architectural projects from the beginning of the 20th century to present.



It presents both realised and unrealised projects from many parts of the World. Visionary architects and artists, motivated by contemporary problems like housing shortages, urban decay and pollution, set about to create changes in our way of living that challenge conventional concepts.

The film series shall resume in the Autumn with more exciting documentaries. Look to the aiauk.org website for details of the Autumn 2014 film series.