



APPRECIATING BAILEY

I wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed the photo essay "Remembering Houston: Seeing the City Through the Eyes of Bob Bailey" [by Steven Strom, *Cite* 67]. Although I was one of the many people who was upset when the Bailey Collection was acquired by the University of Texas, I really enjoyed seeing the selection of Bailey images in *Cite*. Almost every photograph brought back memories of a vanished Houston. I was even happier when I learned that UT is making the effort to digitize outstanding photos from the Bailey Collection. I had a great time scrolling through the selection of Bailey photographs that is already available online.

Cite has an excellent selection of articles in each issue. I look forward to seeing the historical photographs that you publish, and hope that you will continue to include photo essays like the Bailey piece in future issues.

Michael O'Donnell
Houston

NOT WELL CRAFTED

If *Cite* is going to publish reviews, scholarly expertise is necessary to maintain professional standards for future research validity. The craft show review in the previous issue ["Arts and Crafts," by Kelly Klaasmeyer, *Cite* 68] is regrettable.

The extensive dither of craft/art is passé. Any dictionary can provide useful definitions of art and craft. If people in Racine, Wisconsin, can create an internationally acclaimed craft museum, perhaps the Contemporary Craft Center here might also become significant in the field.

In fact, categories of decorative arts, architectural design, ethnic art, and folk are also exist. People understanding such distinctions create collections, professional organizations, and even galleries and museums to celebrate such work.

To gain understanding in such matters, the Central Houston Public Library and the Hirsch Library at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, have copies of *American Craft* available for scholarly research and your pleasure of seeing.

Awareness of the legendary British weaver Peter Collingwood is essential to ever writing or speaking on contemporary rugs. Juror Suzanne Ramlijak did not award Deborah Harrison's rug, but she did award both of Jo Zider's truly well crafted, original artworks that Kelly Klaasmeyer chose to ignore. Unfortunately, this review is the only documentation of the exhibit except for the show checklist.

We normally do not credit people who reinvent the wheel. There is credit for creating new techniques and executing intricate processes well—often looking quite simple—while creating delightful, useful forms that materialize and matter. Thus the need for editorial integrity to preserve usefulness of this publication rather than reiterate ignorance.

Jana Vander Lee
Houston

BROWNFIELDS UPDATE

I am always pleased when I find *Cite* in my mail at home. I was particularly pleased to find the fine article about the Brownfields Redevelopment Program ["Filling in the Gaps," by Mitchell J. Shields, *Cite* 68]. Your article will definitely help us "get the word out" and move the program forward.

For your information, we now have 54 properties in the program. That was enough participation so that we were able to expend all of the \$100,000 from the "old" grant that expired on September 30, 2006. And we have a few ongoing projects at which we are spending money from the "new" grants, \$400,000 that will expire in September 2008.

Our primary mission is to improve the quality of life for Houstonians by redeveloping brownfields. And, as you correctly noted in the article, one of our goals is to "have more applications for money than we have money to give." I anticipate that your article will stir some interest in the community so that we will have more new applicants for environmental site assessments funded by the currently remaining grant money.

For those interested in more information on the program, I'd like to note that we have changed our website to www.houstontx.gov/brownfields.

Ron Sandberg
Brownfields Program Manager
Mayor's Office of Health &
Environmental Policy
Houston

Have a criticism, comment, or response to something you've seen in Cite? If so, the editors would like to hear from you. You can mail your comments to Letters to the Editor, Cite, Rice University, Rice Design Alliance—MS 51, PO Box 1892, Houston, Texas 77251-1892, or e-mail them to citemail@rice.edu.

Cite

The Architecture and Design Review of Houston

The Rice Design Alliance

The Rice Design Alliance, established in 1972, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of architecture, urban design, and the built environment in the Houston region through educational programs; the publication of *Cite*, a quarterly review of architecture and design; and active programs to initiate physical improvements. Membership in the RDA is open to the general public.

Individual Membership \$45

Ticket discounts for all RDA programs
Free subscription to *Cite: The Architecture and Design Review of Houston*
Invitations to "members only" events
Participation in the annual membership meeting and event
Participation in the annual architecture tour

RDA Partners Membership \$45

All of the benefits accorded to Individual members
Opportunities for participation in RDA Partners programs and events

Student Membership \$15

All of the benefits accorded to Individual Members.
Student ID required.

Household Membership \$75

All of the above benefits for your household

Sponsor Membership \$150

All of the benefits accorded to Household Members
Courtesy tickets to two selected RDA programs

Patron Membership \$250

All of the benefits accorded to Sponsor Members
Courtesy tickets to three selected RDA programs

Sustaining Membership \$500

All of the benefits accorded to Patron Members
Courtesy tickets to all RDA programs

Contributing Firm \$500

All of the benefits accorded to Sustaining Members for one year
Two individual memberships to give to employees, clients, or friends
Recognition at all RDA Partners events

Corporate Membership \$1000

All of the benefits accorded to Sustaining Members for one calendar year
Five individual memberships to give to employees, clients, or friends
Recognition at all RDA programs held at the MFAH and in *Cite*
Recognition on RDA's website with link to your website

Corporate Sponsorship \$1500

All of the benefits accorded to Corporate Members PLUS sponsorship of a selected RDA program
Recognition on sponsored program print materials and at the program

Gala Benefactor Membership \$5000

All of the benefits accorded of Corporate Sponsorship for one calendar year
Reserved priority table for 10 at RDA's annual gala
Four tickets to the Gala Underwriter party
Recognition in the gala invitation, program, and *Cite*

Subscription

○ One year: \$15 ○ Two years: \$25

Membership Application

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY/STATE _____ ZIP _____
TELEPHONE _____
E-MAIL _____
OCCUPATION _____
MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY _____
AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Checks made out to the Rice Design Alliance should be sent to:
Rice University
Rice Design Alliance – MS 51
PO Box 1892
Houston, Texas 77251-1892
Telephone: 713.348.4876 www.rda.rice.edu