

Big Cité Beat

Hot Off the Press: Lumen Books has published *For An Architecture of Reality* by Austin architect **Michael Benedikt**, **Mary Carolyn Hollers George** is putting finishing touches on the first volume of her long-awaited book on **O'Neil Ford**, and the **Fort Worth Chapter of the American Institute of Architects** is poised to bring out **Judith Singer's** *Cowtown Moderne*; both of the latter are to be published by Texas A&M University Press. UT-Austin's **Center for the Study of American Architecture** has produced the third issue of *Center*, on *New Regionalism*, edited by Lawrence W. Speck and Wayne Attoe.

Brain Drain: The **Houston Brain-Drain** has turned into an outgoing tidal wave. Kissing Houston good-bye this spring and summer were architect and *Cite* contributor **Jan O'Brien** and hubby **Craig Hartman** (posted to SOM/DC), architect **Alan Hirschfield** (to practice with Toronto architect Julian Jacobs and teach at the University of Toronto), legendary art maven **Esther de Vécsey** (Pacific Institute of Religion, Berkeley), photographer **Jacques de Selliers** (home to Brussels), landscape architect **Frances F. Chamberlain** (UT-Austin), architect and *Cite* contributor **Andrew Bartle** (New York), artist **Laura Foster** and architect hubby **Ben Nicholson** (Chicago), architect **William Taylor** (SCI-Arch, Santa Monica), historian **Mark Schneider**, and architect **Michael Underhill** (to become chairman of architecture at Iowa State University). Hasta luego.

To replace *Texas Homes*, the ten-year-old Dallas-based monthly that was closed down in May along with its companion publication, ten-year-old *Houston City Magazine* (just as it was beginning to get good), *Texas Monthly* will introduce *Domain* in December. This will be a quarterly supplement to *Texas Monthly*, available only to subscribers, concentrating on design, art, travel, and food. Editor **Catherine Chadwick** promises that it will be "art-driven" and high-style.

Young Architects: *Progressive Architecture* devoted its July issue to 16 up-and-coming talents, including Texans **Alamo Architects** (San Antonio), **Craig Wakefield Grund** (Austin), **Carlos Jiménez** (Houston), **Joe Mashburn** (College Station), and sometime-Houstonian **Neal I. Payton** (Washington D.C.). The work of Texas architects **Howard Barnstone**, **Hal Box**, **Lawrence W. Speck**, and **William F. Stern** is prominently featured in the recently published book *American Houses* by Philip Langdon (Steward Tabori & Chang, 1987).

The Decorative Center of Houston and *Houston Home and Garden* magazine have announced the first annual **Wendy Haskell Meyer Student Design Competition**. The competition is open to all Houston-area interior design and architectural students. The Huntingdon condominium complex has agreed to be the 1987 underwriter, providing floorplans and design criteria. Final submission deadline for completed projects is 4 December 1987, with an awards ceremony scheduled for 21

Cite alive—still—at 5. This nineteenth issue marks the fifth anniversary of *Cite*, the Rice Design Alliance's review of architecture and design in Houston.

January 1988 at The Decorative Center. For further information or written materials, call Siri Roark at The Decorative Center, 713/961-9292.

The **American Institute of Architects** presented its annual 25 Year Award to the **Bavinger House** in Norman, Oklahoma by **Bruce Goff**, childhood home of Houston architect **Bill Bavinger**. AIA members elected **Benjamin E. Brewer, Jr.** first vice president of the institute at their June convention. Closer to home, the **Alley Theatre** named its Arena Stage in honor of longtime supporter **Hugo V. Neuhaus, Jr.**, shortly before his death on 21 July. **Frank Lloyd Wright's** only Houston building, the 1955 Thaxton House at 12020 Tall Oaks in Bunker Hill Village, has been colonialized. **Texas A&M University** has established the multi-

disciplinary **Center for Historic Resources**, with Gordon Echols as director and Joan Rabins as assistant.

The Houston skyline will come alive during the **Landmarks on Parade** procession celebrating the opening of the George R. Brown Convention Center on 26 September at 8 PM on the center's grounds. The parade, which will include more than 1,500 parading high school band members and 300 flag-bearers, will feature 28 marching landmarks designed by architects from local firms, including **Lloyd Jones Fillpot and Associates, Inc.**, **Morris Architects**, **CBM Engineers**, **Walter P. Moore & Associates** with **W.S. Bellows Construction**, **3D/International**, and the **SWA Group**. The landmarks include buildings (Hermann Hospital, Jones Hall, Lovett Hall, City Hall, the Astrodome), skylines (City Post Oak, Houston Center), monuments (San Jacinto Monument), and events (Rendez-Vous Houston, Houston freeways), and will be worn by actors from Checkmate Theatricals. Many of the marching landmarks will be joined by costumed employees who work at the
(Continued on page 4)

Citelines

Look Both Ways



Houston Municipal Air Terminal (Joseph Finger, architect) as it appeared shortly after its opening in 1940. The Air Terminal was Houston's port of entry until a new terminal, now called Hobby Airport, was built in 1954.

In a forward-looking celebration the City of Houston Department of Aviation has dedicated a new runway at Houston Intercontinental Airport and produced a design for a new Terminal D. Yet equally as impressive is the Aviation Department's look back to its genesis. The department will mark a half-century of service by preserving the Houston Municipal Airport Terminal (1937-1940). The city's first municipal airport, on the site now known as William P. Hobby Airport, was served by the four-story Modernistic terminal building designed by Houston architect Joseph Finger.

In this its fiftieth year, the Houston Municipal Airport Terminal will enjoy a \$200,000 exterior restoration. The exterior will be restored to near-original appearance (original colors are khaki tan and gray, not the current white and coral-pink scheme). The control tower, which was added soon after the building's completion, will be retained. The International Terminal, a one-story extension of the building which gives the current structure an L-shape, will be modified. A portion of this addition will

be demolished, separating the extension from the original terminal. Work inside the building will be limited to cleaning, safety lighting, and stabilization of decaying ceiling plaster.

Barry Moore Architects, Inc. is reviewing contract documents for the project. The restoration will accomplish more than arresting deterioration, which is in itself a laudable goal. Preservation of the exterior of the building will leave only the task of interior rehabilitation when a new use for the long-abandoned building is selected. Meanwhile, the terminal will attract the attention it deserves as a significant piece of Houston's architectural heritage.

The restoration plans were reviewed by the City of Houston Archeological and Historical Commission. Commissioner V. Nia Dorian-Becnel praised the Aviation Department for taking the initiative in securing the building, rather than continuing to allow the historic building to deteriorate.

Mike Davis

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featured facility or company. Several of the structures will have audio capabilities and internal lighting.



Rice students adorn the Merry Prankster bus, March 1967.

J.H. Bryan and unnamed co-conspirators are seeking to rescue **Ken Kesey's Merry Prankster bus**, which lies a-mouldering (and a-rusting) on Kesey's farm in Pleasant Hill, Oregon. The bus, with its destination marquee reading "Further," crisscrossed America during the '60s, with Neal Cassady sometimes at the wheel, stopping in Houston to visit writer Larry McMurtry, then at Rice. The would-be preservationists hope to have the bus restored and moved to the Smithsonian Institution.

Architect and University of Houston associate professor **Peter J. Zweig** took an honorable mention in the West Hollywood Civic Center Competition.

A \$3 million grant from the Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation will fund the new **Sasakawa International Center for Space Architecture** at the University of Houston. Under the direction of architecture professor **Larry Bell**, the center will work on projects supporting the peaceful use of space and space technology.

Fall Architecture Events

Rice Design Alliance

P.O. Box 1892, Houston, Texas
77251-1892, 713/524-6297

7-8 Nov - Annual Home Tour: Broadacres. Homes in this tree-lined neighborhood along North and South boulevards will be open to RDA members only.

Fall Lecture Series - "Lessons From Space." A four-part lecture series addressing man's environment in outer space, including space stations, the moon, the planets, and beyond. For reservations and information about both events, telephone the Rice Design Alliance.

Farish Gallery

M.D. Anderson Hall, Rice University,
713/527-4870

24 Aug-11 Oct - Exhibition: "Frank Lloyd Wright and the Johnson Wax Building." Models, drawings, furniture, and photographs organized by the Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University. Introduced with a lecture **2 Sept** by Jonathan Lipman, 7:30 PM, Brown Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; reception 8:30 PM Farish Gallery.

School of Architecture, Rice University

713/527-4870
14 Sept-16 Nov - Fall Evening Lecture Series, at 8 PM in Sewall Hall, Room 301, Rice University campus; admission free.

21 Sept - Taft Architects, "Recent Work."

28 Sept - Peter Papademetriou, "On Becoming a Modern Architect: Eero Saarinen's Evolution."

30 Sept - Xavier Navarro, "Paintings and Buildings."

5 Oct - Alexander Tzonis and Liane Lefavre, "Critical Classicism."

8 Oct - Judith Wolin, "Mnemosyne."

19 Oct - Carollee Pelos and Jean-Louis Bourgeois, "Magnificent Mud."

26 Oct - Michael Sorkin, "Postures of Criticism."

2 Nov - Alex Krieger, "On Boston: Past Futures and Recent Prospects."

9 Nov - Andres Duany and Elizabeth Ptater-Zyberk, "Recent Work."

16 Nov - Mary McLeod, "The Politics of Le Corbusier."

21 Oct - Lecture by Robert Irwin, a leading Southern California artist and Craig Francis Cullinan Visiting Professor in Fine Arts, Architecture, and Urban Planning for 1987-1988, "The Nature of Abstract Art," 7 PM, Sewall Hall, Room 301, Rice University campus; admission free.

College of Architecture, University of Houston

713/749-1187

23 Sept-11 Nov - Fall Lecture Series, Wednesdays at 2:30 PM unless otherwise specified, College of Architecture Auditorium, University of Houston campus; admission free.

23 Sept - Ronald C. Filson, "Boston Artist Housing and Other Projects."

30 Sept - Judy Urrutia, "Process and Content."

14 Oct - Andrew Perez, "The Work of Andrew Perez and Associates."

28 Oct - Robert Renfro, "Current Work."

6 Nov, Friday - Kenneth Frampton.

11 Nov - Simone Swan, "Hassan Fathy."

Greater Houston Preservation Alliance

16 Sept - Guided walking tour of the Main Street/Market Square Historic

District; tours usually scheduled the third Wednesday of every month; group tours available upon request. Fee is \$1; meet at noon at the corner of Preston and Milam. For more information, call Barthel Truxillo at 713/861-6236.

29-30 Oct - Public conference, "Main Street/Market Square Historic District: Developing a Revitalization Strategy." Co-sponsored by the RDA, DiverseWorks, Houston Archeological and Historical Commission, Houston Chapter/AIA, and CSI. For registration information, call the GHPA at 713/236-5000.

Houston Chapter, American Institute of Architects

20 Greenway Plaza, Suite 246, Houston, Texas 77046-2002, 713/622-2081

Beginning **20 Sept**, every third Sunday of the month - Guided walking tours.

28 Sept - Annual Design Awards Reception, 6:30 PM at Stages Theater; \$10 AIA members, \$15 nonmembers
23 Oct - Urban Design Symposium. Registration begins at 7:30 AM; fee includes lunch.

13-15 Nov - Texas Society of Architects Annual Convention, George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, Texas. Call the AIA, Houston Chapter office for more information.

13-15 Nov - "Reclaiming Downtown Houston," design charette sponsored by the **Young Architects Forum**.

Architecture schools in Texas are invited to send a team of students and faculty/young professional advisors to participate in a design charette to be held during the T.S.A. annual convention. The purpose of the charette is to focus attention on a marginal area of downtown



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