

A Project to Benefit
the Farnsworth House and the Glass House



PHOTO: Landmarks Illinois

MODERN VIEWS



PHOTO: Erik Johnson

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General Info: 203.594.9884
www.philipjohnsonglasshouse.org/programs/modernviews

Media Contact: Christa Carr
203.275.7565
E-mail: Christa_Carr@nthp.org

MODERN VIEWS *A Project to Benefit the Farnsworth House and the Glass House*

NEW CANAAN, Conn. (June 2, 2010) – On January 1, 2010, Mies van der Rohe’s Farnsworth House came under the management of the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP). Within its portfolio of twenty-nine historic sites, the NTHP now owns and manages two of America’s greatest Modernist residences – the Farnsworth House in Plano, Illinois and Philip Johnson’s Glass House in New Canaan, Connecticut. This transition allows an even closer collaboration between the two properties resulting in the launch of *Modern Views: A Project to Benefit the Farnsworth House and the Glass House*.

Spearheaded by the Glass House leadership, as the National Trust’s Center for Modernism, the project represents a yearlong initiative to raise funds for critical site preservation efforts at both homes. The venture is set to raise \$1M to preserve our country’s most inspirational Modernist icons.

Modern Views asks contemporary artists, architects and designers to continue one of the 20th century’s great cultural dialogues – the historic exchange reflected in Mies van der Rohe’s Farnsworth House and Philip Johnson’s Glass House. It is a dialogue about vision and precedent, influence and inspiration, theory and practice, intellect and passion.

“The National Trust for Historic Preservation is extremely proud to be the owner of these two icons of Modernism,” said David Brown, Executive Vice President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. “*Modern Views* ensures that both the Glass House and Farnsworth House will continue to inspire other artists and spur an ongoing dialogue about the role both houses occupy in the broader Modernist movement. While raising needed funding for the preservation of the Glass House and Farnsworth House, *Modern Views* ensures that both of these masterpieces remain catalysts for creativity, debate and inspiration.”

Modern Views project leadership invited a global slate of participants to create and donate a drawing, sculpture, or other work of art, accompanied by a short statement that captures how these two iconic buildings inspire their work. One hundred architects, artists and designers have contributed work representing some of the greatest thinkers in their respective fields. The donated work will be published in the fall in an illustrated book produced with Assouline. This volume will open with historic photographs and construction drawings of both houses, never published together before, and an introduction by *New Yorker* architectural critic Paul Goldberger. Continuing the dialogue, the book will include reflections on Mies van der Rohe and Philip Johnson by Phyllis Lambert, Founding Director and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Canadian Centre for Architecture, captured in a recent interview. Following this interview, an essay by architectural historian Sylvia Lavin will illustrate how social references to both homes created and have perpetuated their place in our collective memory and history. From this historical overview, the book will unfold to illustrate the *Modern Views* of the 100 participating contemporary artists, architects, and designers engaged in this critical reflection. This publication will reach and engage diverse international audiences for years to come.

The project was officially launched on June 2, 2010 at the Four Seasons Restaurant in New York during a preview reception for the media, project leaders, donors and participants. Contributed works will be exhibited in Chicago and New York, culminating in an event and auction in each city.

Select work will be on exhibition in Chicago with a ticketed event September 16th featuring a live auction of highlighted pieces. All work will be on exhibition in New York with a ticketed event October 6th culminating in a live and silent auction of all pieces. A new film by artist Sarah Morris will be premiered at both Chicago and New York, inspired by both Farnsworth House and the Glass House. Additional programming will occur during the exhibitions to capture the artistic views and inspirations from both iconic homes as well as to discuss broader Modern preservation topics and challenges.

“A partnership between these two iconic Modern homes owned by the National Trust for Historic Preservation was natural and essential. Daily we hear people talking about which was first, which is more profound, and what is the definition of power – social or experiential. This project captures those dialogues and shares them in print, film, on-line and through an auction which will go back to support our two critical preservation projects,” says Glass House Executive Director, Christy MacLear.

“Glass House is earthbound, composed of darker materials and divided panes, framing views of a landscape dotted with samples of a life’s work. Farnsworth House floats above a solitary landscape, a landscape untended so that one observes, but does not participate in the nature that surrounds it, a house intentionally designed to disappear around you. The two, together, a composition of earth and heaven.” says Farnsworth House Executive Director, Whitney French.

This project is generously underwritten by Sotheby’s, and prior to both fall events, all works will be available in an online exhibition beginning in early August. Please check www.philipjohnsonglasshouse.org/programs/modernviews for breaking information on the online auction and events. Funds generated by *Modern Views: A Project to Benefit Farnsworth House and the Glass House* are specifically earmarked for the preservation and restoration of the Brick House at the Philip Johnson Glass House and are targeted for necessary restoration, maintenance and operations of the Farnsworth House.

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Center for Modernism Board of Advisors

Johan Eveland
Paul Goldberger
Ted Hathaway
Robert Rubin
Bill Ruprecht
Robert A.M. Stern

Modern Views Project Leadership

John Bryan
Amalia Dayan + Adam Lindemann
Paul Goldberger
Richard Gray
Phyllis Lambert
Tobias Meyer + Mark Fletcher
Cindy Pritzker

Christy MacLear, Executive Director, Philip Johnson Glass House
Whitney French, Executive Director, Farnsworth House
Susan Sayre Batton, Modern Views Project Director

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Fact Sheet

- 100 artists, architects and designers have generously donated drawings, models and works of art to *Modern Views: A Project to Benefit Farnsworth House and the Glass House*.
- Project participants represent 9 countries (Austria, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, United Kingdom and United States) and 3 continents (Asia, Europe and North America).
- *Modern Views* will unfold over 4 months with 3 signature events and an online auction.

June 2, 2010 Media Launch, Four Seasons Restaurant, New York

September 16, 2010 Exhibition Preview and fundraising event, Chicago
Screening of a new film by Sarah Morris inspired by
Farnsworth + Glass House
The Arts Club

October 6, 2010 Exhibition Preview and fundraising event, New York
Screening of a new film by Sarah Morris inspired by
Farnsworth + Glass House
Sotheby's

September Online Exhibition www.sothebys.com/modernviews

- Project Website: philipjohnsonglasshouse.org/programs/modernviews
- Project Sponsor: Sotheby's
- *Modern Views* participants' work will be published in a book published by Assouline
- *Modern Views* has a fundraising goal of \$1 million.
- Funds generated by Modern Views are earmarked for the restoration of the Brick House at the Philip Johnson Glass House and for restoration, maintenance and operations at Farnsworth House.

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Participants

Architects

David Adjaye
Tadao Ando
Asymptote
Thomas Beeby
James Biber
Laurence O. Booth
Renée Daoust + Réal Lestage
Dirk Denison
Diller Scofidio + Renfro
Norman Foster
Jeanne Gang
Michael Graves
Zaha Hadid
Hans Hollein
Helmut Jahn
Johnston Marklee
Léon Krier
Ronald A. Krueck
Bruce Kuwabara + Marianne McKenna
Daniel Libeskind
Dirk Lohan
Greg Lynn
Thom Mayne
Richard Meier
Toshiko Mori
Eric Owen Moss
Mohsen Mostafavi
Patricia + John Patkau
Cesar Pelli
Dominique Perrault
Wolf D. Prix
Pugh + Scarpa
Ron Radziner
Jaquelin T. Robertson
Kevin Roche
Richard Rogers
Gilles Saucier
Annabelle Selldorf
Brigitte Shim + Howard Sutcliffe
Robert Siegel, Gwathmey Siegel
Álvaro Siza
Adrian Smith
Kenzo Tange (Japanese, 1913-2005)
Stanley Tigerman
Calvin Tsao
Bernard Tschumi
John Vinci
Rafael Viñoly
Tod Williams + Billie Tsien
Lebbeus Woods
Mirko Zardini

Landscape Architects

Diana Balmori
Adriaan Geuze
Kathryn Gustafson
Gary Hilderbrand
Walter Hood
Peter Latz
Ken Smith

Artists

Vija Celmins
Lynn Davis
David Diao
Fritz Haeg
Maira Kalman
Louise Lawler
Annie Leibovitz
Robert Morris
Inigo Manglano-Ovalle
Claes Oldenburg + Coosje van Bruggen
(Dutch, 1942-2009)
Jaume Plensa
Ken Price
Ed Ruscha
James Rosenquist
David Salle
Julius Shulman (American, 1910-2009)
+ Juergen Nogai
Frank Stella
Al Taylor (American, 1949-1999)
Alessandro Twombly
James Welling
Richard Woods

Designers

2x4
Maarten Baas
Mario Bellini
Mattia Bonetti
Ronan + Erwan Bouroullec
Constantin Boym
Martino Gamper
Sheila Hicks
Vladimir Kagan
Studio Makkink + Bey
Gaetano Pesce
Karim Rashid
Demian Repucci
Jens Risom
Paula Scher

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SELECT WORKS FROM THE 100 PARTICIPANTS



CLAES OLDENBURG + COOSJE VAN BRUGGEN
(1942-2009) *Architect's Handkerchief*, 1997
Screenprint and collé 31-1/4" x 23-1/2"
Courtesy of Claes Oldenburg
Photograph courtesy of Sotheby's



ZAHA HADID
Plano Complex, 2010
24 panel installation in plexi case 8.5" x 8.1/2" x 6"
Courtesy of the Designer, Photograph courtesy of Sotheby's



GARY HILDERBRAND
Almost Nothing, 2010, Photo collage 9-3/4" x 11"
Courtesy of the Designer
Photograph courtesy of Paul Warchol, Erik Johnson,
and Sotheby's



RON KRUECK
Krueck & Sexton Architects
Untitled, 2010, Mixed media 24" x 1-1/2" x 24"
Courtesy of the Designer, Photograph courtesy of Sotheby's



INIGO MANGLANO-OVALLE
Gravity is a force to be reckoned with (untitled Repose), 2010, Giclée print on paper 12" x 30"
Edition 1 of 10, Courtesy of the Artist



CONSTANTIN BOYM
A Souvenir of Modernism, 2010
Mixed media 8" x 8" x 8"
Courtesy of the Designer, Photograph courtesy of Sotheby's

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The Philip Johnson Glass House is located in New Canaan, Connecticut and consists of 14 structures across 47 manicured acres. This site was listed by *Time* magazine as one of America's top 5 architectural destinations. The Glass House itself, built in 1949, consists of two halves - one glass and one brick - to create the whole composition. The brick half of this iconic structure is our priority preservation project and is providing a research and methodology opportunity for Modern Preservation nationally.

The Brick House is presently closed to the public due to toxic levels of mold caused by rising water from an underground stream, unstemmed for over 60 years. The restoration project will require a diversion of the stream, mold remediation throughout the interior walls and fabric, and restoration of the artwork, objects and personal library of Philip Johnson. This project has just finished its phase I evaluation and we estimate that the project will take over \$3M to fully restore to allow public access by 2011.

As the iconic core of our site, this modern preservation project is beyond our annual operating budget of \$2 million and we will need to raise 100% of the money by the end of 2010. Fifty percent of the net proceeds from *Modern Views* will go directly to this project; additional directed gifts will be celebrated at our fall event in New York.

The Farnsworth House is located in Plano, Illinois just outside of Chicago. This Mies van der Rohe designed masterpiece is a pilgrimage site for architects and designers world-wide and is considered one of our country's most important Modern assets. The National Trust for Historic Preservation and select Chicago leaders came together in 2003 to purchase the home to ensure it remained in its inspired and original place along the banks of the Fox River.

While visually minimal, the house's structure is extremely complex and interrelated. A comprehensive restoration is planned which includes roof work, refurbishment of the curtain wall, an investigation of the hidden steel skeleton, and an examination of the lower deck travertine stone and substructure drainage system. Exploration and design of an engineered solution to prevent future floods will also be conducted.

The restoration project is estimated to cost approximately \$2M, with an additional \$2M needed to resolve flood mitigation. Through generous support from granting agencies and donations from individuals, close to half of the restoration monies have been raised. Fifty percent of the net proceeds from *Modern Views* will help the Farnsworth House move closer to its financial goal so work can begin on this architectural icon.

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Project Leadership

John Bryan
Richard Gray
Paul Goldberger
Phyllis Lambert
Adam Lindemann + Amalia Dayan
Tobias Meyer + Mark Fletcher
Cindy Pritzker

Chicago Inviting Committee

Prue + Frank Beidler
Kathleen + John Buck
Les Coney
Barbi + Tom Donnelley
Stefan Edlis
Ann + Jim Feldstein
Helyn Goldenberg
James Gordon
De + Paul Gray
Kay + Fred Krehbiel
Anstiss Hammond Krueck
Donna LaPietra + Bill Kurtis

Robin Loewenberg + Louis Berger
Catherine Lohan
Ann Lurie
Barry MacLean
Gary Metzner
Lynn Osmond
Desiree Rogers
Cari + Michael Sacks
Smita Shah
Maria Smithburg
Lynn + Allen Turner
Bob Wislow

New York Inviting Committee

Jan Aronson + Edgar M. Bronfman
Abigail Asher + Douglas Schoninger
Maria Baibakova
Sloan + Roger Barnett
Laurie Beckelman
Maria + Bill Bell
Rosamond Bernier
George Beylerian
Mary Boone
Peter Brant
Sandy Brant + Ingrid Sischy
Carolyn Brody
Stacey + Matthew Bronfman
Tory Burch
Michele Caniato
Douglas Cramer + Hugh Bush
Beth Rudin DeWoody
Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel
Todd Eberle + Richard Pandiscio
Lisa + Eric Eisner
Katherine Farley + Jerry Speyer
Rachel Feinstein + John Currin
Sara Fitzmaurice + Perry Rubenstein
Michael Formica + Bob Hiemstra
José Freire
Barbara Gladstone
Agnes Gund
James Hedges + Tom Delavan
Sandy Heller
Marieluise Hessel
Gerald Hines
Barbara Jakobson
Calvin Klein
Karen LaGatta + Marshall G. Allan
Helmut Lang + Edward Pavlick
Dominique Levy + Dorothy Berwin

Frayda + George Lindemann
Daniella Luxembourg
John Lyons
Linda + Harry Macklowe
Sean MacPherson
Susan Magrino
Michael Maharam
Thordis Moeller
Gigi + Averell Mortimer
Peter Morton
Brooke Garber Neidich
Louise Neri
Kelly + Gerry Pasciucco
Friedrich Petzel
Leigh + Richard Pops
Cindy + Howard Rachofsky
Doreen Remen
Diana + Charles Revson
Terence Riley
Renee + Mark Rockefeller
Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn + Nicholas Rohatyn
Daniel Romualdez
Deedie Rose
Samantha + Aby Rosen
Jackie + Mortimer Sackler
Pamela + Arthur Sanders
Denise + Andrew Saul
Andrea Schwan
Beatrice Stern
Liz Swig
Angelika Taschen
Julie + Bobby Taubman
Yvonne Force Villareal + Leo Villareal
Neville Wakefield
Dianne Wallace

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National Trust for Historic Preservation

The National Trust for Historic Preservation (www.PreservationNation.org) is a non-profit membership organization bringing people together to protect, enhance and enjoy the places that matter to them. By saving the places where great moments from history – and the important moments of everyday life – took place, the National Trust for Historic Preservation helps revitalize neighborhoods and communities, spark economic development and promote environmental sustainability. With headquarters in Washington, DC, eight regional and field offices, 29 historic sites, and partner organizations in 50 states, territories, and the District of Columbia, the National Trust for Historic Preservation provides leadership, education, advocacy and resources to a national network of people, organizations and local communities committed to saving places, connecting us to our history and collectively shaping the future of America's stories.

Modernism + Recent Past

The significant buildings, landscapes, and sites of the Modern movement and the important architectural, social, and cultural resources of the past 50 years are among the most underappreciated and vulnerable aspects of our nation's heritage. Day by day, a steady campaign of demolition erodes the physical fabric of the recent past, with little consideration of its community importance, design significance, or role in creating a sustainable future. TrustModern, the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Modernism + Recent Past Program (www.PreservationNation.org/trustmodern) challenges the nation to change how we view, steward, and preserve the architectural and cultural heritage of the recent past before more landmarks are lost.

Center for Modernism

As the owner of the Philip Johnson Glass House and Mies van der Rohe's Farnsworth House, the National Trust for Historic Preservation already serves as a major curator of Modern masterpieces. As part of the Modernism + Recent Past Program, the Center for Modernism at the Philip Johnson Glass House provides leadership for scholarship, engagement, and the research of best practices for material preservation efforts. Modern Views is the central project for the Center for Modernism in 2010 focusing on building the collaboration and dialogue between these two National Trust resources.

A Project to Benefit
Farnsworth House and the Glass House

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WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THIS EVENT

