

**Southern  
California  
Institute  
of  
Architecture**

**PACIFIC STANDARD  
TIME PRESENTS:**  
MODERN ARCHITECTURE IN L.A.

AN INITIATIVE OF THE GETTY



**January 15, 2013  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Media Inquiries:**  
Georgiana Ceausu, [news@sciarc.edu](mailto:news@sciarc.edu), 213-356-5336

**SCI-ARC GALLERY & LIBRARY EXHIBITION**

**Pacific Standard Time Presents:  
Modern Architecture in L.A.**

***A CONFEDERACY OF  
HERETICS: THE  
ARCHITECTURE GALLERY,  
VENICE, 1979***

**March 29 – July 7, 2013**

**Curated by Todd Gannon, Ewan Branda and Andrew Zago  
Exhibition Design by Zago Architecture**

**Opening Reception: Friday, March 29, 7pm**

**Exhibition Discussion: Friday, April 5, 7pm**

**Symposium: Friday, June 14, 3-9pm & Saturday, June 15, 10am-4pm**



**Los Angeles, CA (January 15, 2013)**—The Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc) is pleased to present *A Confederacy of Heretics: The Architecture Gallery, Venice, 1979*, on view starting March 29 on the school's campus in downtown Los Angeles. The SCI-Arc exhibition examines the pivotal role played by the temporary gallery held in the home of architect Thom Mayne for several weeks in 1979. Los Angeles' first gallery exclusively dedicated to architecture, the Architecture Gallery staged ten weekly exhibitions on both young and established Los Angeles practitioners, featuring the work of Eugene Kupper, Roland Coate Jr., Frederick Fisher, Frank Dimster, Frank O. Gehry, Peter de Bretteville, Morphosis (Thom Mayne and Michael Rotondi), Studio Works (Craig Hodgetts and Robert Mangurian) and Eric Owen Moss. Opened with a lecture by another young architect, Coy Howard, public presentations by architects to accompany their exhibitions were hosted at SCI-Arc, then located on Berkeley Street in Santa Monica. In an unprecedented move by the popular press, the events were chronicled in weekly reviews by then *Los Angeles Times* architecture critic, John Dreyfuss.

Exhibition curator Todd Gannon says "The show documents a crucial turning point in Los Angeles architecture, a time when Angeleno architecture culture shifted from working local variations on imported themes, to exporting highly original disciplinary innovations with global reach."

An immersive showcase of spectacular models, drawings and media will be mounted in two spaces located on the SCI-Arc campus, the main gallery and the Library Gallery. The exhibition will present a collection of models, drawings, and other materials shown during the original 1979 exhibitions, including drawings and models of Eric

Owen Moss' Morganstern Warehouse, Pinball House, and Pasadena Condominiums; multimedia studies of Frederick Fisher's Caplin House; large-scale models and drawings of Studio Works' South Side Settlement House and Nicollet Island project; PrismaColor renderings of Roland Coate's Cabo Bello project; a suite of Coy Howard's multimedia 'drawls'; and additional projects representing each of the participating practices. These objects were executed across a wide spectrum of formats and media, and many of them have not been exhibited since 1979.

"We are extremely thankful to the Getty Foundation for making this exhibition possible," said SCI-Arc Director Eric Owen Moss. "Although SCI-Arc has never imagined itself as a repository of architecture's contemporary history, if a substantial effort to look back inexorably propels us forward, we'll count the exhibition as a major success," added Moss.

Featuring documentation, video recordings, and important commentary from the period by *Los Angeles Times* critic John Dreyfuss, this exhibition aims neither to canonize the participating architects nor to consecrate their unorthodox activities. Rather, these rarely seen artifacts will provide a unique lens through which to re-examine some of Los Angeles' most well known architects at a pivotal moment in the development of late 20<sup>th</sup> century architecture.

## EXHIBITION PUBLIC PROGRAMS

March 27, 7pm in the W. M. Keck Lecture Hall at SCI-Arc

### **Todd Gannon Curator's Lecture: *Prelude to the Confederacy***

Todd Gannon is an architect and writer based in Los Angeles. He is cultural studies coordinator at SCI-Arc, where he has taught since 2008. His published books include *The Light Construction Reader* (2002) and monographs on the work of Morphosis, Zaha Hadid, Peter Eisenman, and others.

Friday, April 5, 7pm in the SCI-Arc Gallery

### **Exhibition Discussion with Eric Owen Moss and curators Todd Gannon, Ewan Branda and Andrew Zago**

This discussion between curators and SCI-Arc Director Eric Owen Moss—a participant in the original Architecture Gallery—will address the unprecedented breadth of tactics with which progressive Los Angeles architects experimented in the late 1970s, as well as tackle some of the earliest instances of innovations in formal organization, materiality, and design technique that developed through the 1980s and '90s into the hallmarks of Los Angeles architecture. The exhibition talk will expand on SCI-Arc's participation in Pacific Standard Time Presents: Modern Architecture in L.A. and the initiative's significant contribution to the ongoing understanding and appreciation of architecture in Los Angeles.

June 14-15, 2013, in the W. M. Keck Lecture Hall at SCI-Arc

### **A Confederacy of Heretics Symposium**

Round table discussion with Architecture Gallery participants **Eugene Kupper, Roland Coate, Frederick Fisher, Frank Dimster, Peter de Bretteville, Thom Mayne** (keynote), **Michael Rotondi, Craig Hodgetts, Eric Owen Moss** and **Coy Howard** (keynote).

Speakers and panelists: **Hernan Diaz Alonso, Barbara Bestor, Annie Chu, Neil Denari, John Enright, Ming Fung, Paul Goldberger, Wes Jones, Michael Maltzan, Nick Seierup, Andrew Zago**, and others.

Moderators: **Jeffrey Kipnis, Todd Gannon** and **Ewan Branda**

Moderated round tables of four to six panelists, all from the generation immediately following those featured in *A Confederacy of Heretics*, will engage in lively discussions on the exhibition topics, while Architecture Gallery architects will be on hand in the front row as respondents.

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Image caption: Seven of the architects who participated in The Architecture Gallery, from left to right: Frederick Fisher, Robert Mangurian, Eric Owen Moss, Coy Howard, Craig Hodgetts, Thom Mayne, Frank Gehry. Photograph ©1980 Ave Pildas.

Major support for *A Confederacy of Heretic: The Architecture Gallery, Venice, 1979* is provided by the Getty Foundation.

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SCI-Arc exhibitions and public programs are made possible in part by a grant from the City of Los Angeles, Department of Cultural Affairs.

#### **Public Programs**

Parking and admission are free. No reservations are required. Events are broadcast live online at [www.sciarc.edu/live](http://www.sciarc.edu/live).

SCI-Arc Public Programs are subject to change beyond our control. For the most current information, please visit [www.sciarc.edu](http://www.sciarc.edu) or call 213-613-2200.

#### **Parking and Hours**

The entrance to SCI-Arc's parking lot is at 350 Merrick Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013, between Traction Avenue and 4th Street in Los Angeles. The SCI-Arc Gallery is open daily from 10am–6pm.

#### **About SCI-Arc**

Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc) is dedicated to educating architects who will imagine and shape the future. It is an independent, accredited degree-granting institution offering undergraduate and graduate programs in architecture. Located in a quarter-mile-long former freight depot in the Arts District in Downtown Los Angeles, the school is distinguished by its vibrant studio culture and emphasis on process. SCI-Arc's approximately 500 students and 80 faculty members, most of whom are practicing architects, work together to re-examine assumptions, create, explore and test the limits of architecture. SCI-Arc faculty and leadership have garnered more than 500 national and international design awards and recognitions, including Progressive Architecture awards, American Institute of Architects (AIA) awards, and the prestigious Jencks and Pritzker architecture prizes. SCI-Arc is ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in computer applications and 2<sup>nd</sup> in design in the *2013 America's Best Architecture Schools* survey from DesignIntelligence, and #1 graduate and undergraduate architecture school in Western U.S. SCI-Arc is located at 960 E. 3rd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013. [www.sciarc.edu](http://www.sciarc.edu)

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