



PennDesignOnline

The alumni newsline for The University of Pennsylvania School of Design

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WHILE WE WERE AWAY . . .

GSFA became the School of Design (PennDesign for short, but never SOD!) . . . Gary Hack was re-appointed for another five-year term as Dean . . . and Detlef Mertins became the chair of architecture.

PENNDISIGN

After years of debate over the name of the Graduate School of Fine Arts, in June the University's Board of Trustees approved a new name that reflects the School and its mission:

The University of Pennsylvania School of Design

Throughout the lengthy discussions about a new name, the faculty wished to signal not only the present but the future of the School. The term "design" has relevance to each of the academic disciplines, which now include digital media, graphic design and visual studies as well as architecture, city planning, landscape architecture, historic preservation and fine arts. And new programs in coming years will involve design in other fields, so stringing together the names of all these fields was not an option, as in the "School of Architecture, Planning, Landscape Architecture, Preservation and Fine Arts . . ." And the term "graduate" has been dropped from the name because one-third of the School's teaching is now at the undergraduate level.

While Fine Arts remains the smallest of the School's academic disciplines, it is no less important today. Over the past five years, the department has grown from one to six standing faculty, with many adjunct faculty and lecturers, and the Charles Addams Fine Arts Hall was opened as the first visual arts center in the history of the University. Yet the broader notion of "fine arts" to which the School owes its origins – as in "l'Ecole des Beaux Arts" in Paris – had ceased to be the right name for the full range of what the School now teaches at Penn.

We hope that you will join us in celebrating the new name by attending a PennDesign lecture, exhibition or event this year! Please see the calendar of events at the end of this newsletter.

DEAN HACK ACCEPTS A SECOND TERM

We are pleased to report that Gary Hack was re-appointed for a second, five-year term as Dean of the School of Design. Gary is on a well-deserved sabbatical for the fall semester, working on plans for the World Trade Center site and rewriting his book, *Site Planning*. John Dixon Hunt, professor of landscape architecture, will serve as acting dean until January 1, 2004.

GSFAA IS NOW PDAA

And the Graduate School of Fine Arts Association is now the PennDesign Alumni Association. We welcome three new board members this fall, Nick Coviello BFA'69 MFA'72, Robert Hotes MArch'92 CRT'93 (preservation), and Nancy Rogo Trainer MArch'85. Last spring's MFA Alumni Exhibition and Sale raised more than \$5,000 to benefit scholarships for current MFA students, and PDAA is looking forward to hosting a variety of alumni receptions at conferences around the United States this year, as follows:

ALUMNI RECEPTIONS 2003-2004

September 18

Association for Preservation Technology (APT) National Conference
5-7 pm, Hawthorne Room of the Eastland Park Hotel, 157 High Street, Portland, ME

October 2

National Trust for Historic Preservation National Conference
7:30-9 pm, Churchill Bar at the Brown Palace Hotel, 321 17th Street, Denver, CO

October 30-November 1

American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
Final date, time, location of reception TBA

April 26, 2004

American Planning Association (APA) National Planning Conference, Washington DC
6:30-8 pm, Hilton Washington (location TENTATIVE)

May 15-16, 2004

Alumni Weekend at Penn

June 10-12, 2004

American Institute of Architects (AIA) National Convention, Chicago, IL
Final date, time, location of alumni reception TBA

MERTINS NEW CHAIR OF ARCHITECTURE

Detlef Mertins, an architect, historian and critic known for his reinterpretations of modernism, was appointed chair of the department of architecture and professor of architecture effective July 1. Mertins practiced architecture and urban design for nine years with Baird/ Sampson, Jones & Kirkland and on his own, and in 1996 he completed his doctorate at Princeton University with the dissertation, *Transparencies Yet to Come: Sigfried Giedion and the Prehistory of Architectural Modernity*. Over the past several years, Mertins' research has focused on the architecture of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, with major essays published in the exhibition catalogues for *Mies in Berlin* (MoMA, 2001) and *Mies in America* (CCA/Whitney Museum of Art, 2001). He is currently preparing a monograph entitled, *Mies van der Rohe: The Art of Transformation* (Phaidon, 2004). Mertins comes to Penn from the University of Toronto, from which he received his Bachelor of Architecture degree in 1980, taught in the



faculty of architecture, landscape and design since 1991, and held a Canada Research Chair in Architecture since 2001. He also has taught at Princeton, Columbia, Harvard, Rice and the Architectural Association, London and was a visiting scholar at the Canadian Centre for Architecture. Mertins succeeds Richard Wesley, who served as head of the department for six years and will continue as chair of the undergraduate architecture program.

ON THE LINE

1990s

Yikwon Peter Kim MFA'97 yikwonpk@aol.com

has taken over a custom framing shop in center city Philadelphia. "Framing by Walter" at 2016 Walnut Street does all kinds of custom framing work as well as presentation material, consultation, installation, lamination, art work sales etc.

Annette Cords MFA'93 mickeyrabbit@mindspring.com

was awarded a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship this spring in the category Printmaking / Drawing / Artist's Books.

1980s

Linda Kiisk MArch'82 LKiisk@uwyo.edu

received a Fulbright grant to Panama for 2004 to do teaching and research in the area of sustainable design. She plans to work with the indigenous groups to collect data on their design and construction techniques with local materials. Linda is currently assistant professor of architectural engineering at the University of Wyoming.

1970s

Bob Rivera MFA'72 bigbob@riverastudios.com

just completed and installed a 2-part public art commission for the new Philadelphia Police Department Forensic Science Center at 8th and Poplar Streets. The mural is titled DISCOVERY and the free-standing sculpture is titled PAY ATTENTION. www.riverastudios.com

LECTURES, EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

LECTURES

Thursday, September 4

KATHERINE SHERWOOD

Painter, UC/Berkeley
Slide Lecture
5 pm, B3 Meyerson

Monday, September 8

ROBERT YARO

President, Regional Plan
Association, New York City
Practice Professor, City and
Regional Planning, PennDesign
"Rebuilding Lower Manhattan"
6 pm, B1 Meyerson

Monday, September 15

STEPHEN KIERAN, MArch'76

**JAMES TIMBERLAKE,
MArch'77**

Kieran Timberlake Associates,
Philadelphia
"Doing SmartWrap"
6 pm, B1 Meyerson

Thursday, September 18

Book Signing

ANNETTE FIERRO

Associate Professor of
Architecture, PennDesign
The Glass State

**WILLIAM BRAHAM,
MArch'83, PhD'95**

Associate Professor of
Architecture, PennDesign
*Modern Color/Modern
Architecture*

DAVID LEATHERBARROW

Professor of Architecture
PennDesign
Surface Architecture
6 pm, Upper Gallery

Monday, September 22

BEATRIZ COLOMINA

School of Architecture,
Princeton
"Skinless Architecture"
6 pm, B1 Meyerson

Thursday, September 25

KEN SMITH

Landscape Architect, New York City
"Urban Projects"
6 pm, B1 Meyerson

Monday, September 29

HYUN-SIK MIN

KIOHUN Architects and Associates

H-SANG SEUNG

IROJE Architects and Planners
"Structuring Emptiness: Modernity in Korean Architecture"

6 pm, B1 Meyerson

Sponsored by the Korean Culture and Art Foundation, the Center for Korean Studies and the Department of Architecture, PennDesign

EXHIBITIONS

Through September 19

TYPOGRAPHICALLY SPEAKING: THE ART OF MATTHEW CARTER

Addams Gallery

Carter is one of the pre-eminent type designers of the 20th century and a historian of printing. His career has spanned the typographical revolution, from working with type foundries creating metal type to establishing one of the first digital type foundries, Carter & Cone. Typefaces to his credit include ITC Galliard and Verdana. The exhibition presents a selection of original designs by Carter, as well as a selection of work by graphic designers who have been influenced by his pervasive work.

Closing reception Thursday, September 18, 7-9 pm, gallery talk by Matthew

Carter 6-7pm -- gallery talk by reservation only, call 215-573-5134.

September 22 – October 26

NEW WORKS FROM THE FINE ARTS FACULTY

Addams Gallery
First Friday: October 3

Through October 5

VIEWPOINT: 9 FACULTY PHOTOGRAPHERS

Arthur Ross Gallery, Fisher Fine Arts Library

Future Events @ Penn



October 3-5

THE BEAUX ARTS, PAUL PHILIPPE CRET AND 20TH-CENTURY ARCHITECTURE IN CHINA

This international conference will be held at the School of Design next month, with presentations and discussion panels by 25 leading scholars and architects from around the world. Please refer to the conference website for a prospectus, further information and schedules:

http://www.upenn.edu/gsfa/arch/news/cret_conf.htm.

Admission is free, but registration is highly recommended. To register, please contact: vjacobs@aol-

[b.com](http://www.upenn.edu/gsfa/arch/news/cret_conf.htm) There will be an accompanying exhibition in the Architectural Archives.

October 10-11

"PERFORMATIVE ARCHITECTURE: INSTRUMENTALITY PLUS?"

Symposium organized by the Digital Design Research Lab (DDRL) and the Building Simulation Group (BSG) at PennDesign. Sponsored by McGraw-Hill Construction Information Group, Autodesk, Flomerics, Penn Facilities and Real Estate Services, Department of Architecture and the School of Design.

<http://www.gsfa.upenn.edu/drl/symposium/>

November 7-8

DEAD SPACE: PRESERVING THE HISTORIC AMERICAN CEMETERY

A 2-day working colloquium to initiate and facilitate scholarly debate on the issues of managing and conserving the unique cultural landscapes of historic cemeteries and burying grounds that make up the necrogeographies of America.

Other Dates, Other Places

HAWAII INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ARTS AND HUMANITIES

January 8 - 11, 2004
Renaissance Ilikai Waikiki Hotel, Hawaii, USA

Deadline September 17, 2003

Call for papers, abstracts, student papers, work-in-progress reports, research proposals, workshop proposals, poster sessions, research tables, reports,

practitioner forums, panel discussions, tutorials, or performances related to arts and humanities. For more information on the format of submissions visit the website at:

http://www.hichumanities.org/cfp_artshumanities.htm

All areas of arts and humanities are invited, including performing artists. For a complete list of suggested topic areas see

http://www.hichumanities.org/cfp_artshumanities.htm

Submissions may be made electronically via e-mail to humanities@hichumanities.org

Keep in Touch

Submit brief news items with your name, degree and year: pdalumni@design.upenn.edu.

We will publish your email address in PENNDESIGN ONLINE unless you specifically instruct us not to.

To **check** your email address, please register for the new Penn Alumni Online Community by visiting <http://www.alumni.upenn.edu>

To **change** your email address for this newslines, you must notify pdalumni@design.upenn.edu.

To **REMOVE** yourself from this distribution list, please send an e-mail to pdalumni@design.upenn.edu with the following message: "Unsubscribe PENNDESIGN ONLINE." Please be sure to send your request from the same email address at which you received this issue.

Disclaimers

WORMS, BUGS, VIRUSES

Like many of you, we were assaulted by the SoBig and Blaster emails in mid-August. Consequently, we deleted many incoming emails from names that were unknown to us. Safety first!

If you sent in a news item for this newsletter or for Penn in Ink, please send it again. And please accept our apologies in advance.

EMAIL LISTS

Again, like many of you, we now receive junk email on a daily basis – stuff that never used to escape Penn's advanced 'filter' system is now getting through to us. We hope you don't think of this newsletter in the same category. HOWEVER – we appreciate the desire to minimize incoming email so if you'd like us to remove your name we are more than happy to do so.

AND – at the beginning of each school year we perform an automatic search of the University's main alumni database to retrieve email address of all our alumni. We specifically request **exclusion** of addresses of those alums who have notified Penn they do not wish to receive email announcements. If your address escaped this exclusion process, and you received this email in error, please accept our sincere apology. Please follow the **removal** process indicated at left.