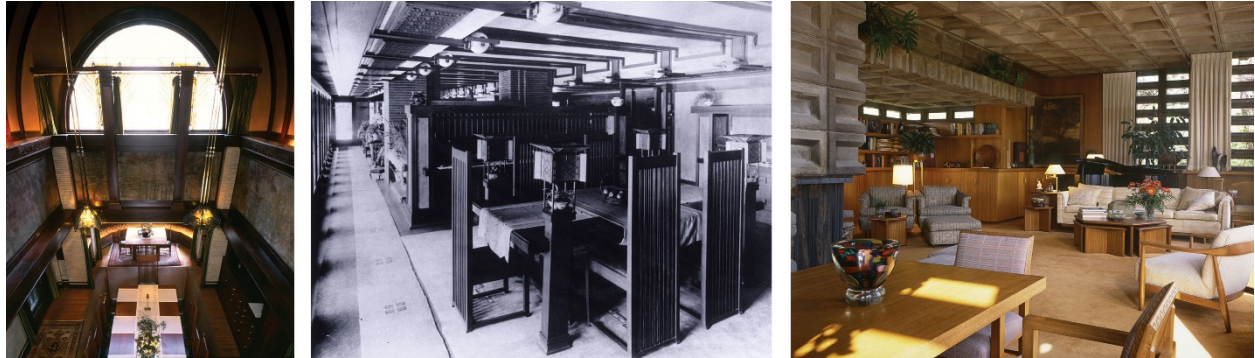


Frank Lloyd Wright: Architecture of the Interior

July 10–September 6, 2019



“Any building should be complete, including all within itself. Instead of many things one thing... It is the first principle of any growth that the thing grown be no mere aggregation... And integration means that no part of anything is of any great value except as it be an integrated part of the harmonious whole.”

– Frank Lloyd Wright, *An Autobiography*, 1932

The District Architecture Center is pleased to host *Frank Lloyd Wright: Architecture of the Interior*, an exhibition exploring the design of Frank Lloyd Wright’s houses, often considered his greatest architectural accomplishment. Through reproduction drawings, photographs, and photographic murals, the exhibition illustrates the myriad—both obvious and subtle—ways Wright created the visual character of interior space and objects within it, each an essential detail of the larger whole.

Drawings and photographs of interiors show the ingenious ways Wright maximized the feeling of open space while accommodating the various functions for daily living. Wright’s rejection of past styles led him to the contemporary visual language of abstraction and geometry. For Wright, this language had a deeper source as the structure and ornament of all forms in nature. Just as a living form is one entity in structure and ornament, so the house was to be a single whole in structure and expression. The works in this exhibition reveal how all elements in Wright’s design express the overarching abstract geometric order of the house.

About the Curator

Exhibition curator Virginia Terry Boyd received her PhD in Human Environment and Design after obtaining an MA in Art History. Dr. Boyd is currently Emerita Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the Design Studies Department, where she was the department chair. She has been a guest scholar at the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation Archive in Scottsdale, Arizona, and frequently lectures and

publishes journal articles on issues related to Frank Lloyd Wright and Twentieth Century American material culture.

About International Arts & Artists

International Arts & Artists in Washington, DC is a non-profit arts service organization dedicated to increasing cross-cultural understanding and exposure to the arts internationally through exhibitions, programs and services to artists, art institutions and the public. For more information, visit www.artsandartists.org.

About The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation

The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation was established by Frank Lloyd Wright himself in 1940 to be a cultural and educational institution and the primary conservator of his work. It is dedicated to inspiring people with the living experience of Frank Lloyd Wright's ideas, philosophies, and body of work. The Foundation owns Taliesin West in Scottsdale, Arizona and Taliesin in Spring Green, Wisconsin. Both are National Historic Landmarks with robust tour operations, educational outreach, retail operations, and other activities. The Foundation: runs the Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture, with fully accredited undergraduate and graduate degree programs (a continuation of the apprenticeship program Wright established in 1932); stewards the vast Frank Lloyd Wright Archives; owns and manages the intellectual property for all of Frank Lloyd Wright's designs, drawings, plans, art, and other creations from his prolific 70-year career; and engages in a variety of meaningful outreach programs and partnerships – such as this exhibition. For more information, visit www.franklloydwright.org.

Related Events

Opening Reception and Lecture: Frank Lloyd Wright—Designs on America's Greatest City

Tuesday, July 16, 6:30–8pm

Free. | Registration required via <https://www.aiadc.com/calendar>

Join us to celebrate the opening of *Frank Lloyd Wright: Architecture of the Interior* with a lecture by co-author Debra Pickrel who explores Frank Lloyd Wright's fascinating final years, a time when he was a legendary architect and New York was reveling in postwar prosperity. Based on her book [Frank Lloyd Wright in New York: The Plaza Years, 1954–1959](#), recipient of the 2008 Independent Publishers Book Awards' Gold Medal in Architecture, Debra will discuss a momentous five-year period when one of the world's greatest architects and greatest cities dynamically coexisted.

Bringing each of these characters to life, her talk will explore the fascinating contradiction between Wright's often-voiced disdain for New York and his pride in living in a great Manhattan landmark: the

Plaza Hotel. From his suite, or "Taliesin East," Wright supervised construction of the Guggenheim Museum and negotiated an astonishing array of exchanges with the city's architects, artists, journalists, editors, celebrities, power brokers, and bureaucrats, many of which will be revealed.

The book can be purchased [here](#), and Ms. Pickrel is happy to sign books following her lecture.

About the Co-author

Debra Pickrel, principal of Pickrel Communications, Inc. in New York, has written on architecture and design for *Architectural Record*, *House Beautiful*, *Metropolis*, and *Preservation*. She is also the co-author *The Luxembourg House on Beekman Place: Three Portraits in Time*; author of *A Day in Turtle Bay*, a walking tour of her Manhattan neighborhood with a foreword by Walter Cronkite; and the editor of numerous books. A former executive board member of the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy, Pickrel holds a B.A. from the School of Media & Journalism at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and received her M.A. in Historic Preservation from Goucher College. A long-time New Yorker, she is a native of Richmond, Virginia.

About the Book

Recipient of the 2008 Independent Publisher Book Award (IPPY)—Gold Medal, Architecture, this book relays a social and cultural history that unfolds during the last five years of Wright's life, when he was a Plaza Hotel resident. Originally published to coincide with the hotel's 100th anniversary, it examines a momentous five-year period when one of the world's greatest architects and greatest cities dynamically coexisted. Bringing each of these characters to life, the book explores the fascinating contradiction between Wright's often-voiced disdain for New York and his pride in living in a great Manhattan landmark. From his custom-designed Plaza Hotel suite, or "Taliesin East," Wright supervised construction of the Guggenheim Museum and negotiated an astonishing array of exchanges with the city's architects, artists, journalists, editors, celebrities, power brokers, and bureaucrats. The book features a foreword by Mike Wallace of CBS News/60 Minutes fame, whose seminal interviews of Wright in the 1950s were two of his career favorites. The title's 10th anniversary paperback printing (2017) includes a postscript relaying the losses, gains, and alterations to Wright's work in New York City since the original publication.

Lecture: *The Pope-Leighey House: A Survive and Thrive Story*

Monday, August 12, 6:30–8pm

\$10 for Students & Assoc. AIA Members, \$15 for AIA, DAC, & National Trust for Historic Preservation Members, \$25 for Non-Members | Registration required via <https://www.aiadc.com/calendar>

Join us for a lecture about the race to save—and preserve—a young, yet already iconic house in nearby Alexandria, Virginia. When Frank Lloyd Wright designed the modest Usonian [Pope-Leighey House](#) for a young journalist, he had no idea that this relatively simple house would become a heated national preservation story. The 1940 house was moved, rebuilt, moved again, and later opened to the public by The National Trust for Historic Preservation.

This presentation, presented by Ashley Wilson, AIA, ASID, Graham Gund Architect for the Historic Sites at the National Trust for Historic Preservation, will explore why this well-loved tiny house, chock-full of masterful design touches, helped create a new model for protecting modern architecture that is still practiced today.

Credits

Frank Lloyd Wright: Architecture of the Interior is organized by International Arts & Artists, Washington, DC, in cooperation with the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation, Scottsdale, AZ.



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Installation by Tim Anderson

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Image Captions (Page 1)

Left: Susan Lawrence Dana House, Dining Area, Hanging Lamps, Springfield, Illinois, 1902. © 2019 Paul Rocheleau.

Middle: Frederick Robie House, Dining Area Looking Toward Living Area, Chicago, Illinois, 1916. Courtesy of The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation Archives (The Museum of Modern Art | Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library, Columbia University, New York).

Right: Gerald Tonkens House, Usonian Automatic, Living Area, Amberley Village, Ohio, 1954. © 2019 Paul Rocheleau.

About the District Architecture Center

The District Architecture Center (DAC) is home to the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and the Washington Architectural Foundation. Located in the historic Penn Quarter neighborhood, we celebrate the built environment through exhibitions and related programs that engage architects, architectural enthusiasts, allied professionals, students, and the public.

Exhibitions at DAC spotlight excellence in architecture, design, and urbanism; explore and disseminate significant artistic and architectural ideas; and pique curiosities about the man-made world around us. These experiences offer a platform for dialogue on the nature of contemporary design practice, the role of architecture in our communities, and the many ways that design impacts people's lives.

General Information

Location

District Architecture Center
421 7th Street NW
Washington, DC 20004

Contact

202.347.9403

Connect

URL: aiadc.com

Twitter: @DCArchCenter

Instagram: @districtarchcenter / #DACgalleries

Facebook: @AIADC

Admission

Exhibitions are free and open to the public. Refer to related events for admission pricing.

Gallery Hours

Monday–Wednesday: 10am–7pm*

Thursday–Friday: 10am–5pm*

Saturday–Sunday: Closed

*Hours subject to change pending special events, holidays, or inclement weather. Consult our calendar or call ahead.

Membership

Become a DAC Member at <https://www.aiadc.com/membership> to receive member discounts.

Exhibition Inquiries

Scott Clowney, Assoc. AIA
Director of Exhibitions and Public Programs
sclowney@aiadc.com

Media Inquiries

Louis Duva
Communications Coordinator
lduva@aiadc.com