

"Palm Springs Architecture 101" Lecture Series Begins with Albert Frey



January 7, 2009 (Palm Springs, CA) - The Architecture and Design Council (ADC) of the Palm Springs Art Museum will begin its lecture series on four local architectural icons and their impact on the history of modernist architecture in Palm Springs on January 17, 2009 at 10 a.m. with a lecture about architect Albert Frey.

The lecture will be held on Saturday morning in the museum's lecture hall and will be conducted by Bill Butler, ADC vice chair, programs and an instructor in Cal State Osher Foundation's program.

The lecture will conclude with a private tour of a home or building designed by Frey. The lecture and tour will last approximately two hours. Tickets for the lecture are \$25 or \$85 for the series (a savings of \$15). Tickets can be purchased at the museum's box office by calling 760.325.4490.

Albert Frey (1903- 1998) was a prolific architect who established a style of modern architecture centered around Palm Springs that came to be known as 'desert modernism.' Some of the notable buildings designed by Frey are his private residences, Frey House I and II, the Loewy House, Palm Springs City Hall (1952), the now abandoned North Shore Yacht Club at the Salton Sea (1958-1959), the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway Valley Station (1949-1963) and the iconic "flying wedge" canopy of the Tramway Gas Station (1963-1965) at the foot of the entrance to the tramway, now used as a visitor's center pictured above).

The series will also profile architects William F. Cody, Donald Wexler and E. Stewart Williams and will trace the roots of their work and their impact on the community. Local experts will conduct the lecture and discuss the influence that the architect has had on the history of Palm Springs. The series continue next month on February 28 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. with a discussion of William F. Cody by lecturer Patrick McGrew.

Additional lectures include March 28 (Donald Wexler) and April 25 (E. Stewart Williams).

Located downtown in an architecturally-significant E. Stewart Williams-designed building, the Palm Springs Art Museum features exciting exhibitions of contemporary, Native American, Western and Pre-Columbian art in spacious

galleries. It features two sculpture gardens, stimulating lectures and educational programs for all ages, and offers diverse performances at its Annenberg Theater. The Art Museum is open six days a week; Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursday from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free to members; \$12.50 for adults; \$10.50 for seniors 62 and over; \$5 for adult students and active-duty military with I.D. and free for youths 12 and under. For more information, call 760.322.4800 or visit www.psmuseum.org.

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