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**Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris
Presents *The Iconic Iconoclast: Vladimir Kagan***

*A conversation with Iconic Mid-Century Furniture Designer,
Vladimir Kagan, and Elle Décor editor-in-chief*

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (Jan. XX, 2016) – Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion has partnered with *Elle Décor Magazine's* Editor-in-Chief Michael Boodro, and the professional interior designers of De Sousa Hughes, to present world-renowned furniture designer, Vladimir Kagan. Taking place during Modernism Week on Sunday, February 14 from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m., the evening begins at the main museum in the Annenberg Theater with Kagan presenting a discussion about his journey as one of the greatest mid-century designers while conversing with Boodro. The discussion will be followed with a book-signing and VIP cocktail reception at the Architecture and Design Center's Plaza area.

After decades of success Kagan's work is more popular than ever, with his elegant mid-century furniture gracing the homes of Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt, Gucci stores, and a Giorgio Armani restaurant in Italy, among other notables. His early clients include Marilyn Monroe and Gary Cooper.

Inspired by the Bauhaus, Kagan developed a style that emphasized comfort and functionality, and during the receptions guests will also have special access to the A+D Center's exhibition *Bauhaus twenty-21: An Ongoing Legacy - Photographs by Gordon Watkinson* (exhibition opening on January 24). Kagan was born in 1927 in Germany and came to the United States in 1938. His earliest focus was on painting and sculpture, while in his formative years he became exceedingly attracted to architecture and design. He studied Architecture at Columbia University and in 1947 joined his father, Illi Kagan, a master cabinetmaker, to work in his woodworking shop and learn furniture making.

Kagan has an international following which includes commissions for high-end interiors by some of the world's leading architects and interior designers.

Beginning with his childhood in Germany and his family's escape from Nazi power, Kagan chronicles his rise to become one of America's most celebrated designers. He combines sophisticated aesthetic with comfort and modernistic sensibility that are the hallmark of his enduring career.

Kagan's book, *The Complete Kagan: Vladimir Kagan, A Lifetime of Avant Garde Design*, documents in detail the designer's amazing career and showcases his impressive new work over the last decade, with a by preface by Tom Ford and a foreword by Zaha Hadid. The book was published in 2015 and costs \$85. Kagan will autograph books during the reception.

The Architecture and Design Center is also pleased to debut the exhibition ***Bauhaus twenty-21: An Ongoing Legacy - Photographs by Gordon Watkinson*** (debuting January 24), in which attendees will have special access to during the reception. The exhibition continues through May 1 showcasing twelve of the most iconic achievements of Bauhaus architecture built before 1933, illustrating the enduring philosophies of the Bauhaus in twenty-first century architecture. By creating a visual as well as theoretical dialogue between the timeless modernism of Bauhaus architecture and the visions of contemporary practitioners, the exhibition offers a unique perspective on Bauhaus design philosophy and its relevance in today's society -- from the use of prefabricated housing techniques to create affordable housing, to early ideas in what is today sustainable architecture.

In addition to the sections dedicated to the twenty-four architectural projects, the exhibition presents a contemporary setting showcasing re-editions of Bauhaus furniture and objects designed before 1933, and still manufactured today by companies such as Knoll, Tecnolumen, and Thonet. These installations invite the visitors to interact and consciously experience a unique environment specifically conceived for the exhibition, capturing the timeless character of these early twentieth century designs in a contemporary context.

Tickets cost \$60 for the Annenberg presentation only, taking place from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., or \$100 for both the presentation and VIP reception. For more information about this event please visit psmuseum.org/architecture-design-center or call 760-322-4897. To purchase tickets to the event, visit www.modernismweek.com, and for more information about Vladimir Kagan visit www.vladimirkagan.com.

Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion is located at 300 South Palm Canyon Drive, in downtown Palm Springs, and can be reached at (760) 423-5260. The main museum is located at 101 Museum Drive, also in downtown and can be reached at (760) 322-4800. For additional information visit www.psmuseum.org.

About Palm Springs Art Museum

Palm Springs Art Museum is the largest cultural institution in the Coachella Valley and includes three locations in Palm Springs and Palm Desert. The flagship building is located in downtown Palm Springs and features compelling art exhibitions, a vast permanent collection, and the 433-seat Annenberg Theater, all in a 150,000 square foot, architecturally-significant building. Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion features exhibitions and programming that explore the rich topics of architecture and design. Admission to the A+D Center is free for the next two years thanks to an anonymous donor. Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Desert is an 8,400 square foot, Silver LEED-certified building named The Galen that presents rotating exhibitions and special collections. It is surrounded by the four-acre Faye Sarkowsky Sculpture Garden featuring important sculpture works. Admission to the Palm Desert location is free, generously underwritten by Helene V. Galen. For more information, call 760-322-4800, visit www.psmuseum.org, and follow the museum on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.