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MAK ARCHITECTURE TOUR SET FOR OCTOBER 1, 2006

**Tour Samples L.A. Modernism with Houses
by Irving Gill, Frank Lloyd Wright, R.M. Schindler,
John Lautner and Pierre Koenig**

(West Hollywood, September 6, 2006) Los Angeles is widely acknowledged as an important locus for the development of Modernist architecture. Especially in the area of residential design, the region's benign climate, forward-thinking populace and undeveloped landscape offered a wealth of architectural opportunities. Presenting homes designed by internationally renowned architects, the 2006 MAK Architecture Tour traces the development of Modernism in Los Angeles from its origins in the early decades of the 20th century through the famed Case Study project.

An annual benefit and fundraiser supporting the activities of the MAK Center for Art & Architecture, the 2006 MAK Architecture Tour is set for Sunday, October 1, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The tour features houses by Modernist master architects, including Irving Gill, Frank Lloyd Wright, Rudolph Schindler, John Lautner and Pierre Koenig. Centered around the Hollywood Hills, the tour provides both self-drive and shuttle service options. All tourgoers will receive an informative keepsake guide, and a box lunch is available to order.

Whereas several MAK Architecture tours have focused on the work of R.M. Schindler—designer of the MAK center home, the Schindler House, and inspiration for many MAK Center activities—the 2006 tour offers a unique opportunity to view Schindler's place in the rich history of residential architecture in Los Angeles. Indeed, all of the tour architects are interconnected, not only in terms of influence, but through working and personal relationships as well. When Schindler built his seminal Kings Road House (available as an addition to the tour itinerary), the only other significant modern structure in West Hollywood was Gill's Dodge House. Schindler utilized Gill's slab-tilt construction. Gill trained alongside Wright in Chicago. Schindler originally came to California to work on Frank Lloyd Wright's Barnsdall House, and the Freeman House,



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featured on the tour, represents the work of both architects. John Lautner also worked in Wright's office and Koenig apprenticed there for a time [offices of Wright & Wright per his USC bio].

The Houses

Morgan House (Irving Gill, 1917)

An important forerunner of southern California Modernism, Irving Gill favored the use of site-cast and tilt-slab construction. This one-story, concrete house has been recently renovated and is a lovely example of Gill's influential stripped-down sensibilities.

Freeman House (F.L. Wright, 1924; alterations by R.M. Schindler 1928, 1938 and 1953)

Shortly after the completion of this Frank Lloyd Wright textile-block house, owner Harriet Freeman found it excessively formal and hired Rudolph Schindler to remodel the bedrooms and build custom furniture. The result is a unique overlay of the two architects' ideas about space and design.

Fitzpatrick House (R.M. Schindler, 1936)

Commissioned by a real estate developer to attract buyers to the area, this modern beauty sits prominently atop the hill at Laurel Canyon Blvd. and Mulholland Drive. Spacious, yet compactly organized, it is the closest Schindler came to adopting aspects of the International Style.

Kallis House and Studio (R.M. Schindler, 1946)

Nestled into the hillside, this house conforms to the topography of the site, creating wonderful rooms with tree house-like qualities. The house is in excellent condition with most of its original features intact.

Harpel House (John Lautner, 1956)

The Harpel House sits on a Hollywood hillside and is constructed as a triangulated system of deep glulam (glued laminated timber) beams on thick concrete columns. Lautner created a giant trellis covering almost the entire property, part of which was closed off for living and entertainment.

Case Study House #22 (Pierre Koenig, 1959)

This spectacular hillside house, immortalized in photographs by Julius Shulman, is in perfect original condition. The house features steel construction, an L-shaped plan organized around a swimming pool and breathtaking city views.

The MAK Architecture Tour will take place October 1, 2006 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The basic, self-drive cost is \$80/\$65 for students and members. Shuttle service is available for an additional \$40, and a \$15 box lunch is available. Advance purchase is strongly recommended, although there may be same day tickets available for purchase at the Schindler House, 835 N. Kings Road in West Hollywood. For further information, or to purchase tickets, the public may contact (323) 651-1510 or visit www.MAKcenter.org