

MAK

FOR ART + ARCHITECTURE, L.A.

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MAK Center Presents *SCHINDLER LAB, ROUND ONE*

March 5 – April 24, 2011



Rendering for *Schindler Lab*, 2010 ©Thurman Grant / MAK Center

Exhibition Series Invites Artists, Architects to Interact with Schindler House

(West Hollywood, February 14, 2011) Each year the MAK Center for Art & Architecture welcomes myriad local, national and international visitors to the Schindler House, from architects, artists and historians to others intrigued by this early example of Los Angeles Modernist architecture. Visitors often ask detailed questions about Schindler's thought process in designing and constructing his 1922 architectural masterpiece. Inspired by these questions, the MAK Center in collaboration with the series initiator Sara Daleiden has developed *Schindler Lab*, an annual exhibition that will pair a local, emerging artist and architect to develop installations highlighting Schindler's domestic experiment.



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On view from March 5 - April 24, 2011, the inaugural exhibition curated by Daleiden features interventions by artist Olivia Booth and architect Thurman Grant, who will each transform the house with complementary use of glass and mirrors. The exhibition opens with a free public reception on Saturday, March 5 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. The opening includes a special performance by dancer/choreographer Nancy Sandercock, who will interact with exhibition installations. A curator and artist walk-through is also offered on Saturday, April 2 at 2:00 p.m.

As a locus for artistic experimentation, the MAK Center not only preserves R.M. Schindler's landmark home, it seeks to keep his spirit of innovation alive. With *Schindler Lab*, the MAK Center intends to offer alternate views of Schindler's logics and methods. This project allows the Center to rethink the house through a variety of understandings of its organizing forces - visible and invisible - at play.

Responding to Schindler's use of materials and geometry, both the Booth and Grant installations highlight the rhythmic structure of the Schindler House. Booth focuses on the pulse of the thin windows in relationship to the gentle, grounding beat of the baseboard. By prioritizing the windows, Booth reframes the spatial experience of the house. Her installation consists of a number of glass objects placed in the Chace wing, and will feature a dancer responding to the work at the exhibition opening.

Grant highlights key moments of transition and scale by emphasizing the grids and symmetries in the architecture. His installation in the Schindler wing employs mirrored walls and protrusions to disrupt its geometrical order and dramatically transform the visual perception of the house. Interior and exterior spaces are reflected into and through each other, dissolving portions of the house while underscoring the home's conceptual foundations.

The series initiator and curator for the exhibit is Sara Daleiden, who has worked with the MAK Center on many exhibitions and projects over the years including *How Many Billboards?*, the Urban Future Initiative, the 11th International Cairo Biennale with Jennifer Steinkamp, and *The Gen[H]ome Project*. Daleiden works as an artist, organizer and cultural production consultant with collaborators and projects including Being Pedestrian, Domestic Hollywood, Freewaves, the Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, the Los Angeles Urban Rangers, and Suzanne Lacy. She has taught at USC,



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Otis College of Art and Design, Woodbury University and the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design. She received her Master of Public Art Studies degree at the University of Southern California.

Olivia Booth has lived in Los Angeles for the past ten years, where she teaches and makes art. She has taught at USC and Woodbury University, where she currently teaches in Foundation and Interior Architecture. She has had two solo shows at Mandarin gallery in Chinatown, LA, and has been included in group shows at Mandarin, Marc Foxx, Claremont College in Los Angeles, the Las Vegas Museum of Art and Am Nuden Da, in London, and has published in *Material Press*. Her work has been written about in the *Los Angeles Times*, *LA Weekly* and *Artforum*. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from Cornell University with a BA in Comparative Literature and a BFA in Painting, and later received an MFA from Art Center College of Design.

Thurman Grant is an architect based in Los Angeles. His office, GRANTSTUDIO Architecture, was founded in 2005 and specializes in residential and commercial architecture and interiors. He has contributed to a long list of residential, commercial, institutional and urban design projects, including award-winning architectural design competitions in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Pusan, South Korea. The work of his office focuses on emphasizing relationships between interior and exterior environments and often critically engages historical structures. Grant is an instructor at the Woodbury University Interior Architecture program, and a board member of the Los Angeles Forum for Architecture and Urban Design.

Special thanks to the Durfee Foundation

The MAK Center for Art & Architecture at the Schindler House is located at 835 N. Kings Road in West Hollywood. Public hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Regular admission is \$7/\$17 with the guide book, *Schindler By MAK*; students and seniors, \$6/\$16 with book; free for Friends of the MAK Center and on Fridays, 4 to 6 p.m. Parking is available at the public structure at the northeast corner of Kings Road and Santa Monica Boulevard. For further information, the public may contact www.MAKcenter.org or call (323) 651-1510.

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