

**INITIATIVES IN ART AND CULTURE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY**

**The Arts & Crafts Movement:  
Regionalism and Modernity—The Arts & Crafts Movement in San Diego and Environs  
June 21 – 24, 2007**

The ninth annual Arts and Crafts conference, “Regionalism and Modernity: the Arts & Crafts Movement in San Diego,” will be held June 21 – 24, 2007 in San Diego and environs. It is organized by Initiatives in Art and Culture (IAC) under the auspices of the University of Minnesota History of Art Department.

This conference explores and contextualizes San Diegan Arts & Crafts architecture, gardens, furniture, metalwork, tile- and pottery-making, and painting from the late 19<sup>th</sup>- through the early 20<sup>th</sup>-century. Southern California welcomed the Arts & Crafts movement with a heady mix of perfect climate, lush, fertile landscape and a colorful cultural past, with influences ranging from the Spanish-Moorish, the Native American, and the Japanese. From the California bungalow to the adobe hacienda to the pueblo-style lodge, California put its own stamp on Arts & Crafts architecture. Raw materials, like redwood and the rare Torrey pine, and an abundance of workable clays for potteries and tilemakers, were among the local resources that made an imprint on the region’s artistic expression. Because California’s landscape prompted reverie, it was particularly fertile ground for those drawn to the mystical thinking linked to Tonalism and *plein air* or Impressionist painting, such as Southern California painters Mabel Alvarez, who painted murals for the Panama-California Exposition, Frank Tenney Johnson, and Maurice Braun. From



*George W. and Anna G. Marston House* (Hebbard & Gill, 1904).

early on, California attracted many new residents to artistic communities whose formation was driven by a Utopian search for harmonious structures for life and work, whether exemplified by Lomaland, the Theosophical Society’s international headquarters at Point Loma, the more informal community organized around the Arroyo Seco in Pasadena, or the gathering of craftspeople in Mission Canyon in Santa Barbara.

Particularly striking about San Diego’s manifestation of Arts & Crafts was the dovetailing of an impulse toward modernity with a Movement seen to be steeped in the past. The trend toward the modern can be seen in the writings and mature architecture of Irving Gill; the organically influenced Arts & Crafts metalwork of artisans such as Porter Blanchard; and the ceramics of Valentien Pottery, California China Products, and Markham Pottery. Regional influences are evident in the uniquely Californian Spanish Colonial Revival, exemplified by Bertram Goodhue’s work in Balboa Park; the pueblo-meets-modern and Mission minimalist aspects of Irving Gill’s work, and the Japanese influences manifest in the architecture of Greene &

Greene, as well as George Turner Marsh’s garden at the Hotel Del Coronado. The amalgam of the modern and the regional produced an eclectic and uniquely Southern Californian expression of this international movement.

The conference takes place at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MCSAD), La Jolla (Irving Gill/Venturi Scott Brown, 1916/1996), the San Diego Historical Society, the Mingei Museum (originally the Exposition’s Indian Arts Building, 1915), and other significant venues where attendees will view collections, visit sites, and hear talks by leading authorities in the field. Events that complement the formal sessions include tours of the George W. and Anna G. Marston House (Hebbard & Gill, 1904) and other Gill structures on Seventh Avenue and in La Jolla; visits to the collections of the San Diego Historical Society; walking tours of the grounds of the 1915–16 Panama-California Exposition at Balboa Park; visits to the collections of the Mingei Museum to explore the Japanese influence; an event at the Lodge at Torrey Pines, the design of which was influenced predominantly by the work of Greene & Greene; a visit to sites by and the compound of the collaborative firm of Hubbell & Hubbell, a contemporary architectural and artistic venture whose work is a living expression of the spirit of the Arts & Crafts Movement; an evening hosted by Save Our Heritage Organization (SOHO) at the Casa Estudillo and tours of San Diego’s unique bungalow apartments under SOHO’s auspices.

**PRESENTERS:** Among those who have agreed to deliver papers are: **Matthew F. Bokovoy**, author, *The San Diego World's Fairs and Southwestern Memory, 1880-1940*; **Ted Bosley**, Director, The Gamble House and author of *Greene & Greene* (2003); **W. Scott Braznell**, independent scholar and specialist in modern American design; **Robert Judson Clark**, professor emeritus, Princeton University and curator of the first major Arts & Crafts exhibition in America (1972); **John Digesare**, curator, "American Ceramics 1884-1972" (2006) and registrar, San Diego Museum of Art; **Heidi Nasstrom Evans**, contributor to *Byrdcliffe: An American Arts and Crafts Colony* (2004) and author of a work and curator of an exhibition on Jane Byrd McCall Whitehead who was prominent in the Santa Barbara artistic community; **Leslie Freudenheim**, author of *Building with Nature: Inspiration for the Arts and Crafts Home* (2005); **Thomas S. Hines**, professor of history and architecture at UCLA and author of *Irving Gill and The Architecture of Reform: A Study in Modernist Architectural Culture* (2003); **Paul Johnson**, architect and preservationist responsible for the restoration of the Marston House; **Phoebe Kropp**, assistant professor of history, University of Pennsylvania and author, *California Vieja: Culture and Memory in a Modern American Place* (2006); **Cheryl Robertson**, independent scholar and consultant specializing in 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-century American decorative arts; **Bruce Smith**, Greene & Greene authority; **David C. Streatfield**, professor University of Washington, he is a garden and landscape historian who has published in numerous journals and collections of essays, and is the author of *California Gardens: Creating A New Eden*; **Joseph Taylor**, cofounder and president, Tile Heritage Foundation, who has written extensively on tiles; **Robert Winter**, Batchelder authority and architectural historian who has contributed significantly to the examination of the Arts & Crafts Movement in California; and **Margo Grant Walsh**, a collector whose comprehensive assemblage of international metalwork from the Arts & Crafts to the modern was in part given to the Portland Museum of Art.

**SAN DIEGO CONFERENCE HOTELS** — A special nightly rate is available to participants at the following hotels:

**EMPRESS HOTEL:** Located at 7766 Fay Avenue, La Jolla. Single and double occupancy rooms available at the conference rate of \$189 by calling (888) 369-9900 and identifying yourself as an "Arts & Crafts conference" participant. Or go to [www.empress-hotel.com](http://www.empress-hotel.com), click on Group Reservations from the menu on the left-hand side and type in the password **CRAFTS** to make your reservations online. Reservations must be made by **May 21, 2007** and there is a 48-hour cancellation policy. Hotel is walking distance from MCASD.

**THE GRANDE COLONIAL:** Located at 910 Prospect Street, La Jolla. Single and double occupancy rooms at discounted conference rates starting at \$242 by calling (888) 530-5766; identify yourself as an "Arts & Crafts conference" participant. **Rooms on a space available basis only**, and there is a 48-hour cancellation policy. Hotel is walking distance from MCASD.

**THE HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS – Sorrento Valley**, located at 5925 Lusk Boulevard, San Diego. Single and double occupancy rooms available at the conference rate of \$164 by calling (858) 731-0100 and requesting the and identifying yourself as an "Arts & Crafts Conference" participant. Or reservations can be booked online at [www.hiexpress.com/sorrentovalley](http://www.hiexpress.com/sorrentovalley) using the group code **ACC**. Reservations must be made by **May 20, 2007** and there is a 72-hour cancellation policy. The hotel is nine miles from the MCASD.

**REGISTRATION - The conference fee is \$495; please to register, complete the registration coupon below and fax to 612-624-5359. CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA AND MAILED TO CCE INFORMATION CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, 20 COFFEY HALL, 1420 ECKLES AVENUE, ST. PAUL, MN 55108-6069. For full-time students with ID there is a discounted rate of \$200. No refunds provided after June 10, 2007. To register on-line: Event ID# is: 180199 at [http://register.cce.umn.edu/Course.pl?sect\\_key=180199](http://register.cce.umn.edu/Course.pl?sect_key=180199)**

For additional information: Email Lisa Koenigsberg at [lisa.koenigsberg@artinititatives.com](mailto:lisa.koenigsberg@artinititatives.com) or visit [www.artinititatives.com](http://www.artinititatives.com)

Please register me for **The Arts & Crafts Movement: The Intersection of Regionalism and Internationalism A Living Tradition – A Conference in Minneapolis and Environs / \$495 EVENT # 178960**

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