

PSPF



PALM SPRINGS  
**PRESERVATION**  
FOUNDATION®

2011 EVENTS

# Modernism Kills: A Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

January 22, 2011

A fun and entertaining evening was had by all when PSPF held its first ever murder mystery dinner theater entitled *Modernism Kills*. Attended by an intimate audience of more than 50 dinner-goers, the sold-out event was held at Leon's at the Canyon. Written by local author Robert Julian, the clever and topical premise was as follows: "Palm Springs is finally getting a much needed makeover, courtesy of a new developer. The highly anticipated Palm Springs City Center uses classic modernism for its inspiration, and the time has come for a public unveiling. The developer, his family, and colleagues are all present to answer questions about the proposed design. Everything is on course...until murder intervenes." The success of the event was due in large part to the five talented actors (John Zembo, Jenise Fryatt, Rainbow Casey, Jeannie Jorgensen, Hamilton Scott and Robert Stone) who gave clues about the "murder" to the audience throughout the course of the evening. (Photo and architectural rendering courtesy Patrick McGrew)

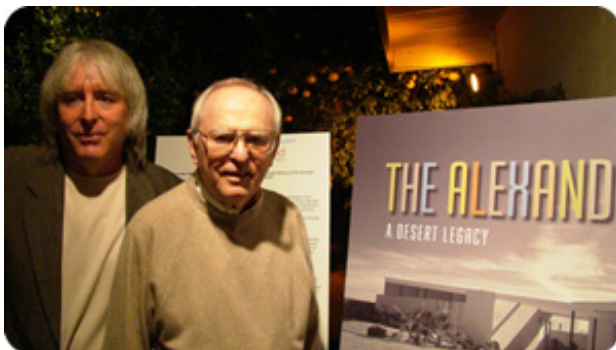




# Alexander Weekend Pre-Party

January 29, 2011

The foundation held a hip and sophisticated Alexander Weekend “Pre-pre-Party” to publicize and celebrate the foundation’s Alexander Weekend 2011 program. The after-dinner event included champagne, white wine and dessert with a topping of cool jazz by homeowners and co-hosts Joan and Gary Gand. The party took place at the Gand’s beautifully restored Alexander “Swiss Miss,” designed by architect Charles Dubois, in the Vista Las Palmas neighborhood. The party-goers enjoyed the 1957 home’s quirky modernist A-frame architecture, stylish midcentury furniture and vintage 50s decorative arts. Jazz music filled the air and tiki torches illuminated the warm Palm Springs evening. As party-goers departed they were treated with chocolates generously donated by the Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory.







# Lost, Saved and Endangered: Modernist Architecture in Palm Springs (Expanded!)

Wednesday, February 23, 2011

Slide lecture Lost, Saved and Endangered: Modernist Architecture in Palm Springs (Expanded!) by PSPF board member Gary Johns. Complimentary continental breakfast.

Photos courtesy Greg Felsen Photography.





# Twin Palms Estate House Tour

Thursday, February 24, 2011

House tour of Frank Sinatra's spectacular Twin Palms Estate (1947) designed by architect E. Stewart Williams. Open house format. Typically, your tour should take about 45 minutes. Photography is permitted so be sure to bring your camera. Ticket price includes an E. Stewart Williams tribute journal.

Photos courtesy Greg Felsen Photography and PSPF.







# Retro Martini Party

February 25, 2011

The 2011 Retro Martini Party was held at the spectacular Jorgensen-Mavis House (1955) located on the 9th fairway of the exclusive Thunderbird Country Club, playground of U.S. presidents. On the evening of this sold-out fundraiser, the home of steel magnate Earle M. Jorgensen (designed by midcentury architect William "Wild Bill" Cody) was ablaze with light and great music. The lovely event allowed the well-dressed and vintage-dressed attendees to recapture life living next door to Lucy and Desi Arnaz.

Special thanks to PSPF member Mark Bleicher for staging vintage patio furniture at the event. All party attendees received a complimentary copy of PSPF's 2004 Cody tribute journal and a chocolate martini glass from Gelfond Chocolates of Beverly Hills.

To read more about the modernist Jorgensen-Mavis House [click here](#).





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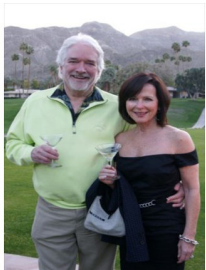


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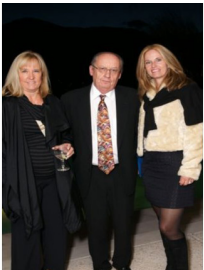


# Retro Martini Party





# Retro Martini Party



# Alexander Weekend – 10th Anniversary

March 25-27, 2011

Ten years ago (from November 2-4, 2001) the Palm Springs Preservation Foundation celebrated the “Great Alexander Weekend.” In conjunction with the 2001 weekend, PSPF published a tribute journal entitled *When Mod Went Mass: A Celebration of Alexander Homes*. The 2001 weekend and tribute journal raised public awareness of the seminal role played by the Alexander Construction Company and modernist architects Bill Krisel and Don Wexler in the creation of Palm Springs’ “built environment.”

In celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the 2001 Alexander Weekend, a more scholarly tribute journal, *The Alexanders: A Desert Legacy*, was written by PSPF board member James R. Harlan. The 2011 Alexander Weekend festivities included a free lecture and two days of house tours (featuring 22 homes built by the Alexander Construction Company). In all, Alexander Weekend was attended by more than 1,000 enthusiastic lovers of modernist residential architecture. A special treat was the participation of Jill Alexander Kitnick who made opening remarks at the weekend’s Kick-off Lecture and Panel Discussion. Alexander Weekend 2011 was wholly funded by PSPF, private donations and 15 generous business sponsors.



[CA Modern magazine, Fall 2011 issue, pages 22-23](#) (Alexander Weekend)  
[Modernism magazine, Spring 2011 Issue, pages 76-77](#) (Alexander Weekend)  
[CA Modern magazine, Winter 2011 Issue, page 13](#) (Alexander Weekend)  
[CA Modern magazine, Fall 2010 Issue, page 23](#) (Alexander Weekend)



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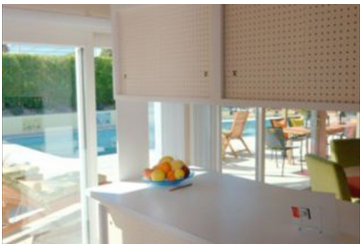
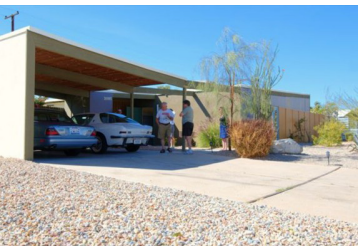


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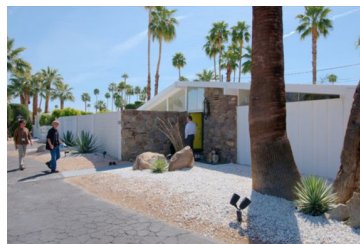
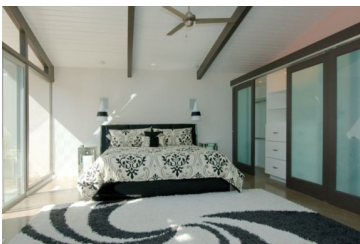
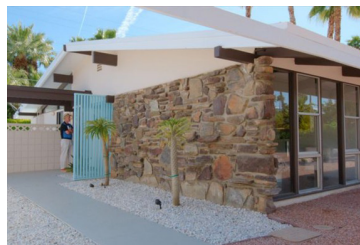
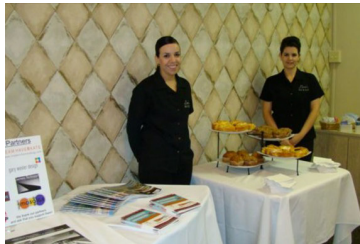
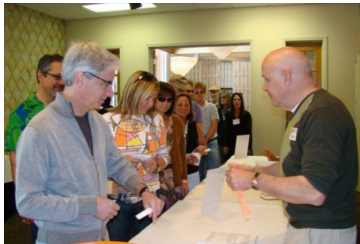


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