

DENNIS PAUL DOORDAN

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Dennis Doordan is an architectural & design historian, museum consultant and co- editor of Design Issues a journal devoted to the history, theory, and criticism of design and recognized as one of the leading academic journals devoted to design studies. He has a Ph.D. from Columbia University and a B.A. from Stanford University. He holds a joint appointment in the School of Architecture and the Department of Art, Art History and Design at the University of Notre Dame. Prior to joining the faculty at Notre Dame in 1990, Doordan taught at the University of Illinois at Chicago and Tulane University. In 1999 and again in 2006, Doordan received the John A. Kaneb Award for Undergraduate Teaching at the University of Notre Dame.

Dennis Doordan has published books and articles on a wide variety of topics dealing with twentieth century architecture and design including political themes in architecture, the impact of new materials, and the evolution of exhibition design techniques. He is the author of Twentieth Century Architecture, a new survey of this subject, published in the UK by Laurence King Publishing and in North America by Harry N. Abrams. He has served as an exhibition consultant and contributed catalog essays for architecture and design exhibitions organized by The Art Institute of Chicago, The Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh, the Guggenheim Museum in New York City, The Los Angeles County Museum of Art, The Toledo Art Museum, and the Wolfsonian Foundation in Miami Beach, Florida. He has spoken about design education and interdisciplinary research at international conferences in Melbourne Australia (2004) London, England (2002), Perth, Australia (2000), Helsinki, Finland (1999), and Columbus, Ohio (1999).

Dennis Doordan has provided on-camera commentary for "Frontiers of Construction: Worlds Fairs" produced by Barna-Alper Productions for Discovery Channel Canada (2000), and "Building for Meaning: The Architecture of Evans Woollen" produced by Spellbound Productions (1994) for broadcast on the PBS affiliate in Indianapolis, IN. September 1994.

EDUCATION:

Columbia University Ph.D. 1983 M.Phil. 1978 M.A. 1976
History of Architecture

Stanford University B.A. 1973
History/Art History

TEACHING:

University of Notre Dame Current (Since 1990)
Joint Appointment in the School of Architecture and the Department of Art, Art History
and Design in the College of Arts and Letters.
Professor

Carnegie Mellon University Spring 1997
Department of Design
Nierenberg Distinguished Visiting Professor of Design

University of Illinois at Chicago 1986-1990
History of Architecture Dept.
Assistant Professor

Tulane University 1983-1986
School of Architecture
Assistant Professor

Syracuse University 1982-83
School of Architecture
Assistant Professor

UC at Santa Barbara Spring 1981
History of Architecture & Art
Visiting Lecturer

PUBLICATIONS

1) BOOKS & ANTHOLOGIES

Twentieth Century Architecture (Harry N. Abrams & Prentice Hall: 2001)

Building Modern Italy: Italian Architecture 1914-1936
(Princeton Architectural Press: 1988).

Design History: An Anthology, editor, (MIT Press, 1996).

2) CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

“Scott Johnson and the Commerce of Ideas” in The Big Idea: Criticality and Practice in Contemporary Architecture by Scott Johnson (Balcony Media Press, Glendale CA: 2006): 7-11.

“Catalysts of Perception: Material Consideration,” in Ettore Sottsass Architect and Designer. Ron Labaco, ed. (Merrell Publishers, New York: 2006): 55-73.

“From the Cold War to Postmodernism: Architectural Criticism in the 1960s,” in Universal versus Individual: the Architecture of the 1960s. Pekka Korvenmaa and Esa Laaksonen, eds., (Alvar Aalto Academy, Helsinki: 2004): 130-147.

“Toledo Tomorrow,” in The Alliance of Art and Industry. Toledo Designs for a Modern America. Terry Neff, ed. (Hudson Hills Press, New York: 2002).

“From Precious to Pervasive: Aluminum and Architecture,” in Aluminum by Design. Sarah Nichols, ed. (Harry N. Abrams, New York: 2000): 84-11.

"The Golden Chain: the School of Architecture at Mid-Century," in 100 Years of Architecture at Notre Dame. Jane Devine, ed. (University of Notre Dame: 1999).

"Political Things: Design in Fascist Italy," in Designing Modernity: The Arts of Reform and Persuasion 1885-1945. Wendy Kaplan, ed. (Thames and Hudson, New York: 1995):225- 255.

"Piazza della Vittoria, Brescia: A Case Study in Fascist Urbanism," in The Architecture of Politics: 1910-1940. Roberto Behar, ed. (The Wolfsonian Foundation, Miami Beach: 1995): 22-33.

"Rebuilding the House of Man," in The Italian Metamorphosis, 1943-1968. Germano Celant, ed. (The Guggenheim Museum, New York: 1994):586-595.

"Das Haus Des Menschen wird wiederaufgebaut," Die Italienische Metamorphose, 1943-1968. Germano Celant, ed. (Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, Wolfsburg: 1994): 582-591.

"Exhibiting Progress: Italy's Contribution to the Century Of Progress Exposition," in Chicago Architecture and Design: 1923-1993. John Zukowsky, ed. (Prestel-Verlag, Chicago and Munich:1993):219-232.

3) CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

“Inquiry and Research in Design: A Contribution to the Mapping of the Discipline’s Development” Futureground Proceedings. Design Research Society and Monash University (Melbourne, Australia: 2004).

“History: Just the Past or an Active Agent Today?” in Useful and Critical. The Position of Research in Design, September 9-11, 1999. The University of Art and Design Helsinki (Helsinki: 1999).

“Introduction,” “National Contexts in Doctoral Education,” and “Design Doctorate Leadership for Institutional Change” in Doctoral Education in Design. Proceedings of the Ohio Conference October 8-11,1998. Edited by Richard Buchanan, Dennis Doordan, Lorraine Justice, Victor Margolin (Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh: 1999).

4) JOURNAL ARTICLES

"Defining Materiality: An Interview with Dennis Doordan," Surface Design 28 no. 4 (Summer) 2004: 8-14.

"On Materials," Design Issues, 19 (Autumn 2003): 3-8.

"Introduction: Designing the Modern Experience," a special issue of Design Issues, 13 (Spring 1997): 1-4.

"In the Shadow of the Fasces: Political Design in Fascist Italy," Design Issues, 13 (Spring 1997):39-52.

"Simulated Seas: Exhibition Design in Contemporary Aquariums," Design Issues 11 (Summer 1995):3-10.

"On History," Design Issues 10 (Spring 1994):76-81.

"Promoting Aluminum: Designers and the American Aluminum Industry," Design Issues 9 (Spring 1993)

"Nature on Display," Design Quarterly (Spring 1992)

"Ocean by the Lake," Inland Architect (May-June 1991)

"Design at CBS," Design Issues 6 (Spring 1990)

"The Advertising Architecture of Fortunato Depero,"
The Journal of Decorative and Propaganda Art (Spring 1989)

"Changing Agendas: Architecture and Politics in Contemporary Italy," Assemblage 8 (February 1989)

"Aspects of Architectural Drawings in the Modern Era" in:
The Modern Movement (The Art Institute of Chicago: 1988)

"A Magnificent Adventure: An Interview with Mrs. Sarah (Melvyn) Maxwell Smith about the Smith Home by Frank Lloyd Wright," Journal of Architectural Education 39 (Summer1986), (co-authored with John Donoian)

"William Lescaze and CBS: A Case Study in Corporate Modernism" in: William Lescaze: The Rise of Modern Design in America, special issue of Courier 19, (Spring 1984)

"Notes on RIBA Architectural Drawings," The New Orleans Art Review 2 no.4 (Sept-Oct 1983)

"Political Content in Italian Architecture During the Fascist Era," Art Journal 43 (Summer 1983)

"Trace at the League," Skyline (December 1982)
(Review of a lecture at the Architectural League in NYC)

Researched and wrote 17 biographical entries for the Macmillan Encyclopedia of Architects (New York:1982)

"The New York-Como Connection," Architectural Design 51, no.1-2 (Jan-Feb 1981)

5) BOOK REVIEWS:

Pohaku: The Art & Architecture of Stonework in Hawai'i. David Cheever and Scott Cheever, eds. The Hawaiian Journal of History vol. 38 (2004): 200-202.

Reinforced Concrete and the Modernization of American Building, 1900-1930 By Amy E. Slaton The Journal of American History Vol. 88, No. 4 (September 2003): 683-684.
Bamboo in Japan by Nancy Moore Bess, Design Issues 18 (Spring 2002): 78-79.

Charles Rennie Mackintosh by Wendy Kaplan, Studies in the Decorative Arts 5 (Fall-Winter 1997-98): 134-136.

Vienna 1850-1930: Architecture by Roberto Schezen and Peter Haiko, The New York Times Book Review (June 13, 1993): 20.

Brodsky & Utkin by Lois Nesbitt, The New York Times Book Review (January 5, 1992): 18

Surface and Symbol: Giuseppe Terragni and the Architecture of Italian Rationalism by Thomas Schumacher. Architectural Record (November 1991): 52

Frank Lloyd Wright Drawings by Bruce Brooks Pfeiffer and The Art Museums of Louis I. Kahn by Patricia Cummings Loud. Drawing 12 (March/April 1991).

History of Italian Architecture, 1944-1985 by Manfredo Tafuri, Architectural Record (March 1990)

Typographic Communication Today by Edward Gottschall, The New York Times Book Review (November 26, 1989): 31

Nature Near: The Late Essays of Richard Neutra edited by William Marlin. The New York Times Book Review (July 23, 1989):18

The Monumental Era: European Architecture and Design 1929- 1939 by Franco Borsi, Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians (March 1989)

Graphic Styles from Victorian to Post-Modern by Steven Heller and Seymour Chwast, The New York Times Book Review (March 5, 1989):22

The Danteum: A Study in the Architecture of Literature by Thomas Schumacher. Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians (September 1986): 305-306

The Critical Edge: Controversy in Recent American Architecture by Tod Marder, ed. Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians (September 1986): 311-313.

Leonardo Architect by Carlo Pedretti. Architectural Record (February 1986):75

Beginnings: Louis I. Kahn's Philosophy of Architecture by Alexandra Tyng. Progressive Architecture (April 1985):125-6

Art Deco Style by Yvonne Brunhammer and At Home in Manhattan by Karen Davies, Design Book Review (Winter 1985)

6) EDITORIAL WORK:

Co-Editor, Design Issues a journal devoted to the history, theory and criticism in design, published by Carnegie Mellon University and distributed by MIT Press.

Co-Editor, Doctoral Education in Design. Proceedings of the Ohio Conference October 8-11, 1998. Edited by Richard Buchanan, Dennis Doordan, Lorraine Justice, Victor Margolin (Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh: 1999).

Editor, William Lescaze: The Rise of Modern Design in America. The proceedings of a symposium published as a special issue of Courier 19 (Spring 1984)

7) CITATIONS OF MY BOOKS AND ARTICLES

- a) Twentieth Century Architecture was reviewed in the Times Literary Supplement (December 28, 2001). The reviewer wrote: “[Doordan] covers the whole century and six continents ... As a book for first-time students and the intelligent reading public, twentieth century Architecture could hardly be bettered.”
- b) Building Modern Italy. Italian Architecture 1914-1936 (Princeton Architectural Press: 1988) is cited in the bibliographies of the two major surveys of Modern Architecture currently in print: Kenneth Frampton’s Modern Architecture: A Critical History 3rd edition (Thames & Hudson World of Art Series: 1992) and William Curtis’s Modern Architecture Since 1900. 3rd edition (Prentice Hall: 1996). My work on Modern Italian Architecture is also cited in The Grove Dictionary of Art (Macmillan: 1996) in entries for “Italian Architecture after 1900” and “Rationalism.”
- c) My articles on design history are cited in the bibliography of the major survey of design history currently in print: Jonathan Woodham’s Twentieth Century Design (Oxford History of Art Series: 1997).
- d) My article on Design at CBS and the anthology of design history articles edited by me are discussed in a new survey of visual culture Art, Design and Visual Culture by Malcolm Barnard (St. Martin’s Press: 1998).

8) CITATIONS OF DESIGN ISSUES

a) The journal Design Issues is cited in the bibliography of Peter Dormer's Design Since 1945 ((Thames & Hudson World of Art Series: 1993). Dormer describes Design Issues as "Probably the leading academic journal of design history and criticism in English." (p.211).

b) In his Twentieth Century Design (Oxford History of Art Series: 1997) Jonathan Woodham cites Design Issues and notes: "A wide range of debates about possible approaches to the history of design by author s such as Clive Dilnot and Cheryl Buckley were published in Design Issues in the 1980s, ... in the Spring of 1995, Design Issues devoted an entire issue to debates about the relative value of the history of design and its significance within the wider embrace of design studies." (p.259)

AWARDS

The John A. Kaneb Award for Undergraduate Teaching
University of Notre Dame 2006

The John A. Kaneb Award for Undergraduate Teaching
University of Notre Dame 1999

APPOINTMENTS

2000 Appointed Co-Chair (Academic) of the Advisory Board for the School of Design,
Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA.

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

Asian Studies Development Program Summer Institute: Field Study "China's Contending
Metropolitan Regions: Hong Kong and Shanghai" May-June 2004.

Ailsa Mellon Bruce Visiting Senior Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the
Visual Arts, National Gallery of Art, Washington DC 2003

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute for College Teachers. Institute
Theme: Pre-modern, Modern and Post-Modern Japan, University of Southern California,
2002.

The Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts 1998

Escape to Create: Artist & 1995
Writers Residency Program,
Seaside Institute, Seaside, FL

University of Notre Dame 1991
Summer Travel Grant

UIC Campus Research Board 1989

The Graham Foundation for
Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts 1987

NEH Summer Research Stipend 1985

NEH Summer Seminar 1984

Fulbright Hays Fellowship 1978-79
Italy

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME SERVICE

Elected to terms on both the Academic Council and the Faculty Senate.

Appointed member of the Post-Colloquy for the Year 2000 ad hoc committee on the University Library. Committee chaired by Associate Provost Dr Roger Schmitz

Elected member of the School of Architecture Committee on Appointments and Promotion, 1991-1996

VIDEO & TELEVISION APPEARANCES

On-camera interview included in the video "Frontiers of Construction: World Fairs," a Barna-Alper Production for Discovery Channel of Canada. Broadcast October 2000.

On-camera interview included in the video "Building for Meaning: The Architecture of Evans Woollen" Spellbound Productions 1994; documentary film broadcast on the PBS affiliate in Indianapolis, IN. September 1994.

LECTURES, PANELS & SEMINARS:

Los Angeles 9 March 2006. Moderated a panel discussion between Ettore Sottsass and Frank Gehry as part of the inauguration of the exhibition *Ettore Sottsass: Architect and Designer* at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Boston 24 February 2006. College Art Association Annual Conference
Topic: "Talking About Stuff: Materiality and Design Criticism" presented in a session entitled: Designing Criticism.

Kansas City, Missouri, 5 June 2005. The 13th International Surface Design Conference sponsored by the Surface Design Society. Conference Closing Remarks: Reflections on Materials and Making.

Melbourne Australia, 22 November 2004. Futureground, An International Conference sponsored by the Design Research Society at Monash University. Topic: "Inquiry and Research in Design: A Contribution to the Mapping of the Discipline's Development"

National Association of Schools of Art and Design Annual Conference, Tucson Arizona, October 14, 2004. Invited panel member in a Roundtable Discussion: "Facilitating and Managing Local Discussions in Undergraduate Studio Programs"

Oberlin College, Clarence Ward Lecturer in Architectural History, March 14, 2004
Topic: The Curious Case of Frank Lloyd Wright and the Cold War.

University of Maryland, School of Architecture, February 28, 2003.
Topic: The Curious Case of Frank Lloyd and Post-WWII Italy.

Syracuse University, School of Architecture, October 28, 2002.
Topic: Italian Architecture during the Fascist Era.

London, England, 7 September 2002. Common Ground: Interdisciplinary Research in Design Conference sponsored by The Design Research Society. Topic: An interdisciplinary Framework for Research on the History of Materials.

Jyväskylä, Finland, 1 September 2002. Universal versus Individual: the Architecture of the 1960s Conference sponsored by the Alvar Aalto Academy. Topic: From the Cold War to Postmodernism: Architectural developments in the 1960s.

Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana, 4 October 1999. Topic: Community and the Concept of Place.

John G. Blank Center for the Arts, Michigan City, Indiana, 24 September 1999.
Conference: Frank Lloyd Wright in Indiana. Topic: Frank Lloyd Wright at Notre Dame.

Helsinki, Finland, 9 September 1999. Topic: History: Just the Past or an Active Agent Today? Keynote Address for Useful and Critical: The Position of Research in Design an International Conference sponsored by the University of Art and Design, Helsinki.

Indianapolis Museum of Art, 12 March 1998. Topic: Political Design in Fascist Italy.

Kansas City Art Institute, 14 November 1996. Topic: Simulated Seas: Contemporary Aquarium Design.

Andrews University, 22 February 1996. Topic: Continuities and Changes: The Metal and Glass Curtain Wall in American Architecture after WWII.

Design History Research Centre, Brighton, England, 11 November 1995. Conference: Design and Government Initiatives: Past, Present and Future. Topic: National Agendas for Italian Design after 1945.

Art Institute of Chicago, 9&16 October 1995. Museum Education Lecture Series, Topic: The Art and Architecture of Milan, Italy, two part lecture.

Saint Joseph Valley Masonry Society, South Bend, Indiana, 21 September 1995. Topic: Thinking About the Environment.

Seaside Institute, Seaside, Florida, 27 January 1995.
Topic: Oceans in a Bottle.

Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. 7 May 1993. Invited Seminar Participant, Topic: The State of Design History.

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, 12 April 1993, Department of Architecture. Topic: The Metal and Glass Curtain Wall in American Architecture After World War Two.

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, 13 April 1993, Department of Design. Topic: Simulated Seas: Exhibition Design in Aquariums.

College Art Association Conference, Seattle, WA. 6 February 1993. Topic: Political Design in Fascist Italy.

Chicago Architectural Foundation, 11 April 1992. Topic: American Architecture Between Modernism and Postmodernism.

University of North Carolina at Charlotte, 4 March 1992. Topic: Classical and Vernacular Themes in Modern Italian Architecture.

Paradigms in Architectural Education Conference, University of Notre Dame, 5 October 1991. Topic: Intention and Appropriation: Political Themes in Twentieth Century Classicism.

Industry and Anti-Industry Conference, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, 7 December 1990. Topic: Designing an Aluminum World: Industrial Designers and the American Aluminum Industry.

Hagley Center for the History of Business, Technology, and Society, Wilmington, Delaware, 12 May 1989. Topic: Corporate Culture as Symbol and Icon.

Cooper Hewitt National Museum of Design, New York City, 2 May 1988. Topic: Visions of Empire and Community: Mussolini's Rome and Olivetti's Ivrea.

The Art Institute of Chicago, 27 April 1988. Topic: the Modern Movement and Architectural Drawings.

The Chicago Art History Colloquia Series, 6 April 1988. Topic: Architecture and Politics in Fascist Italy: Issues of Interpretation.

The Chicago Architectural Club, 1 February 1988. Topic: Changing Agendas: Some Aspects of Contemporary Italian Architecture.

Saint Mary's College, South Bend, IN., 2 December 1987. Topic: Recent Campus Architecture at Saint Mary's: The Angela Athletic Center by Helmut Jahn and Cushwa-Leighton Library by Evans Woollen.

Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, Washington, D.C., 19-20 November 1987. Invited Seminar Participant, Topic: Fascist Architecture in the Overseas Colonies, 1922-1943.