

CORAL GABLES TO HOST THE 2024 DOCOMOMO US NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

By Dr. Karelia Martinez Carbonell, Local Preservation Advocate

Photos provided by Dr. Karelia Martinez Carbonell, Local Preservation Advocate

Join the organization in Miami and Coral Gables, Florida, from May 29 to June 1, 2024, and experience one of the country's richest collections of mid-century and postmodern architecture. Entitled Streams of Modernity: Postwar to Postmodern, the 2024 National Symposium is a collaboration of Docomomo US and the Docomomo US/Florida chapter.

The region became an escape for post-World War II middle America, shaped largely by the desire for leisure and entertainment. Over the past decades, the area has become a laboratory to explore new urban patterns, building types, evolving aesthetics, and emerging environmental consciousness.

The symposium seeks to promote a broader understanding of the accomplishments of postwar to Postmodern architecture and culture in regionally specific contexts such as South Florida, the Caribbean, and Latin America. Themes to be explored include: Tropical Brutalism, Postwar campus planning in the (sub)tropics, LGBTQ+-Modernism, Postwar tourism, urban renewal and Interstate infrastructure, Modern architecture and popular culture in south Florida, polychrome Modern and the integration of the arts, and more.

The 2024 National Symposium is a joint partnership of Docomomo US and its Florida chapter, along with the University of Miami School of Architecture, Florida International University, Friends of the Miami Marine Stadium, Dade Heritage Trust, and the Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables.

The Docomomo US National Symposium is the primary event in the United States for professionals to discuss and share efforts to preserve modern architecture and meet leading practitioners and industry professionals.

The Symposium developed as a result of the Docomomo US Board of Directors' annual "Face to Face" meeting. The first expanded event took place in Los Angeles in 2010 with an open forum for local individuals actively engaged in the discussion of modern ar-



HISTORIC PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION OF CORAL GABLES



Do you have an amazing story to share?

Have you recently snapped a photo of beautiful scene in Coral Gables?

Do you have any friends, family, or neighbors who have inspired you to rise up and do good for your community?

You are not alone! Gables Living is constantly looking to feauture and empower individual community members who have something to share. Feel free to send me an email at any time with a photo, a joke, a quote, or a story - I am always willing to feature any and all submissions.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

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talist commercial buildings designed by prominent local, national, and international architects during a 20-year span from 1960s through the 1980s. The 2-hour tour will showcase about 12 notable buildings by such architects as O.K. Houston, Walter Klements, Morris Lapidus, Roney Mateu, Alberto J. Socol, and others.

The main attractions are walking distance around the city's downtown area. One stop with refreshments will offer a personalized external tour of a 1970s Brutalist beauty undergoing a transformation by Perkins + Will after being rescued from total demolition. Another opportunity will be a short visit and external tour of the recent restoration and addition of an iconic 1960s government building.

The tour will feature at least one Morris Lapidus design as well as a design by his son-in-law, Maurice Weintraub. Tour participants will see the 1980s "ziggurat" design "Lion Building" by architect O.K. Houston, who designed many projects around the city and beyond during this era.

The tour will be led by Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables President, **Dr. Karelia Martinez Carbonell** and **Mr. Albert Menendez**, architect and immediate past chairman of the Coral Gables Historic Preservation Board. He presently serves on the Coral Gables Landmark Advisory Board.

Bus and Walking Tour
(bus picks up from the Mayfair House Hotel)
Thursday 5/30, 9:30-11:30am
SOLD OUT

All tours will be submitted for AIA credits.

chitecture. Docomomo US hosted its first National Symposium in Sarasota, Florida in April 2013. Held annually, this multi-day conference seeks to engage local participants in cities across the United States, offering participants the ability to interact with and explore a wide variety of significant modern architecture and sites.

The symposium will offer a unique tour: From Coral to Concrete. The Moderns of Coral Gables: 1960-1980
From Coral to Concrete. The Moderns of Coral Gables: 1960-1980 - Docomomo (docomomo-us.org)

See it to believe it! Discover the unique mix of Coral Gables' modern architectural heritage.

Covering several blocks, this bus/walking tour will feature several glass and concrete structures including Brutalist and Neo-Bru-



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