Classicism at Home

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No matter where you are, the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art (ICAA) offers courses, lectures, articles, and more, available at any time at classicist.org.

Classicism at Home offers a weekly opportunity to turn your thoughts to things both historic and contemporary, academic and entertaining, and aesthetic and rigorous through the ICAA's ongoing online content.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ICAA, SIGN UP FOR REGULAR UPDATES AT CLASSICIST.ORG/SIGNUP.

ONLINE EDUCATION

New Online Courses & Lectures

The ICAA's Online Offerings Continue via Live-Streaming

The ICAA is pleased to announce new opportunities to immerse yourself in the world of classicism and traditional design, with livestreaming courses open to audiences regardless of location.

Please note: both lectures will be recorded, but credits are only available to those who register for and attend the livestreams.

Online Lecture: Jean-Jacques Lequeu: The Architectural Imagination in the Age of Reason, with Barry Bergdoll
Tuesday, April 14, 2020 6:30 PM EDT / 3:30 PM PDT

1 AIA CES Learning Unit|Elective

Please join the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art (ICAA) for a virtual lecture on Tuesday, April 14th with Barry Bergdoll, who will be speaking on draftsman and architect Jean-Jacques Lequeu.
Online Lecture: Classical Primer with Erik K. Evens
Tuesday, April 14, 2020 9:00 PM EDT / 6:00 PM PDT
3 AIA CES Learning Units|Elective

This online lecture, led by Erik K. Evens of Evens Architects, is a primer on the language and rationale of classical architecture. As an introduction to the classical orders, this course is an overview of the elements of classical architecture for beginners and interested laypersons.

ONLINE EDUCATION FROM THE ARCHIVES

A Universal Language in Stone and Steel: Architectural Poetics, Globally Considered
with Nathaniel Walker

In 2019, the ICAA hosted Nathaniel Walker, Assistant Professor of Architectural History at the College of Charleston, for a lecture designed to introduce students to a broader conception of the “classical,” making the argument that classicists working today would do well to demonstrate how their work speaks a universal language of value to the greater human family.

When one hears the phrase “classical architecture,” it is usually the forms of the Classical Mediterranean that come to mind: Greco-Roman columns and pediments, with perhaps a sprinkling of Egyptian pyramids and a dash of Assyrian tile. There are, however, other cultural periods that have been described as “classical”—scholars speak of Classical Chinese culture, the Classic Maya, and the Classical period of Ile-Ife in ancient Nigeria.

Watch Nathaniel's full lecture to explore the rich variety of “classicisms” around the globe.

CHAPTER LECTURES ONLINE

Beyond Gatsby: The Fabled Gardens of Long Island’s Gold Coast
with CeCe Haydock
This lecture is presented on behalf of the ICAA's New England Chapter (ICAA-NE).

Originally comprising vast areas of the North Shores of Long Island, the Gold Coast was a favorite retreat of the rich and famous. Beginning around the turn of the century and through the 1920's, the North Shore was the place to be for some of the most notable Americans. Along with grand houses, they built elaborate gardens, hiring such notable architects and landscape architects as Delano and Aldrich, Carrere and Hastings, the Olmsted Brothers, and Beatrix Farrand. Discover the gardens, as they were originally built, and learn about their history, landscape design, and present condition.

Watch a lecture, presented by landscape architect CeCe Haydock, and presented through the generous support of the Boston Design Center as part of the ICAA-NE Design Series.

WATCH NOW

UNIVERSITY WORKSHOPS

The ICAA Workshop in Classical Architectural Design at Mississippi State University

On February 28th and 29th, 2020, over a hundred undergraduate students and regional professionals took their seats and pulled out their sketchbooks, ready for the ICAA’s Workshop in Classical Architectural Design held in collaboration with The Mississippi State University School of Architecture. This latest installment of the ICAA’s
workshops, which aim to bring the fundamentals of the principles and practice of classical design to institutions of higher education across the country, drew the program’s largest crowd to date.

READ MORE

ICAA MEMBER COURSES ONLINE

In a time of curtailed in-person events and classes, the ICAA is pleased to bring an abundance of remote learning opportunities to our members and enthusiasts, including from member firms. If your member firm is interested in sharing an upcoming course with us, please contact marketing@classicist.org.

Practical Decorative Plastering, with Hyde Park Mouldings
Tuesday, April 14th, 2020, 1:30 PM EDT / 10:30 AM PDT

1 AIA CES Learning Unit|Elective

For much of mankind's history, plaster played an important role in interior construction. Prior to the introduction of gypsum wall board ("Drywall") at the end of the 19th century, interior walls, ceilings and decorative elements were commonly rendered in plasters made of gypsum, lime and mineral aggregates using the same age-old methods documented by Vitruvius in his Ten Books on Architecture. Although construction methods and materials have evolved, plaster remains a viable and useful material for interiors as both a finish and as a medium for cast or drawn ornament.

In a course offered by Hyde Park Mouldings, participants will a) review the benefits and limitations of plaster as a material for interior construction and decoration, b) demonstrate methods of casting and "Running" plaster mouldings, c) provide a brief overview of the uses of plaster in construction throughout history and d) examine the "Levels of Drywall Finish" and compare to traditional lime/gypsum plaster veneer.

To participate, please RSVP via e-mail no later than Monday, April 13th to Adrian Taylor at adrian@hyde-park.com along with your AIA number (if you would like to receive AIA credit).

EMAIL TO REGISTER

ICAA MEMBER ARTICLES

The History of Chinoiseries in France, Part 2
from Valentin Goux
Join Valentin Goux, Vice President at ICAA member firm RINCK, on an academic and historical exploration of chinoiserie, that particular European interpretation of Chinese decorative arts that resulted in a melange of materials, motifs, and methodology which, though quite removed from its origins, exerted powerful influence on centuries of European design.

In the second part of this series, Valentin covers the changing popularity of chinoiserie in western decorative arts, amid both the decline of the exuberance of Rococo ornamentation and the growing popularity of neoclassicism.

READ MORE

SOCIAL SKETCHING ONLINE

Social Sketching from Home: Two New Opportunities

ICAA Chapters are bringing social sketching events online, opening them up to participation around the country, and even internationally. This weekend, join friends and colleagues in two new social sketching events, presented by the Chicago and Southeast Chapters:

The Chicago Midwest Chapter is offering reference images of the Ryerson Mansion, by architect David Adler, on Flickr. View the images here.

Forward a JPG file of your sketch to info@classicistchicago.org by Sunday evening following the sketch date for it to be posted to the ICAA Chicago Instagram account on Monday afternoon. Please include your Instagram handle in the email in order to tag your sketch. Post to your own Instagram account using #icaachicago #connectingthroughsketching #classicalarchitecture #classicismathome #virtualsketching

The Ryerson Mansion (left) and the Commercial Bank and Banker's House (right)
The Southeast Chapter is offering views of the Commercial Bank and Banker's House, an unusual combination building in Natchez, with images hosted on Dropbox. View the images here.

Forward a JPG file of your sketch to icasoutheast@gmail.com by Monday noon following the sketch date for it to be posted to the ICAA Southeast Instagram account on Monday afternoon. Please include your Instagram handle in order to tag your sketch.

Post to your own Instagram account using #icaasoutheast #graphiteandgrits #connectingthroughsketching #classicalarchitecture

Stay tuned for the next weekly round of social sketching!

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FOLLOW ICAA SOUTHEAST

PUBLIC PROGRAMS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Breakfast & Books
with Thomas Jayne

The ICAA’s Breakfast & Books series allows architects, designers, landscape architects, authors, photographers, and other extraordinary talents to share the inspiration they find in books, as part of a collaboration with Rizzoli, hosted at an in-person breakfast at the Rizzoli bookstore in New York City.

In this March 2018 installment from the ICAA’s archives, designer Thomas Jayne highlights his recent book Classical Principles for Modern Design – Lessons from Edith Wharton and Ogden Codman’s The Decoration of Houses.

WATCH NOW

ICAA BOOK CLUB

Thanks for Sharing with Us!
You shared your book recommendations with us, but we're always excited for more! We're eager to see what ICAA members and friends are reading during their extended time at home. While many of us cannot travel as we might like, our home libraries offer rich histories, narratives, journeys, and beautiful imagery. Share your photos of recommended reading with the ICAA on Instagram, and tag @classicist_org. Use the hashtag #icaabookclub for a chance to be featured on the ICAA’s Instagram feed!

**FOLLOW THE ICAA ON INSTAGRAM**

**Did you know?**

You can apply an ICAA donation sticker directly to your own Instagram stories.

At the top of your story, tap the donation sticker button after you’ve taken a photo or video in the Instagram Stories camera, search "Donation" and select the Donation sticker, and then search for @classicist_org.

**Additional Offerings**
There is so much more available online at classicist.org: filmed lectures and public programs, panel discussions, and numerous online articles provide an opportunity to stay connected with the ICAA.

**STAY CONNECTED AT CLASSICIST.ORG**