SPRING GALA AHEAD...

Inspired by our seminars on Inigo Jones - the talented designer who brought Late Renaissance classical architecture to England - the theme for the Sir John Soane’s Museum Foundation spring fund-raising gala is Mood Inigo.

Mood Inigo takes place at the Rainbow Room on April 23rd, starting with cocktails at 7:00 p.m. followed by dinner and dancing. Honorary Gala Chairs are Sir David Manning British Ambassador to the United States and Lady Manning. Mrs. Deborah Brice is our International Chair. Gala Co-Chairs are Joseph A. Field, Peter Pennoyer, Mrs. Stanley DeForest Scott, Kathleen E. Springhorn, and Paul Wiseman.

Soane Foundation Honors will celebrate the field of architectural education by recognizing two remarkable people: David Macaulay, the prolific author/illustrator and educator, and Richard H. Driehaus, the visionary philanthropist, both to be presented with The Soane Foundation Honors.

David Macaulay is internationally acclaimed for his best-selling books and several PBS series about architecture and design, including Cathedral, City, Pyramid, Castle, Mosque and The New Way Things Work. Mr. Macaulay has been the recipient of Caldecott Medals and numerous other book awards, and was named a 2006 MacArthur Fellow by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Richard H. Driehaus, philanthropist and investor extraordinaire, is the founder of Driehaus Securities and Driehaus Capital. As the architect of growth investing, Mr. Driehaus was named to Barron’s “All Century Team” of the 25 most influential individuals in the Mutual Fund Industry in the past 100 years. Personally and through his Foundation and Charitable Trusts, he underwrites and presents an annual $100,000 Richard H. Driehaus Prize for Classical Architecture, restores historic landmarks, and is a benefactor to cultural, educational and social causes.

SUPPORT THE FOUNDATION: Win Two Round-Trip Tickets!

Our thanks go to EOS Airlines, which has graciously provided two round-trip tickets valued at over $13,700, for a raffle to be held in conjunction with this year’s Gala. Tickets are $20 each or $100 for six. Call the office, or visit www.SoaneFoundation.com

GO FOR BAROQUE
Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 Seminars

Following in the steps of Inigo Jones, next year the Soane Seminars will explore the English Baroque. Architects to be discussed include John Vanbrugh, Nicholas Hawksmoor, Christopher Wren, and William Kent.

MORE NEWS...MORE OFTEN!
Please join our email roster to receive timely Soanian updates. Just E-MAIL your name as it appears on the mailing label of this newsletter, along with corrections, to: info@soanefoundation.com.

SOANE PATRONS’ CIRCLE:
To help support the Museum and the work of the Foundation here in the U.S., the Foundation created the Soane Patrons’ Circle in 2003, a group of key individuals both here and in London. We proudly acknowledge these members on page four of this issue. Since its founding in 1991, the Foundation has supported various projects of the Soane. Currently underway is the multi-million dollar restoration program for No. 14 Lincoln’s Inn Fields, the acquired Soane building known as “The House Next Door.” The restoration provides expanded facilities, including a dedicated Architectural Model Gallery and the Robert Adam Study Centre.
IN LONDON?
Visit Hogarth at Tate Britain

At the Tate Britain in London, a superb exhibition of Hogarth’s paintings - the most comprehensive of the artist’s work in living memory - features the 12 paintings from the Soane Museum that comprise A Rake’s Progress and An Election. Witty, satirical, subversive and hugely talented, William Hogarth (1697-1764) remains one of the most fascinating and innovative painters of the eighteenth century. The exhibition, entitled Hogarth, explores an artist who was strikingly modern in character, confronting subjects - the city, sexuality, manners, social integration, crime, political corruption, charity and patriotism - that continue to preoccupy us today.

Athenian Stuart at the V&A

For those of you unable to get to see James ‘Athenian’ Stuart (1713-1788) and the Rediscovery of Antiquity, on view last year at Bard Graduate Center in New York, the wonderful exhibition will be on view at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London from March until June, perfect for those on our Derbyshire trip. As the first comprehensive retrospective of Stuart’s work as architect, artist and taste-maker in the 18th century, the exhibition features 150 works from public and private collections including Sir John Soane’s Museum.

Soane’s landmark publication Antiquities of Athens (1762) was the first accurate record of Classical Greek architecture and served as a principal source book for architects and designers well into the 19th century.

INIGO JONES SPRING SEMINARS:

In March, Gordon Higgott presented two sessions on the works of Inigo Jones: “Inigo Jones’s Queen’s House: a Renaissance villa at Greenwich Palace, 1616 to 1640” and “Inigo Jones, John Webb, Sir Christopher Wren and the London scenic playhouse, 1630-1675.”

The spring Soane Seminar program was presented in cooperation with the Yale Center for British Art. As always, AIA/CE credits were offered to registered architects.

Dr. Gordon Higgott is a historian in the research department at English Heritage, England’s national conservation body. An authority on Inigo Jones, he was co-author (with John Harris) of Inigo Jones: Complete Architectural Drawings (1989) and co-curator of the accompanying exhibition at the Drawing Center in New York and the Royal Academy of Arts in London. His recent published work includes studies of Jones’s Queen’s House, Greenwich, and Sir Christopher Wren’s designs for St Paul’s Cathedral. He is currently preparing a catalogue of the English Baroque drawings at Sir John Soane’s Museum and a publication on the design history of Greenwich Royal Hospital.

Soane and Jones

Sir John Soane (1753–1837) referred warmly to Inigo Jones’s architecture in his lectures as Professor of Architecture at the Royal Academy, remarking on Jones’s ‘superior knowledge in architecture’. His connection with Jones began as a nineteen year old student, when Soane used the opportunity given by scaffolding on the Banqueting House for its repair in 1773 to measure the facade and produce a drawing which won for him the Royal Academy Silver medal (which still hangs in the Breakfast Room of No.12 in the Museum). He could not have dreamt then that he would be the architect chosen for its restoration over half a century later in 1829-33. The project involved restoring and largely re-facing the facade - and acquiring for his Museum, during the process, one of the original, much decayed pilaster capitals. Also on display in the Museum’s Model Gallery is a 3D analysis of the original Jones’s roof of the Banqueting House – probably commissioned by Soane, like many of his architectural models, for a combination of professional and instructional uses. The original roof was also replaced by Soane. The Museum owns the original notebook belonging to Nicholas Stone, the sculptor and master craftsman who worked alongside Jones on the Banqueting House and other major commissions.
WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
Fellowship News

John Soane’s career was greatly enhanced by his 1778 traveling fellowship, paid out of George III’s own coffers. Soane spent much of the time in Italy sketching, measuring ruins, and connecting with other Grand Tourists, some of whom became his clients.

In 1995, the Sir John Soane’s Museum Foundation deemed it time to benefit the American side of the Atlantic with its own annual traveling Soane Fellowship. The fellowship has been remarkably helpful to budding architects and historians. Here are some updates:

SEAN SAWYER 1995

“It was a godsend, a huge help - pivotal for me,” says Sean Sawyer, the first recipient. Sean graduated Summa Cum Laude from Princeton, pursued graduate studies at Columbia, and gained his Ph.D as one of Robin Middleton’s students, where a study of Soane’s work was part of the curriculum. “Soane: Civil Architecture and the Palace of Westminster,” his dissertation, contextualized the social, historical and political aspects of Soane’s public work, as documented in the news media of the period.

For the last six years Sean has been the Executive Director of Wycoff House & Association, the oldest remaining farmhouse in New York City. Previously, he has taught at Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum, and Columbia, Fordham, and Harvard universities. At Harvard, he conducted a seminar on Soane.

DANIEL M. ABRAMSON 1997

“My passion for Sir John Soane started early,” says Daniel Abramson, who was first intrigued by Joseph Michael Gandy’s painting of the Bank of England as a ruin. (Daniel pointed out, in fact, that the image depicts a work in progress, with bricks ready to be laid). This interest eventually led to his dissertation and the comprehensive and beautifully illustrated book Building the Bank of England: Money, Architecture, Society, 1694-1942 (Yale University Press, 2005).

Daniel is now at Tufts University, where he is Director of Architectural Studies and Associate Professor, Department of Art and Art History.

His current research project, Architecture in the Age of Obscurescence, is global in scope with emphasis on architecture in America and Britain.

TERRANCE GAVLIN 1998

Terrance Gavlin’s post-professional architectural education took him to McGill University in Montreal. It was on a trip to India with his McGill colleagues that Terrance first visited the Soane Museum, and found it an unforgettable experience.

Terrance returned to the Soane after that first trip, and became intrigued with research into the house’s colored glass.

As a Soane fellow, he was able to explore this subject even more fully, day and night, finding the Museum, “a thrill beyond measure, with all its ‘liumiere mysterieuse.’

Terrance went on to earn a Ph.D at the University of Pennsylvania, with the dissertation “The architecture of Joseph Michael Gandy and Sir John Soane: An exploration into the Masonic and occult imagination of the late Enlightenment.”

Terrance is now the Director of Architecture at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, one of the finest architectural colleges in Canada.

Annual Deadline for Fellowship
Graduate Student Applications for the next American Architectural Foundation’s Fellowship at Sir John Soane’s Museum are due March 1, 2008.

Other Past Recipients
2006 - R. Samuel Roche, Yale University (Architecture)
2005 - Bryan Boyer, Harvard University (Architecture)
2003 - Augustus Wendell, School of Visual Arts (Fine Arts)
2002 - Edward Wendt, Columbia University (Fine Arts)
2002 - Angelo Maggi, Edinburgh College of Art (Architecture)
2001 - Mary McAuliff, Columbia University / University of Michigan (Architecture)
2000 - Christopher Drew Armstrong, Columbia University (Architecture)
1999 - Helene Furjan, Princeton University (Architecture)
1996 - Edward Wendt, Columbia University (Art History)
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List as of January 2007

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North Façade of Queen’s House by Inigo Jones, 1616