Thank you for joining us!

SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM FOUNDATION
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www.SoaneFoundation.com

THE INNOVATORS

SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM FOUNDATION GALA 2012
Welcome Thomas A. Kligerman

Remarks Tim Knox

Presentation SOANE FOUNDATION HONORS

Suzanne Stephens, introduction of the honors

MICHAEL BRUNO, Founder of 1stdibs
Carolyne Roehm, Presenter

Suzanne Stephens, introduction of short film segment by Checkerboard Film Foundation
on the work of Diller Scofidio + Renfro

DILLER SCOFIDIO + RENFRO
Paul Goldberger, Presenter

Toast A. Eugene Kohn
2010 Recipient of Soane Foundation Honors

Dancing Bob Hardwick
and The Bob Hardwick Sound

24 April 2012 · New York City
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SOANE FOUNDATION HONORS

This evening we present honors for the sixth year. Every year the Soane Foundation celebrates Sir John Soane’s singular contributions as an architect, designer, educator, and collector by bestowing Soane Foundation Honors on present-day leaders in the fields of architecture and design and architectural education.

This year we honor a group of architects and designers who are reshaping the experience of public space in the 21st century by showing how civic monuments can mirror profound and positive aspects of the contemporary experience. We also recognize the achievements of an innovator in the field of interiors, design, and antiques who has revolutionized the way in which professionals do business and lovers of beauty daydream.

SOANE FOUNDATION HONORS are presented to . . .
MICHAEL BRUNO

is the founder of 1stdibs, the world’s premier online luxury marketplace. The website showcases a curated selection of coveted items from over 1,200 of the most prestigious dealers across the globe specializing in antiques, design, estate jewelry, fine art, vintage couture, and fine homes.

Possessed with a true entrepreneurial spirit, Bruno launched the company in 2001 from his Paris apartment, armed with just a clipboard, translator, web programmer, and photographer. Today, eleven years later, 1stdibs is based in New York and hosts dealers from across the United States, Canada, Paris, London, Mexico City, and newly added, the Benelux region. In 2011 nearly $500 million in sales were reported by 1stdibs dealers with nearly 7,000 items reported sold monthly.

Bruno, whose motto is “Decide what you want, believe in it and then get ready for the ride of your life,” has transformed the way highly desirable and authentic pieces are bought online, revolutionizing the selling process. He has also changed how the interior design industry sources key pieces.

Bringing a new level of confidence to buying online by providing assured and authentic pieces led HarvardBusiness.org to report, “1stdibs has now become the leading source to search for antiques and mid-modern furniture, outpacing both traditional auction houses, Sotheby’s and Christie’s, and offering a higher quality experience than eBay.”

1stdibs attracts over 2 million visits per month and counts collectors, influential designers, arts-and-entertainment figures and business leaders among its loyal customers who view more than 60 million pages a month. Weekly e-mails of “Introspective Magazine,” new product, and “Saturday Shopper” go to over 500,000 subscribers.

In November 2011 Bruno accepted an investment from Benchmark Capital, led by General Partner Matt Cohler (the seventh employee at Facebook and a founding team member at LinkedIn). Benchmark Capital’s expertise is in growing marketplace businesses including category leaders Twitter, Yelp, Zillow, OpenTable, and eBay.

A native of Larchmont, New York, Bruno headed West after high school and studied business at San Diego State University before moving to San Francisco in the mid-1980s where he worked as a real estate agent selling high-end properties. During this time, Bruno developed his passion for buying and restoring old homes, culminating in the restoration and successful sale of a magnificent Pacific Heights mansion in 1998.

That same year, at the height of the dot com boom, he began to search for his next venture. Keen to be part of this web revolution, Bruno bought the domain name 1stdibs.com. A year later he sold his home and moved to Paris. Convinced of the popularity of 1940s French furniture at the time and the strength of the U.S. dollar, Bruno began marketing the site to American audiences featuring a handful of antiques dealers from the famed Marché aux Puces. In a short span of time Bruno created 1stdibs, providing the opportunity for a wide audience to buy high-end antiques and vintage design from any location, whether in the office or at home.

Today, Bruno continues his active role at 1stdibs and maintains the largest stake in the company. He works closely with customers and applies his unique understanding of their needs to drive the company’s expansion and move into new product areas for existing customers and growing traffic.

Bruno is active in a number of charitable organizations, particularly the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), Museum of Art and Design, and the Bard Graduate Center. In addition, he sits on the Board of Trustees of the Museum of the City of New York as well as on the Board of Directors of Alpha Workshops.
DILLER SCOFIDIO + RENFRO is an interdisciplinary design studio that integrates architecture, the visual arts, and the performing arts. Based in New York City, Diller Scofidio + Renfro is led by three partners who work collaboratively with a staff of 100 architects, artists, and administrators.

Elizabeth Diller, a founding member of Diller Scofidio + Renfro, attended The Cooper Union School of Art and received a Bachelor of Architecture from the Cooper Union School of Architecture. Ms. Diller is a Professor of Architecture at Princeton University.

Ricardo Scofidio, RA, a founding member of Diller Scofidio + Renfro, attended The Cooper Union School of Architecture and received a Bachelor of Architecture from Columbia University. Mr. Scofidio is Professor Emeritus of Architecture at Cooper Union.

Charles Renfro, RA, joined the studio in 1997 and became partner in 2004. He attended Rice University and received a Master of Architecture degree from Columbia University. Mr. Renfro has served as visiting professor at Rice and Columbia.

Among the various projects of Diller Scofidio + Renfro’s international body of work are Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York, including the redesign of Alice Tully Hall, the renovation and expansion of The Juilliard School, the Hypar Pavilion Lawn and Restaurant, the expansion of the School of American Ballet, renovations to the New York State Theater lobby, the canopy entry to Fashion Week at Lincoln Center, as well as public spaces throughout the campus, including Information Landscape and a pedestrian bridge (currently in construction). Phases 1 and 2 of the High Line, an urban park situated on an obsolete elevated railway stretching 1.5 miles long through the Chelsea area of New York City, were completed in 2009 and 2011, respectively. The Creative Arts Center for Brown University opened in February 2011.

Diller Scofidio + Renfro completed the Institute of Contemporary Art in 2006, the first new museum to be built in Boston in 100 years. Slither, a housing complex in Gifu, Japan was completed in 2003 and Blur, a pavilion commissioned by the Swiss Expo, in 2002.

Projects in construction or in design include: the Broad Art Museum in Los Angeles; the Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive at the University of California, Berkeley; the new Columbia University Graduate School of Business in New York City; the Museum of Image & Sound on Copacabana Beach in Rio de Janeiro; Culture Shed in New York City; the Dongguan Factory Complex in Shenzhen, China; the new Stanford University Art & Art History Building; the City Garden public park and cultural center in Aberdeen, Scotland; and the ‘Bubble’ for the Hirshhorn Museum on the National Mall in Washington D.C.

Installation and performance projects recently completed include Open House (in collaboration with Droog), How Wine Became Modern for SFMOMA, Be Your Self with the Australian Dance Theatre, the Terre Natale exhibition accompanying the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP15) in Copenhagen, Traveling Music for Evento 2009 in Bordeaux, Chain City for the 2008 Venice Biennale 11th International Architecture Exhibition, Arbores Laetae for the 2008 Liverpool Biennial, Does the Punishment Fit the Crime? for the Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Turin, and Action Painting for the Beyeler Museum in Basel.

In 1999-2004, the MacArthur Foundation presented Ms. Diller and Mr. Scofidio with the ‘genius’ award for their commitment to integrating architecture with issues of contemporary culture. They were recently made fellows of the Royal Institute of British Architects and were inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Other prestigious awards and honors received by Diller Scofidio + Renfro include: the National Design Award from the Smithsonian; the Brunner Prize from the American Academy of the Arts and Letters; an Obie for an off-Broadway theater production; the AIA President’s Award; the AIA Medal of Honor; and AIA Design Awards for numerous projects. In 2003, the Whitney Museum of American Art held a retrospective of the studio’s work, recognizing the firm’s unorthodox practice. In 2009, the partners were featured in a one-hour segment with Charlie Rose. Most recently, Fast Company named Diller Scofidio + Renfro the most innovative design practice in the profession and among the 50 most innovative companies in the world.
Past Recipients of the
SOANE FOUNDATION HONORS

~ 2011 ~

Allan Greenberg

Salute to the
Founders of the Foundation, Past Board,
and Advisory Board Members

~ 2010 ~

A. Eugene Kohn
Susan Weber

Yale University Press
accepted by John Donatich

~ 2009 ~

Jaquelin T. Robertson

Rizzoli International Publications
accepted by Charles Miers and David Morton

~ 2008 ~

Robert A. M. Stern

The Monacelli Press
accepted by Gianfranco Monacelli

~ 2007 ~

Richard H. Driehaus

David Macaulay
The Directors of Sir John Soane’s Museum Foundation recognize and thank the supporters of this evening.

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Peter Pennoyer Architects
William Sofield
Joseph Peter Spang
Watermark Foundation
Leslie and Chiles Wilson

Listings as of 16 April 2012
This year we celebrate many accomplishments!

As we near the completion of Phase 1 of *Opening Up The Soane*, the dedications of various spaces will begin in June. In early July, the new gallery is opening in time for the Olympics celebration with an exhibition entitled *Stadia: Sport and Vision in Architecture*. The dedication of the new John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn Conservation Centre is scheduled for September 19th, and later in the fall, we will be the openings of the Tivoli and Shakespeare Recesses. And all this is taking place within No.12 Lincoln’s Inn Fields.

*Here is a brief history of No.12 – the first of Soane’s three houses on Lincoln’s Inn Fields:*

- No.12 was purchased by Soane in 1792 for £2,100, two years after he inherited a substantial fortune from his wife’s uncle.

- No.12 was demolished and rebuilt by Soane between 1792-94 as a family home with a purpose-designed architectural office at the back. The previous house on the site had stables at the rear. It is a superb example of Soane’s ability to cope with planning challenges, accommodating the slanting party wall on the east side between it and No.13 next door (which means that the house becomes narrower towards the back).

- John and Eliza Soane lived at No.12 with their two boys, John and George (born in 1786 and 1789) until they moved next door to No.13 in 1812-13.

- Although the 1792-94 plans for the rebuilding of No.12 survive, there are no inventories of the contents of the house when Soane lived here, and only two views of its interiors (one depicting the Breakfast Room in 1796). However, its original contents undoubtedly moved with the Soanes into No.13 in 1813.

- In 1808 Soane acquired the freehold of the next door house, No.13. In 1809-10, he took over the stables at the back of No.13, pulled them down and built a ‘museum’, leaving the front part tenanted. He filled the new extension with Roman marbles and casts. In 1812 he arranged for the tenant of No.13 (a larger house) to move into No.12. Soane then pulled down the front part of No.13 and rebuilt it as his own house during 1812, moving in 1813.

- From then on Soane leased No.12 to tenants.

- Upon Soane’s death in 1837 he left No.13 to the nation as Sir John Soane’s Museum. No.12 was also bequeathed to the nation, with the intention that the rental income would cover the running costs of the Museum.

- During the 19th century No.12 was let to a series of tenants, not only as a home but also as Solicitors’ offices.

- In 1969 the Trustees reclaimed No.12 for use by the Museum. John Summerson commissioned the architect William Holford to restore the house in 1969-70. A Research Library was created on the first floor; Soane’s Breakfast Room on the ground floor was restored, with its painted trellis ceiling, which was uncovered from beneath many layers of whitewash. A display of models was installed in the ground floor front room. The house was not open to the public apart from some limited access for guided groups.

- In 1994-95 (during Peter Thornton’s curatorship), the architect Eva Jiricna was commissioned to create a Gallery for temporary exhibitions in the ground floor front room and a ‘link passage’ to No.13 was also created to give access to No.12 and the Breakfast Room and Gallery.
2011-2012 - Phase 1 of Opening Up The Soane is near completion, and in June 2012 the following will be completed and handed over to the Museum:

- No.12 Basement, including Warders’ cloakroom
- No.12 Ground Floor, including new shop and visitors’ entrance
- No. 12 First floor, including new exhibition gallery
- No. 12 Second floor
- No. 12 Internal Lift (all levels)
- Fitting out of Gallery, shop, and reception

This Fall we are hosting our Regency Rout party on Thursday, September 20th at which time we will launch the Soane Permanently Magical Endowment Fund.

Phase 2 of Opening Up The Soane is poised to begin in January 2013 and will include the restoration of the private apartments in No.13 of Sir John and his wife. It will also feature the restoration of Soane’s original architectural model room in Lincoln’s Inn Fields.

Join us on June 20th for the start of the 2012 celebrations!

Tim Knox
Director

Looking to the Future – Soane Conservation Fund

Sir John Soane’s Museum Foundation is very proud of its role in the Soane Museum’s Opening Up The Soane capital campaign. The funding of the new John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn Conservation Centre provides crucial space, equipment, and staff, very substantially increasing both the volume and extent of the conservation work undertaken by the museum. In the words of the current chief conservator at the Soane, the new Conservation Centre “will transform our work, giving us the possibility to take a broader view of conservation than ever before.”

Conservation is a critical core function of the Soane – the importance of this work to the quality of the museum and artifacts cannot be overstated. The Soane Foundation is committed to supporting ongoing conservation at the Soane. Following the campaign, we will be launching the Soane Conservation Fund for continued aid and assistance to the museum for ongoing projects.

These projects will include research and conservation of items within the collection, such as works on paper and plaster objects, including special items such as Sir John Soane’s vast collection of architectural models (the largest in the United Kingdom). Other projects may focus on the care and restoration of its world famous historic interiors. There is much to be done and we are proud to be a part of this important work, now and in the future.

Thomas A. Kligerman
President

To see more about the plans and images for OPENING UP THE SOANE please go to the foundation web site and click on > Securing the Future
www.SoaneFoundation.com
The mission of the Foundation is to provide unique educational programs for professionals and lay-persons who relish in-depth exploration of issues of architecture and the fine and decorative arts. The Foundation also provides a traveling fellowship each year for a graduate student or scholar to go to the Museum to further their work and research.
Appreciation for this evening goes to...

~ Design and Table Décor ~
Renny and Reed

~ Creative Services ~
Robert Van Nutt for creating and designing the invitation, décor, program cover, and the new medallion award.

~ and to the teams of… ~
David Starling and the team at 583 PARK
The Bob Hardwick Sound
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Sir John Soane’s Museum Foundation’s mission is to promote to an expanding audience a lively educational forum in the fields of art, architecture and the decorative arts within the Soanean tradition and to assist financially Sir John Soane’s Museum in London. The Soane Foundation is pleased to offer these opportunities for support. Please consider supporting us with a gift of $100 or more!

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