

July Friends

The Kenneth Myer Lecture 2004: Modernism's Legacy and Future

This is the Year of the Built Environment, so it is fitting that in 2004 the annual Kenneth Myer Lecture will be delivered by one of the world's great living architects, Harry Seidler AC, OBE. Harry Seidler was born in Vienna and was educated there and in England. He studied in Canada before winning a scholarship to Harvard where he attended Walter Gropius' Master Class. He studied design under Josef Albers, and became Marcel Breuer's chief assistant in New York. After working with Oscar Niemeyer in Rio de Janeiro, he started his architectural practice in Sydney in 1949. His first commissioned house in Australia, the Rose Seidler House (1950) at Wahroonga, is owned and operated as a House Museum by the Historic Houses Trust of New South Wales.

Harry Seidler's awards and honours are almost too numerous to list: he is an Honorary Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and the Royal Institute of British Architects, which awarded him their highest honour, the Royal Gold Medal in 1996. He is a Life Fellow of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects and has received over 50 awards for his work over the years, including five Sulman Medals and the Gold Medal of the Institute (1976). He was awarded Australia's highest honour, Companion of the Order of Australia AC (1987) and the British OBE (1972). He was elected Member of the Académie d'Architecture de France (1982) and was awarded Austria's highest honour, The Cross of Honour for Arts and Sciences, 1st Class (1985) and the Gold Medal of the City of Vienna (1989). He has received Honorary Doctorates from the University of Manitoba, Canada (1988), the University of Technology, Sydney (1991), the University of New South Wales (1991), and the University of Sydney (2000), as well as the Golden Decoration for Services to the Viennese State (2002).

Harry Seidler has taught and lectured extensively all over the world. He was



Visiting Professor at the G.S.D. Harvard (1976-77), The University of Virginia (Thomas Jefferson Professor 1978) and E.T.H. Zürich (1993), as well as at many Australian universities. He is currently Adjunct Professor of Architecture at the University of Sydney and a member of the Visiting Committee of Harvard University Graduate School of Design.

The work of Harry Seidler is built upon and extends the tenets of modern architecture, with many completed projects in Australia, Europe, Central America and Asia. Best known for his domestic work, apartments and high-rise offices, he built the Australian Embassy in Paris, the Hong Kong Club and Offices, Australia Square, Grosvenor Place, the MLC Centre and Horizon apartments in Sydney, QV1 in Perth and the Shell Headquarters in Melbourne. In his native Vienna, he has built a self-contained community for 2500 people along the Danube.

Don't miss this world-class presentation by the Friends of the National Library on Thursday, 5 August at 6 pm in the Library Theatre, when Harry Seidler gives the 2004 Kenneth Myer Lecture: *Modernism's Legacy and Future*.

James Halligan
Executive Officer

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Kenneth Myer Lecture

World-renowned architect Harry Seidler AC, OBE will deliver the 2004 Kenneth Myer Lecture: *Modernism's Legacy and Future*.

Date: Thursday, 5 August

Time: 6 pm

Venue: National Library Theatre

Admission: By donation, refreshments will follow in the Foyer. Bookings essential on (02) 6262 1698 or email friends@nla.gov.au

For bookings, details of membership and subscriptions, contact:

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above:
Donald Friend (1915-89)
Shoppers at Night, Bondi Junction Mall
(detail)
From 'Ayam-Ayam Kesayangan'
Manuscript Collection M55959, Item 2

above left:
Harry Seidler (detail)
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