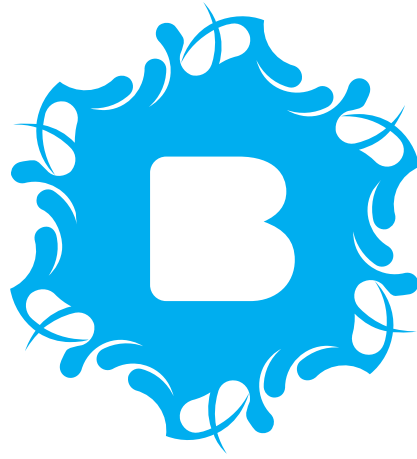


Press Release



October 2008

Preview Celebration of Modernism: A Century of Style and Design on Thursday, November 13, at the Park Avenue Armory to Benefit Brooklyn Museum

Major Design Awards to Betty Woodman, John C. Waddell, and Stephen Burks to Precede Preview

The preview celebration of the twenty-third annual *Modernism: A Century of Style and Design*, the fine and decorative arts exposition produced by Sanford L. Smith & Associates, will take place Thursday, November 13, 2008, from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Park Avenue Armory at 67th Street in Manhattan. Proceeds from the preview, which features a full cocktail reception, benefit the Brooklyn Museum's renowned Decorative Arts collection and related activities. Collectors, connoisseurs, and celebrities will be among the first to consider the offerings of more than sixty leading international dealers specializing in such twentieth century design movements as Arts and Crafts, Art Deco, Scandinavian, Wiener Werkstätte, and Post Modern.

The preview of *Modernism* will be preceded by an awards ceremony at 5 p.m. honoring ceramic artist Betty Woodman, who will receive the Brooklyn Museum/*Modernism* Lifetime Achievement Award; John C. Waddell, who will be presented with the Brooklyn Museum/*Modernism* Distinguished Collector Award; and Stephen Burks, who is slated to receive the Brooklyn Museum/*Modernism* Young Designer Award. Brooklyn Museum Director Arnold L. Lehman will present the awards.

Betty Woodman (American, born 1930) is internationally recognized as one of the most important ceramic artists working today. Through her inventive use of color and form and her expert blend of a wide range of influences, she creates exuberant ceramic sculpture. Employing many forms, from fragmented wall vases to bronze benches to pillow pitchers, she presents a gathering of influences and traditions. Woodman has traveled extensively, finding inspiration in cultures around the world. Her work is included in the collections of more than forty museums in the United States, Europe, Canada, and Korea.

Born in Connecticut in 1937, John C. Waddell began collecting at an early age. In 1966 he moved to New York and became interested in the world of antiques. During the 1980s his interest expanded to include American modernist photography. But his purchase of a torchère by Walter von Nessen in 1972 was the beginning of a shift in his interest to American industrial design of the 1920s and 1930s. Waddell continues to add to his superb collection of American industrial design, with an emphasis on the earliest objects rendered in this field. A number of these objects will be on display at the *Modernism* preview and are promised gifts to the Brooklyn Museum. All of the objects were selected by Waddell to enhance the Museum's extensive collection in this field.

Brooklyn Museum

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Stephen Burks (American, born 1969) is one of the most recognized American industrial designers of his generation. He and his New York studio, Readymade Projects, have been responsible for creative design direction on projects ranging from retail interiors and events to packaging, consumer products, lighting, furniture, and home accessories. He has developed innovative concepts for the renowned international brands B&B Italia, Boffi, Calvin Klein, Cappellini, Missoni, and Tods, as well as continuing his commitment to sustainable design in the developing world through his association with the American nonprofits Aid to Artisans and the Nature Conservancy. He lives in Manhattan with his wife, Claudette, and their son Anwar.

Tickets to the preview range from \$150 to \$5,000 and are available through the Museum's Special Events Office. To purchase tickets call (718) 501-6423, e-mail special_events@brooklynmuseum.org, or go online to www.brooklynmuseum.org. Tickets may be purchased online through Wednesday, November 12. Tickets at the \$250 level and up include admission to the awards ceremony. Sanford L. Smith's *Modernism: A Century of Style and Design* will be open to the public November 14 through 17.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Admission:

Contribution \$8; students with valid I.D. and older adults \$4. Free to Members and children under 12 accompanied by an adult. Group tours or visits must be arranged in advance by calling extension 234.

Directions:

Subway: Seventh Avenue express (2 or 3) to Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum stop; Lexington Avenue express (4 or 5) to Nevins Street, cross platform and transfer to the 2 or 3. Bus: B71, B41, B69, B48.

On-site parking available.

Museum Hours:

Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; First Saturday of each month, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; all other Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.