

Fall/Winter 2009

**The Cooper Union
for the Advancement
of Science and Art**



atCooper



Union

At Cooper Union Fall 2009

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Rich Press/João Eruxio

Message from President George Campbell Jr.

As we continue to celebrate our 150th year, new and returning students and faculty began the semester at a historic time for The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art. On September 15—joined by faculty, students, staff, donors and public officials—we cut the ribbon, officially opening 41 Cooper Square. The act symbolized the beginning of a new era for the college, a reflection of Peter Cooper’s vision in 1859 of a college committed to academic excellence, opposed to racial or religious discrimination and free of tuition.

Like Peter Cooper’s Foundation Building in the late 19th century, 41 Cooper Square ushers in our commitment to meeting head-on the challenges and promises of the 21st century. Architecture, art and engineering sciences are becoming more intertwined—both technologically and pedagogically. By replacing 40 percent of our academic space with the city’s first green academic building with a heavy concentration of laboratories and by making comprehensive renovations to the Foundation Building, we are poised to educate the next several generations of designers, builders, artists, scientists, engineers, innovators and citizens.

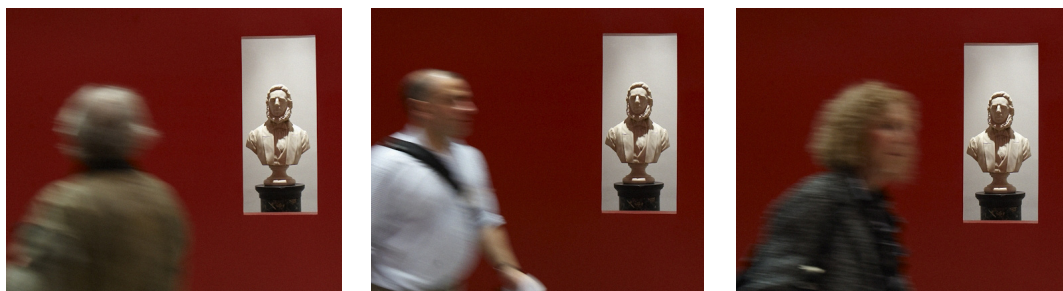
This transition, like others, demanded much from our faculty, students and staff. The Board of Trustees, officers and I commend them for their hard work, dedication, commitment and spirit of adventure that underpins such a major change. Thanks to their efforts, the inaugural semester in the new facilities is off to a dynamic start.

The new building at 41 Cooper Square and its unique features have captured the attention of architecture critics and the public on a global scale. The architecture critic of *The New York Times* referred to it as “a bold architectural statement of genuine civic value”..... “when we look back on this era, the new academic building will stand out with a handful of other designs...as projects that we, as a city, can feel proud of.”

It was hailed in *New York Magazine* as a building that “has it all: drama, elegance, and the most inviting stairs in town.” The critic noted that “The graduates of this private, tuition-free school of art, architecture and engineering help shape our visual culture, and it benefits us all to have them spend their student days in such a fertile place.” And, during a visit here, City Planning Commission Chair Amanda Burden called it “the best building in New York,” and invited me to quote her assessment.

Completion of 41 Cooper Square, while improving facilities in the Foundation Building (including our beloved Great Hall) were critical to the success of a broader plan to restructure our financial resources and to give us the ability to achieve our most important goal: ensuring the already exceptional academic programs of The Cooper Union and preserving the tradition of full-tuition scholarships for all accepted. At the Ribbon Cutting, Chairman Ron Drucker publicly reaffirmed the Board and administration’s commitment to sustaining the full-tuition scholarship policy in perpetuity.

This will require the successful completion of our \$250 million Capital Campaign, which is approaching the 75 percent mark, while continuing to strengthen our endowment. Prudent stewardship of our investments under the guidance of the Board’s Investment Committee has served the institution well and placed our endowment’s performance among the best in higher education. However, the institution’s finances,



Cover photo:
Advancing the Mission: Cooper Union at 150, installation view on opening day. See page 7.
Juliana Thomas

News Briefs

Irma Giustino Weiss' Sesquicentennial Gift



Irma Giustino Weiss, a 1945 alumna of the School of Art at The Cooper Union, just made a gift of \$150,000, in honor of the college's 150th Anniversary. Mrs. Weiss's pledge will go toward a full-tuition scholarship for one student for the duration of their Cooper Union education and toward new outreach to under-represented and economically disadvantaged students. Many students who have a Palestinian background fit into this category, and The Cooper Union will use part of the gift to support an enhanced recruitment effort aimed at such students. Irma Weiss is a member of the Peter Cooper Heritage Society, having contributed more than \$1 million to the college in her lifetime, and the funder of two important student gifts—The Irma Giustino Weiss Prize, which permits the top graduating artist or architect to enrich their studies as they embark on a career, and the Irma Giustino Weiss Cultural Enrichment Fellowship, which provides cultural opportunities in New York City to art and architecture students.

President's Message continued

like other colleges that depend on their endowments, have been severely stressed by negative returns. This has required substantial budgetary constraints and postponement of new program investments.

Alumni and Trustees have been generous supporters of the Capital Campaign, buttressed by the New York philanthropic community that has recognized the importance of The Cooper Union to the city. Along with the opening of 41 Cooper Square, we recently dedicated the Alumni Roof Terrace, which was enthusiastically supported by alumni who funded pavers in their own names or in memory of others. The Frederick P. Rose Auditorium, the stunning academic and public space created by Trustee Sandra Rose in memory of her late husband Frederick, was dedicated on September 22.

Many of our alumni joined us on October 24 for the All Cooper ReUnion. The many activities planned, included a visit to the new Great Hall Exhibition designed pro bono by architecture alumnus Lee Skolnick (AR'79) and his firm.

On behalf of current and future generations of students I offer my deep appreciation for your contributions that have made our progress possible, and I urge your ongoing support as we navigate through this difficult financial environment while sustaining our commitment to a tuition-free education of the first rank.

Great Evenings in the Great Hall

On the pleasant fall evening of September 17, acclaimed journalist Pete Hamill led a notable cast of performers celebrating America's labor movement at a special event in The Cooper Union's Great Hall. This was the third in an eight-part series celebrating the Great Hall's 150th year as an historic site for major political and cultural events. Since 1859, the Great Hall has been a preeminent stage for pioneering individuals whose views reshaped society, from Frederick Douglass and Victoria Woodhull to W.E.B. DuBois. Each of the eight programs in the "Great Evenings in the Great Hall" series focuses on one area of civic responsibility, reform or education. For the September 17 event, Worker's Rights were at issue. The program explored America's labor movement as seen through the eyes of its most ardent advocates, all of whom spoke in the Great Hall: Clara Lemlich, Samuel Gompers, Eugene V. Debs and Mother Jones. Historic photographs and documents complemented the powerful words that advanced a movement and the stirring voices of the New York City Labor Chorus recreated the songs that signaled the changing times.



New York City Labor Chorus



Acclaimed journalist Pete Hamill



Triangle Fire Remembrance Coalition outside the Foundation Building

Urban Visionaries

The Cooper Union's 150th Anniversary Urban Visionaries Award Dinner and Silent Auction on Monday, November 2, 2009, was a spectacular success. Proceeds from the event were over \$700,000, with \$96,930 of that raised during the silent auction. Works donated by major artists, such as Christo and Jeanne-Claude, Marlene Dumas, Yoko Ono, Alex Katz and Jenny Holzer, among others, were bid on electronically this year for the first time. A special auction lot number, dedicated to achieving one year's full-tuition scholarship of \$35,000 for one student, reached that goal.

This festive evening at 7 World Trade Center was also made possible by the generous donation of a full floor at this iconic building by Larry A. Silverstein of Silverstein Properties, Inc. The support of our dinner chairs—Corice Canton Arman, Clo and Charles S. Cohen and Anita and Neal Slavin (A'63)—was invaluable in creating a dazzling evening. Our thanks to all of them.

The award presented to our honorees silhouettes the New York City skyline against a model of founder Peter Cooper's spectacles, laser-etched in crystal and mounted on stainless steel.

For only the third time, The Cooper Union awarded its prestigious **Lafayette Medal** to **Thom Mayne** of Morphosis, who, with his team, designed Cooper Union's very green and technologically advanced new academic laboratory building at 41 Cooper Square.

Top right, from left: President George Campbell Jr.; Urban Visionary/Urban Citizenship awardee Terry J. Lundgren; Urban Visionary/Visual Art awardee Yoko Ono; Urban Visionary/Architecture awardee Cesar Pelli; Urban Visionary/Engineering & Science awardee Shirley Ann Jackson, Ph.D.; recipient of The Lafayette Medal Thom Mayne; Urban Visionary/Emerging Talent awardee Leslie M. Hewitt (A'00); Chairman of the Board of Trustees Ronald W. Drucker (CE'62)

Right: Dinner Chair Clo Cohen, Urban Visionary/Visual Art awardee Yoko Ono, Dinner Chair and Cooper Union Trustee Charles S. Cohen

Below: The Urban Visionaries Silent Art Auction set up during the cocktail reception at 7 World Trade Center



Harriet Bee, former Trustee and former President of The Cooper Union Alumni Association Carmi Bee (AR'67) with Dinner Chairs Anita Slavin and Neal Slavin (A'63)



Left: President's Council member Susan Silver deMenil and Trustee Francois deMenil (AR'87)



This year's Urban Visionary honorees were:

Visual Art

Yoko Ono is a multi-media artist who constantly challenges the traditional boundaries of sculpture, painting, theater and music. Her groundbreaking conceptual and performance pieces, experimental films, solo music, music done in association with others, including a remarkable collaboration with John Lennon from the time they met until his death, and international one-woman shows and retrospectives illustrate her varied career. Ms. Ono has been recognized with numerous awards, including the Venice Biennale's prestigious Golden Lion Award for Lifetime Achievement.

Architecture

Cesar Pelli is Senior Principal of Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects where he has personally originated and directed the design of each of the firm's projects since its founding in 1977. He is the former Dean of Yale University School of Architecture and he continues to lecture today. Mr. Pelli's work has been widely published and exhibited, and he is the recipient of over 200 awards for design excellence, including the American Institute of Architects Gold Medal in recognition of a lifetime of distinguished achievement in architecture.

Engineering & Science

Shirley Ann Jackson, Ph.D., is President of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Prior to her current position, she was Chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, a theoretical physicist at the former AT&T Bell Laboratories and a professor of theoretical physics. Dr. Jackson serves on the boards of several organizations and is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, among many others. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the prestigious Vannevar Bush Award from the National Science Board.

Urban Citizenship

Terry J. Lundgren is the Chairman, President and CEO of Macy's, Inc. He has served numerous organizations and charities, including the Fresh Air Fund, Breast Cancer Awareness and NOW Legal Defense, among many others. Mr. Lundgren was appointed Commissioner on Women's Economic Development by the Mayor of New York and currently serves on the board of Carnegie Hall, The New York City Partnership and United Way of New York City, and is a member of the Young President's Organization and the membership committee of the Economic Club of New York.

Emerging Talent

Leslie M. Hewitt graduated from The Cooper Union's School of Art in 2000 and went on to earn an MFA from Yale University. Her residencies include The Studio Museum in Harlem, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, among others. Ms. Hewitt participated in the 2008 Whitney Biennial, where her work quickly gained a reputation for power, elegance and beauty using photography, sculpture and site-specific installations to explore fluid notions of time. Her work is in the public collection at the Museum of Modern Art here in New York City.



Dinner Chair and member of the President's Council
Corice Canton Arman



Director of The Cooper Union Center for Design and Typography Mindy Lang (A'82) and Dean of the School of Art Saskia Bos

Above left: Ina Saltz (A'72) and Silent Auction participating artist Seymour Chwast (A'51)



E. Blake Moore, Jr. and Cooper Union Trustee Cynthia Weiler

Right: Many thanks to the Empire State Building Company for the special lighting on the evening of November 2, 2009 in celebration of The Cooper Union's 150th Anniversary Benefit.



An overview of the dining area at 7 World Trade Center



Left: Beth Zagran and Peter Krashes

Cooper Union Alumni Assume Academic Leadership Positions

Over the years, a number of Cooper Union alumni have gone on to high administrative positions in academia. In the fall of 2009, two more joined these ranks by becoming deans: **Matthew C. Cordaro** (Ph.D. in Engineering and Physics '70) at the Townsend School of Business at Dowling College; and **Evan J. Dougliis** (AR'83) at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. And earlier, in 2005, **Randall H. Korman** (AR'72) was named Associate Dean at the Syracuse University School of Architecture.

Cordaro, who also holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from C.W. Post College and New York University, was one of fewer than 20—and one of the first—recipients of a doctorate from The Cooper Union's Albert Nerken School of Engineering. (This degree program existed from 1969 to 1977.) He also studied at the University of Michigan and had associations with the Atomic Energy Commission and the Brookhaven National Laboratory. Prior to joining Townsend, Cordaro was as an educator and administrator at Long Island University's College of Management on the C.W. Post Campus. Before that, he was president and chief executive officer of the Midwest Independent System Operator, the largest independent transmission system operator in the nation, based in Indianapolis, and held other senior positions at major utility companies. He is frequently called upon to comment on high-profile energy and environmental issues.

Cordaro noted, "Throughout my career, I have always valued and drawn upon the lessons I absorbed and took with me from The Cooper Union to successfully deal with major challenges in my personal and professional life."

With a Master of Architecture degree from the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University, Dougliis was until recently chair of the Undergraduate Department of the School of Architecture at Pratt Institute. He is also the principal of Evan Dougliis Studio, an internationally renowned architecture and design firm that focuses on computer-aided design and an interdisciplinary approach. Dougliis has held teaching positions at a number of other prestigious U.S. and international colleges and universities, The Cooper Union's Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture among them. In 2008, he was awarded a distinguished professorship by the City College of New York. Dougliis's work has been published widely, and he has received many awards, including the President's Citation in Architecture from The Cooper Union in 2009.

According to Dougliis, "My formative years at The Cooper Union had a profound effect on preparing me to become the educator and architect I am today. At 17, I was fortunate to have [the late dean] John Hejduk as my first design instructor. His inspirational teachings radicalized my consciousness and propelled me to seek out knowledge, take risks with my work, use my imagination like an antenna and pursue a path of inquiry within the discipline of architecture that continues to resonate with me today. I can say without hesitation that my time at Cooper Union prepared me for my future: to utilize my creative gifts to engage the world in a benevolent and meaningful manner."

Like Dougliis, Korman holds a Master of Architecture degree from Harvard. Since 1977, he has been on Syracuse's faculty, and he has served as chair of both the undergraduate and graduate programs. In the early '80s, he established the Syracuse University School of Architecture Florence Program, which he continues to direct, and he recently launched a comparable program in London; he has also organized study programs in Austria, Great Britain and Russia. Holding other teaching positions, Korman has been a visiting faculty member at Carnegie-Mellon University, the University of Texas, Kanto Gakuin University in Yokohama, Japan, and most recently he was the Batza Distinguished Professor of Art and Art History at Colgate University. In private practice, Korman has designed several commercial, institutional and residential projects. He is currently at work on a book entitled *Reading the Facade: An Anthology of the Vertical Surface*.

Korman commented, "The Cooper Union was the defining experience of my life. It provided me with the opportunity to pursue a professional degree, to meet some of the most extraordinary teachers like John Hejduk, Robert Slutzky and Peter Eisenman and experience living in one of the most culturally rich communities in the city. Everything I've done since graduation has in one way or another had its genesis in those years at The Cooper Union."



Dr. Matthew C. Cordaro
(Ph.D. ENG/PHY'70)



Evan J. Dougliis (AR'83)



Randall H. Korman (AR'72)

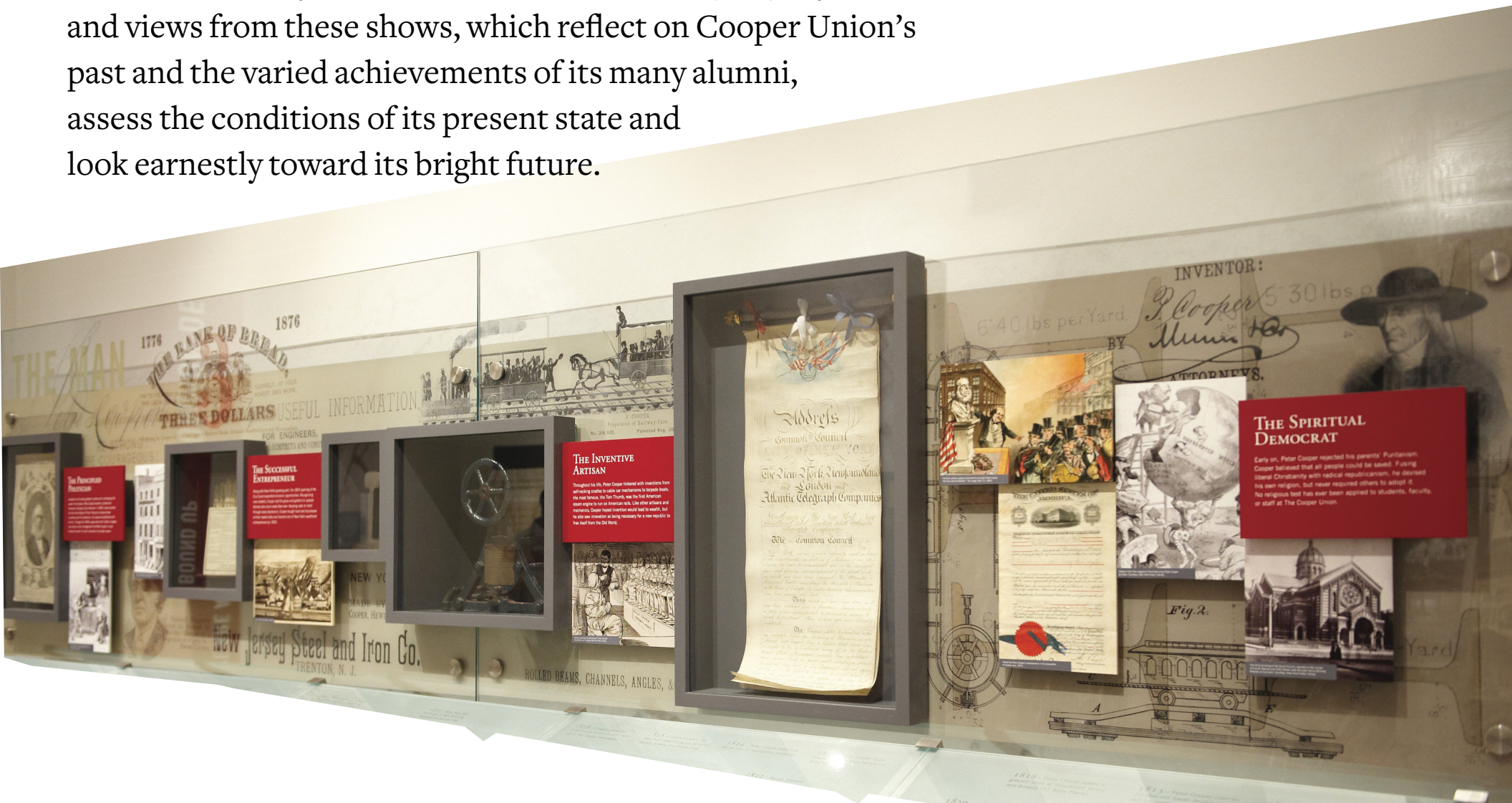
Theresa Westcott Appointed Vice President

In early September, 2009, President George Campbell Jr. announced the appointment of Theresa C. Westcott as The Cooper Union's Vice President, Finance and Administration and Treasurer effective on October 26, 2009. Ms. Westcott was previously Vice President of Finance and Administration at Polytechnic Institute of New York University. She brings to The Cooper Union invaluable experience established over many years of leadership in academic, health services and non-profit institutions. Ms. Westcott will oversee the college's finance, accounting and real estate operations, as well as facilities, security and information technology. She has a record of exemplary achievement and a background that precisely matches Cooper Union's needs in managing the business operations of the college.

Ms. Westcott succeeds Robert Hawks, who—after 19 years of distinguished service—will retire from his current position on December 31, 2009. Of his many achievements at Cooper Union, we may credit Mr. Hawks for implementing the institution's critical efforts to optimize its real estate assets, divesting several small under-producing sites and laying the groundwork for development of larger properties. These developments were important steps in rebuilding The Cooper Union's financial infrastructure to support current and future academic programs and the full tuition scholarship policy. He handled the last two lease negotiations on the Chrysler Building, and executed long-term leases with The Related Companies at 26 Astor Place and with Edward J. Minskoff Equities, Inc. at 51 Astor Place. He also managed the exterior restoration, as well as the current renovation, of the Foundation Building and oversaw the construction of 41 Cooper Square.

OPENINGS

During the months of October and November, The Cooper Union opened several major exhibitions designed and curated by alumni and faculty as part of the college's year-long 150th anniversary celebration. On the following pages you'll see pictures and views from these shows, which reflect on Cooper Union's past and the varied achievements of its many alumni, assess the conditions of its present state and look earnestly toward its bright future.



Advancing the Mission: The Cooper Union at 150

On October 24, The Cooper Union opened *Advancing the Mission: The Cooper Union at 150*, an historical exhibition commemorating the institution's 150th anniversary. The exhibition presents the story of The Cooper Union, its origins in the values adamantly held by Peter Cooper, and its historic promotion of the democratic ideals of free education, social justice, philanthropy and civic virtue. The Great Hall's centrality in advancing these ideals is emphasized in the exhibition, as are the evolutions the institution has undergone in continuing its leadership in public service. Designed pro bono by Lee H. Skolnick (AR'79) and his company, Lee H. Skolnick Architecture + Design Partnership, the exhibition is located just outside the Great Hall where it provides visitors to Cooper Union with a broad view of the institution and its place in New York City history. The exhibition was fabricated by the Foundations Group, headed by Saif Sumaida (AR'92), overseen by Harry Gaveras (AR'93) who acted as owner's representative, and received support for graphics through Trustee Mark Epstein (A'76).



Advancing the Mission Exhibition Committee

Ronni Denes
Vice President for External Affairs

Peter Buckley
Professor of History
Faculty of Humanities
and Social Sciences

David Greenstein
Director of Continuing Education
and Public Programs

Steven Hillyer (AR'90)
Director of Archives
Irwin S. Chanin School of
Architecture

Claire McCarthy, Chair
Director of Public Affairs

Carol Salomon
Librarian
Director of the Cooper Archive

Jolene Travis
Assistant Director of Public Affairs,
Media Relations

Photos: Juliana Thomas

Free as Air and Water
The School of Art at The Cooper Union
September 16 through October 27, 2009

On September 16, to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the college, the School of Art at The Cooper Union opened *Free as Air and Water*, its inaugural exhibition in 41 Cooper Gallery, an extraordinary new space in 41 Cooper Square. The exhibition takes Peter Cooper's belief that "Education should be Free as Air and Water" as a starting point. It addresses the spirit of the statement by recognizing the difference between then (1859) and now (2009). Today, air, water and land are all subordinated to the logic of privatization strongly impacting the environment. As the past few decades have witnessed how global power has systematically distributed the world's resources in unequal ways, concerns such as human rights have become increasingly tied to issues involving air, water and land. Curated by Dean Saskia Bos and Associate Dean Steven Lam, *Free as Air and Water* addresses these questions within the context of contemporary art linking a broad set of issues such as public access to resources, political ecology and governmentality within a group exhibition that features a diverse array of artistic operations and tactics. Featuring projects that are rigorous and poetic in their conceptual processes, the exhibition provides a needed density when one discusses the role of art in relation to ecology. In addition to the exhibition, two symposia were held on the topics of artistic responses to self-sustainability and climate change and art in relation to human rights and the freedom of expression.

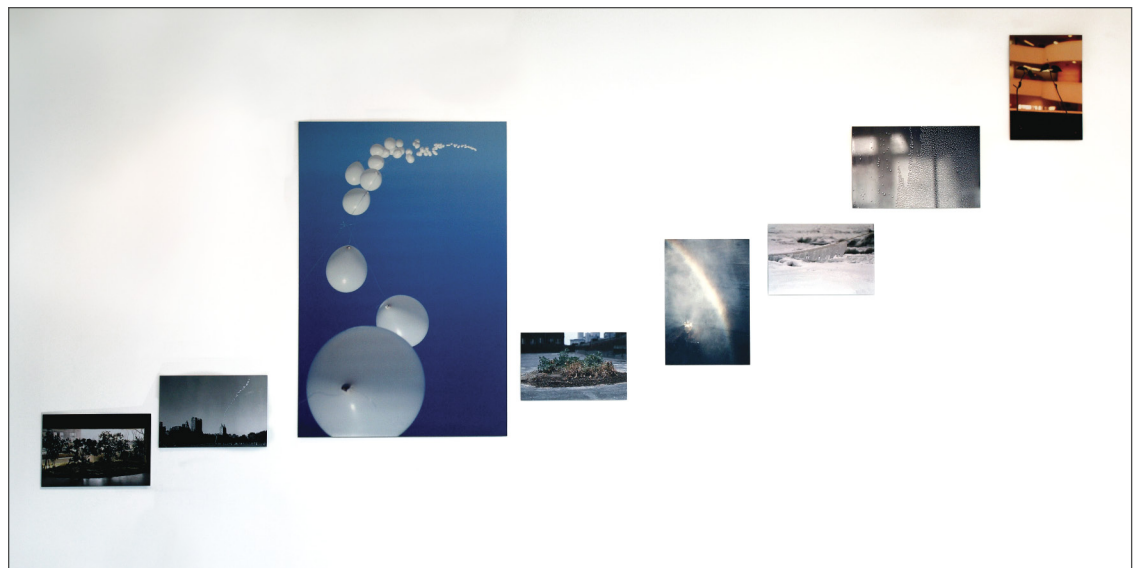
The exhibition includes the work of alumni, current and former faculty and a diverse group of contemporary artists working across media. Participating artists include Allora & Calzadilla, Amy Balkin, Robert Bordo, The Bruce High Quality Foundation (Various alumni, A'04), Ross Cisneros (A'02), Amy Franceschini and Free Soil, Andrea Geyer, Hans Haacke, Paul Ramirez Jonas, Runo Lagomarsino, Andrea Polli, Marjetica Potrč, Simon Starling, Temporary Services, Oscar Tuazon (A'99) and Lidwien Van de Ven.



Installation view of Oscar Tuazon's *Black Slab*, 2008 (center right) and *Afognak* (triptych), 2008 (center left)



Installation view of Marjetica Potrč's *Hope After Modernity: The Story of the Residents of Amsterdam's New West*, 2009



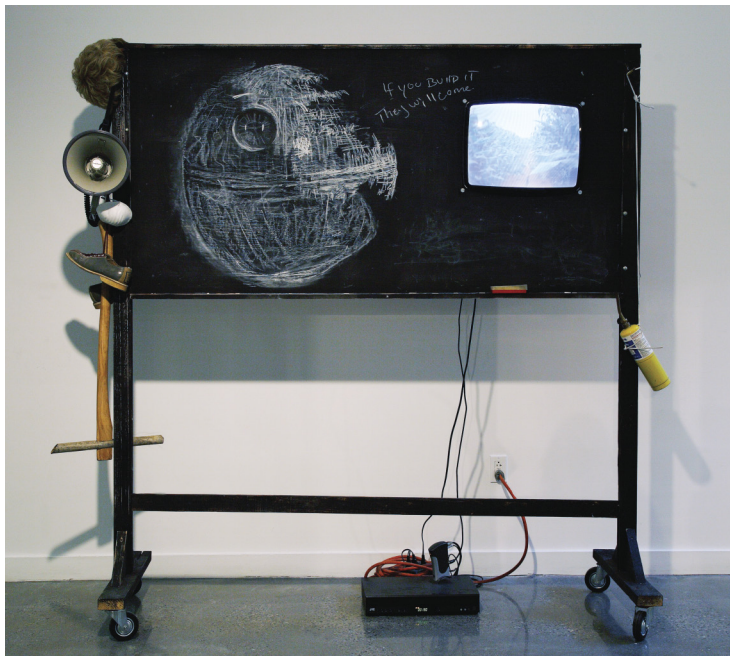
Installation view of Hans Haacke's photographs of ephemeral works from 1963 to 1971 © Hans Haacke and Artists rights society



Installation view of Simon Starling's *Trinidad Tree House*, 2001–2003 (left) and Allora & Calzadilla's *Returning A Sound*, 2004 (center)



Installation view of Ross Cisneros' *BERG*, 2008 (top) and Paul Ramirez Jonas' *Paper Moon*, 2008 (bottom)



Installation view of The Bruce High Quality Foundation's *Field of Dreams*, 2009



Installation view of Amy Franceschini's *Intentional Communities*, 2008 (left) and Free Soil's *Free Soil Reader*, 2009 (right)

Architecture at Cooper 1859-2009

October 23 through December 4, 2009

From the opening of the Foundation Building in 1859 to that of the “new” academic building at 41 Cooper Square in 2009, architecture has nurtured and supported the unique pedagogy of The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art. Reciprocally, the education of architects, from the first drawing classes of 1859 to the full five year undergraduate professional degree program and post-professional master’s program, has been informed and structured within the careful design and re-design of its buildings. The exhibition *Architecture at Cooper 1859-2009* traces the history of architecture and architectural education at The Cooper Union and examines how the evolving pedagogy of the program has been embodied and reflected in the changing architecture of the institution itself. The exhibition follows the successive transformations of Cooper Union’s architecture, from the Foundation Building, which was designed by Frederick Petersen and completed in 1859, extensively renovated by Leopold Eidlitz in the

1880’s, and transformed in 1975 by John Hejduk, to the construction of 41 Cooper Square by Thom Mayne in 2009.

The exhibition also examines how the education of architects, beginning with the first drawing classes of 1860 to the five year undergraduate professional degree program and post-professional master’s program, has been reflected in the careful design and re-design of the school’s buildings. For the first time, recently discovered blueprints of the Foundation Building from the Eidlitz reconstruction work and design phase blueprints from the Hejduk renovation are on public display. Also featured is an original, rare drawing fragment of the Foundation Building by Petersen, a digital reconstruction of the architectural evolution of the Foundation Building, as well as images of student exhibitions and publications from 1965 to the present demonstrating the development of the Chanin School’s pedagogy—which has influenced the study and teaching of architecture worldwide.



Elevation fragment of the Foundation Building by Frederick Petersen, c. 1853



1853-1881
Frederick Petersen

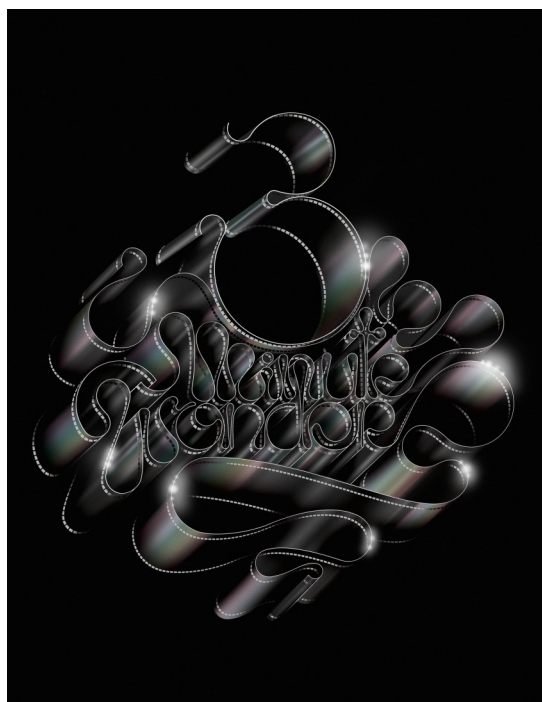
Lubalin Now

November 5 through December 8

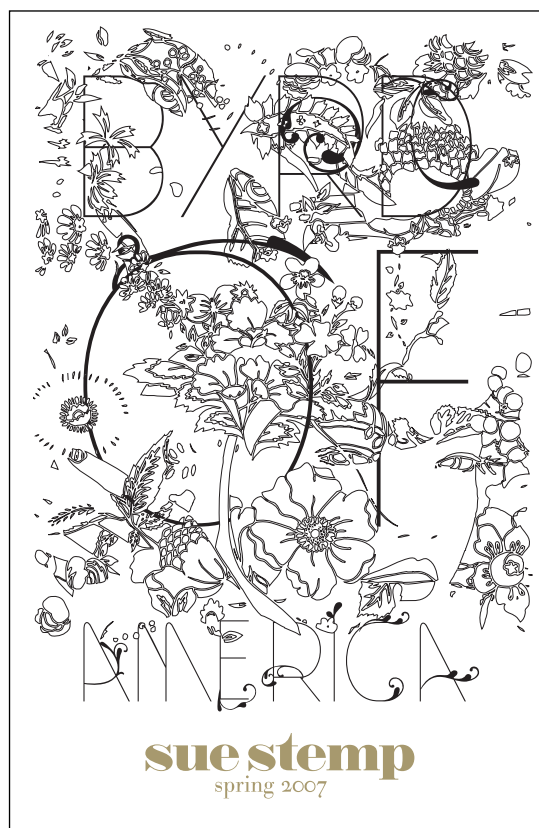
Lubalin Now is the Lubalin Center's inaugural exhibition at 41 Cooper Square, showcasing some of the best in contemporary graphic design that reflects the formal and conceptual approach of pioneering designer Herb Lubalin's work and legacy. Curated by Assistant Professor Mike Essl (A'96) and adjunct instructor Alexander Tochilovsky (A'00), the exhibition also marks the debut of The Herb Lubalin Study Center of Design & Typography in its new space, in the college's state-of-the-art academic building at 41 Cooper Square. The featured graphic artists continue to be inspired by Herb Lubalin's typefaces and visual style in their work. On view are recent posters, publications and motion graphics by internationally recog-

nized graphic designers. Original sketches, magazines, logotypes and posters selected from the Lubalin Center Archive will illuminate Lubalin's influence in design.

Artists represented in *Lubalin Now* include Marian Bantjes, Deanne Cheuk, The CW Network In-house department, Ariel Di Lisio, Marcus Eriksson, Oded Ezer, GrandArmy, Gretel, Jessica Hische, HunterGatherer, Justin Thomas Kay, Like Minded Studio, Brett MacFadden, Christopher Martinez, Non-Format, Matt Owens, Post Typography, Roberto Quiñones, Strange Attractors Design, Alex Trochut, TV Land, Rick Valicenti and Herb Lubalin.



MELROSE
PLACE



LUBALIN
NOW

Lubalin Now exhibition logo
Justin Thomas Kay



From top to bottom, left to right:

3 Minute Wonder Show
Alex Trochut
Illustration for Channel 4's
25th anniversary book.
Trochut is based in Barcelona, Spain.
www.alextruchut.com

Doyald Young Has Perfect Curves
Marian Bantjes
Bantjes is based in
Bowen Island, Canada.
www.bantjes.com

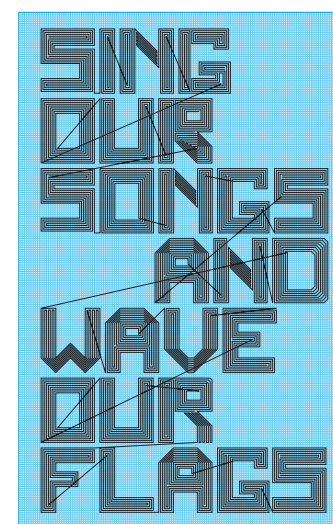
Prove Your Skills and
typeface *Movant Barks*
Roberto Quiñones
Quiñones is based in Comerio,
Puerto Rico.

Melrose Place logo
CW Network In-house department

Byrd of America
Deanne Cheuk for Sue Stemp
Cheuk is based in New York, NY.
www.deannecheuk.com

Diamonds and Cream
Justin Thomas Kay
T-shirt design for 2k by Gingham.
Kay is based in New York, NY.
www.justinthomaskay.com

Sing Our Songs
by Brett MacFadden
MacFadden is based
in San Francisco, California.
<http://www.brettmacfadden.com/>



41 Cooper Square

Ribbon Cutting

At 12:30 pm on Tuesday, September 15, a brilliantly sunny day, we hosted a ceremony in front of **41 Cooper Square** to officially dedicate The Cooper Union's amazing new academic facility. It was a glorious event, with brief speeches by college and government luminaries followed by the cutting of a bright green ribbon (in keeping with the environmental friendliness of the building) and cannons shooting confetti in the college logo's colors over the assembled crowd. Afterward, more than 100 major donors and friends enjoyed an alfresco lunch on the eighth-floor Alumni Roof Terrace, while many faculty and students joined in a festive picnic in Peter Cooper Park.

The ribbon cutting ceremony was an important milestone in the college's rich 150 year history. Segments spotlighting the event aired on WABC-Ch.7 morning news and WCBS-AM radio; an Associated Press article ran on the wire and was featured in local papers from Vermont to Pennsylvania.

State Assembly Member Deborah Glick, Vice President Bob Hawks, architect Thom Mayne, student Wallace Torres (Eng'11), President of New York City's Economic Development Corporation Seth Pinsky, President George Campbell Jr., Vice President Ronni Denes, Alumni Association President MaryAnn Nichols (A'68), Professor Richard Stock, associate architects Peter Samton and Jordan Gruzen and construction manager Frank Sciame cut the ribbon as Chairman of the Board Ron Drucker leads the count down.



Sandra Priest Rose in the front row of the auditorium she dedicated in honor of her late husband, Frederick P. Rose

Opening of the Frederick P. Rose Auditorium

On Tuesday, September 22, 2009, Trustee Sandra Priest Rose hosted an event to dedicate the Frederick P. Rose Auditorium in 41 Cooper Square. Created as an opportunity to introduce her family, friends and colleagues to The Cooper Union, the event drew more than 150 guests who enjoyed cocktails in 41 Cooper Gallery and tours throughout the building led by students, faculty members and project managers from the F.J. Sciame Construction team. President George Campbell Jr. welcomed guests and spoke about the importance of the Rose family's generous support of the college. Dean William Germano of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences talked about his wonderful experiences teaching in the auditorium. Mrs. Rose's son Jonathan Rose, whose firm served as Cooper Union's owner's representatives during construction, spoke poignantly about the meaning of naming this special space for his late father. To commemorate the moment, President Campbell presented Mrs. Rose with a signed copy of 41 Cooper Square architect Thom Mayne's book, *Morphosis: Volume IV (Morphosis; Buildings and Projects)*.

If you're interested in naming a seat in the Rose Auditorium, contact Claire Michie at 212.353.4171 or michie@cooper.edu.



Arnold Adler



Leo Sorel

Chair-elect and Trustee Mark Epstein (A'76) with Mary Schmidt Campbell, wife of President Campbell and dean of the Tisch School of the Art and Dean Saskia Bos lunch on the Alumni Roof Terrace.



Leo Sorel

Below/far below: Opening of the Alumni Roof Terrace



Juliana Thomas

Alumni Roof Terrace

On Saturday, September 12 more than 250 alumni and guests raised a champagne toast to open the Alumni Roof Terrace on the eight floor of The Cooper Union's latest facility, 41 Cooper Square. The Alumni Roof Terrace is a special place in the new building which honors The Cooper Union's alumni and supporters, both past and present. To date, 500 names are engraved on the Alumni Roof Terrace, raising more than \$2.175 million for the Building Fund. With room for 150 more alumni names on the terrace, we have officially reopened the opportunity to secure a place in Cooper Union history—if you'd like to join your fellow alumni and have your name inscribed on the Alumni Roof Terrace please contact Claire Michie at 212.353.4171 or michie@cooper.edu.



Juliana Thomas



Juliana Thomas

Left: Alumni Relations Director Susan Lynch, Alumni Association President MaryAnn Nichols (A'68), Vice President Ronni Denes and Design Center Director and Alumni Roof Terrace Campaign Co-Chair Mindy Lang (A'82)

Thea Kluge Rossi (A'04) on Cooper Union's New Web Site

This fall, several months after revealing a new 150th anniversary logo, The Cooper Union launched the first phase of a long-awaited new web site. As a Cooper alum, I was honored when the college approached me to lead the redesign. To support this endeavor, I brought on two talented partners, the first specializing in systems architecture and programming and the second in page template builds.

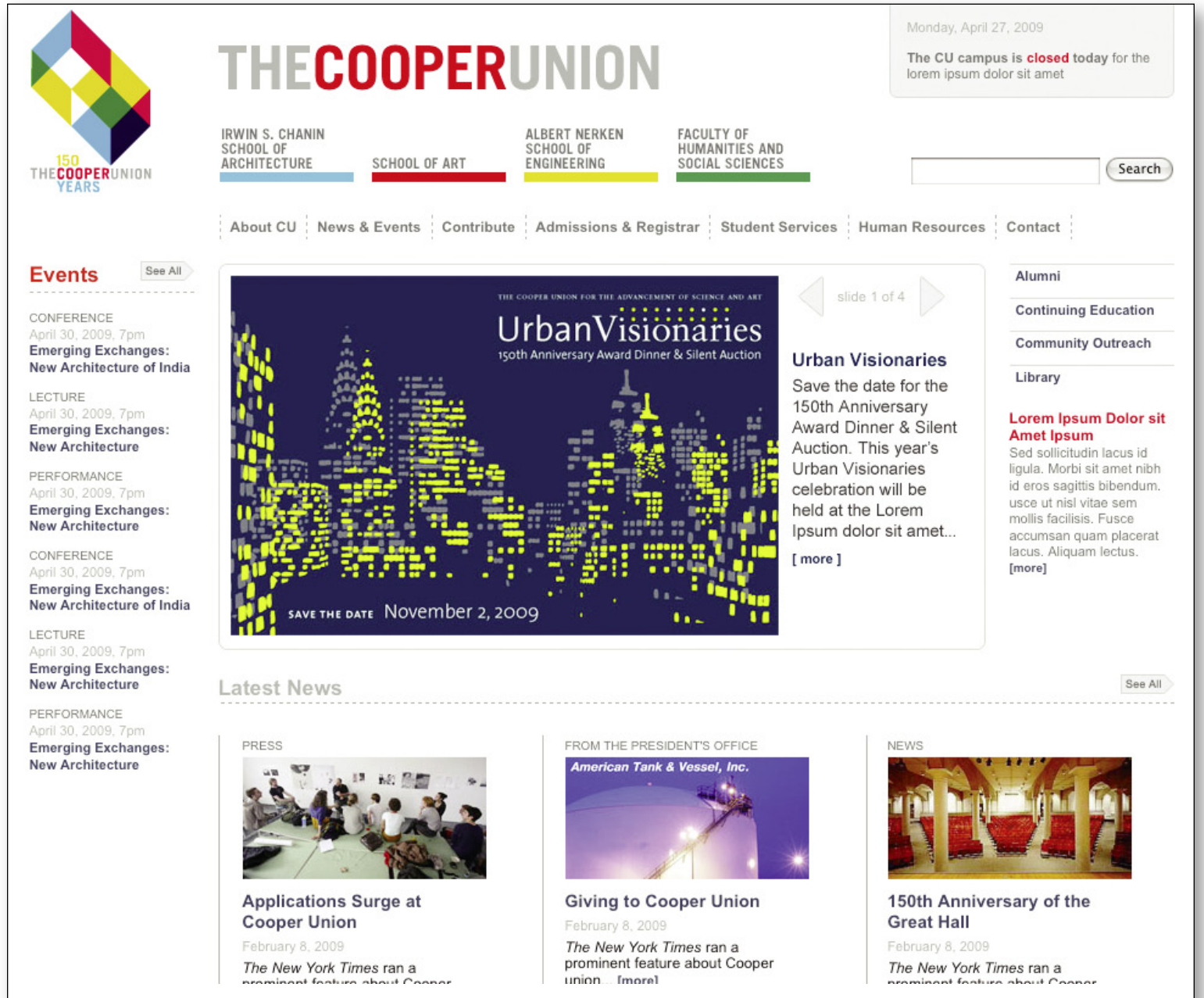
Originally built in the late '90s, the existing Cooper Union web site had not evolved dramatically. Updates and news posting required manual page builds and labor-intensive coding. Unavoidably, the site took on an outdated look and inevitable inconsistencies. As an art director and information architect, I was excited to help reduce administrative workload and, more importantly, facilitate the timely posting of news, events and other important information.

Even in our first phase, the new site allows multiple users from within the institution to submit and edit content simultaneously, with varying publishing privileges. These college-wide contributions will ultimately help the web site reach its full potential later next year, when we roll out phase two and include redesigned sections for the four academic divisions: art, architecture, engineering and humanities. For phase one, these sections of the site will remain as-is within the new site's redesigned framework. I have worked professionally with The Cooper Union in the past, but this new web site is by far my largest project with the college. It has been fantastic to work with the administration and the Center for Design and Typography. My design team and I enthusiastically await the next stage in the project and the subsequent feedback!

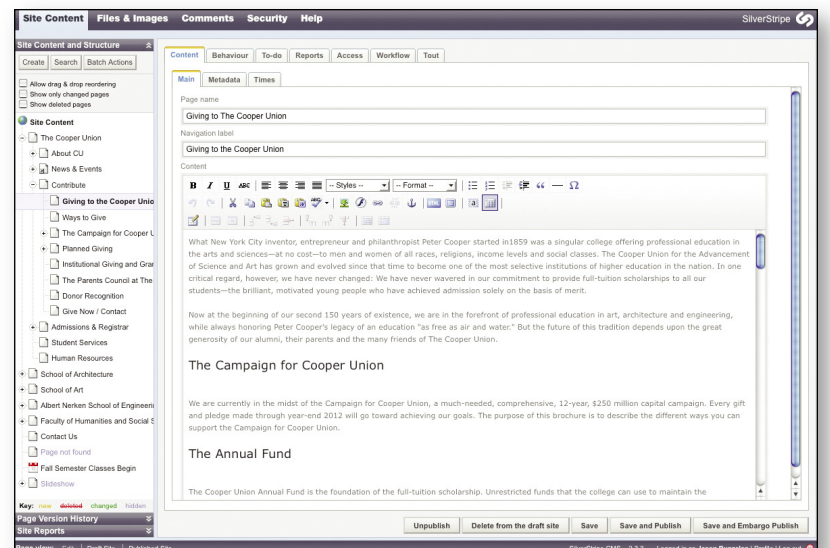


Will Starr

Thea Kluge Rossi



Early design mock-up for new Cooper Union website



View of content management system driving the new Cooper Union website

Alumni Association President's Column

**MaryAnn Nichols
A'68**



Dear Friends,

This past year will long be remembered, by each of us, for reasons both shared and personal. Our community, too, will long remember it as an important year for Cooper Union. I'm honored to be President of the Alumni Association during this exciting chapter of our shared history.

The recent opening of our new academic building at 41 Cooper Square has received much press. Opening a magazine or newspaper and seeing photographs of Cooper Union is a wonderful feeling.

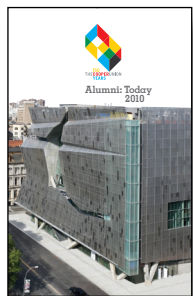
I have always been proud to have graduated from Cooper. A good friend, and fellow grad, smilingly told me that when people find out that he's a Cooper grad, the universal response is "you must be smart." Friends, our reputation precedes us. And I'm proud to be part of this amazing group.

We may not all know each other by name, but our collective work has touched each of our lives in many ways. Our fellow graduates are leaders, celebrities in their fields, who have created, designed and patented work that is both familiar and special. Art that inspires us. Items we use daily. Buildings we treasure. I encourage you to visit our new Great Hall Exhibition designed by Lee Skolnick (AR'79) just outside the Great Hall. This exhibit presents the origins of Cooper Union and encapsulates the Great Hall's role in advancing Peter Cooper's values in the promotion of the democratic ideals of free education, social justice and civic virtue. While there, please visit our new Alumni Hall of Fame, which is a work in progress, with room for many more talented alumni names to come.

On behalf of an incredibly energetic Executive Committee, Alumni Council and Alumni Relations office, I ask for your help in reaching out to your fellow alumni. Please help us engage and enlarge our base. If you're reading this, you're already in the loop. I invite you to please stay in touch and let us know what you are up to. Going forward, we promise to be more interactive, more cooperative, and more proactive, by acting on your suggestions for events and alumni to honor.

Thank you. I look forward to seeing you at upcoming events.

MaryAnn Nichols (A'68)



2010 Alumni Directory

The Cooper Union, in partnership with publisher Harris Connect LLC, will release the new directory "The Cooper Union Alumni: Today 2010" in early winter. This publication will feature accurate and up to date contact and personal information provided by alumni who volunteered it to the publisher, as well as brief biographical sketches and photos. A useful reference for finding Cooper Union class members and friends and for networking, the 6 x 9" directory is available for purchase in two editions (softbound or hardbound) and as a CD-ROM edition (PC/Mac compatible). Contact Harris Connect at 800.877.6554 to purchase your copy now!

Alumni News



Jake Alspector (AR'72) and Carl Meinhardt (AR'62) try out the Alumni Hall of Fame touchscreen feature.

Alumni Hall of Fame Part of New Great Hall Exhibition

Established by The Cooper Union Alumni Association and dedicated during the Founder's Day Dinner Dance on April 17, 2009, the Alumni Hall of Fame is now on two touch screens as part of *Advancing the Mission: The Cooper Union at 150* and will soon be on the Cooper Union website for all to see!

The Alumni Hall of Fame includes all alumni who have received the Augustus Saint Gaudens, John Q. Hejduk and Gano Dunn awards, the President's Citation, or who have been recognized by the college as Urban Visionaries. Additionally, the deans of each school selected distinguished alumni who, because they were deceased before the awards were created, are included in the Alumni Hall of Fame. The Alumni Hall of Fame will be updated annually.

Alumni Reconnect at the All Cooper ReUnion

More than 600 alumni and guests returned to Cooper Union on Saturday, October 24 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the institution and to experience the exciting changes taking place around the focal point for this first ever all-class reunion in 41 Cooper Square. Alumni traveled from 25 states and their class years spanned 1942 to 2009.

Chair of The Cooper Union Board of Trustees Dr. Ronald Drucker (CE'62) opened the festivities in The Great Hall by extending greetings. President of The Cooper Union Alumni Association MaryAnn Nichols (A'68) welcomed everyone, offering a salute to Peter Cooper “whose gift keeps on giving” and pointing to 41 Cooper Square as his legacy.

On view was the new Great Hall Exhibition, designed by Lee H. Skolnick FAIA (AR'79), which includes the new Alumni Hall of Fame on two touch screens. Vice President for External Affairs Ronni Denes introduced Mr. Skolnick who described how he was motivated to create an entry point to the Great Hall as well as provide an engaging historical display about Peter Cooper, The Cooper Union and the Great Hall. Peter Buckley, Professor of History, spoke about Peter Cooper and The Great Hall.

To experience Cooper Union today, alumni selected from a variety of tours of the buildings and the current exhibitions *Free as Air and Water* in the new 41 Cooper Gallery and *Architecture at Cooper 1859-2009* in the Arthur A. Houghton Jr. Gallery. Current students discussed the new features of their respective laboratories. Fifty-five alumni returned to the classroom by participating in a workshop entitled “Drawing On...” with Professor Sue Ferguson Gussow (A'56).

Later in the day, President George Campbell Jr. welcomed everyone, introducing descendants of the Cooper and Hewitt families who had gathered as part of the festivities. He introduced Janet Gardner (A'65), Producer/Director of the new documentary film, *Mechanic to Millionaire: The Peter Cooper Story*, who thanked her many supporters and discussed the various aspects of the project, before screening the film.

A cocktail reception and class reunions by decade took place throughout the building during the evening. Sixty Class Representatives who had helped organize the reunions were on hand to greet and host alumni in their respective “classrooms” where they shared photos and other remembrances from their years at Cooper Union.

Capping the day's activities, DJ Richard Lo (CE'10) spun tunes from six decades in the Lisa Ware and Ronald W. Drucker CE'62 Chairman's Lounge at the top of the grand staircase while alumni, guests, and the rest of the Cooper Union community danced the night away.

Many thanks to the All Cooper ReUnion planning committee, Class Representatives, and members of the Cooper Union community for helping to showcase the school at 150. And special thanks to all those who attended this memorable event!



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1. Lee Skolnick (AR'79) discusses his vision for *Advancing the Mission*.

2. Mark Proudfoot (ChE'80) and Gustave Rothmaler (ME'49) observe the Great Hall Exhibition.

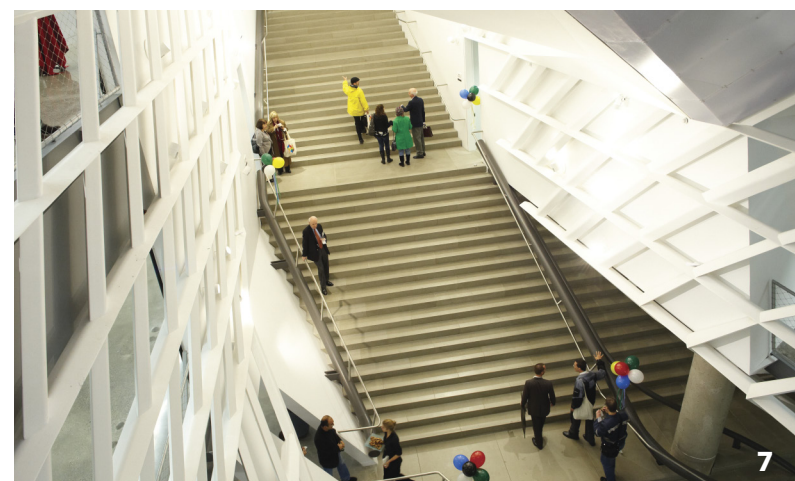
3. An alumnus visits *Architecture at Cooper 1859-2009* Exhibition.

4. Robert Tan (AR'80) and John Huddy (AR'85) discuss the architecture exhibition.

5. Francisco Bello (A'02) and Daniel Lagin (A'02) check out the engineering labs.

6. Associate Dean of The School of Art Steven Lam guides alumni through the *Free As Air and Water* exhibition.

7. Alumni explore 41 Cooper Square.



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Photos: Juliana Thomas

8. Professor Sue Ferguson Gussow (A'56) leads her workshop "Drawing On..." with enthusiastic students.
9. Deborah Ferrer (AR'11) admires the artwork produced by alumni in Professor Gussow's workshop.
10. The final products of the workshop
11. President George Campbell greets alumni and guests in The Great Hall before the screening of Janet Gardner's (A'65) documentary *Mechanic to Millionaire: The Peter Cooper Story*.
12. Lynne (BSE'82) and Stephen Verderese (EE'84), Associate Dean of Students Stephen Baker, Beatrice Popoiu (AR'99) and guest Sandu Calinescu
13. Janet Gardner (A'65)
14. Ling-Wei Chang (EE'82), Mary Lynch (ChE'82), Christopher Moog (ME'82) and Michael Firriolo (ME'82) enjoy cocktails.
15. DJ Richard Lo (CE'10) spins the tunes through the decades.

Regional Events

Alumni in three regions outside New York participated in the All Cooper ReUnion by organizing parallel events on October 24. In Chicago, Zev Salomon (AR'01) organized a get-together attended by seven alumni and their guests. In Houston, John Sobchak (ChE'82) and Joshua Feinstein (ME'93) arranged a gathering attended by eleven alumni and their guests. And finally, in San Francisco, Hsu-Wei Shueh (EE'90) hosted a gathering attended by five alumni and their guests.



Houston

All Cooper ReUnion in Houston: (l to r) Christopher Geisner (ChE'03/MChE'06), William Hyman (ME'65), David Saletan (ChE'47), Anthony Catalano (ChE'77), Joshua Feinstein (ME'93), Kate Geisner (CE'05) and son, Walter Peters (ChE'62), John Sobchak (ChE'82), Sonia Guwalani (ChE'07), Bertil Quarfordt (ChE'62) and Arthur Klavan (CE'69)



San Francisco

All Cooper ReUnion in San Francisco: John Chih (EE'90), Hoda Mirafzal (ChE'06), Hsu-Wei Shueh (EE'90), Steve Taylor (EE/Phy'76)



Chicago

Chicago area alumni and guests held their own All Cooper ReUnion on October 24. (l to r): Barnaby Wauters (AR'92), Farid Moslehi, Homa Shojaie (AR'91), Zev Salomon (AR'01), Brandy Severe, Michal Raz Russo (AR'01), Firat Erdim (AR'01), Olivia Valentine (AR'02), Felicia Zusman (BSE'98), Imtiaz Musaliar



Class Reunion 1994

Members of the Class of 1994 held a reunion to celebrate their 15th year anniversary on Saturday, May 30, 2009, just a week before alumni from the Classes of 1999 and 2000 gathered on June 6, 2009 to reminisce and celebrate their own 10th anniversaries since graduating from The Cooper Union. The reunions both began with guided tours of the new academic building at 41 Cooper Square (then still under construction). After the tours, the classes lunched at the nearby restaurants. The Class of 1999 and 2000 raised \$752 towards their class gift, while the Class of 1994 raised \$220. Thanks to Suet Yee Huang (CE'94) and Athena Caramichael DeNivo (CE'94) for helping organize their class' event!

Pioneer Profile

Paul Strassmann CE'53

Paul Strassmann has spent his life making intangible concepts tangible. “I’m an engineer,” he explains. “We look at facts and we measure things.”

His rigorous thinking and insistence upon exposing facts, which have been validated through repeatable experiments, have allowed him to measure the worth of ideas. Power, for instance, can be measured in computers. “Computers are what I call a ‘bureaucratic multiplier,’” he explains. “They’re a vehicle that bureaucracies love because they can use them to increase their power over people.” Knowledge, too, can be benchmarked. There is a simple formula that organizations can use, which not only shows that knowledge can be measured, but that it can be measured in dollars and cents.

That said, Strassmann also knows how people can complicate any equation.

Take, for example, something as seemingly simple as getting into college. In 1949, Strassmann, who had recently emigrated from Czechoslovakia, was penniless. Not only that, but he spoke very little English and had no high school diploma—he had spent the better part of his teenage years in his native country as a guerrilla soldier fighting against the Nazis during World War II; going to college should have been impossible. But the admissions officer at The Cooper Union at the time, Dr. Watson, changed that.

Watson, who was a statistician, liked to predict the potential success rate of students based on their SAT scores; to give his sample validity, he also needed people without qualifications. Watson offered to pay for Strassmann’s SATs, and told him to apply to The Cooper Union. As expected, he did poorly on the English section of the SATS. But, he scored a perfect 800 on the math and spatial sections. Initially he was rejected, but when someone had dropped out, the place was his.

Given this opportunity, Strassmann worked hard and achieved a lot. “As an orphan, coming from Europe right after the war,” he explains, with only the slightest of accents to give away his background, “I could only go up.” He graduated as a member of the honorary engineering fraternity Tau Beta Pi and with a degree in civil engineering. “At graduation,” says Strassmann, “Watson came up to me and said, ‘Strassmann, you really fouled up my claim that I can predict success!’”

Interestingly, Strassmann went on to a career that was also based on using facts to quantify the woolly words of the soft sciences, like politics and knowledge.

He worked summers for a company as an analyst of punch cards for the New Jersey Turnpike, which is how he got into computers. “I had no idea about computers—this was 1953!—but as long as it was paying well, it was helpful because I was courting a girl from Cooper Union named Mona and I needed money to get married. I’ve been happily married to her for 56 years, and we have four children and seven grandchildren.” After Cooper, he had a career in computers, most notably becoming the Chief Information Officer at Xerox in 1969. He noticed that while Xerox was spending a great deal of money on computers as a substitute for workers, this did not necessarily increase productivity. He started to think about what actually drives productivity, and came up with the concept of knowledge capital.



Paul (Cooper Union, May 1953) giving his late mother's ring to Mona Frankel (A'54) in September 1953. Mona was not surprised although she pretended otherwise.

Companies invest in their employees through training and development because they hope to see a return on this investment, as staff use this knowledge to improve their ability to do their work. Knowledge capital is the ratio between the company’s investment in the value-added by employees to the costs of that investment.

This concept allowed Strassmann to analyze productivity for companies in need of restructuring and streamlining. After retiring from Xerox in 1985, he set up a consultancy to do just this, which brought him to the attention of the Pentagon, which in 1989 was looking to cut \$75 billion after the collapse of the Soviet Union. They hired him as their Director of Defense Information, with target savings of \$35 billion in administrative costs. After leaving the Department of Defense, he received a call from Sean O’Keefe, a colleague at the Department of Defense. While their relationship had not been without conflict, when O’Keefe, now the NASA Administrator, needed someone to make the organization more efficient, he knew who to call. He was also prepared for Strassmann. Knowing that Strassmann wanted to retire, he made him a bet. “If I can get you hired by five today, will you take the job?” O’Keefe asked Strassmann. No stranger to the bureaucracies of government organizations, Strassmann felt it was a safe gamble and accepted the wager. By the end of the day, Strassmann was NASA’s new Chief Information Officer.

When he speaks about the development of the idea of knowledge capital, Strassmann comes back to his years at The Cooper Union. “My real education came in a second year physics lab,” he recalls. “I had a professor of physics by the name of Merritt.” In this class, Merritt expected his students to be able to prove everything themselves, even the basic laws of physics that everyone else takes for granted. “Merritt said to us, ‘Imagine you are in a pre-Newtonian environment. You know nothing about gravity or anything else. In this course, you are going to invent physics.’” Strassmann pauses and laughs. “And the physics lab,” he continues, “consisted of repeating Galileo’s experiments. We started by dropping balls. That was my analytic education. I owe much of my thinking to The Cooper Union and to Professor Merritt.”

Now 81 years old, Strassmann is still hard at work. His consultancy is going strong and he continues to add to the list of 18 books and over 300 articles that he has authored, mostly on the subject of information systems, though in 2006 he wrote a book called *Paul’s War*, about his experiences in the Czech resistance movement during World War II. He continues teaching as the Distinguished Professor of Information Sciences at the George Mason University.

His incredibly successful career has been recognized with some of the highest honors possible. Just this year, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from George Mason University; previous awards include the NASA Exceptional Service Medal (2003), and the Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service, the Department of Defense’s highest civilian award (1993).



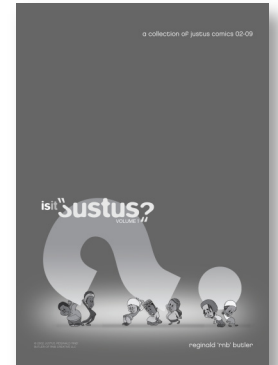
Published Pioneers

***IsItJustus?* Vol.1**

Reginald Butler A'03

Lulu.com, Paperback, 52 pages

Reginald's famous comic strip explores the social and political issues of the world through the innocent eyes of children.

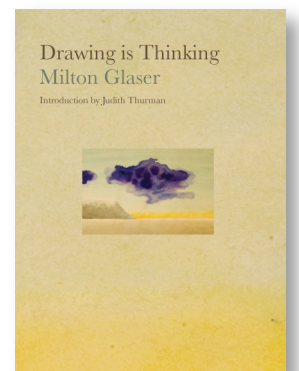


Drawing Is Thinking

Milton Glaser A'51

Overlook, 2008, 208 pages.

The man whose design has influenced the world for over 50 years shares personal insights on the idea that art and creativity stem from drawing.

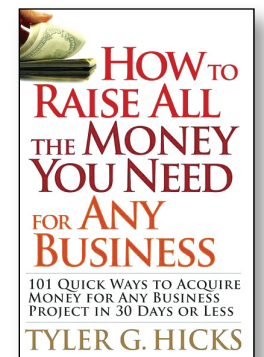


How to Raise All the Money You Need for Any Business: 101 Quick Ways to Acquire Money for Any Business Project in 30 Days or Less

Tyler G. Hicks ME'48

John Wiley & Sons, 225 pages.

A 2008 publication about wealth building from an expert. Mr. Hicks' engineering books remain the industry standard and have been translated into many languages.



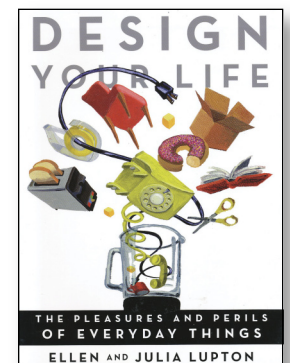
Design Your Life: The Pleasure and Perils of Everyday Things

Ellen Lupton A'85 (and Julia Lupton)

St. Martin's Griffin, 2009,

192 pages, color plates.

Leading design thinker, prolific writer and educator, Ellen and her twin sister Julia treat readers to thoughtful and irreverent ideas of how we live (and cope) with the objects around us.



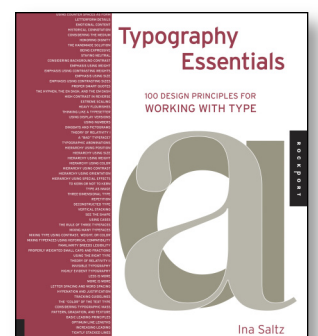
Typography Essentials: 100 Design Principals for Working with Type

Ina Saltz A'72

Rockport Publishers, 208 pages.

Color plates.

Leading editorial design director Ina Saltz provides the essentials of type design that are critical to the success of any job.





THE COOPER UNION
SHOP

ONLINE
IN PERSON

cualumni.com

The Cooper Union Alumni Association
30 Cooper Square, 8th Floor, NYC

STORE HOURS
Monday through Friday
9 to 4:45 pm
212.353.4100

Cooper Union Hoodie \$15

Black with Logo
100% Black cotton pullover
drawstring hood, front pocket
SM-XL



Cooper Union Sweat Pants \$35

Unisex, Black poly/cotton blend
Drawstring waist, pockets
"The Cooper Union" screenprint
SM-XL

Cooper Union ladies T-shirt \$15

Hanes for Her 100% stretch cotton
V-neck, cap sleeve
Black with Logo on hip
SM-XL

Cooper Union grey T-shirt \$15

Unisex, grey crew neck with Logo
Champion 100% cotton
SM-XL



Umbrella \$20

Traditional full size black with
repeating Logo pattern on lining
Click to open, pull to close, Velcro
ties; boxed shipped

Cooper Union Cap \$20

100% black cotton, one size
elastic back
Logo front & back

Cooper Union Tote Bag \$35

Unbleached 18oz canvas,
black gusset and handles
Tote or shoulder bag, top zipper,
front pocket

The Winds of Change

Juan J. Permuy, EE'70

Dotting the 21st century landscape of rural America are windmills of the kind not found in Don Quixote's La Mancha. They are not jostled by chivalrous characters of the 17th century; instead these "giants" are used to tilt the dependency of 20th century fossil fuel in favor of clean, renewable energy capitalized by the surge of state and federal legislation that is encouraging such development.

Growing at the rate of 30-percent annually, wind power has a worldwide installed capacity of over 120,000 megawatts (MW) as of 2008. U.S. wind power has achieved two milestones during 2008 when the annual installed capacity reached 35-percent of the nation's new power producing capacity, second only to natural gas. And, the U.S. grew to become number one in the international market, with 5,244 MW in 2007, according to the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA). The expectations for 2008 were for an increase to 7,500 MW, in spite of tightening financing. By 2018 the wind industry is expected to grow to a size capable of producing 16,000 MW per year.

I recently completed my involvement in the Wethersfield Wind Park, one of the largest in the Northeast, located in the vicinity of Lake Erie in upstate New York's Buffalo area, with a generating capability of 126 MW and an installed cost of approximately \$120 million. The project encompassed eighty-four wind-driven generator towers (with a 2-MW turbine at a typical height of 300 feet) with hundreds of miles of underground circuits carrying electricity at 34,500 volts to a main substation where it is then stepped up to 230,000 volts. The power was carried via overhead transmission lines from the substation to the switchyard, which serves as the distribution and connection point to the existing New York State transmission grid that in turn brings this electricity to homes and industry. It may sound simple, but it's not.

A wind park is a power generating station located outdoors as opposed to a fossil, nuclear, hydroelectric or cogeneration one, in which the primary equipment is located indoors. All the components of the wind park facility are installed over a large open area necessitating a great deal of coordination and effort to achieve a successful outcome.

The generator wind towers are located on leased land requiring site acquisition, leasing personnel and attorneys, to procure the rights to erect the towers and their components on the selected land sites, together with the necessary rights of way to have access for maintenance tasks.

My project responsibilities as Senior Construction Project Manager included the supervision, commissioning and construction of the substation collecting the energy produced by the generator turbines and the switchyard—not to mention monitoring the progress in all the major components of the project, together with technical guidance and supervision of the daily activities of the contractors.

My workday in a nutshell encompassed activities involved in safety and progress report meetings with contractors, subcontractors and owner upper management personnel; project schedule review meetings with the owner, project manager, project scheduler and project management personnel, together with the monitoring and review of the daily work in progress.

As the construction phase was nearing completion, I began preparation for the commissioning phase, which required the checking-out of every component of the substation, switchyard and control rooms, as well as involvement of the New York State Power Utility. This was essential prior to connection with the existing power grid.

For the United States to meet its growth projection, regional transmission authorities are to explore new strategies to meet the demand for wind power. Our national security strategy to achieve energy independence and the global strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions depends in part on achieving a 20-percent national energy yield from wind energy by 2030.

Below are progress photographs taken from May to December 2008, documenting the construction of the Wethersfield Wind Park in upstate New York. Pictured are some of the various components of the wind park, including generator towers (top), the erection of A-Frames (middle left) which carry the lines that move electricity between the substation and transmission line, the park's substation control room (middle right) and the central 34,500 volt disconnect switches (bottom left) which feed the step-up transformer (bottom right).





Marriages

Felicia Zusman (BSE'98) and **Imtiaz Musaliar** were married on July 19, 2009. The wedding took place at Architectural Artifacts in Chicago, Illinois where the couple lives. Alumni attending the wedding were **Sanjeevane (Joshi) Vidwans** (CE'98), **Stacey Bhaerman** (ChE'99), **Jeff Regen** (ME'98), **Larissa Chen-Hoerning** (BSE'98), **Tim Hoerning** (EE'96/MEE'97), **Rocco Cetera** (CE'99), **Xenia Diente** (A'99), **Dr. Gabriel Loh** (EE'98), **Marc Colello** (ChE'97), **Kate MacArevey-Colello** (ME'97), **Kevin Mackie** (CE'99) and **Mike Dominelli** (CE'98/MCE'00). **Thomas Larrabee** (ChE'01) and Ms. Carolyn M. Fenton J.D. were married on June 22, 2008 at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in State College, Pennsylvania. The couple is living in State College, Pennsylvania.

20s, 30s, 40s

Sylvia K. Corwin (A'44) see **Darvin** (A'50). **Clemens Kalischer** (A'47) has a traveling retrospective of photographs titled *Displaced Persons*, that was shown in Cologne, Germany during 2009. **Gloria Benedetti Seneres** (A'48) exhibited paintings in group exhibitions at the Santa Cruz Mountains Art Center in Ben Lomond, California from May-July, 2009. **Tyler G. Hicks** (ME'48) (see *Published Pioneers*). **William King** (A'48) participated in *Wiser Than God*, about artists born before 1927 and still living and working. The exhibit was held at BLT Gallery May 27 through August 2, 2009 in New York City. **Alex Katz** (A'49) was profiled in *Smithsonian* magazine, August 2009. **Elaine Brodsky Slotkin** (A'49) has created seven annual Holocaust remembrance exhibitions for the Bayonne City Hall in Bayonne, New Jersey.



John Ross (A'48) and wife **Clare Romano-Ross** (A'43)



Richard Boland (A'57), **Florence Boland** (A'58), **Carole Chesek** (A'55), **Joane and John T. O'Connor** (CE'55), **Lucille Chomowicz** (A'54) and **Fred Chomowicz**

50s

Professor **Renee Darvin** (A'50) received the 2008 Higher Education Supervisory Award from New York City Columbia Art Teachers Association/UFT. The award honors her distinguished work training art teachers for New York City public schools. Renee was nominated for the award by Professor **Sylvia K. Corwin** (A'44). **Zen Eidel** (A'50) exhibited painting and sculpture in the juried exhibition *Artists in 10510* held July 2009, in Briarcliff Manor, New York. **Audrey Flack** (A'51) donated her papers to the Smithsonian Archives of American Art. The collection traces her career as an abstract expressionist and pioneering photorealist to figurative sculptor. **Marilyn Henrion's** (A'52) quilt art was included in two invitations during the summer of 2009. Her work was exhibited at the Berkeley Campus Art Gallery Midtown Campus, New York City during September and included in the *Full Spectrum: Quilts & Textile Arts* exhibition held at the Binghamton University Art Museum, September through December 2009. **Frank D. Hutchinson III** (CE'53) received a 2009 Distinguished Service Award from the National Council of Examiners of Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). Frank worked to develop NCEES professional exams including the first Environmental P.E. exam. **Mitchell Sackson** (EE'54) says he was influenced by the School of Art and, now retired, creates stained glass artwork. Professor **Lance Jay Brown** (AR'65) was a speaker at the AIANY Convention held in San Francisco, April 29 through May 2,

Cooper Union Graduate Keeps Country Safe from Botox

Engineering alumnus **Phil Messina** (ChE'43) played an important role during the 1950s in keeping Baltimore residents safe from a deadly chemical being produced in a once secret Army weapons lab there. Messina came to the lab as a young ex-soldier with a degree in chemical engineering from The Cooper Union, and was charged to create a safe environment for the production of botulinum toxin—a substance being made for weapons-grade deployment against similar threats being developed by the Soviet Union. Messina met the challenge with great care and commitment, and to this day can be credited for a record of zero cases of toxic wastes spills or afflicted persons inside or out of the plant. Botulin production was eventually abandoned by the Army due to its inefficacy in open-air deployment—but, in a strange twist of history, was later redeveloped as a medical agent and reemerged popularly on the market as Botox, which today pulls in \$1.3 billion in annual sales for its use in cosmetic applications.



Bertil Quarfordt (ChE'62) and **Walter Peters** (ChE'62) meet after 47 years at the Houston All Cooper ReUnion.

2009. **Donald Rapp's** (ChE'55) latest book, *Bubbles, Booms and Busts: The Rise and Fall of Financial Assets*, was published by Springer in 2009. **Ricardo Scofidio** (AR'55) was elected a Fellow of The American Academy of Arts & Sciences in 2009 (see *Diller* AR'79).

60s

Paul C. Matthews's (A'60) paintings were in a group exhibition at Wigmore Fine Art gallery in New York City and received mention in *ARTnews*, May 2009. **Lawrence Seidman** (EE'61) was ordained as a rabbi in May 2009. His website is www.rationalrabbi.com. **Caroline Waloski** (A'62) exhibited artwork in *Book Review*, a show of hand made books at The Floyd Memorial Library and at the Siren's Song Gallery during the summer of 2009. **John Clarke** (AR'66) of Clarke Caton Hintz, created garage facilities for Yankee Stadium that will function as recreation and park facilities for the surrounding community. Illustrator **Bruce Degen** (A'66) shared his children's book illustrations at a recent book signing held at the Siren's Song Gallery in New York City. Alumni Trustee **Ed Feiner** (AR'69) became principal at architecture firm Perkins+Will in Washington D.C.



Vice Chairman **Mark Epstein** (A'76) and Alumni Trustee and Class Rep **Don Blauweiss** (A'61)

70s

Dr. Matthew C. Cordaro (Ph.D. ENG/PHY'70) was appointed the Dean of Dowling College's Townsend School of Business in Oakdale, New York. **Daniel Libeskind** (AR'70) and Studio Daniel Libeskind (SDL) created urban residential towers in Poland and Israel. SDL received mentions in *The Independent*, *archiCentral* and *The New York Times* regarding Libeskind's prefab residences. SDL was selected to redesign the downtown riverfront in the international business district of Seoul, South Korea. **Jacob Alsector** (AR'72) and Alsector Architecture LLP's design-build Utah Valley University Library has won four awards since completion in September 2008, including a



Rebecca Taub (A'72) and **Susan Spiegel-Solovay** (A'74)

2008 Higher Education Project Merit Award. Professor of Architecture **Randall Korman** (AR'72) was named Associate Dean at the Syracuse University School of Architecture in August 2009. **Robert Feintuch** (A'74) received a 2008-2009 Guggenheim Fellowship. **Philip Taaffe** (A'77) exhibited paintings at the James Graham & Sons gallery in New York City, June through August 2009. **Alexander Gorlin's** (AR'78) creation of an ocean front beach house in the Hamptons was profiled on www.ArchitecturalDigest.com. **Elizabeth Diller** (AR'79) and Diller Scofidio + Renfro received a 2009 Diamond Award from the American Council on Engineering Companies of New York for The High Line Project. The firm will design the new Museum of Image and Sound on Copacabana beach, formerly the site of the famous nightclub in Rio de Janeiro. **Randy Klinger** (A'78) is the Director of the new Moray Art Centre in Findhorn, Scotland. He taught for 15 years at Findhorn in a



Susie (front left) and John Sobchak (ChE'82) (second from left), CFO, joined the CEO of KMG Chemicals, Inc. and their bankers and stock holders in the closing bell ceremonies at Nasdaq on October 13.

metal shed without lighting or insulation while gathering support to build a sustainable art center using solar power and geothermal energy. The new Moray Art Centre was completed in 2009 and will host upcoming exhibitions from The British Museum and the Louvre. **Lee H. Skolnick's** (AR'79) Architecture and Design Partnership designed The Kissinger Global Conference Room housed in The Paley Center for Media in New York. The firm created a Rocket Park Mini Golf for the New York Hall of Science that is designed to teach astrophysics to school children. Their ongoing renovations for the Children's Museum in Virginia include interactive exhibitions incorporating the Lancaster Collection of model railroads.

80s

Jeanne Greco (A'80) created the 2009 Love stamp for the United States Postal Service. The Love stamps are a series of stamps commissioned by the post office annually. Visit http://www.jeanne-greco.com/home/love_stamp.html to see Jeanne's award-winning graphic design and the new stamp. **Stan Allen** (AR'81) received the Richard Rodgers Award for Architecture from The American Academy of Arts and Letters in May 2009. He was a jurist for design



Bill Pike (CE'85), Harry Dereas (ChE'83), Lynne Verderese (BSE'82), Stephen Verderese (EE'84), Jose Esteves (EE'82), Anthony Ianno (EE'85), Anthony Dagnino (ChE'88) and Shawn O'Hara (ME'88)

competition WPA2.0 sponsored by citiLAB, of UCLA's Department of Architecture and Urban Design. **James Fleming** (AR'81) exhibited recent landscape paintings at the Larchmont Art Gallery in September 2009. He completed the renovation and restoration of the historical Gingerbread House built by architect Frank Towle in 1872 and located in Larchmont, New York.

Mary K. Lynch (ChE'82) is a Senior Instructor for Con Edison in New York entering her third year of teaching and creating new curriculum materials. **Susie and John Sobchak** (ChE'82), CFO, joined the CEO of KMG Chemicals, Inc. and their bankers and stock holders in the closing bell ceremonies at Nasdaq on October 13, 2009, the day before the Dow broke 10,000. Nasdaq showcased KMG Chemicals, Inc. for having reported record earnings for the year. **Evan Douglis** (AR'83) was appointed Dean of the School of Architecture at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. **Laurie Hawkinson** (AR'83) and firm Smith-Miller+Hawkinson were short listed for the Ohio State emergency hospital's chiller plant. A chiller plant supports HVAC facility needs. **Shigeru Ban** (AR'84) unveiled his 10-Unit-System for chairs created from recycled materials at the April 2009 Milan Furniture Fair. **Raida Innab** (ChE'84) resides in Los Angeles with her children and has published *Maxie Time*, a book about the health effects of environmental toxins. Raida's website is www.functions.cc. **Peter Lynch** (AR'84) was profiled in the May 2009 issue of *Journal of Architectural Education*. **Sheila Prevost** (A'84) principal of SL Prevost Design participated in two digital exhibitions in Seoul, South Korea during 2009. Her work is included in the 2009 International KDA Book. **Chris Benedict** (AR'86) was a guest speaker at the Center for Architecture in April 2009. **Will Cotton** (A'87) contributed paintings for the 19th benefit art sale supporting the Aids Community Research Initiative of America held in June 2009. **Nina Hofer** (AR'89) was a critic for the 2009 Master



More alumni of the 1980s gathering at the All Cooper ReUnion

Architecture Thesis Reviews held in Ann Arbor, Michigan. **Michael Morris** (AR'89) and **Yoshiko Sato** (AR'89) of Morris Sato Studio created a laboratory for architects and designers to explore using Corian, DuPont's new surface material.



Christian Luis (A'95), Jennifer Crupi (A'95), Jennifer Collins (A'93), Andre Pennycooke (A'95), Mia Eaton, True (A'95), Mike Essl (A'96) and Bethany Nagy (A'96)

90s

Daniel T. Sakoff's (A'90) second solo show was at the Highland Park Gallery in Tribeca, New York in May 2009. **Ezra Talmatch** (A'91) exhibited at The Cat Street Gallery in Shueng Wan, Hong Kong, June through July 2009. He will be included in the 2009 group show *Double Dutch* at GAGA in Garnerville, New York. **Rachel W. Whitlow** (A'94) moved to Seattle to attend the Foster School of Business at the University of Washington. She is excited about participating in the printmaking, glass art and craft driven art scene in Seattle. **John Cerone** (BSE'95) is Director of The Center of Law and Social Responsibility at New England School of Law in Boston, Massachusetts. He traveled to Geneva and Belgrade during 2008 and in 2009 was named a member of the first United States delegation to the U.N. Human Rights Council. **Michael Iskowitz** (A'95) had a one person show of 37 self portraits at Esopus Space in New York, June through August 2009. **Anik Pearson** (AR'95) renovated fashion designer Michelle Smith's apartment in New

York. The project was profiled in *Elle Décor*, May 2009. **James B. Pyun** (CE'96) was named Director/Chief Engineer in 2008 at the New York City Department of Transportation. **Spencer Baldwin** (CE'97) passed the LEED exam in



Left to right: Vishal Gupta (ChE'04), Lynn Cusack (ChE'04), Alison Lennox (ChE'04), Chuck Xu (BSE'04), Lauren Maida (ChE'04), Ajit Gokhale (EE'05), Tom Phame (EE'04), Victoria Wei (BSE'04), Prabu Soundararajan (EE'04), Anand Lakshmanan (ME'04), Corinne Nippert (ME'04), Derek Musa (BSE'03)

Wangechi Mutu (A'97) is one of nine artists commissioned to create new works for Performa 09, to be held through November 2009 in New York City. **Elisa Garcia** (A'98) is a fine arts teacher at the Dwight-Englewood School in New Jersey. **Carlos Little** (AR'98) is a Senior Project Manager for the Foundations Group, headed by **Saif Ali Sumaida** (AR'92). Their June 2009 design/build show, *The Jewelry Factory* in New Jersey included drawings, paintings, sculptures and constructs of **John Furgason** (A'97) and **Anthony Titus** (AR'98). **Megan Sullivan** (A'98) was a research fellow at the Jan van Eyck Academie in Maastricht, Netherlands. Her artist's book and equestrian manual is titled *Die Hunterklasse* and published by FN-Verlag, Warendorf, Germany and the Jan van Eyck Academie.

00-04s

The paintings of **Kristopher Benedict** (A'00) were reviewed in *ARTnews*, May 2009.

05-08s

Situ Studio architects and 2005 classmates **Sigfus Breidbjord**, **Basar Girit**, **Aleksey Lukyanov** and **Westley Rozen** participated in the Guggenheim Museum's exhibition *Frank Lloyd Wright: From within Outward*. **Lior Galili** (AR'06) received a research grant from the Harvard Real Estate Academic Initiative. **Peter Aronow** (ME'08) entered a Ph.D. program in Political Science at Yale University in September 2009. **Caroline Woolard** (A'07) completed artist residencies at the MacDowell Colony, Ox-Bow and The Watermill Center during 2008-2009. Her proposal to design build sustainable artists housing for Andes Sprouts Society Residency Program is one of three finalists out of seventy-nine entries.

2008 and was named the Chief Estimator and Senior LEED Project Manager for the GreenBuild Construction Group, New York. **Jennifer Lee** (AR'97) is a Partner at OBRA Architects. The firm was commissioned to create emergency housing based on the 10 points of Architecture on the Edge of Survival. The housing prototype, Red+Housing, was created in acknowledgement of the devastating 2008 Sichuan, China earthquake.

In Memoriam

Charles Gwathmey:
Architect, Teacher, Mentor,
Benefactor and Trustee
by Jacob Alspector AR'72
Former Associate Partner at
Gwathmey Siegel & Associates Architects



With the untimely passing of Charles Gwathmey on August 3, Cooper Union has lost a valued family member and friend.

Charles' Cooper Union roots ran deep. Because he was interested in architecture as a young boy, his father, Robert Gwathmey, a painter and Cooper Union professor, introduced him to his then student, John Hejduk (AR'50). This began a lifetime friendship and fostered other academic and professional relationships with the extended Cooper family of faculty, students and alumni—many of whom became close long-time professional associates.

Gwathmey's seminal '65 house and studio complex for his parents remains one of his best known works. Produced in partnership with Richard Henderson, then Cooper Union professor and later Associate Dean of Architecture, this and other early iconic houses established his reputation and practice. The critical '75 publication *Five Architects* included Gwathmey along with other then Cooper Union professors John Hejduk, Peter Eisenman and Richard Meier. His 40 year partnership with Robert Siegel produced over 400 built works including Astor Place Condominiums across 4th Avenue from the Foundation Building and notable renovations and additions such as Princeton's Whig Hall, the Museum of the Moving Image, the Guggenheim Museum and Yale's Paul Rudolph Hall. Together with his wife Bette-Ann, he was also the generous benefactor of Cooper Union's cross-disciplinary Robert Gwathmey Chair in Art and Architecture and had twice served as a trustee.

He will be missed by all he touched with his infectious generosity, tireless energy and prodigious talents.

Entrepreneur and Innovator,
Howard Flagg

We mourn the recent passing of Howard S. Flagg (EE'75), a Cooper Union Trustee from 1998 to 2006. Howard had an enormously successful career as an innovator of digital communication systems. He was cofounder and served as CEO and Vice President of PairGain Technologies, Inc. where he developed and managed the engineering team for HDSL technology. Prior to forming PairGain, Mr. Flagg founded and served as a principal of Advanced Telecommunications, Inc., an aerospace telecommunications consulting firm. He also worked with NASA Telemetry Processing Systems.

Howard was an active and generous supporter of The Cooper Union. Together with fellow alumnus and classmate Ben Itri (EE'75), Howard endowed the Jessie B. Sherman Chair in Electrical Engineering and was honored for his generosity with membership in the Peter Cooper Heritage Society. In 1997, The Cooper Union Alumni Association presented Howard the Alumnus of the Year award for his outstanding service to the college.

The condolences of the entire Cooper Union community go to his wife Angelica and his children, Harlan and Delahna.



Obituaries

Morton Abler (A'40)

For two decades, Mr. Abler served as chairman of fine art programs for New York's public high schools. He taught art students at Columbia University, The Museum of Modern Art and at The Greenwich House in New York.

George Ross Cramer (EE'07)

passed away on August 9, 2009 due to an accident. Classmates plan a gift in his memory to The Cooper Union.

Richard Henderson was Professor at the Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture from 1967–2000, and served as Associate Dean from 1982 through 2000. He was an award winning architect, noted scholar and exceptional teacher. His principal areas of interest included the study and analysis of significant works of architecture as a didactic process, comparative formal structures, origins of conceptual geometrics and historic urbanism.

Dr. Harry Hochstadt (ChE'49)

was head of the math department at Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute (now Polytechnic Institute of New York University) from 1963 to 1990. He authored many influential books on complex mathematics that endure as standard reference material for the discipline.

Stuart M. Melzer (EE'65) joined the Aerospace Corporation in 1972 where his career spanned 37 years. Aerospace Corporation recognized Dr. Melzer as an elite engineer and twice awarded him the Aerospace President's Award. Dr. Melzer was promoted to Distinguished Engineer and Scientist in 1994. His mathematical expertise, insights, concepts and algorithms will continue to be applied by future engineers.

Dean B. Seifried (EE'36) received The Cooper Union's 1970 President's Citation. He was named Engineer of the Year by the New York State Society of Professional Engineers and received the first Distinguished Citizen Award given by the Boy Scouts of America. His renowned generosity extended from mentoring young engineers to being a long time benefactor of The Cooper Union.

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The In Parlesia Chamber Ensemble performs at the All Cooper ReUnion.

On October 24, 2009, in conjunction with the All Cooper ReUnion, Cooper Union hosted a different type of reunion: a family reunion for descendants of Peter Cooper and Abram S. Hewitt. More than 30 members of the Cooper-Hewitt family tree gathered for a luncheon, where they tried their best to sort of the family's complicated genealogy on a chalkboard and met family-members they'd never known. At the screening of *Mechanic to Millionaire* they got a warm round of applause from all alumni in attendance—a thank you for the work, foresight and generosity of their ancestors, Peter Cooper and Abram S. Hewitt.

ALL COOPER REUNION



Top: John Huddy (AR'85), John Leeper (AR'85), Sue Ferguson Gussow (A'56), Donald Gerard and Yash Risbud (EE'92)

Left: Alumni explore 41 Cooper Square.



Photos: Juliana Thomas