

# doCoMoMo

## What shall we do with the Modern Movement?

The Palatine Room, National Museum of Ireland  
Collins Barracks, Dublin  
November 10 2010

Conference presented by DoCoMoMo Ireland  
with the support of the Department of the  
Environment, Heritage and Local Government

### ABOUT

#### What shall we do with the Modern Movement?

**DoCoMoMo Ireland presents the first full conference to address this increasingly urgent challenge. Join us to explore the significance of Ireland's Modern Movement heritage in a unique event intended to feed into the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage survey of Dublin, beginning in 2011. Learn from some of Ireland's and Europe's leading experts about contemporary best practice in relation to the inventoring, protection, management, reinterpretation, repair and conservation of modern 20th century architecture.**

#### Booking

Pre-booking is essential. Places are strictly limited and will be allocated in the sequence in which they are received. The standard registration fee of €50 includes sandwich lunch, tea and coffee. Reductions are available for local authority architectural conservation officers, members of DoCoMoMo Ireland and selected others.

Bookings and enquiries may be made by email (including your full job description and contact details) to: [docomomoireland@gmail.com](mailto:docomomoireland@gmail.com)

The conference acknowledges the financial assistance provided by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.



Comhshaoil, Oidhreachta agus Rialtas Áitiúil  
Environment, Heritage and Local Government

### What shall we do with the Modern Movement?

### SPEAKERS



**John Allan** has led all Avanti Architects' Modern Movement conservation projects, including buildings by Lubetkin, Lasdun, Goldfinger and Connell Ward & Lucas. He was first Chairman of DoCoMoMo-UK and serves on the English Heritage Advisory Committee.



**Peter Carroll** graduated from University College Dublin in 1995 and worked with O'Donnell + Tuomey (1995–2002) and Rafael Moneo (2002–2005) before establishing A2 Architects with Caomhán Murphy in 2005. He is Treasurer of DoCoMoMo Ireland.



**Iveta Černá** is a graduate of the Faculty of Architecture at Brno University of Technology and the Art History Department of the Faculty of Arts at Masaryk University, also in Brno. Since 2002 she has been director of Villa Tugendhat, under the operational administration of the City of Brno Museum.



**Peter Cody** graduated from Dublin Institute of Technology and Trinity College Dublin in 1990 and Columbia University NY in 1996. He worked with Alvaro Siza (1992–95) and Wendy Joseph (1997–98) before establishing Boyd Cody Architects in 2000. He is Chairman of DoCoMoMo Ireland.



**Martin Colreavy** is Chief Architect in DoEHLG with a specialist role in Heritage, Architectural Policy and Urban Design. He was responsible for the Government Policy Documents on Urban Design, and the Government Policy on Architecture and the Built Environment 2009–2015, *Towards a Sustainable Future*.



**Catherine Croft** is the Director of The Twentieth Century Society and author of *Concrete Architecture*. She sat on the English Heritage Post War Steering Group and runs the course on The Conservation of Historic Concrete at West Dean College. She is a trustee of Heritage Alliance.



**Ciarán Cuffe TD** holds degrees in architecture and town planning from University College Dublin and was appointed Minister of State with special responsibility for Sustainable Transport, Horticulture, Planning and Heritage in 2010. This work is spread over three departments: Transport; Environment, Heritage, and Local Government; and Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.



**William Cumming** graduated from the School of Architecture, UCD in 1977 and worked in Dublin and London before joining the OPW. He transferred to National Monuments in 1989, with responsibility for the North East Region. He is Director of the NIAH since 2002.



**Frank Donnelly** graduated from University College Dublin in 1975 and worked in London before joining the OPW in 1980. He works in the DoEHLG's Built Heritage & Architectural Policy Unit.



**Bill Fleeton** worked as a Civil Engineer in general contracting. In 1985, with a partner, he established a specialist concrete repair company. He is a former Chairman of both the CIF Master Builders and the Irish Concrete Society. Although retired, he retains an active interest in concrete technology.



**Jennifer Goff** is Curator of Furniture, Music and Scientific Instruments and the Eileen Gray Collection with the Art and Industrial Division at the National Museum of Ireland.

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**Graham Hickey** works in architectural history and conservation policy in Dublin Civic Trust, an architectural heritage organisation. Author and contributor to a number of architectural heritage publications and policy documents, he holds a special interest in the design and evolution of historic fenestration.



**Paul Larmour** is an architectural historian and Reader in Architecture at Queen's University Belfast. From 1991 to 1994 he was consultant to the Northern Ireland Environment and Heritage Service for the thematic survey of 20th century buildings, which resulted in a number of Post-War listings. He is a member of DoCoMoMo-UK.



**Sander Nelissen** graduated from the Technical University of Delft in 1993. He is increasingly involved in the restoration and re-use of Modern Movement heritage, currently at Wessel de Jonge architects (Rotterdam) including the Van Nelle factory and Duiker's Zonnestraal Sanatorium and Open Air School.



**Shane O'Toole** was inaugural Director of the Irish Architecture Foundation and Ireland's Commissioner for the Venice Biennale in 2004 and 2006. He was named IBP Architectural Critic of the Year in 2008 and 2009. He is Secretary of DoCoMoMo Ireland.



**Ola Wedebrunn** is associate professor at the architecture school, Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen, and Professor of Architecture at the NTNU University of Trondheim. He has authored numerous publications on materials, material technology and architecture for DoCoMoMo's International Specialist Committee on Technology and ICOMOS's 20C Committee.

## PROGRAMME

### 08:30 — Registration

Tea and coffee will be available for purchase in the adjoining Museum café

### 9:00 — Opening Remarks

*Ciarán Cuffe TD, Minister of State with special responsibility for Sustainable Transport, Horticulture, Planning and Heritage*  
Welcomed by Peter Cody, Chair DoCoMoMo Ireland and Martin Colreavy, Chief Architect, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

### PART 1: SURVEYING THE SCENE

*Chair: Peter Cody, Chair, DoCoMoMo Ireland*

### 09:15 — Post-War Listings in Northern Ireland

*Dr Paul Larmour, Queen's University Belfast*  
Although the least appreciated by the general public, the post-Second World War era reveals a period of unsuspected architectural variety and richness, whose best and most representative surviving works merit protection just as much as those of any more widely admired period in the more remote past

### 09:35 — Some of what we've lost already and more that is at risk

*Shane O'Toole, Secretary, DoCoMoMo Ireland*  
A brief overview of Ireland's Modern Movement casualties and a look at others, some of them surprising, that are currently at risk.

### 09:50 — Listing Modern England

*Catherine Croft, Director, The Twentieth Century Society*  
Despite attempts to develop an academically rigorous assessment process, listing modern buildings in England remains controversial. The paper will give a brief history of the listing process for C20 buildings, review current legislation and guidance, and present a case study on Robin Hood Gardens (Alison & Peter Smithson, 1972, not listed).

### 10:10 — National Inventory of Architectural Heritage: Recording Ireland's Built Heritage from 1700 to the Present

*William Cumming, Senior Architect, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government*  
The NIAH's remit is to record the built heritage of the country and is key to the compilation of the Record of Protected Structures, a statutory role of every planning authority. Significant progress has been made since 2000. In 2011 it is planned to start recording in Dublin City.

### 10:30 — Questions and discussion

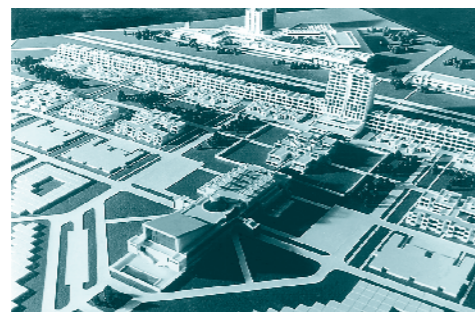
### 10:50 — Coffee Break

### PART 2: BACK FROM UTOPIA

*Chair: Peter Carroll, Treasurer, DoCoMoMo Ireland*

### 11:15 — Reworking the Modern Movement: European Workshop

*Prof. Ola Wedebrunn, NTNU University of Trondheim*



Reworking the Modern Movement is a workshop supported by the European Community that has involved six European architecture schools and almost 200 students and teachers in three projects: the Meat Market of Copenhagen (2007), the Pärnu Kek Soviet housing scheme in Estonia (2008) and the State Bacteriological Laboratory in Solna, Stockholm (2009).

### 11:35 — Lijnbann Rotterdam: 50 something

*Sander Nelissen, Wessel de Jonge Architects*



De Lijnbaan shopping and housing ensemble (1953), built on the ruins of Rotterdam's bombed inner city, has passed the age of 50. Today's rapidly changing city brings pressure to meet the new needs of its inhabitants for housing, shopping, leisure and work. How will the young monument face and survive this challenge?

### 11:55 — Conservation by Persuasion: Management Guidelines for Listed Buildings

*John Allan, Director, Avanti Architects*

This lecture will consider the application of management guidelines for the effective conservation of large-scale heritage assets in situations where enforcement may be unrealistic as a form of heritage protection, using the Barbican Estate in the City of London, as an example.

### 12:15 — Questions and discussion

### 12:35 — Introduction to the National Museum of Ireland's Eileen Gray Collection

*Jennifer Goff, Curator of Furniture at the National Museum of Ireland*

### 12:45 — Lunch and opportunity to visit the National Museum's Eileen Gray Collection

2 no. guided 30-minute tours, each for 20 delegates only.

### PART 3: CASE STUDIES

*Chair: Frank Donnelly, Senior Architect, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government*

### 14:00 — Unhinged: Dublin's Disappearing Metal Windows

*Graham Hickey, Architectural Historian, Dublin Civic Trust*

Rusty, drafty, thermally suspect and often frustratingly jammed shut, the historic metal window does not make good press. Yet the elegant aesthetic of these windows as advanced by the modern movement is rarely appreciated. This lecture will reassess the gracious legacy of metal windows, and why we should be saving them.

### 14:20 — Repairing Concrete Façades: The US Embassy and Agriculture House, Dublin

*Bill Fleeton, Director, Fleeton Watson Ltd, 1985—2007*

This presentation outlines the technology used in the repair of concrete façades of both the US Embassy and the Department of Agriculture. We demonstrate that it is possible to match sympathetically both colour and texture repairs to the original concrete façades. The repairs add many years of useful life to the buildings.

### 14:40 — Copenhagen Airport 1939: Virtual Movement 1999

*Prof. Ola Wedebrunn, NTNU University of Trondheim*  
The decision to list and restore Copenhagen Airport after the terminal boarded for a new destination, taxied out, took off and landed at a new destination 1,600m from its original position seems like a fairytale. The 5,000m<sup>2</sup> concrete construction, weighing 2,600 tonnes, was moved in one piece on almost 750 wheels.

### LECTURE AT THE SYNGE THEATRE, ARTS BLOCK, TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

*Presented by DoCoMoMo Ireland and the Architectural Association of Ireland in association with the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, and the University of Dublin's Dept. of the History of Art and Architecture*

### 19:30 — 21:00 — Investigating Materiality: Re-Restoring Mies's Villa Tugendhat, Brno

*Iveta Černá, Director, Villa Tugendhat Museum*

*'No photograph of this house can provide a correct impression. One must move about in this house, its rhythm is like music.'* — *Ludwig Hilberseimer, 1931*

### 15:00 — Restoring an Icon: The Isokon Apartments, Hampstead, London

*John Allan, Director, Avanti Architects*



This building, designed by Wells Coates in 1934 epitomised the modern idea of city living 70 years ago. Its residents have included many notable figures including Walter Gropius, Marcel Breuer and Agatha Christie. In the post-war years, however, it deteriorated. This lecture will describe how such an icon can become modern again.

### 15:20 — Questions and discussion

### 15:40 — Tea Break

### PART 4: WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH THE MODERN MOVEMENT?

*Chairs: Martin Colreavy, Chief Architect, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and Shane O'Toole, Secretary, DoCoMoMo Ireland*

### 16:00 — Facilitated Discussion

### 17:00 — Summing-Up / Close of Conference.

Mies van der Rohe's Villa Tugendhat was built in Brno in 1929-30 for Grete and Fritz Tugendhat. Situated in a sloped terrain, it was innovative in terms of its construction, spatial arrangement, interior furnishings and technical equipment. This was the first time that a steel structure in the form of subtle, cross-shaped columns was employed in a private home. Rare and exotic materials such as Italian travertine, onyx from the Atlas Mountains in northern Morocco, palisander wood, zebrawood and Makassar ebony from south-east Asia were used in the interiors.

Villa Tugendhat was inscribed in UNESCO's World Heritage list in 2001 and has been open to the public as monument of modern architecture since 1994. A comprehensive rehabilitation of the structure and its materials began in January 2010. In light of the remarkable importance of the materiality of the surfaces in the artistic concept of Mies' architecture, this demanding process was preceded by several years of specialised interdisciplinary research and analysis. The research was conducted during 2003—2006 and 2010 by five universities from three European countries. The results were presented at the international conference, MATERIALITY, in Brno on 27—29 April 2006 and form an essential part of the project documentation.