

**MoMA ANNOUNCES SELECTION OF FIVE ARCHITECTS TO DISPLAY
PREFABRICATED HOMES OUTSIDE MUSEUM IN SUMMER 2008**

Five Architectural Projects Displayed in Outdoor Space Next to MoMA Will Be Part of the Exhibition *Home Delivery: Fabricating the Modern Dwelling*

NEW YORK, May 29, 2008—As part of the exhibition *Home Delivery: Fabricating the Modern Dwelling*, which will be on view at MoMA from July 20 to October 20, 2008, The Museum of Modern Art has selected five architects to display full-scale, prefabricated houses in the outdoor space to the west of the Museum building. The houses are designed by the firm Kieran Timberlake Architects (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) and architects Lawrence Sass (Cambridge, Massachusetts), Jeremy Edmiston and Douglas Gauthier (New York, New York), Oskar Leo Kaufmann and Albert Rűf of Oskar Leo Kaufmann Architects (Dornbirn, Austria) and Richard Horden (London, England, and Munich, Germany) and architects Lydia Haack + John Höpfner, (Munich, Germany).

Home Delivery: Fabricating the Modern Dwelling is organized by Barry Bergdoll, The Philip Johnson Chief Curator, Department of Architecture and Design, with Peter Christensen, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Architecture and Design, The Museum of Modern Art. The exhibition will include a total of 63 projects: the five houses on view in the outdoor space next to the Museum, and 58 projects on view in the sixth-floor International Council of The Museum of Modern Art Gallery, offering the most thorough examination to date of both the historic and contemporary significance of factory-produced architecture from 1833 to today.

The five projects to be displayed in the outdoor space next to MoMA were chosen after an initial consideration of some 400 architects and firms, from which 21 proposals were solicited. The proposals were evaluated by a jury of internal Museum curators and staff, as well as members of the architectural community, who advised the curatorial team in making the selections. The five houses represent designs by emerging and established architects, different styles of homes that use varied manufacturing techniques, and houses that span the economic market. Cooper Robertson Partners will act as Consulting Architects in assembling the houses for the exhibition.

These five contemporary projects continue MoMA's rich history of exhibiting full-scale houses, which includes *The House in the Museum Garden* (1949), a house by Marcel Breuer that was erected in the Museum's Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden; *Exhibition House by Gregory Ain* (1950); and *Japanese Exhibition House* (1955).

The architects participating in *Home Delivery* will have the rare opportunity to present commercially viable domestic creations, prototypes, and entirely new designs produced specifically

for the exhibition. The selected designs showcase a variety of approaches to prefabrication. These include a green urban dwelling made of recyclable materials by Kieran Timberlake Architects, a section of a multistory house with floors that fit into shipping containers and can stack together like blocks by Oskar Leo Kaufmann and Albert Rűf, a house for New Orleans to help those displaced by Hurricane Katrina by Lawrence Sass, a computer-generated house built from a computer program that automates a blueprint by Jeremy Edmiston and Douglas Gauthier, and a tiny cube intended for use as athletic or student housing by Richard Horden, Lydia Haack and John Höpfner.

An exhibition Web site launching in mid-March will include weekly diary postings from each of the five architects and from the curators of the exhibition, recording the process of fabricating, delivering, and assembling the houses leading up to the July 20 opening. The site will underline the importance of prefabrication as a matter of process and product.

Kieran Timberlake Architects: *Cellophane House*

The *Cellophane House* was designed in 2007 specifically for *Home Delivery*, with steel frames that snap together, glass windows that slide into place, and systems of sustainable architecture. The *Cellophane House* is intended as a prefabricated solution for an urban dwelling. Requiring no welding or sealing, it is made of recyclable materials and equipped with photovoltaic cells that allow it to be off-grid and recyclable.

Kieran Timberlake Architects, based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is led by partners Stephen Kieran and James Timberlake.

Oskar Leo Kaufmann and Albert Rűf: *System 3*

The *System 3* house is an austere and elegant structure designed in 2007 specifically for MoMA's *Home Delivery* exhibition. While the house can have multiple stories—each of which can serve as a complete living unit—just one story of the house will be displayed at MoMA. Each story of the house fits perfectly inside a shipping container for easy transporting, and the stories are stacked together like blocks for assembly. Offering a more refined alternative to many American prefabricated houses, the *System 3* uses both modular and flat-pack elements.

Austrian architect Oskar Leo Kaufmann established an office for architecture with Albert Rűf in 2001 in Dornbirn, Austria, designing office and industrial buildings, single-family houses, and hotels in Austria, Germany, Japan, and the U.S. For the past 10 years, the architects have been actively developing building systems and prefabricated prototypes.

Lawrence Sass: *House for New Orleans*

A project intended to help with rehousing those displaced by Hurricane Katrina, the *House for New Orleans* was designed as a prototype in 2006. It consists of laser-cut plywood panels with grooves and joints that allow each piece to fit neatly into the next without nails or hinges. The

house's filigree is designed to reflect the local architecture of New Orleans, but could be adapted for other locations.

Architect Lawrence Sass is a designer, researcher, and teacher at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, whose work explores the relationship between design, computing, and digital fabrication. His current research projects explore a range of interests in digital fabrication, specifically by the study of digitally fabricated wood and concrete homes. His research is centered on the advent of design systems structured around digital fabrication.

Jeremy Edmiston and Douglas Gauthier: *Burst*008*

Designed to be assembled on site from laser-cut pieces, the *Burst* house is a computer-designed remake of the typical prefabricated box. Working from a computer formula that automates the specific pieces needed to create the house desired, the project is based on a system that can be adapted to a changing set of criteria. The 2003 prototype of the *Burst*003* project was built on Australia's Northeast coast, and won the Royal Australian Institute of Architects 2006 Wilkinson award.

Jeremy Edmiston, originally from Australia, has been practicing, teaching and researching architecture in New York City for 16 years. His practice is based in re-evaluating the relationship between the built and natural environments in all its permutations. Douglas Gauthier is a New York-based architect whose work focuses on the structural, programmatic, and environmental parameters that influence architecture.

Horden Cherry Lee Architects / Haack + Höpfner Architects: *micro compact home*

An aluminum-clad, perfect cubic form, measuring approximately 76 square feet, the *micro compact home* is a tiny dwelling intended for use as athletic or student housing, or as a miniature vacation house. It is commercially available and recently went on the market in Europe. Deliverable by helicopter or crane, the tiny house is entirely portable. Its interior is fully equipped with modern amenities, and its exterior features both a roof topped with photovoltaic panels and walls containing wind turbines, allowing the house to function off-grid.

Architect Richard Horden is a founding partner of the London-based firm Horden Cherry Lee Architects. Since the 1970s, both the firm and the architect's work have been committed to achieving more with less, optimizing visual and technical lightness with a minimal use of materials. Horden initiated research on the *micro compact home* (mch) with a team of students and collaborators as a professor at the Technical University in Munich.

Lydia Haack and John Höpfner of Haack + Höpfner Architects are an architectural team working in Germany and the United Kingdom. They worked in London for many years and taught at various architecture schools. Their projects range in scale from large industrial buildings to experimental housing and interior and product design.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

With increasing concern for issues such as sustainability and a swelling global population, prefabrication has again taken center stage as a prime solution to a host of pressing needs. The prefabricated structure has long served as a central precept in the history of modern architecture and continues to spur innovative manufacturing and imaginative design.

On view in the Museum's sixth-floor gallery will be historical documents, full-scale reassemblies, and films tracing the roots of prefabrication in the work of architects including Frank Lloyd Wright, Jean Prouvé, Richard Rogers, Kisho Kurokawa, Konrad Wachsmann, and Marcel Breuer. In addition to architects' creations, the exhibition will highlight projects by corporations such as Lustron, Sears Roebuck & Co., and Deutsche Kupferhaus, and the imaginative systems of other influential figures, including Thomas Edison, Augustine Taylor, and R. Buckminster Fuller.

Beginning with prefabrication's antecedents in early nineteenth century colonial cottages and balloon frame houses, the exhibition will chart an evolution of inventive approaches and experiments in manufacturing that came about after World War II in both Europe and the United States. Milestones among these are an early experiment with concrete, Thomas Edison's *Single Pour Concrete House System* (1906), and early experiments in steel shown in the Chicago World's such as the *Crystal House* (1933) by George Fred Keck.

Other projects will chart the explosion of experimentation in the 1960s, exemplified by Archigram's utopian proposals for a *Plug-In City* (1962) and a *Living Pod* (1965), and Kisho Kurokawa's *Nakagin Capsule Tower* (1972). In more recent years, a renewed interest in manufactured housing, spearheaded by publications like *Dwell Magazine*, has inspired a wealth of impressive homes, both prototypical and commercially successful, as with early proposals using shipping containers like the *Container Houses* (1994) by Wes Jones and Namba Kazuhiko's *Infill House I for Muji* (2004). A series of specially commissioned speculative architectural fragments by the architecture firms Reiser Umemoto, Contemporary Architecture Practice, and Marble Fairbanks, explore the future potentials between the relationship between industry and the computer-based design of today.

SPONSORSHIP:

The exhibition is the fifth in a series of five exhibitions made possible by The Lily Auchincloss Fund for Contemporary Architecture and is also generously supported by The Rockefeller Foundation and by Jerry I. Speyer and Katherine G. Farley.

Additional funding is provided by David Teiger, The Winston Foundation, Inc., and the Foundation for the Advancement of Architectural Thought.

Media sponsorship is provided by *Metropolitan Home Magazine*.

No. 2

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Public Information:

The Museum of Modern Art 11 West 53rd Street, New York, NY 10019

Hours: Wednesday through Monday: 10:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Friday: 10:30 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Open Thursdays until 8:45 p.m. in July and August 2008.

Museum Admission: \$20 adults; \$16 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D.; \$12 full-time students with current I.D. Free, members and children 16 and under.
(Includes admittance to Museum galleries and film programs)

Target Free Friday Nights 4:00–8:00 p.m.

Film Admission: \$10 adults; \$8 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D.; \$6 full-time students with current I.D. (For admittance to film programs only)

Subway: E or V train to Fifth Avenue/53rd Street

Bus: On Fifth Avenue, take the M1, M2, M3, M4, or M5 to 53rd Street. On Sixth Avenue, take the M5, M6, or M7 to 53rd Street. Or take the M57 and M50 crosstown buses on 57th and 50th Streets.

The public may call 212/708-9400 for Museum information. Visit us on the Web at www.moma.org.