Bowers Museum Presents *Frank Lloyd Wright: Architecture of the Interior*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bowers Museum Media Contact:
Victoria Gerard
Curator of Collections and Special Exhibitions
(714) 567-3662
Vgerard@bowers.org

International Arts & Artists Media Contact:
Hannah Shambroom
Exhibition Manager
(202) 338-0680
Hannahs@artsandartists.org

Frank Lloyd Wright’s interior plans bring heart and hearth to Orange County’s Bowers Museum

SANTA ANA, CA (June 2017)—The Bowers Museum in Santa Ana, California is pleased to announce *Frank Lloyd Wright: Architecture of the Interior*, a visitation of the interior home designs of Frank Lloyd Wright. Studying the obvious and subtle ways Wright created the visual character of interior space, even going so far as to meticulously design almost every object within a home, it is evident why almost 60 years after his death Wright is still known as the world’s most famous architect. The exhibition’s 19 reproduction drawings, 8 photographs, and 4 photographic murals of illustrate these interiors, often considered Wright’s greatest architectural accomplishments. Organized by International Arts & Artists, Washington, DC, in cooperation with the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation, Scottsdale, AZ, *Frank Lloyd Wright* is on view at the Bowers Museum from June 24, 2017 through August 20, 2017.

“Any building should be complete, including all within itself. Instead of many things one thing... It is the first principle of any growth that the thing grown be no mere aggregation... And integration means that no part of anything is of any great value except as it be an integrated part of the harmonious whole.”

Wright’s rejection of past styles led him to the characteristic forms of modern architecture, but unlike other modern architects Wright saw these shapes as having a deeper root in nature. More than just isolated structures, the natural world is made of small parts working in conjunction with one another. For Wright, the house was one such living, breathing entity. He used the term “organic architecture” to describe his belief that structure, interior, furnishings and ornament should all function in tandem. He accomplished this by personally designing almost every aspect of his interior spaces. When one enters one of Wright’s homes, these elements engage the viewer’s senses of sight and touch with their color, texture, pattern, contour, and contrast of light and shadow. The works in Architecture of the Interior reveal how every piece of Wright’s designs expressed and created an overarching order to his houses.

In prehistoric years, our ancestors huddled together around fires for warmth; Wright believed that in the modern era the hearth, the fireplace, still recalled that timeless sense of belonging and should exist as heart of the modern home. He set his hearths in large open rooms from which all other spaces extended like the spokes of a wheel. Porches, terraces, wings of bedrooms, and floor-to-ceiling walls of glass all expanded the central hearth space into adjacent interior spaces, and even further past the outside walls into the natural world beyond. The Robie House featured in Frank Lloyd Wright is a great example of how a single sightline could extend from one end of a home to the other, visually unifying the entire space. Organizing his interiors in this way made his rooms feel larger and created harmony by connecting everything to a central point. With too many Orange County homes feeling like a cluster of boxes connected by doors, Frank Lloyd Wright: Architecture of the Interior promises to provide some much-needed breathing room.

Exhibition curator Virginia Terry Boyd received her PhD in Human Environment and Design after obtaining an MA in Art History. Dr. Boyd is currently Emerita Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the Design Studies Department, where she was the department chair. She has been a guest scholar at the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation Archive in Scottsdale, Arizona, and frequently lectures and publishes journal articles on issues related to Frank Lloyd Wright and Twentieth Century American material culture.
The Bowers Museum has earned an international reputation through its world-class exhibitions, including *A Quest for Beauty: Van Cleef & Arpels*; *Warriors, Tombs and Temples: China’s Enduring Legacy*; *Terra Cotta Warriors: Guardians of China’s First Emperor*; *Secrets of the Silk Road*; and *Mummies—Death and the Afterlife: Treasures from the British Museum*, as well as its own extensive art collections from throughout the Americas and the South Pacific. Additionally, the Bowers’ Kidseum, located one block south of the main museum, offers a high-tech and interactive focus on its new mission of “Igniting Imagination through Exploration” spotlighting the excitement of art and archaeology.

Enjoy a leisurely luncheon at our award-winning restaurant, Tangata. Outdoor seating is also available, overlooking the Bowers’ historic mission-style courtyard from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Browse the rare and exotic at the Bowers Museum Gallery Store. It’s more than just a shopping trip—it’s a cultural experience.

**LOCATION, HOURS AND ADMISSION**

The Bowers Museum is in Santa Ana, is centrally located in the heart of Southern California at 2002 North Main Street, Santa Ana, CA 92706.

- Tickets and Information (714) 567-3600 [www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org)
- Group Tours (714) 567-3680 [grouptours@bowers.org](mailto:grouptours@bowers.org)
- Membership (714) 567-3639 [membership@bowers.org](mailto:membership@bowers.org)


Regular operating hours: Tuesday through Sunday, 10 AM to 4 PM.

**GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS**

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<td>Children (under 12)</td>
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*Must be accompanied by a paying adult
F R E E D A Y

The Bowers Museum offers free admission to Santa Ana residents, with proof of residency, each Sunday through a generous donation in memory of Dorothy Goerl and courtesy of the Lockhart Family.

F R A N K L L O Y D W R I G H T F O U N D A T I O N

The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation was established by Frank Lloyd Wright himself in 1940 to be a cultural and educational institution and the primary conservator of his work. It is dedicated to inspiring people with the living experience of Frank Lloyd Wright's ideas, philosophies, and body of work. The Foundation owns Taliesin West in Scottsdale, Arizona and Taliesin in Spring Green, Wisconsin. Both are National Historic Landmarks with robust tour operations, educational outreach, retail operations, and other activities. The Foundation: runs the Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture, with fully accredited undergraduate and graduate degree programs (a continuation of the apprenticeship program Wright established in 1932); stewards the vast Frank Lloyd Wright Archives; owns and manages the intellectual property for all of Frank Lloyd Wright’s designs, drawings, plans, art, and other creations from his prolific 70-year career; and engages in a variety of meaningful outreach programs and partnerships – such as this exhibition. For more information, visit www.franklloydwright.org.

I N T E R N A T I O N A L A R T S & A R T I S T S

International Arts & Artists in Washington, DC is a non-profit arts service organization dedicated to increasing cross-cultural understanding and exposure to the arts internationally through exhibitions, programs and services to artists, art institutions and the public. For more information, visit www.artsandartists.org.
PROGRAMMING

LECTURES

Jeff Herr, curator of the Hollyhock House, Los Angeles, will speak on Wright’s obsession with design in both the exteriors and interiors of his buildings and particularly about the recent renovation and re-opening of Frank Lloyd Wright’s historic masterpiece, The Hollyhock House, and its special place in the history of Hollywood and Southern California.

Sun, June 25

Alan Hess, author of Frank Lloyd Wright: Natural Design, Organic Architecture: Lessons for Building Green from an American Original, will speak on Wright’s influence on architecture in Southern California and the region’s influence on his approach to indoor-outdoor living and design.

Sun, August 13

FILMS

A Girl is a Fellow Here, directed by Beverly Willis
A film by Beverly Willis, colleague of Frank Lloyd Wright, set at his compound in Arizona. This film documents the significance of Frank Lloyd Wright’s equal treatment of the female role in his work in the broader context of the architecture field.

Sun, July 30

AFTER-HOURS PROGRAMS

Architecture of Food Dinner Program
Enjoy a 3-course meal and presentation by chef, Brian Black of Tangata exploring the interior and exterior architecture of the food we eat. Dinner includes access to Frank Lloyd Wright: Architecture of the Interior.

Fri, August 4

OTHER

Frank Lloyd Wright Tours by Architects
Interior Architects from AIA-LA and OC will be assigned to present 45-60 minute tours of the exhibition, providing professional insight and expertise on the first two Saturdays of July and August.

Sat, July 1, 15
Sat, August 5, 12