At Cooper Union
Fall/Winter 2011–2012

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On the Cover:
Photographer Mario Morgado captures a joyful Jamshed Bharucha as he shakes hands with students gathered to watch him descend the Grand Stairs of 41 Cooper Square and make his way over to the Foundation Building’s Great Hall, where he was later invested as the twelfth President of Cooper Union.
On October 18, 2011 The Cooper Union inaugurated its twelfth president, Jamshed Bharucha. The inaugural celebration included two days of programming for the Cooper Union and New York City community, marking the beginning of a new chapter in the institution’s rich history. These events, covered in the following pages, included student and faculty exhibitions, a colloquium on globalization and the future of education, a reception on New York City’s High Line and a street party outside of our historic Foundation Building.

Cooper Union Trustee and celebrated journalist and author Daniel Okrent spoke recently with President Bharucha about his plans for Cooper Union.

Daniel Okrent: What drew you to Cooper Union?

Dr. Jamshed Bharucha: Well, it is a rare institution, one of the most highly selective institutions, with outstanding students and faculty—but it also had a historic mission. And of course, the location—the East Village, it’s unbeatable. I just felt I was ready and I took the leap.

At the ceremony initiating the construction of the Foundation Building 152 years ago, an onlooker said that when Peter Cooper picked up a trowel to lay the cornerstone, he “took to mortar like a brick.” Have your early months been as smooth?

It’s been a comfortable beginning, but also a fast beginning, as it is for any new institution president today. We are in challenging financial times, the most challenging since the Great Depression. I keep up with some of my fellow new institution presidents, and we compare notes, and we agree that it’s a completely different set of circumstances than it was even a few years ago. American higher education is at a watershed moment.

In addition to the financial challenges, what else strikes you as urgent?

Pedagogical methods. Are they sufficiently innovative for a time when students are engaged with technology constantly, when they’re multitasking and they have the Internet at their fingertips? Are we constantly innovating in how we teach? In what teaching means? I think not. I think there is a huge amount of work that we collectively in higher education need to do.

What innovations in pedagogy would you like to explore?

When you’re a professor preparing for your class, rather than thinking, “What information do I need to impart to the students?,” you might start off by asking yourself, “What is the most productive and engaging way to use those class hours?” Because professors are no longer the principal channel of information. Back when I was an undergraduate, the teacher in the front of the room was the source of all knowledge: the teacher and the library. Today the students come in knowing an enormous amount, from an enormous variety of sources. Classroom time needs to be used as
1 Delegates from other institutions mingle in the Menschel Boardroom
2 Jameel Ahmad, Professor and Department Head of Civil Engineering
3 Trustee Richard Lincer, Dean William Germaino, Trustee Lawrence Benenson,
   Trustee Daniel Ovient, and Cornell University delegate Professor Carol Krumhansl
4 Trustees and Academic Officers descend the grand stair of 41 Cooper Square
5 School of Art Dean Saki Bos and Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
   Dean William Germaino
6 The crowd in the Great Hall greets Jamshed Bharucha
7 Dancers Caroline Fermin, Troy Ogilvie and Arika Yamada
8 Francis Daly Fergusson, President Emerita of Vassar College
9 James Wright, President Emeritus of Dartmouth College
10 Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament, India offered remarks via video
11 Lawrence Bacow, President Emeritus of Tufts University
12 Trustee Cynthia Weiler
13 Jamshed Bharucha with partner Jessie Papatolicals and
   Trustee Chairman Mark Epstein
14 Chief of Staff Lawrence Cacciatore and Jamshed Bharucha
15 The new President lays the wreath over the Peter Cooper statue

All photos: Mario Morgado
much as possible for active kinds of learning where the students are being intellectually productive, and the professor is there to guide and correct and push back and provide pointers. Long gone are the days when students want to come in and just write down what people are saying.

Of course, at the same time we know that a lot of information out there is junk—so part of the role of being a teacher or a professor it to help students discern what’s good from what’s not!

You mentioned when we first met that you’re teaching a class. What is it?

It’s called the Cooper Union World Forum. I wanted to teach a class which drew students from all three schools, and which got the students to reach beyond their discipline in thinking about the global challenges and opportunities of our time. A majority of the architectural contracts of the largest American architectural firms, for instance, are for the first time in American history, overseas projects. This iPhone—it’s the result of work done in at least seven countries. Interestingly, my reading of Peter Cooper really shows that he was a global visionary. He was extraordinary for his time in thinking about knowledge spreading across continents.

So what are the assets that would enable this new form of education? Obviously the Cooper heritage suggests it but what are the other assets that are specific to Cooper Union?

Well, the number one asset, of course, is the student body. Cooper Union undergraduates are essentially like graduate students. Their level of thinking, their level of intellectual maturity, social consciousness, their focus on ideas and on their work is very, very advanced. They are very creative and inventive—qualities that characterized Peter Cooper himself.

I’m struck by your reference to Cooper. I have a feeling that the president of Yale wouldn’t be citing Elihu Yale so frequently.

Well, Cooper was an extraordinary man with an extraordinary vision. The current narrative of Peter Cooper at Cooper Union reflects only a tiny piece of the vast spectrum of his thought, and his own ideas for Cooper Union. I don’t know of many other institutions whose founder was that accomplished a thinker on top of having been an accomplished businessman who could come up with the resources to do this. You know, he really spent his life formulating and testing a philosophy of life. If you look at the messages coming out of liberal arts colleges and universities in their strategic plans, they’re taking about preparing our students to be leaders in a global stage. They’re using words like innovation and entrepreneurship, creativity and imagination and multidisciplinarity. But Peter Cooper was talking about those things 150 years ago. The transatlantic telegraph project, which he led for eleven tough years, was not just an intellectual fascination for him, which it was. It wasn’t just a commercial venture for him, which it was. He also saw it as a global, humanistic enterprise where you could spread knowledge at the speed of light across these telegraphic cables and in doing so lift up humanity.

What other assets will enable Cooper Union to move forward in the new, twenty-first century forms of education?

Our extraordinary faculty. We have faculty members who are among the most distinguished in their fields, and who are incredibly dedicated teachers and mentors. They form intellectual bonds with the students, and they give the students a challenge. And look at our unique set of schools—art, architecture, engineering. All three can be characterized as places not just for thinking but also for making, for the translation of thought into making things. That kind of embodied cognition, that union between abstract thought and action in the world is as relevant today as ever before.

Would you like to address any of the possible avenues for financial innovation?

Sure. We need to diversify our revenue streams. The world has gotten more complex but with that there are more opportunities for revenue. One example is in grants for education and research, many of them from the government. The National Science Foundation is very interested in innovation in engineering education because the country is concerned about being competitive in the global economy. And we need to pursue research grants. The traditional line
President Jamshed Bharucha speaks
President Bharucha’s parents Jal and Elizabeth Bharucha with Jessie Papatolicas
Jamshed Bharucha performs Bach’s Brandenburg Concerto, No. 3
Vartan Gregorian

Local restaurants served food at the block party following the Presidential Inauguration
The Hungry March Band performs
President Bharucha accepts a handmade cricket paddle from student Kylie White (A'12)
Trustee Audrey Flack (A'S1) performs on the portico of the Foundation Building
All photos: Mario Morgado
between undergraduate teaching and research has become blurred. Our students don’t come in and say “I want to learn about something.” They say “I want to do something.” They want to get engaged in the process of discovery and exploration.

So this would be research that would augment classroom time rather than conflict with it?

That’s right. If done correctly the best teaching and the best research go hand in hand, particularly when you have such talented students.

Are there also private sector opportunities for revenue?

The private sector is hungry for smart graduates who are well prepared for the workforce. I think the private sector can be enticed to invest not only in the education of our students, which provides them with a pipeline, but also in private sector projects. If engineering firms actually want certain things done they can support projects led by faculty and staffed by our students.

What about the humanities? When Cooper asked his friend Francis Lieber what the students should study, Lieber said he hoped “students would study the political character of man, the nature of our institutions and the mechanisms of nations.” Another friend said the focus should be on reasoning and literature. What’s the role of humanities and social sciences here?

First of all, it’s essential. The underlying cohesive, binding force for higher education, I believe, is to read the great literature, learn the history, study the social sciences. Because no matter what your discipline is, you’re going to be engaged in a very complex society. The more you understand about organizations and political institutions and people and personalities, the more you understand about history and literature and ideas and cultures, the more successful you’re going to be.

In fact, Peter Cooper wanted political science to be at the very center of the curriculum. He founded this institution on the eve of the Civil War. And he was concerned about the very survival of this great democratic experiment. He believed it was important that students be educated in the principles of the democratic process and the democratic institutions so that when they stepped out of the institution, no matter what their discipline, they could be leaders.

So in thirty years, when you’re in your eighties and you’re finally stepping down as the president of Cooper Union, what one thing would you like people to say at your retirement dinner?

That he told a story of the vastness of Peter Cooper’s vision, of the expansiveness and richness of this vision, and he projected that into the middle of the twenty-first century to position Cooper Union as one of the most dynamic and most forward-thinking institutions in America.

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Daniel Okrent is the author most recently of Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition, named by the American Historical Association as winner of the 2011 Albert J. Beveridge Award for the year’s best book of American history. His earlier books include Great Fortune: The Epic of Rockefeller Center, a finalist for the 2004 Pulitzer Prize.

From December 2003 to May 2005, Mr. Okrent served as the first public editor of The New York Times. In July 2001, he retired as Editor-at-Large of Time Inc. after serving three years in that post, three years as the company’s Editor of New Media, and four years as Managing Editor of Life magazine. Prior to arriving at Time Inc. in 1991, Mr. Okrent worked extensively in book and magazine publishing in editorial and executive positions. In the book industry, he was an editor at Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., and at the Viking Press, and editor-in-chief of general books at Harcourt Brace, Inc. In magazines, he was editor and cofounder of New England Monthly (twice consecutively winner of the National Magazine Award for General Excellence). He has appeared as an actor in two feature films, Woody Allen’s Sweet and Lowdown and Lasse Hallstrom’s The Hoax, and on television, he was a featured commentator on Ken Burns’s PBS series, Baseball.

In the 2009-2010 academic year, Mr. Okrent was the Edward R. Murrow Visiting Lecturer on Press, Politics, and Policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, where he had been a Fellow in 2006. In the 1999-2000 academic year, he was the Hearst Foundation Visiting Fellow in New Media at the Columbia University School of Journalism.

A native of Detroit and a graduate of the University of Michigan, Mr. Okrent lives in Manhattan and on Cape Cod with his wife, poet Rebecca Okrent. They have two adult children.

Mr. Okrent has been a member of The Cooper Union Board since 2010.
On October 17, 2011, The Cooper Union hosted Educating Students to Lead in a Global Context, a pre-inaugural colloquium preceding the investiture of President Jamshed Bharucha. The panel’s moderator, iQor CEO and Cooper Union Trustee Vikas Kapoor began the discussion by relating a personal business story. Kapoor had been successful in bringing international business talent into the United States for employment, but has struggled in transitioning American talent overseas. His anecdote raised the question he posed to the panelists: has the American-designed technology that runs so much of today’s globalized business world opened up that world while leaving the United States behind?

Following Kapoor’s introduction, Fareed Zakaria delivered a keynote address, characterizing in broad strokes the globalized world Kapoor evoked. It is a world, argued the celebrated author and television host, characterized by historically relative peace and political stability, a post-1989 economic convergence, and the proliferation of networked technology and telecommunications. It is a flat world defined by corporations that have more potential customers than ever before, and workers of all types who suddenly find themselves in greater competition than ever before. One problem he identified was that American secondary education often ignored the rest of the world. Educating the new generation of American workers to succeed in a globalized world is a competitive necessity, Zakaria argued, one that the nation can’t afford to miss.

Panelist Vali Nasr, a highly regarded expert on Muslim-world issues and professor of international politics at Tufts University, followed Zakaria’s commentary and spoke of the isolationism of post-9/11 US policy. For the United States to be a player on the world stage, Nasr reflected, it would need to ensure more ready international access to its students just as international students would need more ready access to American academies. Cooper Union Professor Atina Grossmann reminded the panel that a public good like education must never be spelled out in terms only of cost, but rather social value, and challenged the panel to think critically about how American success or stagnation might be defined in a globalized world.

A video recording of the panel discussion in its entirety is available on the Cooper Union website: http://cooper.edu/about/news/video-educating-students-lead-global-context

“IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THE TECHNOLOGY OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY IS CONTRIBUTING TO MAKE US MORE INSULAR?” —VIKAS KAPOOR

“How do we currently define our values, our culture, and the role of the United States in the world?” —FAREED ZAKARIA

“What do we really mean by an American world?” —VIRENDRA DEO
POWER FOR ANY GOVERNMENT.” —FAREED ZAKARIA

OF BARRIERS COMING DOWN—ECONOMIC, POLITICAL

GLOBAL WORK FORCE.” —VALI NASR

CENTURY? AND WHAT DO WE MEAN BY BEING ON TOP?”

—ATINA GROSSMANN
Faculty publications filled the Foundation Building’s colonnade and offered a view to passersby from outside.

Posters publicizing School of Engineering robotics projects were hung outside the Architecture Archive offices.
FACULTY AND STUDENT WORK WAS INSTALLED THROUGHOUT 41 COOPER SQUARE AND THE FOUNDATION BUILDING DURING THE INAUGURATION.

Professor Anne Griffin Honored by the Kingdom of Belgium

The Kingdom of Belgium has conferred the rank of Officer of the Order of the Crown on Professor Anne Griffin. The Order of the Crown is awarded by Royal decree for distinguished artistic, literary or scientific achievements. Dr. Griffin, a member of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at The Cooper Union, has since 1998 recorded testimonials and conducted archival research on Belgium’s resistance during World War II.

A chance meeting with a group of Belgian war resisters in a Brussels armory in 1996 inspired Dr. Griffin to embark on a number of scholarly projects. In 2005, she curated Images of Resistance Past and Present: An Exhibition Commemorating Resistance in Belgium, 1940-1945 at the Cooper Union Houghton Gallery. Since that time, the exhibition has traveled to the Yeshiva University Museum in New York and the Dutch Resistance Museum in Amsterdam. More recently, she published “Fragmented Testament: Letters Written by World War II Resisters Before their Execution,” co-authored with Dr. Jay Lefer, in the Journal of the American Academy of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry. Dr. Griffin is also at work on a book on the topic of the resistance, with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities as well as the Fulbright Foundation.

Professor Marek Bartelik Named President of International Association of Art Critics

The International Association of Art Critics (AICA) has elected its new President, Dr. Marek Bartelik, during the General Assembly that took place in Asunción, Paraguay, on October 20th, 2011. Dr. Bartelik succeeds Yacouba Kanaté from Ivory Coast, who served as AICA’s President since October 2008.

Accepting the current Presidency of AICA International, Dr. Bartelik stated in Asunción: “It is a great honor to be elected AICA’s new President; it is a great responsibility as well. I look forward to working with all our members on strengthening AICA as a vital platform for voicing important ideas about art and art criticism in our society. I would like to thank AICA’s members for giving me this unique opportunity to serve as the organization’s fifteenth President.”

Francois de Menil (AR’87) Elected Vice Chair of the Board

The Board of Trustees has elected Francois de Menil Vice Chair of the Board. A 1987 graduate of the Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture, Mr. de Menil has served on the Board twice—from 1993 to 2000 and from 2005 to the present—and been a member of a number of committees, including the Executive Committee, Finance and Business Affairs and the Strategic Planning Committee among others. Mr. de Menil, chair of the Board’s Academic and Student Affairs Committee since 2009, also chaired the Presidential Search Committee for the institution’s 12th President, Jamshed Bharucha.

A New York based architect and principal of Francois de Menil, Architect, PC, he has won local, state and national recognition from the AIA, as well as the Texas Society of Architects. Since 1991, his studio has provided architectural and design services for a variety of institutional, commercial, residential and retail clients. His work has been prominently featured in numerous design magazines, exhibitions and books.

Prior to attending The Cooper Union, Mr. de Menil was a documentary filmmaker, directing the award winning film North Star on the artist Mark de Suvero as well as studies of other artists.
The Vincent C. Morrone Scholarship Fund

We warmly welcome Mrs. Marie Morrone as a member of the Sarah Bedell Cooper Society. With a thoughtful and generous gift, Mrs. Morrone has established the Vincent C. Morrone Scholarship Fund in memory of her late husband, Vincent (EE’63) who died earlier this year at the age of 84.

Vincent Morrone’s story is a classic Cooper tale. He grew up in Manhattan, graduated from the Bronx High School of Science, and while working at his father’s gas station and auto shop became interested in mechanics. The elder Mr. Morrone expected his son to join the family business, but Vincent’s classmate, recognizing his friend’s aptitude, urged him to apply to Cooper Union and he was accepted. Vincent became the first in his family to attend college. A rewarding 30-year career at Con Edison followed—first as an engineer and later, after earning an MBA at Wagner College, as an executive with the company. Marie, who was a pharmacist, met Vincent while he was a student at Cooper. Together they enjoyed almost 60 years of marriage and traveled the world in retirement.

Mr. Morrone always intended to “give something back” to Cooper so that others would benefit from the same opportunities as the school had afforded to him. Mrs. Morrone chose to grant his wish now, while she is able to enjoy the rewards of her philanthropy. By combining an outright gift and a charitable gift annuity, she has been able to provide essential scholarship support for current students while also earning life income for herself. Eventually, the charitable gift annuity will transform into a permanent endowment, helping Cooper Union sustain scholarship assistance for years to come.

The entire Cooper Union community expresses its deep gratitude to Vincent and Marie Morrone for supporting emerging artists, architects and engineers in pursuit of their dreams.

New Members of Peter Cooper Heritage Society Recognized

It is an honor and privilege for The Cooper Union to recognize the extraordinary contributions of our newest members of the Peter Cooper Heritage Society. Launched in June 2002, the Society recognizes supporters who have made gifts totaling $1 million or more during their lifetime. This is the highest honor the college bestows on its generous benefactors.

The newest members of the Peter Cooper Heritage Society for 2011 are Susan and Francois de Menil (AR’87), Joan Morris and Edward Durbin (EE’48), and Susan and Jack Rudin. Their enduring commitment helps sustain the unparalleled education in architecture, art and engineering that is the hallmark of The Cooper Union.

Alumni Association Welcomes Peter Cafiero as President

Peter Cafiero, a 1983 Cooper Union civil engineering graduate, is the newest Alumni Association President. Having spent a career in the transportation industry, Peter is now Chief of Operations Planning for New York City Transit—a leadership role that manages more than 450 employees and provides a full spectrum of planning services for the remarkably complex transit organization. To his executive position Peter brings a lifetime of experience. He has worked at the Metropolitan Transportation Authority for 23 years, and as the head of his department since 2006. Prior to this he spent a few years at Metro-North Railroad.

Peter’s talent for leadership and management make him especially qualified as the new President of the Alumni Association, as does his sustained dedication to the organization and the Cooper Union alumni community. “The Alumni Association and Cooper Union are, and must be, closely linked, because neither one could survive for long without the other,” Peter recently commented on his new appointment. “All of us who went to school here received an incredible gift from Peter Cooper and from those who came here before us. Being part of the Association gives me an opportunity to repay that to current and future students.”

Over the years, Peter has served on the Alumni Council and Gano Dunn Award Committee, as well as the Tellers Committee. In 2008, he was instrumental in helping plan his class’ 25th year anniversary reunion. He has previously participated in Engineering Career Night and the Engineering Mock Interview Night, and speaks each year to the Transportation Planning class in the School of Engineering—helping Cooper Union students make the transition from academic to professional careers. Peter is also the class representative of his generation.

See his letter on page 14.

Alumni Roof Terrace Campaign Raises $2.7 Million

An open and expansive outdoor space on the eighth floor of 41 Cooper Square, the Alumni Roof Terrace is an urban oasis with spectacular views of the New York City skyline. The Terrace bears the engraved names of alumni who made generous contributions to help Cooper Union construct our new academic building. Since opening in 2009, this breathtaking space has become a popular gathering place for students, alumni, parents and friends. The campaign has been enormously successful so far, with nearly 600 alumni raising almost $2.7 million.

Dr. Dorothy Hayes (A’78) is an alumna whose name is inscribed on the Alumni Roof Terrace. Born in 1935 in Mobile, Alabama, Dr. Hayes moved to New York in 1957 to pursue a career in art. Dr. Hayes studied at Cooper’s night school while working as a commercial artist. Later, she was invited to join the faculty at the New York City College of Technology, where she taught for nearly 40 years while showing her work and curating major exhibitions. Dr. Hayes explains why she supported the Terrace: “I recognize that without my scholarship to Cooper, it would have taken me longer to achieve my goals in life. It’s important for me to give back to an institution that shaped me as an artist and a thinker.”

The Alumni Roof Terrace Campaign closes on December 31, 2011. There are 90 spaces left for alumni who would like to celebrate their experiences at Cooper with a permanent tribute in stone. To get involved, make a pledge of $2,500 to $20,000. Pledges may be paid in installments by December 31, 2014. Contact Brooke Bryant, Major Gifts Officer, to learn more: 212.353.4171 or bbryant@cooper.edu.
Greetings,

I'm Peter Cafiero, and I am honored and humbled to have been nominated and elected as the new President of the Cooper Union Alumni Association (CUAA). I have also had the pleasure to get to know our exciting new Cooper Union President, Dr. Jalaluddin Bharucha, during the few short months that we have both been in our respective positions. Jalaluddin and I have been working together over the summer and into the fall to advance the relationship between the school and the alumni after a significant number of staff changes at the Alumni Relations office at the end of the last academic year.

Our top priority at the Alumni Association is to build our base of involved and connected alumni (that means YOU!). Through the efforts of VP Alumni Activities Rocco Cetera, we're creating quick, inexpensive and fun CU Pop Up events all over the New York area. From seeing alumni projects to touring alumni studios to just showing up at a waterfront bar, our CU Pop Ups are a great way to reconnect, network, relax, and learn about exciting developments and the work of your fellow alumni. And thanks to our increasingly active regional groups throughout the country (and the world), you never know where the next CU Pop-Up will pop up. So your first priority should be to pick one or more of these events that fit your interests and your schedule and come on down and join us. Better yet, if you have an idea for an event, let us know.

But if these great events happened without you finding out, it wouldn't be much use, would it? Thanks to Communications Committee Chair Karina Tipton and her team, our cui alumni.com website, Facebook and LinkedIn presences have never been better, and a great way to find out about all the exciting events that we are doing every month.

We have other exciting developments planned for this year. VP Rob Marano is heading a committee developing a new alumni-to-alumni mentoring program. Look for it in the coming months. And we're also reinventing traditional CUAA events, like our Founder's Day alumni awards event. So keep checking the web site for more news.

Of course there is another role that alumni and the Alumni Association absolutely need to play. All of us received a significant gift from Peter Cooper and the alumni who came before us and supported the school in the past. Now it’s our turn to step up and support the current and future generations of Cooper students as they prepare to take their turn on the world stage. Let’s face it—no one likes to ask for money, especially me, and especially now, in today’s economy. And a number of you have been very generous to the school in the past, but I’ll be honest—based on all that we received from Cooper, we really should be doing a lot more to support the school financially than we have been. So now is the time for all of us to step up to the plate and give to the annual fund, another tradition of the CUAA.

So there you have it—a year of transition, yes. But a year that the Alumni Association connects with even more alumni, showcases our unique individual talents and work to each other and the outside world, brings us all together, AND doubles our financial support for Cooper Union's current mission? It's ambitious, but with your help, I know we can do it.
CU Pop-Up and Regional Events

CU@The Frying Pan | July 7
The Frying Pan, a historic lightship docked at Pier 66, was boarded by CU Alumni who enjoyed the warm summer weather and cold drinks.

Event Coordinators: Melanie Chung (CE’07) and Lefty Pittas (CE’11).

Phoenix Regional Event September 10
The AZ Cooper Union Alumni had a wonderful get together on Saturday, Sept 10, 2011! A total of 15, seven alumni and their families attended. They met at the new Musical Instrument Museum in Phoenix. Janet Reed (AR’80) organized this event.

Paul Korniczky (ME’82), Barnaby Wauters (AR’92), Homa Shojaie (AR’91), Michal Raz-Russo (AR’01), Zev Solomon (AR’01), Mary Lynch (CHE’82), Herbert Migdall (A’57), Malini Ramanarayan (CHE’00).

CU@Brooklyn September 25
Alumni were in Greenpoint, Brooklyn for a private studio tour with Zoe Pettijohn Schade (A’95). In this cozy and cheerful setting we heard Zoe explain her gouache paintings and the research that she has done on how the brain sees and how patterns help the brain process visual information. In her painted works she uses her considerable knowledge of vision cognition to deliver an experience for the viewer that begins to emerge, followed by another and another. We also heard about Zoe’s work on the restoration of “Jane’s Carousel” in Dumbo, Brooklyn. She restored the paintings on the carousel’s ceiling and painted and gilded all the architecture of the carousel. Event Coordinator was Mary Lynch (CHE’82).

CLASS of 1951 60th Anniversary Year Reunion

The Class of 1951 celebrated their 60th anniversary of their graduation from The Cooper Union on Thursday, June 23, 2011. The event began with guided tours of 41 Cooper Square followed by a luncheon at GEMMA in The Bowery Hotel. Special thanks to Class Leaders Stanley Goldstein (EE), Marilyn Marcus (A), Jack Goodman (ME), Alvin Knoll (AR) and Annmary Olsen (A) for hosting the event. The reunion attracted the following alumni and guests from the class.

Stanley Goldstein (EE) Barbara Kahn Lenore Most (A)
Sarah Goldstein (EE) Alvin Knoll (AR) Barbara Most
Marianne Gjersvik (A) Donna Knoll Annmary Olsen (A)
Gilbert Gjersvik Merrill Krakauer (EE) Harry Rosenberg, PE
Jack Goodman (ME) Myron Levitsky (ME) EE
Charles Gottlieb (A) Harriet Lowe (A) Norman Shapiro (A)
Jerry Heibweil (ME) Joseph H. Lowe
Walter K Kahn (EE) Marilyn Marcus (A)
Pioneer Profile

Behavior Design

Innovating for Interaction

Coinciding with the October 18 inauguration of The Cooper Union’s new president, Jamshed Bharucha, the school also launched a new web site at cooper.edu. The site was designed and built by Behavior Design, a leading web and interactive design agency co-founded by three Cooper Union School of Art alumni, Chris Fahey (A’94), Ralph Lucci (A’95) and Jeff Piazza (A’97).

The new site not only makes critical content easier to find, but it also showcases the excellence of Cooper Union’s students, faculty, and alumni, promotes Cooper’s vibrant events and exhibitions, and reflects the institution’s rich history and Peter Cooper’s sense of social purpose.

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Behavior’s team worked closely with diverse stakeholders from faculty, staff, students, trustees and alumni to deliver a site that better serves the multifaceted needs of the Cooper Union community.

Flash back ten years: As the late-1990s Internet bubble was bursting, Fahey, Lucci, and Piazza were working together as designers and creative directors at a global digital agency. They watched as industry design budgets were slashed, and their company’s clients began to disappear all around them. But instead of waiting for their employer to fold, they decided to try to keep working together. With two other colleagues, Mimi Young and Khoi Vinh, the five partners started out on their own and founded Behavior in December of 2001.

At the same time, Piazza and Lucci had joined several other Cooper alumni at the inception of the now-legendary agency i:io 360, one of the web’s first innovators in web design and technology. In 1998, through coincidental dot-com-era corporate mergers and acquisitions, the three alumni found themselves working side-by-side for major clients like JP Morgan Chase, XM Satellite Radio and Morgan Stanley at a booming digital design consultancy. Three years later, the consultancy was gone, but they were still working together, this time managing their own agency, Behavior Design.

Behavior has, from its inception, specialized in elegant and effective interaction design solutions. Their mission, according to the partners, is to design intuitive experiences that educate, inform and delight users and audiences. Behavior’s portfolio consists of a wide array of clients that range from financial and cultural institutions to applications and products for entertainment and business. Recent work includes major projects for HBO, Thomson Reuters, the American Museum of Natural History, Businessweek, the National Geographic Channel, and the Museum of Modern Art. This year, the studio designed the user experience for Cablevision’s iPad and iPhone apps, the first mobile platform to feature hundreds of channels of live television. After a decade in business, the studio has been recognized with over 90 awards including four prestigious Webby Awards, two OMMA’s and a Governors Award by The Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. Behavior continues to remain focused on designing compelling user experiences for all media platforms.
Published Pioneers

Molecular Driving Forces: Statistical Thermodynamics in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Nanoscience
Second Edition
Ken Dill and Sarina Bromberg (A’75)
Garland Science, 2010, 720 pages
This introductory statistical thermodynamics text describes the principles and forces that drive chemical and biological processes. Following her studies in art at The Cooper Union, Bromberg went on to earn a PhD in molecular biophysics from Wesleyan University and completed her postdoctoral training at the University of San Francisco, California. She writes, edits and illustrates scientific textbooks.

The How and Why of Jewish Prayer
Israel Rubin (ME’54)
Arba Kanfot Press, 2011, 731 pages
The aim of Rubin’s book is to give the reader a basic familiarity with the synagogue service, as well as the movements and actions associated with Jewish prayer. Yet more than just a primer, the book is both a reference book and a book for reading as it seeks to answer questions about prayer postures, gestures and positions, and much more.

Masseria: The Italian Farmhouses of Puglia
Text by Diane Lewis (AR’76); Photography by Mark Roskams Rizzoli, 2011, 240 pages
Lewis’s original essays provide rich context for this chronicle on historic rustic structures on Italy’s southeast coast. Formerly used as farmhouses and travelers’ way stations, these buildings have been renovated into residences with beautiful interiors, providing a striking contrast with brick and stone that dates from the Middle Ages.

Landform Building: Architecture’s New Terrain
Stan Allen (AR’81) and Marc McQuade
Schirmer/Mosel, 2011, 416 pages
Allen co-authored and edited this examination of the many manifestations of landscape and ecology in contemporary architectural practice. This includes an exploration of the new techniques, technologies and demand for enhanced environmental performance that have instigated a rethinking of architecture’s relationship to the ground.

Oculus
Ken Schles (A’82)
Stichting Fotografie Noorderlicht, 2011, 96 pages
Schles’ fourth monograph is a photographic book about images, memory and the metaphor of light. The photographer incorporates text with visuals to extend his investigations on the connection between image and memory by exploring the agency and nature of the image itself.

Thinking with Type
Second Edition
Ellen Lupton (A’85)
Princeton Architectural Press, 2010, 224 pages
This “critical guide for designers, writers, editors and students” provides straightforward demonstrations and exercises to show how to be inventive within the systems of typographic form. Lupton’s second edition of the essential design book is expanded from its 2004 version to include 48 additional pages of content.

Amy Cutler: Turtle Fur
Amy Cutler (A’97)
Hatja Cantz, 2011, 160 pages
In her second monograph, Cutler’s unsettling, whimsical imagery is vivid in depictions of such scenes as women literally mending tigers or chopping pies with axes in front of a roller coaster in the woods. Published in conjunction with an exhibition at SITE Santa Fe, Turtle Fur provides a survey of Cutler’s gouaches and drawings from the late 1990s to the present.
Marriages and Engagements

Derek Dalton Musa (BSE'03) and Corinne Cochrane Nippert are engaged and planning a 2012 wedding. Garrett Ricciardi (A'03) and Lindsay Ross were married in July 2011. Sara and Michael Kadoch (BSE'05) married on June 12, 2011 in New York. Kristen Breyer (A'06) and Jeff Castlieman (A'08) married on Saturday, September 3, 2011, at the UC Berkeley Botanical Gardens Redwood Grove in Berkeley, California. Included in their wedding party were Symphony Bates-Zale (A'08), Richard Watts (A'08) and Florian Brozek (A'09). The couple currently resides in Oakland, California. Sean Patrick Macdonald (EE'09) and Amanda Addolorato are engaged and planning a 2012 wedding.

Kristen Breyer (A'06) and Jeff Castlieman (A'08) married on September 3, 2011.

Laura Miller Margolius (A'42) with one of her art pieces in her home in Bronxville, New York.

Laura Miller Margolius (A'42) with one of her art pieces in her home in Bronxville, New York.

Private collections. Irving Leffkowitz (Ch'43) has been retired from Case Western Reserve University for 24 years, where he enjoyed an exciting and rewarding career as Professor of Systems Engineering and Department Chair. For over 30 years Leffkowitz directed a cutting edge research program in computer-based control of industrial processes. Milton Minneman (EE'43, PDE'52) earned his sixth degree in six decades in May 2011, when he graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park, with a Master of Science in Information Technology. In addition to his studies at The Cooper Union and the University of Maryland, he earned a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania in 1949, a doctorate in electrical engineering from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn in 1966, and a Bachelor of Science in Computer Studies from the University of Maryland in 2005. George Segal's (A'44, Dec.) photography was the focus of George Segal: Sculptor as Photographer at the Milberg Gallery in Firestone Library at Princeton University, July to September 2011. Segal and Alex Katz (A'49) are featured in September 11 at MoMA PS1, showing through January 9, 2012, exploring the enduring and far-reaching resonance of the 2011 attacks. Ashley Bryan (A'46) exhibited in Tell Me a Story: Folktales and World Cultures at the Atrium Art Gallery at the University of Southern Maine's Lewiston-Auburn College, August 2011. Vincent Longo (A'46) was part of Painting a Telescope at the Sun, a group show of abstract color paintings by five highly influential New York-based artists, at MINUS SPACE in Brooklyn, August to September 2011. Lois Dodd (A'48) was in Mentors: The Mentoring of Artists, an exhibit honoring the artist-mentor relationship, at the Firehouse Center for the Falcon Foundation in Portland, Maine, August to October 2011. Gloria Frey Tuydun (A'48) continues to teach and is showing her work at Hewlett Library in March and April 2012. Alex Katz (A'49) had 2011 solo shows at Gavin Brown’s enterprise and Senior & Shopmaker Gallery. Henry Niese (A'49) had a solo show of paintings and drawings from the mid-1950s to present entitled The Painter's Palette at Gold Leaf Studios in Washington, DC, September to November 2011. The exhibit included a charcoal sketch of his painting Jerzy Lyric, which inspired William Carlos Williams to write a poem of the same title.

Henry Niese (A'49), Midnite Snow Blurs, 2010, oil on canvas, 36 x 48 in.; part of his solo show at Gold Leaf Studios in Washington, DC.

Constance Flora (A'53) was inducted in the 4th National Juried Exhibition at Prince Street Gallery.

1960s as an international network of artists, composers and designers employing a “do-it-yourself” attitude and focusing on blurring boundaries between art and life. Joan Semmel (A’52) exhibited in Gio at Blum & Poe in Los Angeles, July to August 2011. Constance Flora (A’53) was in the 4th National Juried Exhibition at Prince Street Gallery in New York, July 2011. R.B. Kitaj’s (A’53, Dec) paintings were featured in a retrospective, Kitaj: Portraits and Reflections, at Abbot Hall Art Gallery in Kendal, England, July to October 2011. Joseph Konopka (A’54) has paintings in the permanent collections of the Bronx County Historical Society, the Navy Museum in Washington, DC, the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center and the Nevada Historical Society. Roslyn Fassett (A’56) had a solo show, entitled Dark & Light, at Prince Street Gallery in New York, November 2011. Mel Leipzig (A’56) had a solo show, entitled Fathers, at the Anne Reid 72 Gallery at Princeton Day School in Princeton, New Jersey, September to October 2011. Leipzig is exhibiting in the group show From New Jersey to Cape Cod at the Cape Cod Museum of Art in Dennis, Massachusetts, through December 4, 2011. Stan VanDerBeek’s (A’56, Dec.) pioneering media art was exhibited in The

Eva Hess (B’57, Dec.), “Untitled” (1960), oil on canvas, 49½ x 49½ in. (Collection of Alexandra Charish, Los Angeles), on display at the Brooklyn Museum.

Audrey Flack (A’53) exhibited in Shared Intelligence: American Painting and the Photograph at the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe, May to September 2011. Milton Glaser (A’51) participated in the 2011 State of Design Festival in Australia. Edward Sorel (A’51) was honored with the 2011 Masters Series Award and a retrospective exhibition of his satirical and whimsical art by the School of Visual Arts. Edward Henron (A’52) has two books of satirical drawings available on Amazon.com: Top Hat and Sweet & Lovely. Marilyn Henron (A’52) had a solo show, entitled Soft City, at Visions Art Museum in San Diego, August to October 2011. George Macunas (A’52, Dec.) is featured in Fluxus and the Essential Questions of Life and Fluxus at NYU: Before and Beyond at the Grey Art Gallery at New York University, through December 3, 2011. Macunas was a pioneering member of the Fluxus movement, which began in the

George Macunas (A’52, Dec.), Bugbury Flusuk (1971) (Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, George Macunas Memorial Collection: Gift of the Friedman Family).

50s

Mortan Annenberg (A’34, Dec.) will be remembered in a retrospective exhibition entitled A Legacy at Armin & Estelle Gold Gallery in New York, January to February 2012. Morris Tragerman (A’35) is celebrating his 97th birthday this year.

Laura Miller Margolius (A’42) resides with her husband of 63 years, Edwin A. Margolius, Esq., in Bronxville, New York, and has two children and five grandchildren. Her art is held in such collections as IBM, Health Insurance Plan of New York, AT&T Advanced Information Center, Pfizer Corp, and numerous

Roslyn Fassett (A’56), Cameran Earth, oil painting, 50 x 40

Culture Intercom, a survey of his art at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, May to July 2011. Eva Hesse’s (A’57, Dec.) experimental sculptures were exhibited in Eva Hesse StudioWork at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, July to October 2011. The Brooklyn Museum is exhibiting Eva Hesse Spectro 1960, comprised of nineteen oil paintings created when Hesse was 24 years old, through

January 8, 2012. Herbert Migdoll (A’57) had Swimmer 300, a 300 foot long piece comprised of 30 panels created from acrylic and oil on vinyl mesh, installed on the East Bank of the Grand River for the 2010 ArtPrize. Migdoll’s piece Turning in Closed Course is on permanent installation at the McCormick Center in Chicago. Two years ago, Migdoll was commissioned by the Core of Culture to go to Bhutan to create a large painting piece, entitled Dancing Butterflies, now in the permanent collection of the Academy
of Hawaiian Arts. In October 2011, the New York Times profiled Migdoll for his photography work with the Joffrey Ballet, with which he has worked since 1968 and where he recently took on the role of Director of Special Projects. Norma Minkowitz (A’58) had a solo show entitled Drawn to the Edge: Sculpture and Drawings at H. Perlman Curtis Gallery in the New Canna Library, October to November 2011.

90s

Herbert Migdoll (A’57), Swimmer 300, acrylic and oil enameled on vinyl mesh, 15 x 300 feet.

Regent’s Professor at Arizona State University, Michael Simon (EE’65) has retired after 36 years of college teaching, but continues to teach on an adjunct basis at two Connecticut universities. Christopher Wilmarth’s (A’65, Dec.) sculpture and drawings were exhibited in a retrospective solo show at Betty Cuningham Gallery in New York, July to August 2011. James McCormick (EE’66) retired five years ago from Hamamatsu Photonics and is now active in rehabsituting foreclosed single family homes in southern New Hampshire.

Edward Mackenzie (A’60) had a solo show at Richmond Store Gallery in Richmond, Maine, entitled Vessels Old and New, October to November 2011. The exhibit included assemblages, collages and paintings featuring artistic representations of 19th and early 20th century marine vessels, a longtime interest and subject for Mackenzie. Fred Marcellino’s (A’60, Dec.) book illustrations were exhibited in Dancing By The Light Of The Moon: The Art of Fred Marcellino at the National Center for Children’s Illustrated Literature in Abilene, Texas, June to October 2011. Jerome Witkin (A’60) had a retrospective of his work entitled Drawn to Paint at Syracuse University, September to October 2011. Michael Borkowsky (ME’61) was appointed to the Greenwich town’s Planning & Zoning Commission in April 2011. In July 2011, Borkowsky was named to the Advisory Board of NESC, the National Executive Service Corps.


60s

Tom Wesselmann (A’59, Dec.) was included in That Seventies Show, an exhibition of works created from 1970 to 1980, at Forum Gallery in New York, July to September 2011.

Jack Whitten (A’64) had his third exhibition at Alexander Gray Associates, September to October 2011. The solo show demonstrated Whitten’s ongoing experimentation between drawing and painting.

Gerald Heydt (EE’65) was a Colorado State University Information Science and Technology Center Distinguished Lecturer. Heydt gave two talks in October 2011, one on “Mathematics of the Hilbert Transform: An Aircraft Autopilot, Power Engineering Dynamic Assessment, and Other Applications—Pluses, Minuses, and Reflections,” and another on “Some Concepts in Power Distribution System Enhancements.” Heydt is a professor at Arizona State University. Michael Simon (EE’65) has retired after 36 years of college teaching, but continues to teach on an adjunct basis at two Connecticut universities. Christopher Wilmarth’s (A’65, Dec.) sculpture and drawings were exhibited in a retrospective solo show at Betty Cuningham Gallery in New York, July to August 2011. James McCormick (EE’66) retired five years ago from Hamamatsu Photonics and is now active in rehabsituting foreclosed single family homes in southern New Hampshire.

Caroline Walski (A’62), Sirens’ Song V, etching and assemblage.

Michael Hayes (A’71), Thumbelina’s Dream, oil, 28 x 30 in.

Robert Ruff (PHY’71) is the National Director of Neurology for the Department of Veteran Affairs. Ruff recently turned 60, and he and his wife Suzanne have five children, two grandchildren and another on the way. Paul de Silva (AR’71) was appointed Director of Sustainable Design for the US offices of Swanke Hayden Connell Architects.

Michael Reich (PHY’72) is a full-time obstetrician-gynecologist and continues to make yearly trips to Nigeria to do volunteer work.

Donald Baechler (A’77) was an Adjunct Professor at Rhode Island School of Design.

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Wayne Barlowe (AW'09) was interviewed by The Idler in August 2011 on his science fiction and concept art for films such as The Hobbit (2012) and Pacific Rim (2013).

Verne Dawson (AW'00) exhibited with Gavin Brown’s enterprise at the 2011 Yokohama Triennale at the Yokohama Museum of Art in Japan. Robert G. Stark (ME'80) received the Woodie Flowers Award for many years of dedicated service mentoring high school students for First Robotics. Orest Walchuk (ME'80/MM'81) will be presenting at an upcoming Air and Waste Management Association Clean Air Act Permitting Workshop on the topic of “Reducing CO2 Emissions from Existing Fossil Fuel Fired Bolkies with Efficiency Improvements.”

Stephen Wilkowski (EE'80) received an IEEE Regional Award for his outstanding leadership and service to the North Jersey Section and the Vehicular Technology Society.

Dan Witz (AW'09) was featured in the 2011 Pratt Festival in Stavanger, Norway. Ann Agee (AW'81) has an artist residency at Lux Art Institute in Encinitas, California, where she also exhibited her installation work.

Stan Allen (AR'13), with Stan Allen Architect, received an Award of Excellence in the 2011 AIANY Design Awards for the Taichung Infobox in Taiwan. The Taichung Infobox also received a Merit Award in Special Initiatives from the 2011 Tri-State Design Awards. Allen participated in the Design Showcase and Symposium held by the Citizens Housing and Planning Council with the Architectural League of New York in November 2011.

Doug Ashford (AW'10) is exhibiting in The Air We Breathe, a group show bringing together artists and poets to reflect on equal rights for same-sex couples, at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, through February 20, 2012. A book of the same title was published in conjunction with the exhibition.


Humberto J. Betancourt (AR'82) is the new Assistant Dean at the Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico. Anthony Deen (AW'87) founded the advocacy group Gowanus by Design with David Briggs in 2009 to encourage clean-up and development strategies for the area along the Gowanus Canal in Brooklyn. In 2011, they organized a competition, Gowanus Lowline: Connections, for designers to explore the potential of pedestrian-oriented development.

Tom Kolefas (CE'82) is manager of the TIAA-CREF Mid-Cap Value Fund and featured by Barron’s magazine in August 2011.

Paul Seletsky (AR'82) gave the introduction for a discussion on “Building Wisely: Leveraging Digital Technology to Maintain Design Intent” at the Center for Architecture in September 2011.

Ken Schles (AW'82) participated in the 2011 New York Art Book Fair at MoMA PS1, where he showed a preview of his limited edition monograph Oculae. In October 2011, there was an exhibition of his first book, Invisible City, at the Bursa Photo Festival in Bursa, Turkey, and in November 2011 he was a speaker at the Society for Photograph Education Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Conference. Schles participated in Paris Photo.

Shigeru Ban (AR'84) exhibited in Hyperlink: Architecture and Design at the Art Institute of Chicago, December 2010 to July 2011. Following the March 11, 2011 earthquake in Japan, Ban and his students in Tokyo contributed temporary shelters to relief centers. The concert hall in the earthquake damaged L’Aquila, Italy, designed by Ban as a temporary structure with paper walls and ceilings, was inaugurated in May 2011. In September 2011, Ban was featured in The New Yorker for his talk in the 2011 New Yorker Festival. The Metal Shutter Houses, a luxury condominium building in Chelsea designed by Ban and Dean Maltz (AR'84), with Shigeru Ban Architects + Dean Maltz Architects, were completed in July 2011.

Dave Denenberg (ChE'84) has been a Nassau County Legislator since 2000, and is a Managing Partner of Davidoff Malito & Hutcher. Denenberg and his wife Cara live in Merrick, New York. Sanjeev Handa (CE'83) was appointed to the board of the Homeownership Preservation Foundation.

Edward Marion (AR'84) worked in a frustrated practice before becoming a full-time painter in 2009. Marion attributes the inspiration and success of that decision to his time spent in Sue Gusson’s drawing classes, where he was first introduced to the world of portraiture.

Paul Villinski (AW'84) had a solo exhibition, Portraits, where he exhibited a 33-foot wingspan glider plane fabricated from recycled wood and covered with 1,000 butterflies at Morgan Lehman in New York, September to October 2011.


Leonardo Drew (AW'85) had a solo show at the Galleria Napolinobissima in Naples, Italy, September to November 2011.

Drew and Wangechi Mutu (AW'87) are exhibiting in 30 Americans, surveying works by many of the most important African-American contemporary artists of the past three decades, at the Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design in Washington, DC, through February 2012.

Abbott Miller (AW'85) is the editor and designer of 2wire magazine, which launched an app in 2011 comprised of selected photographs of the Mercer Cunningham Dance Company that appeared over the past decade in four Cunningham-dedicated issues.


Mike Mannino (ME'86/MM'01) was promoted to Manager of the Mechanical Engineering Group at the LeCroy Corporation in Chestnut Ridge, New York.

Leslie Uribe (AW'86) participated in the October 2011 artist open studios in Cold Spring, New York.

Passage by Paul Villinski (AW'84) at Morgan Lehman in New York.

Painting by Leslie Uribe (AW'86)

The Avenue of the Trees of Turf from Gotham to the Manhattangrid. Above: maquette.

The City of New York has invited Karen Bauman (AR'82) to mount her site-specific installation The Wall Project in the Meatpacking District, with the installation planned to go up in April 2012 on Gansevoort Plaza. The installation challenges and proposes an alternative to the Commissioner’s Plan of 1811, which established the Manhattan grid. The installation will be a series of walls built up from cut layers of turf to reflect New York’s richly layered history. The Wall Project is a sponsored project of the New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA), with critical early support provided by the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs to realize an ancillary exhibit, Envisioning the Wall.

Cut paper sculpture assemblage by Karen Bauman (AR'82) exploring The Wall Project’s theme of possibilities for navigating within the Manhattan grid.

Painting by Leslie Uribe (AW'86)

Passage by Paul Villinski (AW'84)

Edward Marion (AR'84), Black & Blue, 2009, oil on board, 10 x 10 in.

The Hobbit (AW'88) with I-Beam Design were featured in The Atlas of World Interior Design, published in 2010 by Braun Publishing AG. The book is a compendium of some of the most notable interior projects from around the world.

Jeff Hou (AW’90) was a panelist on Emergent Tactics at the April 2011 Emergent Urbanism Symposium at the University of Washington. Hou participated in the “Educating at the Boundaries: Community Matters” symposium at Hunter College in April 2011, and gave a lecture on “Insurgent Public Space” in November 2011 at Cornell. Daniel Sakoff (AW'90) had a solo show of new oil paintings entitled A Love Hunt at the Gershwin Hotel in New York, July 2011. Azin Vay (AR'90) and Suzan Wines (AR'89) with I-Beam Design were featured in The Atlas of World Interior Design, published in 2010 by Braun Publishing AG. The book is a compendium of some of the most notable interior projects from around the world.

The Avenue of the Trees from Gotham to the Manhattangrid. Above: maquette.
In May 22, 2011, Maria Yoon (A’94) was married for the 50th time. The ceremony in Times Square was the culmination of her Maria the Korean Bride art project, where she held a wedding in all 50 states to examine the culture of marriage and respond to the pressure on young, single Asian American women to get married. Her spouses included a 1,200 pound Angus bull, a horse, a Miller Brewery Company t-shirt, a pump jack in Oklahoma and a multitude of grooms from across the country. Her weddings became an exploration of the diversity of traditions and ceremonies that mark marriage in the United States. For more information on the project, visit mariathankoredridebride.com.

Gina Pollara (AR’91) was interviewed by WNYC about the Franklin Delano Roosevelt memorial on Roosevelt Island, for which she is Executive Director. Catherine Colangelo (A’92) received her second Houston Arts Alliance Individual Artist Fellowship Grant and exhibited her grant project, Fleet for Abby, a gouache painting on paper, at the Art League of Houston in July 2011. Marco Shmerkowsky (CE92/MCF’93) explored the challenges of base building in a high-density urban area in a feature for Structure magazine. The feature uses Shmerkowsky Consulting Engineers’ work at 21 West 34th Street as a case study. Diyan Achjadi (A’95) exhibited on the columns of the Aberdeen station on the Canada Line along Richmond’s No. 3 Road, presented by the City of Richmond’s Public Art program. The LAB Gallery in Victoria, British Columbia, presented an animation screening and artist talk with Achjadi on The Farther Adventures of Girl, her ongoing series of works exploring questions of how identity and militarism are depicted in popular culture. Rachel Wise (A’95) exhibited in the NYCA/UFPT Spring 2011 Artist/Teacher Exhibition at the Brecht Forum in New York, June 2011. Shelley Elskvar (A’93) had the New York premiere of her film Upending (2010) at the Walter Reade Theater during the New York Film Festival’s Views from the Avant Garde series in October 2011. Elskvar’s film After Ghostcatching (2010) is screening at the Nelson-Akins Museum of Art in Kansas City through December 31, 2011 and at the Boston Institute of Contemporary Art through January 16, 2012. Julian LaVerdiere (A’94) created the cover of Time magazine’s Beyond 9/11 issue with Paul Myoda. LaVerdiere and Myoda are co-creators of the Tribute in Light and were both included in Time’s multimedia project Portraits of Resilience. Eric Rodenbeck (AR’93) gave a TED talk in Silicon Valley in May 2011. Rodenbeck is the founder of Sustain, a design and technology studio in San Francisco. Bradley Horn (AR’94) and Jason Vollen (AR’94) were moderators at the summer 2011 ACSA Teachers Seminar on Performatice Practices. Catherine Sevitt Nordenson (AR’94) spoke at the March 2011 symposium on “Advancing Architectural Praxis” at the University of Michigan. Michael Bartolone (CEB’95) visited Haiti in November 2011 with Habitat for Humanity to build homes in areas impacted by the earthquake. Jennifer Crupi (A’95) will be in the 40 under 40: Craft Futures exhibit at the Smithsonian American Art Museum’s Renwick Gallery from July 20, 2012 to February 13, 2013. The exhibit will feature forty artists born since 1972, the year the Smithsonian American Art Museum’s contemporary craft and decorative arts program was established at its branch museum, the Renwick Gallery. Kim Hollemann (A’95) had a solo show of new work at House Gallery in Salt Lake City entitled All Possible Futures, August 2011. Hollemann had a solo show entitled Museum of (Un)Natural History at WORK Gallery in Brooklyn, June 2011. The exhibit featured a street installation and new sculptures, including models of parks, empty lots, nostalgic structures and architectural futures that Hollemann created from mostly synthetic materials and items culled from the trash and the street. Michael Samuelan (AR’95) was the moderator for “Riverside Center: Did the Public Process Work?” at the Center for Architecture in New York, May 2011. Zoe Pettijohn Schade (A’95) exhibited in A Selection from the Collection at Wolfe Contemporary in San Francisco, August to September 2011, and in Double Vision at Geoffrey Young Gallery in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, September 2011. Kevin Slavin (A’95) and Mike Eiss (A’96) exhibited their collaborative visual design for the card game Hellix in Tall to Me: Design and the Communication between People and Objects at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, July to November 2011. Nicky Enright (A’96) participated in the 2011 artist in the Marketplace (AIM) program and exhibited in Bronx Calling: The First AIM Biennial at the Bronx Museum, June to September 2011. Adriana Farmiga (A’96) worked on the pre-production and production design of Higher Ground, directed by Vera Farmiga, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. Grady Gerbracht (A’96) exhibited in the group show SICK! at Leo Kogan Project Space in Amsterdam, June to August 2011. Justin Spivey (CEB’96) joined Was, Janney, Elstner, Associates, Inc.’s Princeton branch as a Senior Associate. Spivey specializes in the condition assessment, renovation, repair and adaptive reuse of existing structures, and has worked with many National Register and National Historic Landmark properties. Spivey is a licensed professional engineer in California and Connecticut. Amy Cutler (A’97) had a solo show of recent work at Leslie Tonkonow Artworks + Projects, September to November 2011. The exhibit featured her new monograph, Amy Cutler: Turtle Paw, published by Harje Canto, Hope Gangloff (A’97) curated the exhibition THISORGANIZED AT Susam Inglett Gallery in New York, September to October 2011. Artists in the show include Gavin Anderson (A’98), Benjamin Degen (A’98), Blaze Lampier (A’05), Adriana Farmiga (A’96), Eric Fertman (A’97), Yuri Mansj (A’98), Justin Valdes (A’96), Nichole van Beek (A’98) and Anton Vojacek (A’98). Wangechi Mutu (A’97) was interviewed by CNN on her art in August 2011. Karen Sandler (BSE’97) is the chief executive of the GNOME Foundation and will be the first keynote speaker at the 13th Australian national Linux conference scheduled for January 2012.

Prabha Yoon (A’97) had a solo show entitled Portraits of Imaginary Machines at Galerie N in Bangkok, July to August 2011. Tom Abraham (AR’98) was a featured panelist at SMPS-NT’s “The Future Now: Where Technology, Communications, and the Economy Will Take the A/E/C Industry Next” event in October 2011. Jena H. Kim (A’98) had a solo show entitled The Last Stage at Next Door Gallery in Seoul, April to May 2011. Bhaskar Krishnamachari (EPK98) was included in the 2011 MIT Technology Review’s TR-35 annual listing of the 35 top innovators under 35. Jason Clay Lewis (A’98) and Nichole van Beek (A’98) are exhibiting in the EAF11: 2011 Emerging Artists Fellowship Exhibition at Socrates Sculpture Park through March 4, 2012 Anthony Titus (AR’98) exhibited in the July 2011 NADA Hudson, a large-scale exhibition featuring over 30 projects presented by the New Art Dealers Alliance members and affiliates. Titus had his second solo show at Museum 52 in New York, entitled Bare Illusions, from May to June 2011. Pedro Lasch (A’99) had selections from Phantom Limbs and Twin Towers Go Global, two memorials shown on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of September 11, 2001, exhibited at Stephan Stoyanov Gallery in New York, September to October 2011. Jee Young Sim (A’99) exhibited in the group show Andrei Koschmieder Puts at Real Fine Arts in Brooklyn. June to August 2011. Lan Tuazon (A’99) is in Raw/Cooked, a year-long series of exhibitions at the Brooklyn Museum by five emerging Brooklyn artists. Tuazon’s solo show opened November 4, 2011 and runs through January 15, 2012. Tuazon’s practice addresses the order and placement of objects within architectural environments. For this exhibit, she created a site-specific monument composed of empty display cases. She is also showing ink drawings and a group of six miniature sculptures that will be installed in the Brooklyn Museum’s galleries of ancient Egyptian art. Oscar Tuazon (A’99) exhibited the architectural installation The Tyrer as one of the four “para-pavilions” at the 2011 Venice Biennale. Jovan Karlo Villalba (A’99) exhibited at Pace Works at the Gowanus Ballroom in Brooklyn, September 2011.

00s

Kristopher Benedict (A’00) had a solo show entitled Female at Sue Scott Gallery in New York, September to October 2011. Rona Chang (A’10) had a solo show at the Homefront Gallery in Long Island City entitled Moving Forward, Standing Still—Queens Edition, September to October 2011. In 2011, Chang received a grant from the Queens Council on the Arts with public funding from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs for her series Moving Forward, Standing Still, an ongoing project that portrays the complex intersection of people and cultures in a landscape. John Hartmann (AR’00) started a design-build program in the summer of 2011 with four other designers working with five students from Pratt and RISD. Called ‘FARM, the program was held at a 300 acre sheep and cattle farm in western New York where, over the course of a week, a moveable chicken coop was designed and constructed.
The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art

Installation by Matt Corones (A’03) in the Des Moines Art Center

May 2011. Hilary Bond (A’07) is based in Los Angeles and recently had two paintings purchased by CBS to be used in the production of their new show 2 Broke Girls. Nancy Lupe (A’06), Prudence Montour (A’09), Dan Cautucci (A’09), Dmitri Hertz (A’09), Devin Kenny (A’09), Lisa Larson-Walker (A’09), Saki Sato (A’10), Jen Spatz (A’10), Eric Mack (A’10), Amy Reid (A’10), Avery Singer (A’10) and Georgia Gray (A’11) were featured in The Hand’s inaugural group exhibition Public Sculpture in Brooklyn, August 2011. Tammey Nguyen (A’07) exhibited in the Vietnamese American Arts and Letters Association’s Marvelous Metaphors: Art as Visual Poetry in Santa Ana, California, August to November 2011. Maayan Pearl (A’07) works as a graphic designer for Bloomberg BusinessWeek magazine and her apartment was featured on Design*Sponge in May 2011. Giandomenico Tonutti Pelizzzi (A’07) had his first New York solo show at Y Gallery, September to October 2011. Caroline Woolard (A’07), Rich Watts (A’08) and Louise Martin (A’09) were all co-founders of Trade School and OurGoods, resources sharing projects for cultural producers. OurGoods opened a project room in Lving of manifesto, a commission by Creative Time, and OurGoods just received a $100K Rockefeller Cultural Innovation Fund. Lola Montes Schnabel (A’08) had a solo show entitled Aline Drawings at Tropea Gallery in New York, August to September 2011. Sofia Bernstein (A’08), Alana Fitzgerald (A’09), Jenevieve Reid (A’08), Leslie Martinez (A’08), Erica Weisman (A’09) and Golon Goldfield (A’10), Jessica Williams (A’08), Sam Vernon (A’09), Vivian Wong (A’08) and Krista Anderson (A’08) exhibited in the Recent Graduate Exhibition at the 2011 Affordable Art Fair. Natalie Lesnai (A’08) received the Best of the Best Award for Rensselaer’s Change the World Challenge where students are asked to propose an innovative project that has the potential to improve human life. Lesnai worked with fellow RPI student Asiri Jayawardena on a project that would provide light to people who have no access to a conventional power grid. Julianne Rhoads (B’08) gave a TEDTalk on Needle in the Hay at Ritter/Zamet in London, October to November 2011. Maxwell von Stein (ME’11) was featured by NPR’s Science Friday and Scientific American for the bicycle he built for the Cooper Union End of Year Show that uses a flywheel to store energy. Nicholas Wong (ME’11) created an interactive light studio for P.S. 347, New York City’s only public school for children who are deaf, hard of hearing or the children of deaf parents.
In Memoriam

Harper’s Magazines. Confronting changes in the publishing industry, Ratzkin initiated the group Graphic Artists for Self-Preservation (GASP*), which subsequently merged with the Graphic Artists Guild. He passed away on May 18, 2011 at his home in Manhattan. He is survived by his son, Andrew, and his grandchildren Michael, Benjamin, and Camilla.

Left: Phyllis Belous Berger (ME’46) Right: Larry Ratzkin (A’51)

Phyllis Belous Berger (ME’46) was the first woman to graduate in mechanical engineering from The Cooper Union and went on to earn a master’s in fluid mechanics from Stevens Institute of Technology. Throughout her career, she broke through barriers for future generations of female engineers. She was the first woman to serve on the New York State Board of Examiners of Professional Engineering and Land Surveying, and was one of the first female Chair of a state board anywhere in the United States. At Bronx Community College, she was elected-chairwoman of the Engineering Technologies Department, making her the first female to hold a leadership position in an engineering technology department in New York. She was a founding member of the Society for Women Engineers. Berger was also the first woman to receive a major award in recognition of her contributions to the field of engineering education.

Phyllis Belous Berger died peacefully in her sleep on July 16, 2011, surrounded by her children Marsha and Peter, their spouses Jonathan and Nina, and her grandchildren Danny, Theo, Laura and Lisa. She was preceded in death by her husband Alex in 2005.

Lawrence Ratzkin (A’51) was a prominent graphic designer noted for his cunning visual solutions honed down to their graphic essence. His work earned repeated awards from the American Institute of Arts and Crafts. During his career, which spanned from 1960 to 2011, he produced thousands of book jackets for the major American publishing houses, including Simon & Schuster, Random House, E.P. Dutton, Harper & Row, David McKay, Putnam, Farr Strauss and Giroux, Knopf and William Morrow. He designed book covers for such celebrated authors as John Updike, Betty Friedan, Letty Poggrebini, William Greider, Arthur C. Clarke, Michael Korda, Isaac Bashevis Singer, E.L. Doctorow, Philip Roth, Bob Woodward, Tom Clancy, John Lennon, Osanna Fallaci, Tom Wolfe, P.G. Wodehouse, S.J. Perelman, Robert Penn Warren and Anthony Burgess. Among his well-known jackets are covers for A Mother’s Kisses, Trobinka, The Selling of the President 1968, The Progress of a Crime, The Diary of a Rapist, In Flanders Fields, Name, Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex But Were Afraid to Ask, and The Inner City Mother Goose, for which he also designed numerous covers for from Harvard University and went on to work in the United States, England, India, Brazil and China. He taught at Princeton, Harvard, the University of Westminster, Polytechnic of Central London and the University of Virginia. As a designer, the faculty in 1984 and served as the Dean of the School of Architecture from 1989 to 2002. He transferred to emeritus status in 2008. In 2006, he became Dean and Chair Professor at the Hong Kong University. Berger received five Progressive Architecture Awards, including a First Award for the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts in New Delhi, India, in 1987, and a PA Citation for the Lower Manhattan Financial District Placemaking Plan in 1990. In 1990, he was honored with the President’s Citation from The Cooper Union. His work was exhibited at the National Building Museum, the Institute of Contemporary Art in London and the Museum of Modern Art. He participated in a design proposal for the Olympic Village for the 2012 New York City Olympic bid. Lerner served as a member of the Cooper Union Alumni Council and on its John Q. Heyduk Award Committee. He was the director, advisor or juror for numerous design competitions, including the CCA Prize Competition for the Design of Cities, Architectural Design Awards from the American Institute of Architects and the Cities Light Designs Competition for the NYC Department of Design and Construction/NYC Department of Transportation. Ralph Lerner passed away on May 7, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Lisa Fischetti; a son, Sigmund; a daughter, Esther; a sister Judith Lerner Brice; and two brothers, Alan and Marc.

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