

Ezra Stoller *Architecture* (cont.)

Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY, 1959

Architect: Frank Lloyd Wright

Seagram Building, New York, NY, 1958

Architect: Mies van der Rohe

Salk Institute, La Jolla, CA, 1977

Architect: Louis Kahn

Ezra Stoller was born in Chicago in 1915, grew up in New York and graduated from New York University in 1938 with a BFA in industrial design. As a student, he began photographing buildings, models and sculpture. In 1940-41, Stoller worked with the photographer Paul Strand in the Office of Emergency Management; he was drafted in 1942 and worked as a photographer at the Army Signal Corps Photo Center.

During his long career as an architectural photographer, Stoller worked closely with many of the period's leading architects, including: Frank Lloyd Wright, Paul Rudolph, Marcel Breuer, I.M. Pei, Gordon Bunshaft, Eero Saarinen, Richard Meier and Mies van der Rohe, among others. Many modern buildings are known and remembered by the images Stoller created. He was uniquely able to visualize the formal and spatial aspirations of modernist architecture. The first time the American Institute of Architects awarded a medal for architectural photography, in 1960, it was given to Ezra Stoller. Ezra Stoller's photographs are published in countless books and magazines. The monograph *Modern Architecture: Photographs by Ezra Stoller* was published by Harry N. Abrams in 1990 and reissued in 1997. Beginning in 1999, Princeton Architectural Press issued the *Building Blocks* series, 10 books on Stoller's work. Ezra Stoller received an honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from Pratt Institute in 1998.

Stoller's work is in the collections of numerous museums, including the Canadian Centre for Architecture, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Houston Museum of Fine Arts, the High Art Museum, and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. He died in Williamstown, Massachusetts, in 2004.

An extensive exhibition of his work, *Ezra Stoller, Fifty Photographs*, was held at Williams College Museum of Art from June to December, 2004. Past solo shows include Max Protetch Gallery, 1980; James Danziger Gallery, 1998 and 1999; Rolf Ricke Gallery, 2000; Ariel Meyerowitz Gallery, 2001 and Henry Urbach Architecture Gallery, in 2002 and 2004. Stoller's vintage and limited edition photographs are exclusively represented by James Danziger Projects in New York while Esto arranges image licensing for reproduction.

This Ezra Stoller biography appears courtesy of Esto.

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**Provincetown
Art Association
and Museum**

New to PAAM: Photographs by JULES AARONS and EZRA STOLLER



Jules Aarons self portrait, photo courtesy of Boston Public Library



Ezra Stoller, photo courtesy of Esto

October 27—December 10, 2006

New to PAAM: Photographs by JULES AARONS and EZRA STOLLER

JULES AARONS (1921 -)

15 untitled photographs from the portfolio

In the Jewish Neighborhoods, 1946–76

silver gelatin print photograph

Gift of David Murphy

...in 1947 I began to take black and white photographs with the aim to document Boston, its streets and its people, while also developing my own style. I resolved to capture the day-to-day life experiences of the people, avoiding scenes of poverty. I had grown up in New York City and seen the extremes. I knew that the dynamics of people whose social relationships involved their neighbors and the streets could be a source of creativity. The drama of living is more fully played out in the streets of the city, particularly areas with apartment houses. Kids and adults interact in the street. They chat, they admire the babies, they play cards, they stroll, they sit and watch the drama. Viewing the photographs, one thing that pops out is that there wasn't the clutter of automobiles that envelop city streets today. The very absence of cars filling the streets allowed a greater concentration on people. City people used public transportation. And they frequently used neighborhood stores, groceries, shoe repair shops, barbers. In the North End they shopped for fruit and vegetables on Saturday in the pushcart market. All this was available to the photographer.

I began photographing in the West End, a vital neighborhood with kids and adults playing and living in the streets. At the time I photographed there, (1947-1953), the West End was an integrated area where people seemed to get along. The black kids played with the white kids, mindless of color differences. The West End had very set boundaries and was a vigorously alive residential neighborhood in the 1940s and the 1950s. Bordered by the Charles River, Beacon Hill, the Financial District and the North End and included today's Charles River Park and Massachusetts General Hospital, the area had a history of channeling immigrants into the Boston area. There were Italian, Jewish, and Black families. There were specialty Jewish stores and Italian festas. Even the buildings were of interest, many with external decorations.

But the West End was to be a casualty of urban renewal. In 1953 the City of Boston targeted the neighborhood for redevelopment and in 1958 the demolition took place. Along with the residential area, Scollay Square, Boston's Times Square, was "revitalized," bulldozed and renamed Government Center because to some Scollay Square meant bars, burlesque houses and the homeless.

Although I lost the West End as a subject, I was also photographing in other neighborhoods in the Boston area like the South End, South Boston, Chelsea and, especially, the North End.

From My Photographic History by Jules Aarons, courtesy of Boston Public Library.

EZRA STOLLER (1915-2004)

12 signed silver gelatin print photographs

from the portfolio *Architecture*

Gift of David Murphy:

New Harmony Atheneum, New Harmony, IN, 1979

Architect: Richard Meier

Finnish Pavilion, 1939 World's Fair, Queens, NY, 1939

Architect: Alvar Aalto

Manufacturer's Trust, New York, NY, 1954

Architects: Skidmore, Owings & Merrill

Chamberlain Cottage, Wayland, MA, 1942

Architects: Walter Gropius and Marcel Breuer

Notre Dame du Haut, Ronchamp, France, 1956

Architect: LeCorbusier

Whitney Museum, New York, NY, 1966

Architect: Marcel Breuer

Fallingwater, Bear Run, PA, 1963

Architect: Frank Lloyd Wright

Kitt Peak Solar Observatory, Arizona, 1962

Architects: Skidmore, Owings & Merrill

TWA Building, Idlewild Airport, Queens, NY, 1962

Architect: Eero Saarinen