DUALITY

HARMONY
IN CONTRAST



SARASOTA DESIGN
CONFERENCE

26
NOVEMBER
12 | 13 | 14

FOREWORD

Our world is shaped by the meeting of opposites. Light and shadow, mass and void, stillness and motion: each gives the other meaning. Within this duality lives play, the tension and exchange that brings the world to life.

As architects and designers, we compose with the full spectrum of phenomena, from the atomic structure of the materials we shape to the photons that fall across surface and void. We illuminate. As we move through our environments, both built and natural, we are called to heighten our awareness of the rich dialogues unfolding around us.

Light dances with shadow. Falling rain meets solid stone, and the friction between them creates something new. A space filled with silence speaks to the mind's eye.

Architects hold a rare privilege: we can orchestrate these dualities. We take opposing forces and give them form, and in that tension we find harmony.

We invite you to step into the infinite silence of St. Paul's Lutheran Church and let it transform you through the stories we share: Architecture as Duality.

Welcome to the 2026 Sarasota Design Conference: Duality - Harmony in Contrast.



Presented by the American Institute of Architects Gulf Coast Chapter, the Sarasota Design Conference has carried a proud legacy since 1988, when Antoine Predock and Peter Eisenman first took the stage. Over the decades, it has drawn some of the world's most inspiring architects to our community, and remains singular in its devotion to one pursuit: Design.

This year, we are thrilled to welcome Kai-Uwe Bergmann (BIG), Amy Donohue (BORA), Leo Marmol (Marmol Radziner), and Daniel Ralls (Olson Kundig). We are deeply grateful for their participation, and for the care and craft they have poured into their presentations.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Pastor Ashley Nicolls and the St. Paul Lutheran Church congregation for opening their sanctuary to us. Designed by the visionary Victor Lundy, one of the founding voices of the Sarasota School, this remarkable space is the ideal setting to explore duality in design and in the human condition.

This year also marks a new partnership with Architecture Sarasota, uniting the Sarasota Design Conference with Sarasota MOD Weekend. Together, we present a rich series of events that celebrates impactful architecture and honors the enduring spirit of the Sarasota School.



Karl Christophe Bernhard, AIA
President, AIA Gulf Coast
2026 SDC Conference Chair

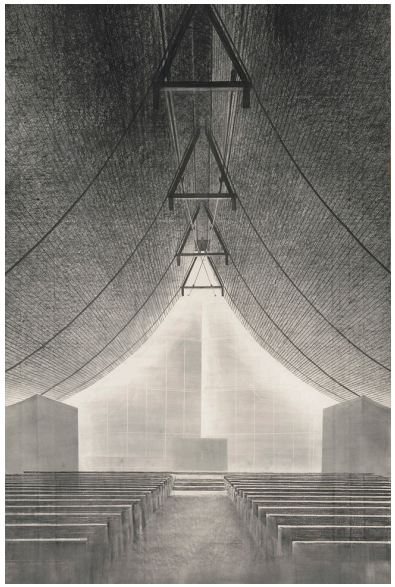
AIA Florida Gulf Coast

DUALITY
HARMONY
IN CONTRAST

SARASOTA DESIGN CONFERENCE 26
NOVEMBER 12 | 13 | 14

INDEX

2 Foreword
5 Sponsors
6 Conference Map
8 Program
10 Speaker Profiles
18 Year in Review



Sanctuary Drawing by Victor Lundy

This year's conference is presented by

AIA Florida Gulf Coast

in collaboration with

100 Years Sarasota School ARCHITECTURE SARASOTA
MOD Weekend

SPONSORS

PLATINUM SPONSOR

envision LIGHTING SYSTEMS

GOLD SPONSORS

ALLEGION SERVICES GROUP

TLC ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS

SILVER SPONSORS

COMSLAB

BCB HOMES

PGT WINDOOR By MITER Brands™

BRONZE SPONSOR

MULLET'S ALUMINUM PRODUCTS INC.

10 x 10 SPONSORS

WSH WICKED SMART HOMES

peikko

MEDIA SPONSOR

SRQ MEDIA

SPEAKER SPONSOR

ARCHITECTURE SARASOTA

LUNCH SPONSORS

TWOTRAILS High Performance Building Consultants

DDSCAD Your CAD / BIM Business Partner DIGITAL DRAFTING SYSTEMS .COM

BREAKFAST SPONSORS

Gulfside BANK

HILL GROUP

COFFEE BAR SPONSORS

genesis engineering group, llc integrated consulting for the building industry

JECHARLOTTE CONSTRUCTION CORP

CONFERENCE SUPPORTERS

DSDG 25 YEARS ARCHITECTS AR 94536

Sweet Sparkman ARCHITECTS

TMP

MSA

QDG ENGINEERING CONNECTIONS

ENELL

Armstrong CEILINGS

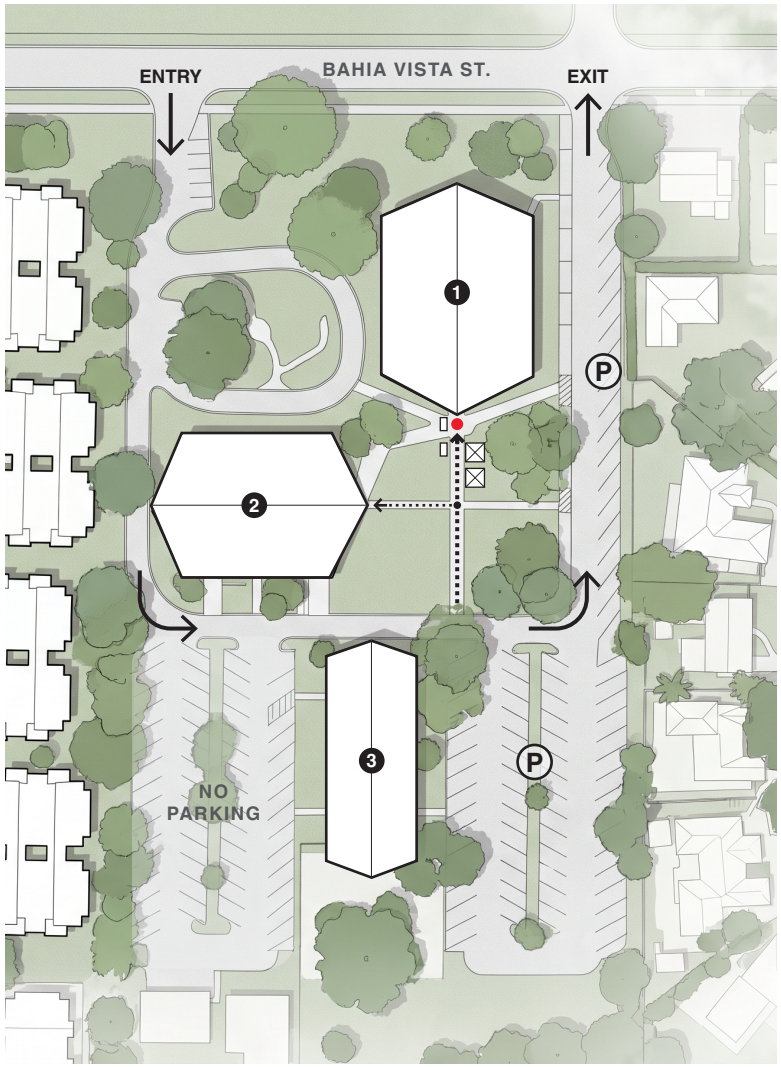
DTM TECH INC

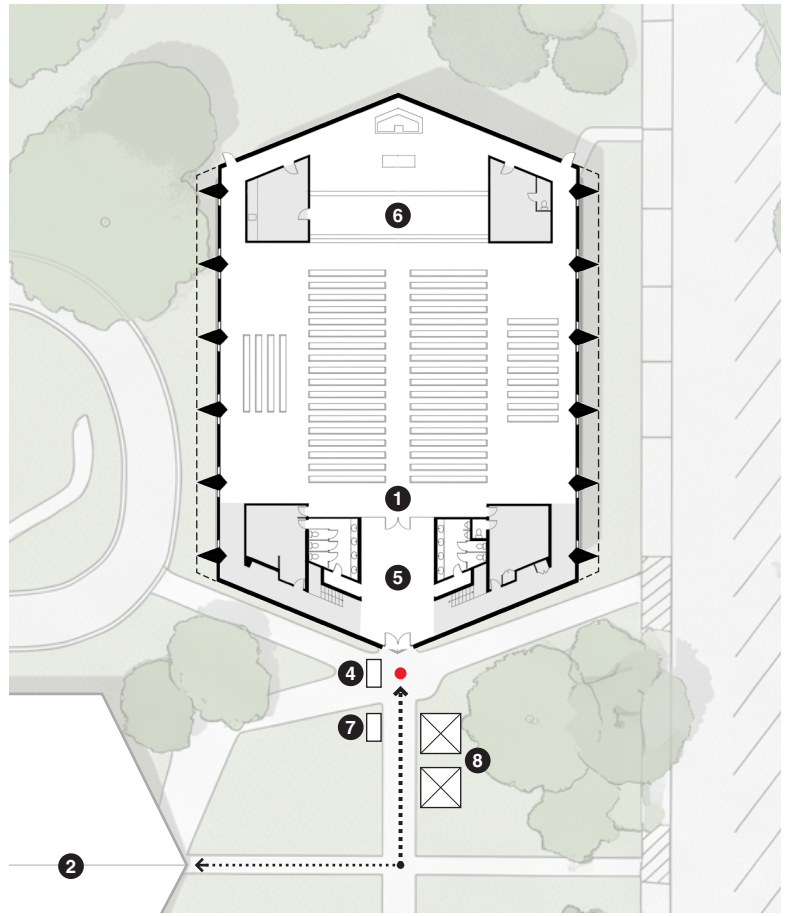
WILLIS SMITH CONSTRUCTION

CD CLIVE DANIEL HOME

BCS HAWORTH

CONFERENCE MAP





1. SANCTUARY
2. FELLOWSHIP HALL
3. EDUCATION BUILDING
4. CHECK-IN
5. RECEPTION (NARTHEX)
6. MAIN STAGE (ALTAR)
7. COFFEE CART
8. HOSPITALITY TENTS

Thursday 12 November

5:00-7:00 PM	**10 x 10 SDC Kick Off** **Note:** Separately Ticketed Event Selby Botanical Gardens 1534 Mound St, Sarasota, FL 34236

Friday 13 November

8:00-9:00 AM	**Registration + Breakfast** Sponsored by Gulfside Bank
9:00 AM	**Opening Remarks by Karl Bernhard** Principal Architect | Sweet Sparkman Architects President of AIA Gulf Coast Chapter
9:00-10:30 AM	**Bora Architects** Amy Donohue, AIA, NOMA, LFA, Principal
10:30-11:00 AM	**Coffee Break** Sponsored by Genesis Engineering Group
11:00 AM- 12:30 PM	**Olson Kundig** Daniel Ralls, AIA, Principal/Owner
12:30-1:30 PM	**Lunch | SDC | Fellowship Hall** Sponsored by Two Trails Building Consultants
1:30-3:00 PM	**BIG** Kai-Uwe Bergmann, FAIA, Partner
5:30-8:00 PM	**MOD Opening Party at the Pavilion** MOD Ticketed Event | 265 South Orange Avenue

Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at:
St. Paul Lutheran Church | 2256 Bahia Vista Street, Sarasota, FL 34239

Saturday 14 November

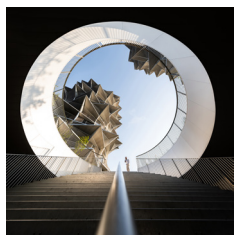
8:00-9:00 AM	**Registration + Breakfast** Sponsored by Hilb Group
9:00-9:15 AM	**Welcome Address by Pastor Ashley Nicolls** St. Paul Lutheran Church
9:15-10:15 AM	**Marmol Radziner** Leo Marmol, FAIA, Co-Founder Speaker Sponsor: Architecture Sarasota
10:15-10:45 AM	**Coffee Break** Sponsored by J.E. Charlotte Construction
10:45-11:30 AM	**Panel Discussion**
11:30 AM- 12:00 PM	**100 Years of Sarasota School Mod Weekend Introduction by Marty Hylton** President of Architecture Sarasota
12:00-1:00 PM	**Lunch | SDC | Fellowship Hall** Sponsored by DDSCAD
12:30-4:30 PM	**MOD Signature Tour** Self Guided Tour | Included with SDC Registration Shuttle Tour | Separately Ticketed via MOD Weekend

Sunday 15 November

10:00 AM- 12:00 PM	**Boat Tour** MOD Ticketed Event | LeBarge, 2 Marina Plaza
1:00-4:00 PM	**Greenbriar Neighborhood Tour** MOD Ticketed Event | Greenbriar Street











KAI-UWE BERGMANN



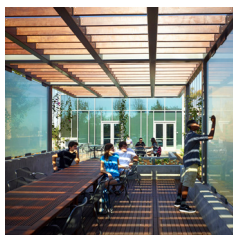
Kai-Uwe Bergmann, FAIA, is a Partner at BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group, working from the firm's New York office and collaborating across BIG's international studios. His work spans proposals and projects throughout North America, South America, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. Licensed as an architect in the United States and Canada, Bergmann helps lead work in more than 40 countries and brings a global perspective to architecture, urbanism, and contemporary civic challenges.

Bergmann contributed to the East Side Coastal Resiliency Project, also known as the BIG U, a resiliency effort designed to protect 10 miles of Manhattan's coastline. Broader work includes contributions to BIG's exhibitions and publications, including Hot to Cold, Yes Is More, Formgiving, and Culture. He is an AIA Fellow, has taught at the Pratt Institute and Georgia Tech, and served as a board member of the Van Alen Institute.

Lecture Topic : Materialism

Human history can be read as a story told through materials — each breakthrough marking a new chapter in our evolution. We named entire eras after the substances we learned to master: the Stone Age, the Bronze Age, the Iron Age, the Silicon Age. Our ability to manipulate matter has been one of the most powerful forces driving civilization forward. In this spirit, we invite you on an odyssey through the material world, as seen through the works of BIG — from the permanence of solid rock to the invisible flow of electrons.









AMY DONOHUE



Amy Donohue, AIA, NOMA, LFA, is a Principal with Bora Architecture & Interiors and has thirty years of experience designing spaces for education and the arts on university campuses across the country. She holds a Bachelor of Design in Architecture from the University of Florida and a Master of Architecture from Princeton University. Her professional work is supported by a long-standing commitment to teaching, design leadership, and public dialogue around the future of learning environments.

Donohue's experience includes higher education, arts and culture, K-12 education, and workplace projects, including Harvey Mudd College, Oregon State University, Portland Community College, Texas A&M University, the University of Washington, and Portland Public Schools. Bora describes her as a design principal focused on dynamic, engaging spaces for higher education, collaborative workplaces, and performing arts venues.

Lecture Topic : Change in the Face of Inertia: New Models for Education, Arts, and Community

Design requires looking back for lessons while looking forward with a beginner's mind. Precedent can become "best practice," leaving little room to rethink how spaces respond to changing human needs. Architects have the opportunity—and responsibility—to expand what is possible. Through case studies in learning environments, concert halls, and libraries, this talk explores student engagement, adaptable acoustics, meaningful community involvement, and resistance to change. We'll close by considering how architects can lead the evolution of spaces for education, arts, and community, while opening new possibilities for people and places.



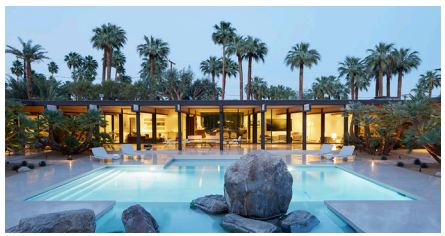
MARMOL
RADZINER

Leo Marmol, FAIA

presented courtesy of

ARCHITECTURE
SARASOTA







LEO MARMOL



Leo Marmol, FAIA, is the Co-Founder of Marmol Radziner, the architect-led design/build practice he established in 1989 with Ron Radziner, FAIA.
Based in Los Angeles, with offices in San Francisco and New York, the firm is known for an integrated design/build approach that includes architecture, landscape architecture, interior design, construction, and fabrication. Marmol lectures widely on architecture and restoration and has organized architectural tours throughout Southern California to highlight the region's Mid-century Modernist landmarks.

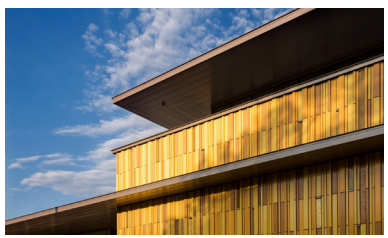
Marmol Radziner's historic rehabilitation work has been recognized by the AIA, California Preservation Foundation, State Office of Historic Preservation, California State Parks, and Docomomo. The firm's restoration of Richard Neutra's Kaufmann House received AIA California's Twenty-five Year Award, and Marmol Radziner was recognized as a Pioneer in Modern Restoration by the Palm Springs Modern Committee.

Lecture Topic : Modernism in a Changing Climate

Drawing on decades of experience restoring modernist landmarks, Leo Marmol, FAIA examines how preservation must evolve amid climate instability. In response to wildfires in California and hurricanes on Florida's Gulf Coast, Marmol challenges static preservation models that prioritize process over performance. He advocates for a more adaptive approach—one that responds to environmental realities, supports housing needs, and embraces change as part of continuity. For Marmol, preserving meaning does not mean freezing buildings in time, but rethinking how they can endure.









DANIEL RALLS



Daniel Ralls, AIA, is a Principal / Owner at Olson Kundig. He joined the firm in 2007 and was named owner in 2022. Over the past nineteen years, Ralls has worked extensively in residential design while expanding across cultural, mixed-use, commercial, and art installation projects. His work ranges across local, regional, and international contexts, with current and past project locations including the Pacific Northwest, Florida, Singapore, the United Kingdom, Mexico, and other regions around the world. With a background in building and fabrication, Ralls brings a strong understanding of how architecture is physically made. In complex large-scale projects, he values close relationships with local tradespeople and regional building traditions, using those collaborations to shape the design process. His selected work includes Bay Area Hill House, a 27,000-square-foot residence designed to weave the house into the landscape, and Mexico Residence, a seasonal home set on a sandy beach in Baja.

Lecture Topic : Finding Balance on the Unstable Edge: Exploring Continuity Through Contrast

Since 1966, Olson Kundig has pursued the unexpected, building a body of work shaped by close connections to nature, material, craft, and place. As the practice has expanded from the Pacific Northwest to projects around the world, each design reflects a dialogue between local conditions and enduring architectural principles. This session explores continuity and evolution through case studies that reveal the creative potential of contrast—between climates and cultures, permanence and adaptation, and the ways a design legacy can evolve while remaining grounded in context.

AIA Florida Gulf Coast

AIA Florida Gulf Coast connects architects, emerging professionals, and industry partners to advance design and strengthen communities across Manatee, Sarasota, DeSoto, Hardee, and Highlands counties. Through continuing education, project tours, ARE study groups, 10x10 lectures, Design Drinks, and the Sarasota Design Conference, the chapter supports professional growth and collaboration. It actively engages in government policy and legislative advocacy, supports FAPAC, and champions architectural scholarships, design excellence, local arts, and charities. In 2026, its Reflections Art Auction raised $3,000 for the local Boys & Girls Clubs arts programs.

Whether pursuing licensure, growing a practice, or shaping the region's future, members gain resources, connections, and a collective voice. Their participation guides priorities including preserving the Gulf Coast's architectural identity, supporting attainable housing, and strengthening professional practice. Get involved through a committee, project tour, study group, sponsorship, or chapter event. Architects and eligible emerging professionals can apply for Architect or Associate membership; allied professionals and industry companies can join through the chapter.

Visit **aiagulfcoast.org** or contact **info@aiagulfcoast.org** to learn more.

2026 Board of Directors

President	**Karl Bernhard, AIA**	Sweet Sparkman Architects
Vice President / President-Elect	**Roberto González, AIA**	DSDG Architects
Treasurer	**Laney Brown, AIA**	TMP
Secretary	**Melanie Como Harris, AIA**	CPL A,E & P
Chapter Director	**Daniel Shaffer, AIA**	CMSA Architects
Chapter Director	**Juan Ocaña, Assoc. AIA**	DSDG Architects
Associate Director	**Albert Frias, Assoc. AIA**	DSDG Architects
State Director	**James Piatchuk, AIA**	Piatchuk Architecture
Immediate Past President	**Anita Keitel, AIA**	DSDG Architects
FFA Representative	**Chris Gallagher, AIA**	Hoyt Architects

DUALITY

HARMONY

IN CONTRAST



SARASOTA DESIGN CONFERENCE | 26

NOVEMBER 12 | 13 | 14