EXHIBITION  EMILIO AMBASZ/STEVEN HOLL: ARCHITECTURE

DATES  February 9 - April 4, 1989

ORGANIZATION  Stuart Wrede, Director, Department of Architecture and Design, The Museum of Modern Art

SPONSORSHIP  This is the fourth of five architectural exhibitions in the Museum's GERALD D. HINES INTERESTS ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM, which explores current directions in architecture.

FOCUS  The exhibition focuses on the work of New York-based architects Emilio Ambasz (b. Argentina, 1943) and Steven Holl (b. Seattle, 1947). Unlike architects who sought inspiration mainly in the formal language of modernism, or those who have turned to historic modes of architectural representation, Ambasz and Holl have revitalized a mythopoetic, allegorical side of modernism. While Ambasz looks to the archaic and primitive, Holl draws on the anonymous vernacular of the city and the small town. Simplicity, severity, and abstraction characterize their work.

CONTENT  Ambasz's inventive designs are presented through drawings, models, photographs, and audio-visual presentation; Holl's through drawings, models, and photographs. Included are fifteen projects by each architect, ranging from large, urban projects to interiors (list of projects attached). Among Ambasz's diverse projects are the Cooperative of Mexican-American Grapegrowers, California (1976); House, Cordoba, Spain (1979); the Lucille Halsell Conservatory, Texas (1984); and the 1992 Universal Exposition, Seville (1986). Holl's designs include Gymnasium-Bridge, New York (1977); Martha's Vineyard House (1984-87); Milan Project-Porta Vittoria (1986-87); and Amerika Gedenk Bibliothek, Berlin (1988).

PUBLICATION  A brochure with an essay by Stuart Wrede and an exhibition checklist accompanies the exhibition.

LECTURES  "Anchoring," a lecture by Steven Holl, Tuesday, March 7, 1989, 6:30 p.m.; "The Poetics of the Pragmatic," a lecture by Emilio Ambasz, Tuesday, March 14, 6:30 p.m. Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2. Tickets for each are $8.00, members $7.00, students $5.00, and are available at the Museum's Information Desk.

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For further information, contact the Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750.
LIST OF PROJECTS IN THE EXHIBITION

Emilio Ambasz

1. Center for Applied Computer Research, Mexico 1975
2. Cooperative of Mexican-American Grapegrowers, California 1976
3. Pro Memoria Garden, West Germany 1978
4. House, Cordoba, Spain 1979
5. Manoir D'Angoussart, Belgium 1979
8. Houston Center Plaza, Texas 1982
9. Plaza Mayor, Salamanca, Spain 1982
10. Schlumberger Research Laboratories, Texas 1982
11. Lucille Halsell Conservatory, Texas 1984
12. Showroom for Mercedes-Benz, New Jersey 1986
13. 1992 Universal Exposition, Seville, Spain 1986
14. Nichii Obihiro Department Store, Japan 1987
15. Sanda Training and Community Center 1988

Steven Holl

1. Underwater House, St. Tropez 1976
2. Gymnasium-Bridge, New York 1977
3. House, Staten Island 1980
5. Autonomous Artisans' Houses, New York 1980-84
7. Apartment, Fifth Avenue, New York 1983
8. House, Martha's Vineyard, 1984-87
9. Hybrid Building, Florida 1985-88
10. Madison Avenue Shop, New York 1987
11. Apartment, Metropolitan Tower, New York 1987
12. Milan Project-Porta Vittoria 1986-87
13. House, Cleveland 1988
15. Edge of a City, 1988-ongoing