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For Immediate Release

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Buckhead Heritage Says Good Design Transcends Time

On Tuesday, April 28, at 5:30 p.m., Buckhead Heritage Society members and the public are invited to "Good Design Transcends Time: A Look at Modern Architecture's Place in Historic Preservation." It will include a cocktail tour of Lumiere Gallery's current exhibit, "The Lost Vanguard: Soviet Modernist Architecture," and a brief talk by Merrill Elam, Atlanta's nationally acclaimed modern architect. Admission is free for Buckhead Heritage members or \$15 for non-members. Reservations are required.

Located at 425 Peachtree Hills Ave., Building 5, Lumiere Gallery is showcasing an important exhibition of Richard Pare's photographs of Soviet modernist architecture that was constructed from 1922-32. "Though rarely seen by Westerners, Soviet architecture immediately following the revolution included some of the most innovative and creative work of the 20th century," said Lumiere's Tony Casadonte. Rarely published and virtually inaccessible until the collapse of the Soviet regime, these important buildings have remained unknown and unappreciated. Pare's mission has been to document these buildings for future generations.

Merrill Elam, a principal with Mack Scogin Merrill Elam Architects, will talk about the roots of modern architecture and how it fits into historic preservation. Elam has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including a Chrysler Award for Innovation in Design and an Academy Award in Architecture from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. The controversial Buckhead Branch of the Atlanta-Fulton County Library System was one of her projects.

"Just like Greek Revival, Victorian Era and Craftsman architecture, modern architecture is the physical representation of a cultural movement," said Christine McCauley, executive director of Buckhead Heritage. "Although it might be difficult to appreciate the aesthetic for some, its existence represents an important shift in art and architecture and in society as a whole. How do we, as historic preservationists, incorporate modern structures and landscapes into our traditional preservation ethic? It is this question we hope to begin to answer during our event at Lumiere."

The Buckhead Heritage Society, a non-profit organization, was formed three years ago to protect, preserve and promote Buckhead's historic resources. The group recently completed a restoration of historic Harmony Grove Cemetery, located at the corner of today's West Paces Ferry and Chatham roads.

To R.S.V.P. for "Good Design Transcends Time," contact Buckhead Heritage at 404.467.9447 or info@buckheadheritage.com.

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