

Press Release

For Immediate Release:

ERIC PARRY ARCHITECTS DESIGN LONDON'S FIRST MODERNIST DESIGN GALLERY

Eric Parry Architects (EPA) has designed what will be London's first gallery specialising in Modernist design which opens tomorrow (Wednesday 8th October). Situated in the heart of Mayfair, the Sebastian + Barquet gallery will create 66 square metres of versatile exhibition space as well as offices and a private viewing room.

EPA's design creates a new front to the gallery, and the building's interiors have all been designed to provide flexible spaces to exhibit examples of seminal pieces of Modernist design.

The gallery will open with *New Hope*, Sebastian + Barquet London's inaugural exhibition of American Modernist design, conceived by Eric Parry. The exhibition will feature seminal and classic works by George Nakashima, Paul Evans, Philip Lloyd Powell and Wendell Castle. Around fifteen works in the show will include Nakashima's seminal Conoid Bench and Evans' intricately sculpted sideboards, crafted from slate, wood and steel. The title of the show, *New Hope*, references an area of Pennsylvania, where many of the American Modernist designers lived and worked.

Sebastian + Barquet London will specialise in 1940s - 1960s international Modernist design, of museum quality, presented through a coherent programme of curated exhibitions. The gallery will mount five shows per year and the first year's programme will include exhibitions of work by Isamu Noguchi and Jean Prouvé.

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Eric Parry Architects

Notes to Editors:

Eric Parry Architects

Eric Parry Architects is an established and award-winning practice with a growing portfolio of notable work.

Current projects include Aldermanbury Square in the City of London and the most significant renewal project currently being undertaken in London, the restoration and redevelopment of the historic St Martin-in-the-Fields Church in Trafalgar Square. The practice has recently been appointed to design a new recital hall for Wells Cathedral School, Somerset – the UK's leading specialist music school.

The practice undertakes a broad range of work, varied in scope and scale. It has won numerous awards, including an RIBA Award for Bedford Music School in 2007, an RIBA Award and an AIA Design Excellence Award in 2003 for the design of the office building at 30 Finsbury Square, London, which was also short-listed for the prestigious Stirling Prize in the same year. The Spa at the Mandarin Oriental, Hyde Park was awarded Best Leisure Design at the FX International Interior Design Awards in 2001 and Foundress Court at Pembroke College, Cambridge University, won an RIBA Award in 1998.

The practice is based in Finsbury, London, and employs over 50 staff. EPA also has an office in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where the practice has designed a number of residential schemes.

Eric Parry has a key involvement in all projects, particularly in their design development stages. He is keenly interested in the bridges between theory, practice, space and society.

Sebastian + Barquet

The inspiration for Sebastian + Barquet is Ramis Barquet, founder of Sebastian + Barquet, New York. In addition to launching as a gallery Sebastian + Barquet London will participate in the key international design fairs, including DesignArt London, taking place in Berkeley Square from 15 to 19 October 2008.

Sebastian + Barquet London

Address: 19 Bruton Place, London W1J 6LZ

Tel: +44 (0)20 7495 8988 Fax: +44 (0)20 7495 4800

Admission: Free

Opening hours: 10am – 6pm, Monday to Friday; 11am – 1pm on Saturdays

Website: www.sebastianbarquetlondon.com

New Hope: 8 October – 15 November 2008
