



A view of the exterior of L'Horizon Resort and Spa, designed in 1952 by architect William F. Cody.

SIGHTSEEING

ART & ARCHITECTURE

PALM SPRINGS ABOUNDS WITH MODERNIST architecture, much in plain sight, and others relatively hidden from view, often discreetly sheltered behind hedges of leafy palms. The best way to maximize your design sleuthing is to reserve a spot on Michael Stern's "The Modern Tour," a highly curated two-and-a-half-hour sightseeing exploration around the city, with visits to private residences, such as the Dr. Franz Alexander House by Walter White and William F. Cody's Glass House. As the co-author of *Julius Schulman, Palm Springs* and the new *Hollywood Modern. Houses of the Stars*, Stern offers in-depth knowledge of the city's architecture—from interesting historical tidbits on zoning and the local flora and fauna to fun celebrity stories—managing to be at once entertain-ing and edifying. Often included on Stern's tour is the iconic Albert Frey House II, the personal residence designed by Swiss-born architect Albert Frey, who lived there for more than thirty years, and which is now under the stewardship of the Palm Springs Art Museum (Stern is the only private operator with exclusive access to show Frey House II). Well worth a visit, the Frey House II is nestled into the hillside and has sweeping views of the valley and mountains. The home was, as the museum's brochure explains, "designed as compactly as a ship," with built-in seating and cabinets. Constructed with durable materials—steel, glass, and corrugated aluminum—it embraces its natural surroundings, integrating a massive boulder right into the interior.

Just down the hill stands the brutal-esque Palm Springs Art Museum, designed by E. Stewart Williams. The spacious eighty-year-old institution has

ample room to show its impressive permanent collection—including works by Louise Bourgeois and Alexander Calder—as well as to stage large-scale exhibitions. Across the street from the museum, a replica of Paul Rudolph's 1952 Walker Guest House is taking up temporary residence, right beside giant eight-foot-tall sculptures of crawling *Babies* by Czech Republic artist David Černý. Don't miss PSAM's Architecture and Design Center, the Edwards Harris Pavilion, which is only a short walk, located in down-

The Palm Springs Art Museum's Architecture and Design Center, designed in 1961 by E. Stewart Williams.

An interior view of the Palm Springs Art Museum.

Frey House II, 1964, designed by Albert Frey.

