



Armory Center for the Arts

FREE FORM: The Art Center College of Design's South Campus gets a nod from the Armory Center.

DATEBOOK

Fit for the landscape

IT'S your last chance to catch the Armory Center for the Arts' exhibit on recent projects by some of Southern California's top architects. "Dialogues and Interventions: Recent Architecture Pasadena to L.A.," closing Sunday, features the work of Hodgetts + Fung, Michael Maltzan, Marmol Radziner and Pugh + Scarpa, among other firms. All of the projects were designed to fit with their natural or architectural setting, combining a sense of the old and the new. The show is open noon to 5 p.m. daily through Sunday at 145 N. Raymond Ave., Pasadena. Admission is free. Information: (626) 792-5101 or www.armoryarts.org.

SATURDAY

Succulent symposium: Experts in the fields of botany, ethnobotany and plant taxonomy discuss "Science From the Garden" at the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens' 23rd annual Succulent Plants Symposium. 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$75; optional

dinner program \$25. 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino. Registration: (626) 405-3504, www.huntington.org.

For families: A monthly family series focuses this week on turtles. Walk to Turtle Pond, learn turtle facts and take part in a craft project. 2 to 4 p.m. Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic

Garden, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. \$15 to \$20 per family. Registration required: (626) 821-3222.

Plant show: The Fern and Exotic Plant Show and Sale will feature more than 60 varieties of ferns plus more than 70 varieties of other plants, including rare species. Orchids, bromeliads, cactuses, cycads, terrarium plants, begonias and tree ferns will be featured. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. Free with regular garden admission of \$2.50 to \$7. (626) 821-3222.

MONDAY

Descanso picnic: Boddy's Big Backyard, a party in honor of Descanso Gardens founder E. Manchester Boddy, is a rare chance for families to picnic inside the park from 4 to 7 p.m. The event features a vintage 1947 Ford, railroad rides (\$2 a ticket) and a history walk and talk from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. 1418 Descanso Drive, La Cañada Flintridge. (818) 949-7980, www.descansogardens.org.

Design house: The 2006 CALM Design Showcase House and Gardens opens, benefiting Child Abuse Listening and Mediation, a nonprofit prevention and treatment agency. Professionals design a 1922 George Washington Smith house in Santa Barbara. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, noon to 4 p.m. Sundays, through Oct. 1. Advance tickets, \$26.50, sold at Arlington Theater Box Office, 1317 State St., Santa Barbara; (805) 963-4408. Tickets \$30 at the door. (805) 965-2376.

SEPT. 9

Silver Lake homes: CA Boom Design Expositions launches its Fall 2006 Design and Architecture Tour Series with a look at nontraditional architects and designers in Silver Lake. The first tour will feature homes designed by Gubel & Associates, Richard Neutra and Fin Architecture, among others. \$85. Three future tours will explore the West Hollywood hills (\$85), Hollywood Hills/Los Feliz (\$75) and Echo Park/Mount Washington (\$75). Four-tour series, \$245. Shuttles provided. (310) 394-8600 or www.caboomshow.com.

Pottery exhibition: "Color Counts: Gladding McBean Commercial Pottery 1930-1950," focuses on the colorful pottery, dinnerware and art from the 1930s through 1950s. American Museum of Ceramic Art, 340 S. Garey Ave., Pomona. \$3. (909) 865-3146, www.ceramicmuseum.org.

— LISA BOONE

Please send event listings for Datebook at least three weeks in advance to the Home section, Los Angeles Times, 202 W. 1st St., Los Angeles, CA 90012. E-mail: home@latimes.com.