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Contact:

Mary Beth Navarro, 704-576-1858

**CHARLOTTE’S ONLY MIDCENTURY MODERN HOME TOUR  
RETURNS FOR EIGHTH YEAR**

*Tour offers insider access to private homes and will feature iconic home  
during restoration process*

**CHARLOTTE, N.C., Sept. 4, 2019** – Charlotte’s only midcentury modern home tour is back for its eighth year on Saturday, Sept. 28, giving attendees insider access to some of Charlotte’s best midcentury modern style and architecture. The *Mad About Modern* home tour received Charlotte Magazine’s 2019 “Best of the Best” award for Best Home Tour. For the first time this year, the tour will feature a home during the restoration and renovation process – the iconic midcentury modern Cohen-Fumero home.

The 2019 tour will feature residences in the Cotswold, Myers Park, Plaza Midwood, Oakhurst and Coventry Woods neighborhoods. Most homes on the tour were built in the 1950s and 60s, when midcentury modern architecture was at its peak. Others showcase key elements of midcentury modern design that continue to inspire architects and home owners more than 80 years after the style emerged in the 1930s. The homes all feature hallmarks of midcentury modern design – asymmetrical profiles, expansive windows, open floor plans and living areas that blur the line between indoor and outdoor spaces.

“The *Mad About Modern* home tour highlights some of the architecture that makes our city special. These buildings help tell the story of Charlotte, and they give our cityscape a beautiful diversity of design,” said Adria Focht, president and CEO of The Charlotte Museum of History, which presents the tour. “When people live in these homes, they keep Charlotte’s historic neighborhoods alive. We hope more people will fall in love with midcentury modern architecture after coming on the tour and choose to preserve these homes.

“Over the years, we’ve included many stunning homes on the tour that have been beautifully restored. Some have even been featured in national magazines,” Focht said. “This year’s tour will continue that tradition, while returning to its roots, and in fact to the roots of midcentury modern design itself, showcasing homes anyone can live in. We’ve expanded our geographic reach beyond South Park too, including homes in east and central Charlotte. The point is: you can find amazing examples of midcentury modern architecture throughout the city, and you don’t need an Architectural-Digest-level budget to live in one. We all love to see the aspirational homes, and those will continue to be a big part of the tour. But in the end, midcentury modern design is for everyone.”

“For the first time this year, we’re thrilled to showcase a historic landmark that’s being renovated,” Focht said. “The Cohen-Fumero House is one of Charlotte’s most iconic midcentury modern masterpieces and one of only a handful of high-style midcentury modern buildings in the region. Unfortunately, it’s fallen into disrepair in recent years. Local realtor and midcentury enthusiast Charlie Miller recently purchased the long-vacant Cohen-Fumero property through Preservation North Carolina and plans to renovate it back to its former glory. Visitors on this year’s tour can view the renovations in process. The completed rehabilitation will be on display on the 2020 tour.”

This year’s tour is supported by Charlie Miller of 5 Points Realty; Rodgers Builders; Barrett, Woodyard & Associates; Big Sushi; C DESIGN; Dustin Peck Photography; Edison Foard; Fos Restoration Co.; Josh Allison Architecture; LS3P; McCracken & Lopez P.A.; modbox USA; Richa Graphics; Sheedy Watts Design; Shelco; Stewart; Timmons Group and Walker Engineering.

All proceeds support The Charlotte Museum of History and its mission to share the Charlotte region’s history through stories of its people, places and events.

## WHEN

Saturday, Sept. 28

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Ticket holders can view the homes at their own pace on this self-guided tour.

## HOW TO GO

- Tickets are on sale now at [madaboutmodern.com](http://madaboutmodern.com).
- Advance tickets are \$25 for museum members and \$30 for non-members. If available, day-of tickets are \$35.
- Please no children under 12.
- Contact The Charlotte Museum of History with questions at 704.568.1774 or at [info@charlottemuseum.org](mailto:info@charlottemuseum.org).

## 2019 TOUR HOMES

Other homes and midcentury modern buildings may be added.

- **1412 Cavendish Court**

Providence Park neighborhood. Built in 1959. This three-bedroom, 2,700-square-foot home incorporates quintessential midcentury elements, such as an asymmetrical roofline, wooden ceiling beams and large windows that let in natural light. The original hardwoods and front door have been preserved through recent renovations, and the current homeowners have focused on increasing efficiency of space rather than expanding. The result is a restored space that enhances original details, including the way color, light and shapes create the home's atmosphere. Look for the one-of-a-kind banister inside the front door and the new pool which, in true midcentury fashion, fits effortlessly into the landscape.

- **1154 Cedarwood Lane – Cohen-Fumero House**

Coventry Woods neighborhood. Built in 1961. This three-bedroom, 1,728-square-foot home in Coventry Woods is currently being restored. Designed by noted architect Murray Whisnant and constructed by Gus Vinroot, the house was a



center of artistic social life in Charlotte in the 1960s and beyond. Many well-known and respected artists of the time were guests at the home, its serene setting perfect for encouraging the creative process and displaying the artwork that resulted. The home was designed for Herb Cohen and Jose Fumero – both renowned artists in their own rights – with artistic expression and entertaining in mind. The cantilevered exterior walls on the one-story home appear to float above the grade. The home features an enclosed courtyard, multiple window-walls, mahogany “floating” walls, narrow oak flooring, glass shelves and tall mahogany slab doors with original recessed latches.

- **100 Hermitage Road**

Myers Park neighborhood. Built in 1914, this four-bedroom, 4,500-square-foot home includes a 1997 renovation by Raleigh architect Kenneth Hobgood, who designed a striking contemporary addition to this classic early-20<sup>th</sup>-century home. The renovation maintained the home’s original exterior, while incorporating a new steel-and-slate staircase at the entrance. The stairs preview the contemporary addition of exposed steel and glass, which houses the kitchen, breakfast area and family room. The addition received an honor award from both the North Carolina and South Atlantic regions of the American Institute of Architects. The owners enjoy both the historical integrity of the original home and its transition to modern styling, including an open aesthetic, skylights and expansive windows, all of which are inspired by midcentury modern design.

- **1815 Kilborne Drive**

Country Club Heights neighborhood. Built in 1960. Located in a middle class subdivision, this three-bedroom, 1,615-square-foot split-level illustrates how the midcentury modern tradition became accessible for everyone. This compact home lives large and features the original footprint with sensitive updates, including a kitchen renovation that incorporates the original design and cabinets, plus a lower-level bath addition tucked under the staircase. Look for several Eames originals

and an ethereal painting by North Carolina artist Stephen White that evokes Lennon and Ono.

- **1320 Levy Way**

Oakhurst neighborhood. Built in 2016. It's easy to spot the midcentury lineage in this stunning contemporary home, which features an open floor plan with large windows that look out onto the pool deck and outdoor living spaces, giving it a 1960s Palm Springs vibe. Angular planes, a hard stucco exterior and serene décor define this home, which includes several vintage midcentury pieces, such as a sofa in the upstairs den that suggests "sunken living room."

- **3101 Loma Lane**

Plaza Midwood neighborhood. Built in 1951. The current owners purchased this three-bedroom, 2,300-square-foot ranch as soon as it hit the market in 2011, and then embarked on a project to update it while honoring its roots. The owners preserved original features like the wood-burning fireplace and classic midcentury "window wall" in the library. Hallmarks of the midcentury tradition are abundant throughout, including indoor/outdoor living spaces, one-story brick construction and light-filled rooms. The footprint has been enlarged to include a master suite with a unique ensuite bathroom. Don't miss the three stunning outdoor sculptures, especially the coiled metal piece by well-known Charlotte artist Hoss Haley.

- **447 Merwick Circle**

Cotswold neighborhood. Built in 1959. This three-bedroom, 2,440-square-foot home has maintained much of its original footprint and details through three owners and several updates. It follows the iconic midcentury modern template, with one-story brick construction; expansive windows; deep, overhanging eaves; and post-and-beam design. Look for the classic Saarinen Tulip dining chairs and coffee table, as well as delightful details original to the home, including the kitchen oven, mirror wall in the living room and the skylight in the center of the home. The home has quite a design pedigree, too. Its architect, Al Cameron, was a member of the first graduating class of N.C. State University's School of Design, and he studied under



the school's first dean, Henry Kamphoefner, who was known for bringing modern architecture to the region. Continuing full circle, Gray Stout, who currently owns the home with wife, Heather St. Aubin-Stout, is a member of Kamphoefner's last graduating class.

### **About The Charlotte Museum of History**

The Charlotte Museum of History engages a broad audience in the history of the Charlotte region through the stories of its people, places and events to promote dialogue and historical perspective. The museum is the steward of the Hezekiah Alexander House (ca. 1774) and home site, a site listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the oldest home in Mecklenburg County. To learn more, visit [charlottemuseum.org](http://charlottemuseum.org) and follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

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