

SOANE TRAVELS · January 2017 – or – March 2017

Havana Cuba



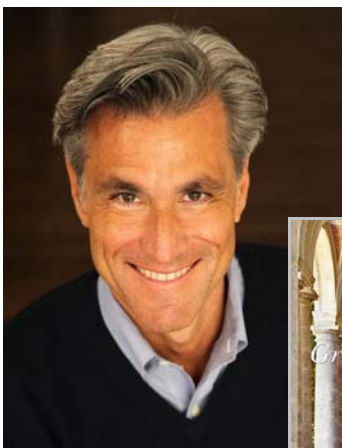
We've seen a dramatic shift with relations between the United States and Cuba since December 2014 and that historic day President's Obama and Raul Castro made simultaneous speeches in each country. And now most recently with the March 2016 visit by President Obama and his family... our pathways of exchange continue to dramatically change — and all for the good! It is now an opportune time to visit this incredible city, country and its people. Join us as we head to the Caribbean and a place that was first discovered in 1492.

This promises to be an extraordinary journey reserved for 25 or so discerning architecture, art, design and culture enthusiasts. This trip is perfect for seasoned travelers who are looking for a special chance to explore historic houses, architecture, and the best of Cuban art – and meeting with architects, artists, craftspeople, museum officials, urban planners and more.. This itinerary is unique and custom designed by Hermes Mallea, Chas Miller of Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation and the team at Academic Arrangements Abroad.

Havana: An Insider's View of Architecture and the Arts

Trip 1: Saturday, 21st to Thursday, 26th January 2017

Trip 2: Saturday, 18th to Thursday, 23rd March 2017



Joining our group* will be **HERMES MALLEA**, a Cuban American architect, designer and author of the book *Great Houses of Havana, A Century of Cuban Style* (The Monacelli Press, 2011). This is a SOANE TRAVELS exclusive with Mr. Mallea accompanying a group to Cuba. Hermes Mallea, AIA, is an architect and a partner in the New York City based firm M(Group) with Carey Maloney. They have been friends and admirers



of the Soane for many years. Mr. Mallea studied at the University of Miami's School of Architecture and Columbia University's graduate school of Historic Preservation and is a member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). A longtime collector of vintage Cuban photographs, Mr. Mallea has traveled to Cuba frequently to do research for his first book, and is now completing work on his second book on Cuba. He also has lectured in Cuba on issues of historic preservation. In October 2014 his latest book was published: *Escape: The Heyday of Caribbean Glamour* - which included some chapters on Cuba. His next volume is in production with the working title of *Living in Havana Today, Cuban Home Style Now* (Rizzoli, Spring 2017).

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DAY 1 · SATURDAY · MIAMI to HAVANA

INCLUDED: LUNCH / DINNER

NOTE: We are awaiting news of new scheduled flight services from various airports in the United States for non-stops to Havana. We may have you book your own flights to Havana and we'll arrange airport transfers on your arrival — or we may meet at Miami International Airport to use a scheduled chartered flight from Miami (MIA) in the morning and arriving Havana by lunch-time. *Time will tell about how we make these flight plans...*

If we all fly together, then after arrival at the José Martí Airport, we drive to the small, hilltop village of San Francisco de Paula to visit the house Finca La Vigía where Hemingway lived for 20 years. View the rooms of the house through open windows and see *Pilar*, his famous fishing boat, displayed on the grounds.

On our way into the city, stop at El Morro Castle for a view overlooking the famous harbor entry and the of city beyond. Then lunch at La Guarida, one of the most famous and atmospheric of all the paladars (a paladar is a privately owned restaurant, often located in the owner's home, run by special licence from the government).

Then check-in at **Hotel Saratoga** - our home for five-nights. The Saratoga is considered one of the top hotels in the city. It is located in the heart of the city by the Capitolio building and is easy walking to Old Havana and various sites.

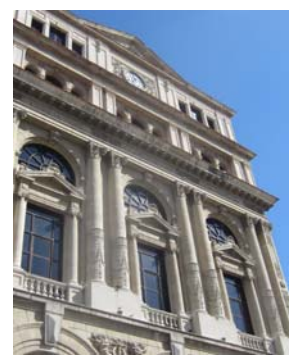


In the early evening, attend an introductory lecture by Hermes Mallea based on his books to give an understanding of Havana family life from 1860 to 1960 providing insight into how fashionable neighbors shifted and housing types evolved. We will then enjoy a cocktail reception prior to a welcome dinner.

DAY 2 · SUNDAY · HAVANA

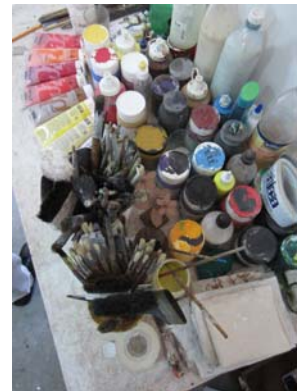
BREAKFAST / LUNCH / DINNER

This morning we join an architectural historian for a lecture and morning walking tour of Old Havana focusing on the four main squares: the Plaza de Armas, Plaza de San Francisco de Asis, Plaza Vieja and Plaza de la Catedral. Conclude with lunch at a restaurant near the cathedral.



Afternoon visits are arranged in the homes and studios of some of Havana's leading artists, where there may be an opportunity to purchase art such as paintings and drawings.

This will be followed by dinner at a *paladar*, a restaurant in part of a private home that operates with the special permission of the Cuban government.



SOANE TRAVELS: January 2017 – or – March 2017

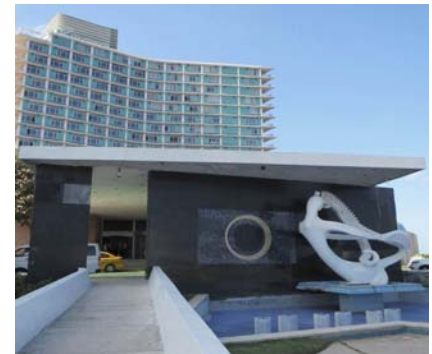
DAY 3 · MONDAY · HAVANA

BREAKFAST / LUNCH / DINNER

We start our morning with a brief lecture by Hermes Mallea featuring historic and contemporary images of Art Deco to mid 20th Century architecture which we will be exploring this morning.



Our touring starts at the Bacardi Building (1930), a masterpiece of the Art Deco style, a pre-cursor to the mid 20th century architecture featured today. We'll see highlights of achievement before and after the revolution – and will feature several brief stops both in the morning and afternoon. Stops may include the Lopez Serrano Building (1932), Havana's first skyscraper and said to be modeled after Rockefeller Center and the Empire State Building; the Catalina Lasa House (1927) with its interiors by Rene Lalique; then to an amazing mid-century hotel is the Riviera (1957), a true time piece of the international style and largely unchanged. Finally, we go to the Nacional Hotel – which was originally designed by McKim Mead and White and opened in 1930. Here we will enjoy a drink on the terrace and lunch — and there will be a few minutes for cigar shopping as the hotel has one of the best cigar shops in Havana.



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Pending confirmation, we may be able to visit the residence of the British Ambassador in Havana. This important house is located in Vedado on the Paseo, one of the most fashionable avenues in its day. The mansion with Palladian styling, was built for Pablo Gonzalez de Mendoza, and has a most dramatic of indoor swimming pools. [Note: it is likely that we will visit either the British or the Swiss residence, but not both.]

This evening we plan to go to the Ludwig Foundation for the Arts* where we will have a special presentation on the work of the Ludwig Foundation and Cuban art. The Ludwig Foundation Director will host a cocktail reception and buffet dinner on the penthouse terrace – and this will be a great chance to discuss the arts with invited local artists and guests.



**Invitation to be confirmed.*

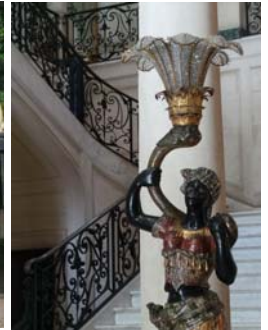
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DAY 4 · TUESDAY · HAVANA

BREAKFAST / LUNCH

We start our morning with a lecture on contemporary Cuba reality providing insight into life and living on this island nation.

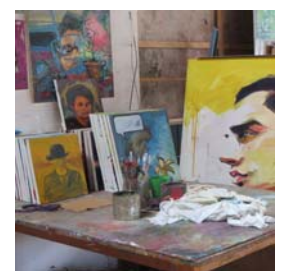
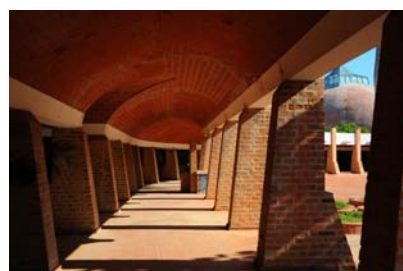
Continue to the Museum of Decorative Arts (pictured right) to view this extraordinary collection now housed in a former mansion in the Vedado district – the house was completed in 1927 in the neo-classical style for the Gomez-Mena family.



Lunch in a nearby *paladar*.



This afternoon, we visit the complex of the National Arts Schools and specifically ISA, *Instituto Superior de Arte*, where we will join a professor (who is an artist) for a guided visit through the studios and work spaces of Cuba's leading art school - and we'll be viewing the students' artwork. The complex of five schools was designed by Vittorio Garatti, Roberto Gottardi (Italians) and Ricardo Porro (Cuban) on the former private country club golf course in western suburb of Cubanacan.



An item of interest related to ISA –

There is a great film that came out in 2011 featuring interviews with the architects entitled “Unfinished Spaces,” this is available sometimes on PBS - see www.unfinishedspaces.com for information on showings - also available via Netflix.

Continue for a late afternoon visit to the residence (pending confirmation) of the Swiss Ambassador, a home completed in 1958 as designed by Richard Neutra and gardens by Roberto Burle Marx.



Dinner and the evening are at leisure. We are happy to assist with suggestions for restaurants or making reservations. This is also a great night to potentially take in some Cuban music at one of the many clubs in town.

DAY 5 · WEDNESDAY · HAVANA

BREAKFAST / DINNER

Attend an informal morning rehearsal of the Contemporary Dance Company of Cuba at the Teatro Nacional (pictured right), located adjacent to the Plaza de la Revolución.

Then visit the Colón Cemetery (pictured below), whose many monuments commemorate Cuban heroes, statesmen and novelists. With such ornate tombstones and structures, this is sometimes called the largest sculpture park in Cuba.



Lunch is on your own today with several optional visits for the afternoon to explore further architecture and the arts. You may also wish to head to the Feria de Artesanía (the crafts market) located in a former port warehouse Almacenes de San Jose where you can speak with crafts people. Or stroll past the mix of Art Deco and Colonial-style buildings on Calle Obispo, the main shopping street, sharing with locals stories about daily life.

In the early evening, we have been invited to a private concert presented by Ars Longa at the former 18th century church, Iglesia de Paula. This is an amazing treat to listen to a wonderful classical ensemble.

Our farewell dinner will be at the home and studio of renowned Cuban artist Damián Aquiles. The large house in the Vedado neighborhood is filled with Damián's art and that of his friends. Enjoy sitting in the lush walled-garden of the house - a welcome respite to the city around - and savor a buffet dinner of local specialties.



DAY 6 · THURSDAY · HAVANA to MIAMI

BREAKFAST / LUNCH

This morning we check-out of the hotel, with luggage boarded on the bus. We enjoy a curatorial tour of the National Museum of Fine Arts. Early lunch to follow, prior to heading to the airport for the flight to Miami.

Flights back to the United States are pending... just as earlier mentioned.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS ITINERARY IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

*All arrangements are made by Academic Arrangements Abroad and their agents
on behalf of Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation*

[Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation - OFAC People-to-People license number CT-2014-311381-1]

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SOANE TRAVELS: Havana

An Insider's View of Architecture and the Arts

Trip 1: Saturday, 21st to Thursday, 26th January 2017

Trip 2: Saturday, 18th to Thursday, 23rd March 2017

TRIP SPECIFICS as of March 2016 - all arrangements are subject to change:

COSTS: Total cost is \$__ (to be confirmed - certainly 6,000+) per person double occupancy - this price includes donation** to the Soane.

Single Accommodations: add \$__ (to be confirmed) (*very limited availability*)

The cost per person includes charter flights from Miami to Havana and return, 5 nights in the deluxe Hotel Saratoga, breakfast each day, five lunches and four dinners as specified, local transportation by private deluxe coach, all entries, guides. Also included is a Visa, tax and health insurance.

DONATION** Each traveler is requested to join the Soane Foundation with a fully tax deductible contribution of \$500 per person. (see separate form).

DEPOSIT: **Deposit of \$1,500 per person is required to Academic Arrangements Abroad are payable by check or credit card.** Balance due payments are due no later than 8-weeks prior to departure and must be paid by check to Academic Arrangements Abroad. Make check payable to: Academic Arrangements Abroad. Please see TERMS & CONDITIONS.

FLIGHTS: *as said... to be determined...*

NOT INCLUDED IN RATES: passport fees, alcoholic beverages other than as noted in the program, meals not specified, personal expenses such as laundry - phone calls - etc., trip insurance.

REGISTERING INTENT *to* PARTICIPATE

Please confirm to **Chas Miller** your plans to participate in this trip - tel. 212-223-2012

or by email to Chas@SoaneFoundation.com



Academic Arrangements Abroad

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Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation

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SOANE TRAVELS: Havana

REGISTRATION *of interest in potentially joining our trip . . .*

This program is waiting final pricing - *as of 26 March 2016*. You may be added to our roster of interested travelers by calling 212-223-2012 or emailing to Chas Miller at chas@soanefoundation.com, or returning this form.

Please check one or both trip dates to indicate your interest...

- Trip 1: Saturday, 21st to Thursday, 26th January 2017
- Trip 2: Saturday, 18th to Thursday, 23rd March 2017
- Please let me know of other dates for travel to Havana!

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

TEL: _____ FAX: _____ MOBILE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

CONTACT/ASSISTANT: _____

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:

Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation

1040 First Avenue, No. 311

New York, NY 10022

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Chas Miller - Chas@SoaneFoundation.com | T. 212-223-2012 F. 866-841-1928



SOANE TRAVELS: Cuba

We are looking forward to you joining us to enjoy an extraordinary trip which is geared to discerning travelers who are looking to explore architecture, art and the cultures of Havana. Participants will be a mix of new friends, architects, designers, collectors and long-time supporters of Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation.

John Soane - *an English architect born in 1753* – won the Royal Academy Gold Medal for Architecture in 1776 and was awarded their traveling scholarship funded by King George III. Following in the tradition of learning while traveling on the Grand Tour, something that upper-class European young men did from the 1660's to the mid 19th Century – John Soane set off to explore Italy for two years. Today **SOANE TRAVELS**, the travel program sponsored by Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation, strives to enrich the lives of contemporary thinkers with trips of five to ten-nights. Our **SOANE TRAVELS** programs are next headed to Japan (May 2016), Milan and Florence (May 2017) and we are looking for maybe Iran for 2018. In the past we have explored England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Ireland, Sweden, Russia, Italy, Argentina, Germany and Turkey.

While Soane didn't travel to the new world, he certainly would have known about it as the Americas were much discussed in the British press during the many decades of Soane's life. For a period in 1762 to 1763, Havana was controlled by Great Britain as British forces besieged and captured it during the Seven Years' War. With the Treaty of Paris, the island was returned to Kingdom of Spain (Charles III) as part of the negotiations with Britain's George III, who agreed to cede Havana and Manila for Florida and other lands. The island experienced amazing growth and influence following the return to the Spanish realm.

Sir John Soane's Museum is in London England and is the oldest historic house museum in the world, having opened in 1837 (just after Soane's death). Born the son of a bricklayer, Soane rose to become the star-architect of his day, working for the Bank of England for more than 40 years, designing interiors for No. 10 Downing Street (some of which are still existent today), designing city and country houses, and teaching at the Royal Academy. One of the many aspects that continues to make Sir John Soane relevant in the contemporary conversation about architecture, was his innovative use of natural light in his buildings and he designed the very first purpose built public picture gallery (we'd call today an art museum) at Dulwich, just south of London - and it is the most successful use of natural light for viewing paintings. **Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation** in the United States was founded in 1991 to promote the discussion of architecture, design and the decorative arts and to support the Soane Museum. The foundation since 2009 has focused that support the ongoing conservation needs at the museum -- paying to create a new conservation centre and underwriting of a conservators position.



Online, you can see pictures from previous trips at www.SoaneTravels.com
> click on an image or link for a slide show.

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and their agents on behalf of Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation.*

CONTACT: Chas Miller – T. 212-223-2012 | chas@soanefoundation.com

SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM FOUNDATION · 1040 FIRST AVENUE, NO. 311 · NEW YORK NY 10022