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California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Architectural Drawings, Models To Be Exhibited Downtown; Pioneering Woman Architect To Give Related Lectures**

Architectural drawings and models created by Cal Poly students -- some of which reflect a new approach to rebuilding the World Trade Center complex in New York City -- and photographs of work by pioneering architect Lois Davidson Gottlieb, will be on exhibit at the San Luis Obispo Art Center March 2-11.

In conjunction with the exhibit, Gottlieb will give two presentations: "A Way of Life" on March 3 and "Way of Life -- The Taliesin Experience" on March 4. Gottlieb is a former student of America's foremost architect, Frank Lloyd Wright.

The exhibit, titled "Architectural Appetizers," is a collaboration between Cal Poly's College of Architecture and Environmental Design and the Art Center, at 1010 Broad St. in San Luis Obispo.

"The exhibit's photographs of Gottlieb's work reflect her distinguished career as a residential designer," said Architecture Professor Charles Crotser, organizer of the exhibit. Her philosophy of design has been the subject of several books, and her work has earned her prized commissions, professional honors and academic titles.

The photo exhibit traces the most ambitious project of her professional career: an 11,000-square-foot, two-level, high-tech residence wrapped around a hill in Fairfax Station, Va.

"Completed in 1996, the house is a totally integrated work of art -- a masterpiece that reflects the principles that have guided her entire professional career," Crotser said.

Gottlieb's March 3 talk will be at 3 p.m. at the downtown Art Center. It is the first guest lecture of the center's 2002 Sunday Afternoon in the Gallery series. Her presentation will touch on her work with Wright and on her own career and will include a 45-minute video of the Fairfax Station home project. Refreshments will be served, and the architect will talk with attendees after the presentation.

The March 4 lecture and presentation will be at 4 p.m. in the Gallery (Room 105) of the Architecture and Environmental Design Building at Cal Poly.

Gottlieb will talk about her 1948 acceptance as an apprentice to the Taliesin Fellowship and the two-year journey that shaped her future. She learned at Taliesin East and West, Wright's early architectural studios in Wisconsin and Arizona, "that beauty in architecture is a matter of principle that every architect has to discover for him or herself, so that in each creation form is allowed to follow feeling."

"It was rare in 1948 America that a woman would be an architect, let alone studying with Wright," Croster said. "Gottlieb was one of his first female apprentices in a very male-dominated field."

The public is invited to the exhibit and lectures. Admittance to the exhibit and the March 4 talk at Cal Poly are free. Tickets to the March 3 lecture at the San Luis Obispo Art Center are \$7.50 for the public and \$6 for students and Art Center members.

For more information about the lecture at Cal Poly, call the College of Architecture and Environmental Design at 756-1321. For more information on the exhibit and lecture at the Art Center, call 543-8562.

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(Note to editors and news directors: To receive digital images of the students' work via e-mail, please contact Professor Charles Crotser at [ccrotser@calpoly.edu](mailto:ccrotser@calpoly.edu) or 756-1316.)

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