Spirit of Place, Spirit of Discovery:  
Special Program to Celebrate the Centenary of Jonas Salk’s Birth 

PETER SALK, M.D.; JOHNATHAN D. SALK, M.D.; JOHN PAUL EBERHARD

1. ABSTRACTS

OVERVIEW AND INTRODUCTIONS
PETER L. SALK, M.D.

Jonas Salk would have been 100 years old on October 28 of this year. He lived a life devoted to bettering the human condition, through his work on developing the first effective influenza and polio vaccines, his founding of the Salk Institute, his research into the treatment of cancer and autoimmune disease, his efforts to develop a vaccine against HIV/AIDS, and his ceaseless questioning of what humanity needs to do to bring out the best in ourselves as individuals, as a society and as a species. This special session in honor of Jonas Salk’s centenary will consider his contributions in the field of architecture, including the stimulus he provided which led to the formation of ANFA, and the special relationship that existed between scientist and architect that resulted in the design of the Salk Institute. It will also consider the particular features of the Salk Institute’s design which shape the experience people have of the site, the neural mechanisms underlying profound and transformative aesthetic experiences, and the “Anatomy of Reality” (the title of Jonas Salk’s last book) that may underlie the human experience of grand architecture.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS ON JONAS SALK AND LOUIS KAHN
JONATHAN D. SALK, M.D.

The Salk Institute was conceived of, founded and built when Dr. Salk, the youngest of Jonas Salk’s three sons, was in his late childhood and early teens. In this presentation, he offers his personal recollections of that period of time with a particular emphasis on the design of the buildings and the extraordinary creative relationship between Jonas Salk and Louis Kahn.

ON THE ORIGINS OF ANFA: JONAS SALK, THE AIA AND INSPIRATIONAL ARCHITECTURE
JOHN PAUL EBERHARD, FAIA

Jonas Salk in a meeting with the Executive Committee of the American Institute of Architects Foundation (which included Norman Koonce and Syl Damianos) told of his experience at Assisi. Because he had been so stimulated by the architectural setting of Assisi he suggested someone in the architectural profession explore how and why the brain responds to attributes of the designed environment. Norman and Syl recruited me to play that role (in 1995).

2. AUTHOR BIOS

PETER L. SALK, M.D., the eldest son of Dr. Jonas Salk, graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Harvard University in 1965 and Alpha Omega Alpha from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 1969. Following two years of house staff training in internal medicine at the University Hospitals of Cleveland, he worked in his father’s laboratory at the Salk Institute from 1972-1984 conducting research on immunotherapy of cancer and autoimmune disease, and strategies for vaccine production. He worked again with his father from 1991-1995 on a project to develop an inactivated vaccine for HIV infection, and subsequently worked on the introduction of AIDS treatment programs in Africa and Asia. He is currently President of the Jonas Salk Legacy Foundation, where he is devoting attention to educating the public regarding his father’s life and work during the centenary year of his birth in 2014-2015 and to extending and applying his father’s vision to help address humanity’s present challenges and opportunities. Dr. Salk is a member of the ANFA Advisory Council.

JONATHAN D. SALK, M.D. is a psychiatrist in private practice in Los Angeles, CA and Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the UCLA/David Geffen School of Medicine. He completed his undergraduate work at Harvard and Stanford Universities with a degree in Anthropology. He received his MD from the University of Southern California and did residency training in Psychiatry at UCLA, followed by a 2-year fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. His current interests are in integrating biological, psychotherapeutic, neuropsychological and family approaches in the treatment of psychiatric disorders. In addition, he has expertise in the treatment of trauma and with focus on the developmental consequences of early childhood experience. In 1981, he co-authored with his father World Population and Human Values: A new reality and is currently working on a revised edition. He lives in West Los Angeles with his wife Elizabeth Shepherd. They have two sons, aged 23 and 20.

JOHN PAUL EBERHARD, FAIA, the founding president of ANFA, earned his BS in Architectural Design from University of Illinois and MS in Industrial Management from MIT. His career highlights include serving as Director for the Institute for Applied Technology;
Dean of Architecture and Environmental Design at SUNY Buffalo; President of AIA Research Corporation; and Head of the Department of Architecture at Carnegie Mellon. Eberhard’s expertise and passion for the intersection of architecture and neuroscience are demonstrated through his work as a Consultant on Research Planning for the AIA, the research he conducted as a Latrobe Fellow, as well as, his continued guidance and dedication to ANFA.