

Botanical Research Institute of Texas 500 East 4th St. Fort Worth, Texas 76102

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RENOWNED ARCHITECT HUGH HARDY TO PRESENT PLANS FOR NEW “GREEN” BUILDING FOR BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS ON THURSDAY, NOV. 13, 2008; FREE AND OPEN TO PUBLIC; RECEPTION, 6:30 P.M.; LECTURE, 7:00 P.M.

FORT WORTH, Texas – In his upcoming talk, “Will the Future Be Green?” renowned architect Hugh Hardy, FAIA, will present his plans for the new “green” building of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT)—with one of the area’s first green roofs— on Thursday, Nov. 13, 2008, at 7 p.m. in the Fort Worth Botanic Garden’s Dorothea Leonhardt Lecture Hall at 3220 Botanic Garden Boulevard (off University Drive). A reception at 6:30 p.m. in honor of Hardy will precede the lecture, which is open and free to the public.

Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. For information, call BRIT at 817.332.4441 or Metro 817.429.3200, or visit BRIT’s Web site: www.brit.org.

Hardy will discuss the current public and professional national response to “green” building practice and relate how current trends guided his design of BRIT’s new home—its configuration, materials, and aesthetic premise. Construction of BRIT’s multistory building, which will have a green roof featuring wildflowers from the Fort Worth Prairie, is scheduled to begin in 2009. Located adjacent to the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, the building will be a case study in conservation, energy management, site placement, and material selection that will warrant recognition with a gold LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) rating by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Hardy is the final speaker in this fall’s Distinguished Lecturer Series organized by BRIT and sponsored by Home Energy Americas; four more lectures will follow next spring. This year’s series is about what it means to live sustainably in urban areas and how green building and landscape practices help us to be better stewards of our environment and finite natural resources. Co-hosts of the lecture series are the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, Fort Worth Botanical Society, and Fort Worth Garden Club.

About Hugh Hardy, FAIA

Hugh Hardy, who in 2004 founded his third architecture firm, H³ Hardy Collaboration Architecture, is renowned for the design of distinctive new buildings and architectural interiors, the restoration of historic structures, and planning for the public realm. Dedicated to the creation of active public spaces, H³ is a recognized leader in the planning and design of performing arts centers, theaters, museums, libraries and parks, as well as corporate, academic, residential and commercial facilities.

Among Hardy’s most celebrated projects are the restoration of Radio City Music Hall, Windows on the World restaurant in New York’s World Trade Center, and the restoration of Rockefeller Center’s Rainbow Room. Other projects include the New York Botanical Garden, Bryant Park, Brasserie 8½, the New York Academy of Sciences and the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. Hardy also completed a new development plan commissioned by the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation for Greenwich Street adjacent to the World Trade Center site.

He has won multiple national awards including the Distinguished Achievement Award in Theatre Design from the US Institute for Theatre Technology and the Commissioner’s Award for Excellence in Public Architecture from the U.S. General Services Administration. He serves on the board of countless arts organizations and is a sought-after speaker. He is the author of *Building Type*

Basics for Performing Arts Facilities and has been featured in *Architectural Record*, *Time*, *Esquire*, *The New Yorker*, and *The New York Times* among others.

A native of Manhattan, New York, Hardy holds a Master in Fine Arts in Architecture from Princeton University, where he also received his Bachelor of Architecture and was a D'Amato Prizeman. He has been a member of the American Institute of Architects since 1963, and he belongs to its College of Fellows.

About the Botanical Research Institute of Texas

Opened in 1991, BRIT is a nonprofit international botanical resource center open to the public. Its mission is to conserve our natural heritage by deepening our knowledge of the plant world and achieving public understanding of the value that plants bring to life. BRIT fosters respect for ecological balance and the interconnectedness of all living things, the conservation of biological diversity, the integrity of scientific investigation and intellectual pursuits, and the desire to discover the unknown to expand humankind's knowledge and understanding of plants in our natural environment.

BRIT has conducted extensive research in tropical rainforests in the Philippines, Costa Rica, and currently in Peru and Papua New Guinea. BRIT's exploration of the natural world through field study, scientific research, botanical analysis, and educational programs places it in the forefront of conservation and preservation of Earth's finite resources.

At the Fort Worth headquarters, BRIT's staff presents workshops and educational programs and provides consultation to research scientists, students, teachers, artists, plant enthusiasts, vineyard owners, ranchers, veterinarians, farmers, homeowners, gardeners, lawyers, physicians, businesses, government agencies, museums, schools, arboreta, hospitals, and poison control centers.

With a collection of approximately one million dried plant specimens representing most of the Earth's plant families, BRIT has one of the largest herbaria in the United States. It has the largest independent herbarium in the Southwest and one of the world's best collections of Texas plant specimens. Its botanical library houses approximately 100,000 volumes of books, periodicals, and journals from 100 countries.

BRIT's primary facility is in downtown Fort Worth in a restored historic warehouse at the corner of 4th and Pecan Streets.

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