**CITATION: CLIVE CHIPKIN**

Clive Chipkin was born in Johannesburg in 1929. He graduated with a B Arch degree from Wits University in 1954 and achieved his professional membership of the Royal Institute of British Architecture (ARIBA) in 1957. Between 1956 and 1957 he gained experience abroad when he worked for the London County Council.

He returned to South Africa and has practiced as an architect in Johannesburg since 1958 when he opened his first practice at Hollandia House. His practice handled among others large scale industrial work, major development programmes, apartments, central facilities buildings, clinics, historical buildings, merchandising buildings, social amenity buildings and overall industrial planning at Cape Gate, Vanderbijlpark ( 1984-2000). *Leadership Magazine* of August 1991 described the work of his practice as supplying “socially responsive amenity, one of vision and hope”. His heritage work has ranged from the renovation of Edwardian buildings in the 1960s to Inanda House, Illovo (1999). He has also been a consultant for renovation work at the University of the Witwatersrand and to inner city renovation programmes.

In 1972 Chipkin contributed to the major heritage and architectural study of Parktown (*Parktown, 1892-1972, a Social and Pictorial History* – by H Aron, A Benjamin, C M Chipkin and S Zar, published by Studio Thirty Five Publications, 1972).

His practice both rejected and contested apartheid and never participated in any government, provincial or municipal work during the apartheid era (1948-1994). Chipkin’s professional practice has mirrored his values. In 1986 he was a founding member of the group “Architects against Apartheid, an informal pressure group that challenged their colleagues to support radical changes to the Architects’ Act of 1970 and the Code of Conduct of the Institute of South African Architects. This group, that include architects such as Chipkin , Hans Schirmacher, Henry Paine, Ivan Schlapobersky, and Lindsay Bremner, among others, tried to make colleagues aware of how the gross application of apartheid ideology to architecture was distorting the moral and ethical basis of the profession in South Africa. Chipkin was co-author of the “Declaration of Human Rights” (1986) relating to the architectural profession which resolved that it was unethical to participate professionally in the design and planning of apartheid buildings. Although their resolution to a special meeting of the Transvaal Provincial Institute of Architects was dismissed, many members of the group subsequently faced harassment and surveillance.

In 1998 Chipkin contributed a chapter “Preparing for Apartheid” in the publication Leroux and Fisher (editors) “Architecture of the Transvaal” ( UNISA, 1998) and a further chapter , “The Great Apartheid Buildings Boom” in Judin and Vladislavic’s Blank Architecture, Apartheid and After ( published by the Nederlands Architecture Institute, 1998).

In addition to his impressive professional contributions and social activism, the award of an honorary doctorate to Clive Michael Chipkin, recognizes a lifetime of scholarly academic work as reflected in his two seminal monographs, *Johannesburg Style: Architecture and Society 1880s to 1960s* (David Philip, Cape Town, 1993) and his most recent *Johannesburg Transition: Architecture and Society from 1950* (STE Publishers, 2009).

The two volumes represent a life time of research and scholarship and show a remarkable breadth of knowledge and the capacity to pose difficult questions about the roots of design and the shaping of architectural styles. Together they have set a high standard of serious scholarship in the study of architectural history in Johannesburg. They are ground breaking in that no other work on the subject of Johannesburg’ architecture comes close to matching Chipkin’s reach across so many disciplines. His lens is architectural history, but his breadth of scholarship is such that he enables the reader to see the city and its buildings with a fresh understanding about why certain styles were adopted and why the city has been rebuilt through successive waves of capitalist expansion. No other books on Johannesburg are of such a serious and deep purpose. He has drawn on a rich and diverse array of sources across architecture, politics, economics sociology and history to explain the development of the city through 120 years.

He is the author of more than 50 papers and has published important articles in the leading South African journals such as the S A Architectural Record ( *New Delhi,* Nov 1958, *Chandigarh* Dec 1958 and *India,* Dec 1959*)* and Architecture SA ( *Beyond the Cape*, March/April 1985) and SA Architectural Record, (*Baroque Background,* Sept 1962, *The Diffusion of Victorian and Edwardian Architecture* Jan. 1964 and Feb. 1964 ). The latter three articles were important as they anticipated his later approach of a comparative analysis of methods and styles across continents and cultures.

Clive’s work has generated an interest and been a stimulus to further work among younger scholars in architectural history in Africa and he has influenced a new generation of scholars to follow in his footsteps. He was a contributor to special Johannesburg editions of ADA 14 (1996) and Bauwelt (Berlin, 1997).

Clive Chipkin has been a long standing and loyal mentor to generations of practicing architects and scholars. Clive has been a good friend of Wits, particularly through his collegial and teaching activities in the School of Architecture and Planning.

In summary, Chipkin’s contribution to the profession of architecture, and to scholarship and research, has been outstanding. He has contributed to the deepened understanding of the city of Johannesburg’s cultural, social and historical surrounds. Chipkin, through the practice of his profession, has sought to promote affirmative action and educational values since the 1960s. In his scholarship and professional life he has demonstrated leadership and has sought to make a difference in the lives of many students and colleagues.

We honour the preeminent architectural historian of Johannesburg, Clive Chipkin. It is most fitting and appropriate for Wits to pay tribute to one of its own alumni.