

FEARS

Phobia Fix

CONQUER YOUR BIGGEST FEARS AT THESE TERRIFYING ATTRACTIONS.



YOUR PHOBIA:



CONQUER IT!



ACROPHOBIA ▶ Fear of heights

Go out on The Ledge at the Willis (formerly Sears) Tower in Chicago. The new glass-floored viewing boxes extend 4.3 feet out from the building's sky deck on the 103rd floor. www.theskydeck.com/theledge.asp



OCHLOPHOBIA ▶ Fear of crowds

Try not to freak out when you join the 120,000 people expected to pack into NYC bars to see bands like Broadcast and the Japandroids at the College Music Journal's annual Music Marathon & Film Festival. (Oct. 20-24). www.cmj.com/marathon



ARACHNOPHOBIA ▶ Fear of spiders

No glass separates visitors from the living spiders in the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County's Spider Pavilion. It's set up like a butterfly garden—so spiders crawl around on unenclosed plants. Through Nov. 1. www.nhm.org



NYCTOPHOBIA ▶ Fear of the dark

Does the idea of not seeing what you're eating give you the chills? Get over it by indulging your other four senses at pitch black restaurants in LA and San Francisco. Europeans have been doing it for years. www.darkdining.com



COULROPHOBIA ▶ Fear of clowns

Watch clowns totter around the big top at the classic Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus in Worcester, MA (Oct. 8-12) and Boston (Oct. 14-18). www.ringling.com



ON OCT. 16, 1869, the four-story Tremont House (sometimes called The Tremont Hotel) in Boston became the first hotel to have indoor plumbing. It was also the first to have indoor baths, a reception area, guest rooms with locks, free soap and bellboys, making it the prototype of a modern, first-class American hotel.

THIS MONTH IN TRAVEL HISTORY



THE BEACH BOYS

BOOK Four Florida-based architects breathe new life into mid-century-style architecture.

Tropical modernism—a style with clean lines, splashes of color and lots of glass—fuses the traditions of Mid-Century Modernism with the subtle Latin American accents of the Southern Atlantic coast. The style has undergone a recent resurgence in cities like Florida, according to Saxon Henry's upcoming book *Four Florida Moderns*, which profiles the work of up-and-coming star architects Alberto Alfonso, René González, Chad Oppenheim and Guy Peterson. Along with photos of their work, the book contains interviews, both with the architects and experts, about their careers and the creative process. And on your next Florida getaway, check out Peterson's Theisen Residence in Sarasota and González's lobby renovation for Miami's Museum of Contemporary Art.