

1960

Coffee House on the Left Bank

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Cafe

COFFEE

On th

CAFFÈ ESPRESSO — Specially roasted imported Italian coffee made in our Pavoni machine. Please specify us to regular, strong or extra strong.	
ROYAL ESPRESSO — The drink of Kings—large cup of Caffè crowned with a mound of whipped cream	
CAPPUCCINO LORENZO — A magnificent combination of Espresso, steaming milk, stick cinnamon, and essence of Jamaica rum — served in a glass	.40
CAPPUCCINO ROMANO — The true "Boston" coffee of the Cappuccini Monastery — steaming milk and Caffè Espresso	.35
CAFFÈ ANISETTA — Caffè Espresso with Anisette	.45
CAFFÈ TONICO — Demitasse of Caffè Espresso with a dash of Fernet-Branca bitters—not for the uninitiated, but stimulating as an apéritif	.35
CAFFÈ CHOCOLACCINO — Caffè Espresso, cinnamon stick, milk, whipped cream and shaved French chocolate	.70
CAFFÈ AMERICANO — Superb South American coffee of the finest grade by the fractional extraction method and filtered in Schlumbohm samovars	Cup .25 Pot .45

CAFFÈ coffee
CAFFÈ drip c
CAFFÈ Spanis
CAFFÈ coffee,
CAFFÈ Brazil the sh
CREMA Color
Topp
CAFFÈ fragra
TURKIS specia are in

A dark cellar, bongo drums, grotesque shadows cast from small table candles upon an unfinished wall, and the tingling smell of exciting coffee brews—this is the popular Beatnik espresso house.

Members of the Beat Generation lounge in wooden chairs, talking, playing chess and meditating. The men wear sandals and sport thick, heavy beards; the female members wear long black stockings, heavy eye makeup, straggly hair and an expression of sheer distaste for the world surrounding them.

Strange brews and odors mingle in the espresso house. The menu may include such names as Israeli Coffee, Iced Capuccino, Espresso Benét and Cafe O'Rum. Tea and American coffee are always served. Turkish coffee is made from beans which have been ground into a fine powder and mixed with sugar. Then the mixture is boiled in water three times before serving. Brewing under steam pressure is used to make Italian Espresso, and French coffee is brewed from slightly overburned beans.

Karol Kocimski, instructor in the Architecture Department, describes the typical coffee house as a place where people meet to discuss their problems over a cup of coffee. Kocimski believes coffee houses are "the coming thing" in the United States. He feels that people have come to this level of culture; they like to discuss their problems and the problems of the world with each other.

Kocimski's Architecture 418 class designed coffee houses in March. Four of these have been selected for competition with other schools' designs in a contest sponsored by the National Institute for Architectural Education in New York City. All the men who designed the 21 coffee houses visited such establishments while on an architecture field trip in New York. The four selected to be entered in competition were done by George Nielsen, Ken T. Tam, John R. Hicks and R. A. Hill.

Most espresso houses have a stage and a podium for impromptu speeches and poetry. Some typical topics are: "Was Macbeth Beat?", "The New Hipster" (the ultimate in Beatniks) and "The Evil Effect of Sack Dresses and Beer Cans."

Cellar night clubs, espresso shops and coffee houses have sprung up as a result of public interest in the Beat Generation. Many clubs that proclaim themselves Beat are no less respectable than the average night club, and their patrons are not true Beatniks but people who come to look at Beats. Beardless visitors to the coffee houses are frequently college students with a nonconformist bent, who adapt themselves as weekend Beatniks. Some coffee houses do not claim to be "Beat."

The term "Beat" was coined to apply to one who was supposed to be beaten down by life and who believed in nothing. Opinions

varying from good to very bad concerning the Beat Generation have been voiced. Some say Beatdom is a product of postwar disillusionment and restlessness and a means of escape from the responsibilities of normal American life. Its chief proponents are poet-novelist Jack Kerouac and poet Allen Ginsberg. Beatdom's year of emergence can be set at 1953 when Ginsberg and many other bohemians followed Kerouac to San Francisco.

Beats have come to the surface in Paris, Athens, Manchester, London and Prague. In the United States, there are few colleges without a group of bearded Beatniks. Beat talk relies heavily on such words as "cat," "dig," "bug" and "cool," and utilizes the word "like" as a means of beginning almost any sentence.

According to Kocimski, who spent 11 years in London and has visited Paris coffee houses, the houses provide a non-destructive outlet for young men and women. Here people may listen to "cool" music, to singing, to poetry or to each other endlessly talking. All of these things are certainly more socially acceptable than murder, mugging or thievery, says Kocimski.

"Therefore," he says, "we should provide plenty of coffee houses so that our young men and women may be given the opportunity to diagnose all the ills that beset the world."

HOUSE

Left Bank

By Beth Lambeth, H.J.I. 3



"A Coffee House on the Left Bank," designed by Kenneth Tam, is one of four such Architecture 418 provisional Institute for Architectural Education. Ceiling-projects selected to be entered in competition at the National floor colored glass surrounds the building.

An interior view displays contemporary design in the popular trend toward coffee houses, which are usually associated with the "Beat Generation." Tam's design features a stage and hexagon-shaped sections.

