“House and Home,” an exhibit organized by the National Building Museum, puts out the welcome mat at the University of Mississippi Museum in Oxford through March 16. In hands-on cross sections, visitors can feel building materials such as adobe bricks and learn about various building methods used in the United States. Supplementing the exhibit are models of significant American homes, such as Fallingwater.

Born in New Orleans in 1891, master colorist Archibald Motley spent much of his artistic career painting vibrant scenes of Chicago’s Bronzeville and Paris’s Left Bank. By the fifties he was depicting, in a sometimes chromatically jarring style, Mexico’s seedy tourist industry of the time. “Archibald Motley: Jazz Age Modernist” is on view at the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University in Durham, NC, January 30 through May 11.