

## Wolfgang Gerson

Most notable at UCV as the architect of our buildings. It was a competition and several members were among the competitors.

Born in Hamburg, Germany, Gerson was educated in Britain . He subsequently earned a degree from the Architectural Association School of Architecture which has been described as the first modernist school in the United Kingdom. Gerson worked in London for a period and then emigrated to Canada, settling in Montreal. Shortly thereafter he was interned in Camp A in Farnham, Quebec, and Camp N in Sherbrooke, Quebec, sites camp established to hold refugees and internees during the Second World War.

In the 1960s, Wolfgang started teaching and practicing in Vancouver at the University of British Columbia, where he taught until 1981. In the 1960s, he served on the Canadian airport art committee. Gerson became a Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada in 1976.

*A scene from internment by Wolfgang Gerson, watercolor on toilet paper, circa 1940-1942. Gerson gave lectures to fellow internees. He painted on whatever he could due to the scarcity of paper. (Courtesy the Gerson family / Photo by Jessica Bushey)*



<https://www.jta.org/2013/03/31/culture/exhibit-recalls-jewish-refugees-and-nazi-prisoners-held-together-in-canadian-prisons>