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Today's News - Tuesday, May 10, 2005

ArcSpace brings us a photo-essay of the building of a Gehry museum in Germany, and a new theater in The Netherlands (inadvertently omitted from yesterday's newsletter).

- · We lose an influential architectural theorist and artist.
- · Deja vu all over again at Ground Zero: will going back to the drawing board result in the world's tallest bunker?
- Elements of WTC memorial being "whittled away," while some "planning and design experts marvel that Michael Arad has not been completely marginalized or discouraged."
- Three memorial designers who "contend with topographies of terror" and either preserver or transcend them.
- · Building a South Korean city from scratch...but will it allow for the unexpected (and affordable housing)?
- · At last, things are looking up for Toronto's waterfront.
- · Mayne makes plea for SCI-Arc's downtown future.
- What can Kansas City ("the capital of sports architecture") expect when a major stakeholder says: "spend your money in the bowl on capacity and on amenities rather than on the outside. The outside doesn't do a darn thing for you."?
- Five designs vie for Santa Fe civic center (they're all low, brown boxes on the outside).
- Melbourne holds the creative architectural edge, but Sydney leads in sustainable planning.
- Dutch architects calling themselves "the anti-Calatravas" win first \$100,000 Marcus Prize.
- · Q&A with Shashi Caan looks at the future of interior design education.
- · LEGO's "Town Plan" designated historic by National Trust for Historic Preservation.
- · Remembering Philip Johnson: 55 very personal recollections (full disclosure: e-Oculus and ANN share the same editor).

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Obituary: Robert Slutzky, 75, Painter and Architectural Theorist: ...lifelong exploration of the connection between painting and architecture influenced a generation of postwar architects...- New York Times

Let's not sacrifice freedom for safety: ...if the architect, David Childs, of Skidmore Owings & Merrill, winds up merely creating the world's tallest bunker and dressing it up as a friendly workplace, Freedom Tower will be very quiet indeed. By Justin Davidson -- Barbara Nadel/"Building Security"- NY Newsday

Pushed and Pulled, Designer of 9/11 Memorial Focuses on the Goal: Although many elements of his original design...have changed, Michael Arad is keeping his eye on the finish line. -- Peter Walker & Partners; Davis Brody Bond; Handel Architects [images]- New York Times

Sacred Ground, Sullied Ground: The tensions upon the design of a memorial...In their own way, Eisenman, Libeskind, and Safdie have all had to contend with topographies of terror - the former two keen on preserving them, the latter working to transcend it.- New York Sun

Metropolis from Scratch: South Korea's New Songdo City: The focus on replicating urban features from throughout the world reflects a focus on creating a general urban pleasantness, rather than any grand planning theories. -- Jamie Von Klemperer-The Next American City

Prospects good for cleanup of city's front yard: The \$20.5-million in government funding promised last week is a good start toward the greening of the waterfront. By John Bentley Mays- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Commentary: A Downtown Resource in Danger: ...a plea...to take a stand on the controversy threatening the Southern California Institute of Architecture. L.A. is in danger of losing this institutional resource for downtown and its future. By Thom Mayne- Los Angeles Times

Opinions vary on aesthetics of new arena: First off, nobody is saying that a Sprint Center...can't be built for \$250 million. What it's going to look like...is another discussion...the selection panel ignored its own rules. — Gehry; Downtown Arena Design Team- Kansas City Star

Plans for new civic center a hot topic: Santa Fe's new \$42 million center is going to be brown and lowprofile on the outside. But on the inside, architects have loaded it with innovative ideas and "green" building strategies -- Conron Woods Architecture; Spears Architects; DCSW; Lorn Tryk Architects; Wayne Lloyd and Associates [images]- The New Mexican

Designer dreams: Australia's best young architects are giving Melbourne a creative edge, according to Australia's chief architect...Melbourne buildings far outshine those in the harbour city but Sydney is more committed to sustainable planning. - Bob Tasman Nation-The Age (Australia)

Dutch architects win first Marcus Prize: Emerging stars in industry specialize in enlivening urban sites...jokingly call themselves "the anti-Calatravas" [win] \$100,000 plum...established to recognize emerging international stars in architecture. By Whitney Gould -- MVRDV (Winy Maas, Jacob van Rijs, Nathalie de Vries)- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Q&A: Why Shashi Caan Is Overhauling Interior Design Education-Metropolis Magazine

LEGO Group Marks 50 years of Creative Play: "Town Plan," Company's First LEGO Theme, Designated Historic by National Trust for Historic Preservation: National building contest "LEGO Brick to the Future: 2055" challenges tomorrow's builders today- Business Wire

Remembering Philip Johnson, FAIA: 55 personal recollections- e-Oculus

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