Today's News - August 24, 2006

An "Urban Bill of Rights" for Berkeley (other cities should consider). — If Mrs. Bata builds her dream town, it will be "a model for bottom-up municipal planning." — A British transitional housing project residents don't want to leave (and the neighbors actually like). — Proposal for Edinburgh's St. Andrew Square considered by some to "showy" and "oppressive." — A "spaceship" stadium in St. Petersburg, Russia, about to land. — Thailand's new airport (considered rather generic by some) gets its "Thai-ness" through art. — While Paris considers rebuilding Tuileries Palace, it is not unique; a surprising number of European landmarks are reproductions. — High hopes for Toronto Film Festival HQ - and great design because architect negotiated an "incredibly opinionated" design committee "with humor." — Scotland's RMJM has a very busy Moscow office. — Sudjic wows them in Melbourne. — Good news for architecture billings (let's hope it lasts). — A Wright protégé pens his memoirs. — On View. "Team 10" at Yale, and Cape Cod's modernists in Provincetown.

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Notes on NIMBYism Part IV: The NIMBY Manifesto...an "Urban Bill of Rights"...we have fallen under the control of developers and extremists, instead of implementing real smart growth.- Berkeley Daily Planet (California)

Mrs. Bata cobbles a new town: ...has extraordinary plans for...1,500 acres of land, with an abandoned shoe factory, that she owns around the former company town of Batawa...lf she gets her way, she will pull off one of Canada's most ambitious brownfield conversions, as well as establish a model for bottom-up municipal planning... --Eberhard Zeidler- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Social housing scheme sees the light of good design: Modern design has been used to great effect to create a nurturing atmosphere and happy tenants in a scheme of social housing in Donabate, north Dublin...shows how modern design doesn't have to be alienating... — Gerry Cahill; Gary Loughlin- Irish Times

Will St Andrew Square plan turn out to be another St James Centre? £50 million transformation of the former Scottish Provident offices...into a shopping mall, topped by offices and rooftop apartments, will create a landmark building...have left conservationists concerned and shoppers aghast... -- Gareth Hoskins Architects; CDA [image]- Edinburgh Evening News

Kurokawa's Spaceship Lands in St. Petersburg: Russia will soon have the first state-of-the art stadium: The Spaceship of this star of architecture won the tender...will replace the Kirov stadium. The demolition of this true monument to Soviet architecture has started already. [images]- Kommersant (Russia)

Decorating the gateway to Southeast Asia: Is Thailand's new [Suvarnabhumi] airport set to impress or just another airport? While the structural architecture of the new airport may look modern and high-tech, the interior reflects its 'Thainess' through art -- Murphy Jahn-Bangkok Post

Paris Looks to Her Past Glory: ...news that the reconstruction of the Tuileries Palace is being seriously considered provokes a gasp of surprise, and perhaps bewilderment...If the plan...goes ahead, it will by no means be unique. To a surprising extent, the monuments of Europe are not original, but reproduction.- Bloomberg News

Funding home for TIFF [Toronto International Film Festival] is tall order: ...new \$173-million headquarters is expected to begin in early 2007...design committee..."incredibly opinionated...Bruce's [Kuwabara] ability was to negotiate all that with humour."—Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects- Globe and Mail (Canada)

RMJM's Moscow office to lead Gazprom HQ bid: The company is working on about 20 projects in Russia...- The Scotsman (UK)

Designed by demagogues: Deyan Sudjic spots the thinking behind Hitler's architectural legacy...While many of the architects referred to in "The Edifice Complex" would like to be remembered for their great contributions to architecture, they would be disappointed if they were alive today.- Sydney Morning Herald

Architecture Billings Index Rebounds after Consecutive Negative Months: Inquiries for new projects at strongest level since January- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Memoir recalls studying under Frank Lloyd Wright: "Taliesin Reflections: My Years Before, During, and After Living with Frank Lloyd Wright" by Earl Nisbet...All proceeds from sale of the book will benefit Taliesin Preservation Inc.- Santa Cruz Sentinel (California)

Renegade Architectural Group "Team 10" Honored at Yale: "Team 10: A Utopia of the Present" September 5 - October 20 in the landmark Art & Architecture Building- Yale University

Bauhaus goes to the beach: "A Chain of Events: Modern Architecture on the Outer Cape" celebrates the architecture of modern Cape Cod -- Marcel Breuer; Serge Chermayeff; Paul Weidlinger; Jack Hall; Charles Zehnder- Boston Globe

INSIGHT: Iconicity: Finding Your Voice in a Changing World. By Kenneth Nisch/JGA-ArchNewsNow

- -- Masterplan: Daniel Libeskind: Ørestaden, Copenhagen
- -- PLOT: JDS + BIG: VM Houses, Ørestaden, Copenhagen
- -- Lundgaard & Tranberg: The Wedge, Copenhagen Business School, Copenhagen

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