## Today's News - November 7, 2006

A cultural center in Shanghai showcases a new era of environmental concerns. — Call for entries: Design for a New World (with special student category). — Sorkin smells the sulfer of megacities. — Two Chicago architects take the stigma out of and put green into social housing. — Heritage issues abound: Germaine Greer is none to kind to World Heritage Committee's revised criteria. — Calcutta's newfound awareness of the city's architectural legacy - and just in time. — Chicago preservationists fear losing ground to condos. — A Boston area modernist gem bites the dust and "puts an entire and vital period of our heritage at risk." — "X-list" ratings for British urban eyesores. — Shipping containers transformed from eyesores to architecture. — Princeton's building boom not as green as some would want. — Piano bows out of Princeton plan. — Sprawl = flab: the debate continues. — 10 ways to reduce your carbon footprint at work. — King refrains from judging Maynre's "265-foot-high collision of concrete and steel" in San Francisco (at least until it's finished). — Libeskind presents a "poetic" vision for Jewish War Veterans Memorial in Canada. — CityCenter in Las Vegas could spell trouble for other big projects. — Wright conference will focus on the future. — If you're in the U.S. - please vote today!!!

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New Jiang Wan Cultural Center, Shanghai: While the skyline explodes in a thicket of skyscrapers, a cultural center beckons to a new era of environmental concerns. -- RTKL [images]- ArchNewsNow

Call for entries: Architecture Plus Awards II: Design for a New World: Dubai-based event invites international contenders for 12 categories; registration deadline: December 15, 2006; submission deadline: January 31, 2007- Architecture Plus magazine

Michael Sorkin Smells the Sulpher of Megacities: ...describes the current trends toward Bigness as disaster in the making.- Archinect

Social Improvement With Architecture: "Stigma smashing" architects design housing for disadvantaged residents of Chicago...projects also showcase what is turning into another tradition in the city, that of sustainable, or green, design. -- Helmut Jahn; Stanley Tigerman; Peter Lindsay Schaudt [images]- New York Times

How do you get world heritage status? With neat lawns and tidy paperwork: Last year, the World Heritage Committee revised its criteria to a single set of 10 convoluted participial phrases, which together make about as much sense as UN-speak usually does. By Germaine Greer- Guardian (UK)

Problem of plenty: Heritage buildings of Calcutta: As Calcutta's economy booms, its historic buildings often are the first to go. But a newfound awareness of the city's architectural legacy may have come along just in time. — Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH); Manish Chakraborti/Action Research in Conservation of Heritage (ARCH); kolkatainformation.com-Himal Southasian (Nepal)

Preservationists in Chicago Fear Losing Ground to Condos: Fiercely proud of both its architecture and its distinct neighborhoods, Chicago is losing entire tracts of older buildings. -- Preservation Chicago- New York Times

Historic house loses bulldozer battle: An early classic of modern architecture was demolished on Oct. 27, over the protests of preservationists...Eleanor Raymond...one of the first important American women architects...The unexpected loss of a notable house raised broader concerns in the preservation community. By Robert Campbell- Boston Globe

Hate a building? Ask the Tories to knock it down: Cameron allies plan to 'X-list' urban eyesores...if a Conservative think-tank gets its way, a future David Cameron government will ask the public to help name and shame hundreds of eyesores as a way of reinvigorating Britain's cities.- Observer (UK)

Shipping containers: from eyesore to architecture: The room-size boxes are being made into artsy stores, galleries, schools and homes. -- Shigeru Ban; Mark Strauss/FXFOWLE Architects; Adam Kalkin; Giuseppe Lignano/LOT/EK; Global Peace Containers- Arizona Republic

In the planet's service? New campus architecture projects fail tough to meet green standards, critics say: University officials, sustainability experts and campus activists suggest that Princeton's commitment to green building has been lukewarm.- Daily Princetonian

Renzo Piano architectural firm bows out of university project: Work on the design of the neighborhood will continue without interruption under the leadership of Beyer Blinder Belle...- Princeton Packet

Road to fat city starts at home: Can a neighborhood make you gain weight? Urban planners think so, but a study questions the link between ZIP Code and waistline.- Los Angeles Times

Ten Ways to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint at Work: Who knows, they might even make your business more efficient as well.- Bloomberg News

Hold those thoughts on imposing federal tower: Thom Mayne's 265-foot-high collision of concrete and steel already has e-mail and phone calls streaming my way...I'm reserving judgment..The rush to architectural judgment is like a vice. It's something you shouldn't do - and an indulgence that's hard to resist. By John King -- Morphosis; Cesar Pelli-San Francisco Chronicle

'Poetic' vision for Jewish memorial; Jewish War Veterans Memorial...is a work that looks ahead to a world that doesn't yet exist...a thoroughly 21st-century hybrid; not only consecrated ground but also part sculpture and part architecture, a destination as well as an event space. By Christopher Hume -- Daniel Libeskind [image]- Toronto Star

CityCenter could spell trouble for rival high-rise projects: MGM Mirage bullish in bear condo market: The 76-acre, 18 million-square-foot development additionally offers a self-contained environment...also has high-end architecture from some of the industry's biggest superstars... — Rafael Viñoly; Norman Foster; Kohn Pedersen Fox; Helmut Jahn-Las Vegas Business Press

Wright conference takes on new focus: ...will center on incorporating [Frank Lloyd Wright's] principles of organic design into everyday living...using his techniques to tackle modern issues such as energy, sprawl and sustainability; at Taliesin West November 8-11- East Valley Tribune (Arizona)

Found in Space: Griffith Observatory's New Exhibitions: Innovative exhibits for an iconic institution are designed to build an appetite for discovery. — C&G Partners; Pfeiffer Partners; Levin & Associates Architects [images]- ArchNewsNow

<u>— SANAA: Competition Sketches, De Kunstlinie Theatre and Cultural Centre, Almere, The Netherlands</u>

-- "Shopping" in Tokyo (Part 1)

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