Today's News - Friday, August 1, 2008

- Design for memorial to London's 7/7 bombings unveiled.
- Dyckhoff says "memorials are the toughest gig in architecture," but finds this one "subtle, thoughtful and reflective."
- For those of us who have only heard about some of Detroit's gems, Hodges offers 10 cool sights (and some whoop-dee-doo architecture the videos are worth the trip!).
- AIA launches America's Favorite Architecture: The Movie Version (on the web).
- Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry offers time-traveling tour through 1893's "White City."
- "Bird's Nest: Herzog & de Meuron in China" is "must-see viewing for architecture junkies" (the downside: "it's dry in the extreme").
- A "joyful current flows through" "Man on a Wire," documenting Philippe Petit and his merry band of outlaws atop the World Trade Center.
 Q&A with French bridge master Virlogeux at The Building Centre's "Span" opening: "I don't use any computer at all just a little calculator, just like one you would use for college."
 Ouroussoff finds "Between Earth and Heaven" "makes a strong case that Lautner's legacy has been curiously underestimated."
- Mack (we're glad she's back) says "Design for the Other 90%" at the Walker Art Center showcases a "hopeful side" to global problems.
- "Home Delivery" offers "glimpse of our pre-fabulous future" (now if only the politicians would pay attention).
 Bucky's "humanitarian approach to the good life is on poignant display" at the Whitney, and shows how much "we are still behind the curve."
 "Utopia/Dystopia" at the National Gallery of Canada "pinpoints the fault-lines and fissures in the architectural history of our time."

- Coming to Chicago: "Rising from the Ashes: Furniture From Lost Trees" makes lemonade out of lemons.
 Page turners: Gordon's "Spaced Out" puts the 1960s "architectural efforts, good and bad, into current context." Glancey is intrigued by the story of a curmudgeonly eccentric.
- We couldn't resist: an eyeful of gravity-defying houses.

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Carmody Groarke reveals 7/7 memorial to the victims of London's 7/7 bombings: £1 million project comprises 52 stainless-steel pillars - one for each innocent victim killed in the attacks placed in four clusters at the south-east corner of Hyde Park. -- Arup; Colvin & Moggridge; Antony Gormley [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

London bombings memorial is one of the toughest challenges in architecture: The memorial is not the big statement that many might have wanted. Carmody worries that it is too polite. No, it is subtle, thoughtful and reflective. There is a difference. ByTom Dyckhoff -- Carmody Groarke; Antony Gormley; Arup; Colvin & Moggridge- The Times (UK)

Explore downtown Detroit's jewels: 10 cool sights south of the Campus Martius. Take a fresh look. By Michael H. Hodges -- Gino Rossetti; Wirt Rowland (1929); Minoru Yamasaki; Louis Kamper; Albert Kahn- Detroit News

Tour de Troit: Explore downtown Detroit's jewels on a walking tour with Michael Hodges (some whoopdee-do architecture!) [videos]- Detroit News

"Shape of America" film series: America's Favorite Architecture: The Movie Version- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Pricey simulated tour is like time-traveling to 1893's 'White City': Museum of Science and Industry offering unique high-tech look at Chicago's World's Columbian Exposition [link to images]- Chicago Tribune

Film: "Bird's Nest: Herzog and de Meuron in China": ...must-see viewing for architecture junkies...an intriguing look at what it takes for a Western concern to successfully do business in the new China ..downside is that it's dry in the extreme.-Santa Barbara News-Press

Film: "Man on a Wire": Twin Towers Conqueror Yearns for Return to High Wire in the Sky: ...is structured like a crime caper, mixing present-day interviews of Philippe Petit and his co-conspirators-Bloomberg News

French bridge master: Michel Virlogeux: On the opening night of The Building Centre's latest exhibition SPANS, Kaye Alexander talked to the French engineer and bridge designer, most famous for his collaboration with Foster + Partners for the Millau Viaduct. [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Bonding Humanity and Landscape in a Perfect

Circle: "Between Earth and Heaven: The Architecture of John Lautner" at the Hammer Museum, makes a strong case that Lautner's legacy has been curiously underestimated. By Nicoali Ouroussoff [slide show]- New York Times

Global design comes home to roost: These days, global problems seem to generate only bad news.
"Design for the Other 90%" at the Walker Art
Center showcases the other, hopeful side of the
coin. By Linda Mack [images, links]- MinnPost.com
(Minneapolis)

MoMA's glimpse of our pre-fabulous future: "Home Delivery: Fabricating the Modern Dwelling"...is a must for anyone interested in mass housebuilding...off-site fabrication has an unexplored, potentially vital role to play in the delivery of high-quality affordable and sustainable homes. By Michael Stacey — Wright; Prouvé; Peter Cook/Archigram; Fuller; Horden Cherry Lee/Haack & Höpfner; Oskar Leo Kaufmann/Albert Rüf; Douglas Gauthier/Jeremy Edmiston; KieranTimberlake- BD/Building Design (UK)

"Buckminster Fuller: Starting With the Universe": Fuller's Dome Home, Car Look Smarter in Whitney: ...humanitarian approach to the good life is on poignant display...It's almost shocking to realize that his most workable ideas stem from his designs of the 1920s. Almost a century later, we are still behind the curve.- Bloomberg News

"Utopia/Dystopia": Portraits of habitats on the edge of change: The photos of Geoffrey James at the National Gallery of Canada explore our built environment and the dividing line between new and old...pinpoints with strong artistic force the fault-lines and fissures in the architectural history of our time. By John Bentley Mays [slide show]- Globe and Mail (Canada)

"Rising from the Ashes: Furniture From Lost Trees":
A new furniture exhibition displays pieces made from ash trees killed by an invasive beetle; opens
August 22 at the Morton Arboretum in Chicago [images, links]- Plenty magazine

Book review: Alastair Gordon's fascinating new book, "Spaced Out: Crash Pads, Hippie Communes, Infinity Machines, and Other Radical Environments of the Psychedelic Sixties"...puts the era's architectural efforts, good and bad, into current context. By Zahid Sardar — Fuller; Eric Owen Moss; Gehry; Koolhaas; Mayne; Cass Calder Smith; Archigram; Soleri; Sim Van der Ryn; Aleksandra Kasuba [slide show]- San Francisco Chronicle

Book review: Grumpy old archaeologist: "Bloody Old Britain: OGS Crawford and the Archaeology of Modern Life" by Kitty Hauser...Jonathan Glancey is intrigued by the story of a curmudgeonly eccentric-Guardian (UK)

Gravity Defying Homes -- Daniel Czapiewski; ucxarchitects; Terry Brown; Piet Blom; MVRDV; Rolf Disch; Collins Design; Moshe Safdie; Troppo Architects; Front Architects [slide show]-PointClickHome

-- John McAslan + Partners: Stanislavsky Center, Stanislavsky Theater, Moscow, Russia -- Book: Writing and Seeing Architecture by Christian de Portzamparc & Philippe Sollers Free registration may be required on some sites. Some pages may expire after a few days.

Yesterday's News

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