

Today's News - Tuesday, September 2, 2008

- ArcSpace is back with an eyeeful of Norwegian Museum of Architecture's new pavilion, Zaha in Zaragoza, and Architecture Now! 5.
- Is sustainability boring? Braungart defends his theory "Cradle to Cradle."
- An architect in Jakarta who badgers for better, eco-friendly development policies.
- NYC greens the pot to entice developers to include green roofs.
- Engineers close to turning carbon dioxide into cement.
- Three Olympic venues being scrutinized to determine if they're worth it.
- Meanwhile, Australian ready to go for London Olympics gold.
- Mays marvels at six new towers rising from muddy pits in Toronto.
- Kamin gives thumbs-up to Chicago for tapping talent to rethink prototypes.
- It's a go for Germany's largest mosque in Cologne (not all are pleased).
- Glancey fears the trend of railway stations becoming glorified malls is on the wrong track.
- Heathcote takes on Titan prisons: where are the architects?
- Robin Hood Gardens decision to get a re-think.
- Hume takes on Corbu, "Modernism's concrete prophet," and how he still factors into debates over urban environments.
- New plans bring high hopes for Saarinen's Bell Labs.
- Perhaps it's time to revisit an early rotating building - 50 years later it still works.
- Survey finds U.S. architects getting on board with pro bono services - with many giving more than the requested 1%.
- It's splitsville between HOK and HOK Sport - but they'll still be friends.

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-- Sverre Fehn: Exhibition Pavilion, Norwegian Museum of Architecture, Oslo, Norway
-- Zaha Hadid Architects: Zaragoza Bridge Pavilion, Zaragoza, Spain
-- Book: Architecture Now! 5 By Philip Jodidio

Is sustainability boring? Michael Braungart defends his theory "Cradle to Cradle" – in terms of the defence of the environment – against Al Gore. -- McDonough Braungart Design Chemistry (MBDC)- Abitare

Popo Danes: Architect with a green conscience: ...an articulate and influential voice, which tirelessly badgers the local administrations for better, eco-friendly development policies.- The Jakarta Post

Green Roofs Offer More Than Color for the Skyline: ...part of a growing effort to reduce greenhouse gases, rainwater runoff and electricity demand in New York...new one-year abatements can cut as much as \$100,000 a year from a building's taxes -- Mingo Design; Balmori Associates- New York Times

Can Carbon Dioxide Be Turned to Concrete? Engineers are constantly coming up with new ways to dispose of greenhouse gases. The latest idea is to hide carbon dioxide exhaust in cement. The method could revolutionize one of the most carbon-intensive industries in the world. - Der Spiegel (Germany)

Three Olympic venues could be scrapped: KPMG to scrutinise cost of equestrian, shooting and basketball venues...due to increasing concern about their cost, local impact and minimal post-Olympic legacy.- Building (UK)

Australian firms in starting blocks for London Olympics gold: Can we teach the mother country a thing or two about putting on the Olympics? ...the answer is we already are. -- PTW; Bligh Voller Nield; Cox Architects; URS; Allen Jack+Cottier; Tim Court & Co; Denton Corker Marshall- The Age (Australia)

Six towers set to bloom: A work of architecture begins its real-world career...as a hole in the ground. Downtown Toronto nowadays sports many of these muddy pits...But not all holes are created equal. Here are a few important ones that deserve watching... By John Bentley Mays -- architectsAlliance; Hariri Pontarini; Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates (KPF)/Page + Steele; Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg (KPMB); Eberhard Zeidler - Globe and Mail (Canada)

City taps top architects for prototype revision: The problem isn't so much that the bad prototypes are cookie-cutter architecture...It's that their basic DNA is so uninspired. Prototypes can work. But they have to be good prototypes. Now, the city is taking new steps in that direction. By Blair Kamin -- John Ronan; Laurence Booth/Booth Hansen; Ken Schroeder- Chicago Tribune

Go-Ahead for Germany's Biggest Mosque: After much controversy, Cologne's city council has voted in favor of building Germany's largest mosque...will change the city's historic skyline forever...cost between €15 billion and €20 billion and hold up to 4,000 worshippers. -- Paul Böhm [image]- Der Spiegel (Germany)

On the wrong track: Our railways may be revitalised, but their stations risk becoming glorified shopping malls...Before we allow some of our most famous transport buildings to become giant, developer-led malls, let's see an architect, with a love of railways...appointed to ensure railway stations remain, in whatever style and no matter how modern, railway stations. By Jonathan Glancey -- Foreign Office Architects (FOA); Grimshaw - Guardian (UK)

Creative design raises the bar: The new generation of Titan prisons look unlikely to be designed by great architects but are more likely to resemble US super-prisons...Architecture has fallen off the agenda...One of the few alternative proposals has come from Will Alsop... By Edwin Heathcote - Financial Times (UK)

Government will review Robin Hood Gardens decision: Responding to an appeal made by the Twentieth Century Society...an admission that "significant new evidence" in favour of listing had been put forward..."I have never seen the architecture profession mobilise itself like this for anything – it's extraordinary." -- Smithson - BD/Building Design (UK)

Modernism's concrete prophet: Reviled as much as he's revered, Le Corbusier still factors into debates over urban environments, and still takes heat for the St. James Towns of the world. By Christopher Hume - Toronto Star

[Saarinen Spared in NJ: Redevelopment plan seeks new use for Bell Labs...vision is "a downtown-style, mixed-use environment created at \[the\] building." \[images\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[A Builder's 360° Vision Didn't Move His Neighbors: The 50th anniversary of one of the earliest revolving homes, built in Belgium, is going largely unnoticed, even as energy conservation has become a big issue, half a century later. -- François Massau \[images\]- New York Times](#)

[Second Annual Survey of Pro Bono Service by U.S. Architecture Firms Completed: ...queried architecture and design firms that have pledged a minimum of 1% of their billable hours to pro bono service via Public Architecture's flagship program, "The 1%." ...more than two-thirds devoted 2% or more of their time to pro bono service over the past year - Public Architecture](#)

[HOK Sport Venue Event in Kansas City is now independent of former parent HOK Group: ...deal requires HOK Sport to continue its current market focus for about 2½ years, after which it can branch out into other types of architecture.- Kansas City Star](#)

[INSIGHT: Failing to Protect: Three Actions Our Leaders Must Take in Order to Save America's Crumbling Infrastructure. By Barry B. LePatner - ArchNewsNow](#)

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