

Today's News - Tuesday, October 7, 2008

- ArcSpace brings us an eyeful of Lautner.
- Siza seizes RIBA Royal Gold Medal.
- Correa, Maki tapped to design Aga Khan Center in Toronto.
- Kamin offers an eyeful of new super-talls by Smith and Gill in Dubai (where else?!?).
- Saffron gives thumbs-up to transform historic Philadelphia bank building into Chemical Heritage museum.
- Cooper-Hewitt plans to expand.
- Libeskind's "boot" tower revised.
- U.S. starting to catch the trend of replacing car space with lively public places.
- New streetlight technology may be green, but "it ain't pretty."
- King on San Francisco's 4 new "head-turners" that are the "landmarks of the century ahead."
- More on HOK's foray into biomimicry.
- The best time to see the Pentagon Memorial: 1 a.m.
- Q&A with Adjaye: "Architecture is losing its relevance to life. It's more about spectacle than buildings."
- Kennicott finds a "compelling serenity" at Niemeyer show in D.C.
- Thoughtful takes on Corbu by Heathcote, Glancey, and Merrick.
- Kamin finds Balmond on view in Chicago like "an architectural mystery novel that may - or may not - have a happy ending."
- The 'burbs on view in Pittsburgh: "a testament to its adaptability and flexibility, suburbia's ability to reinvent itself."
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- - EDITOR'S NOTE: Our apologies for skipping yesterday, but ASLA conference had us hopping about very, very early...

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[Ávaro Siza scoops RIBA Royal Gold Medal](#)- The Architects' Journal (UK)

[Correa, Maki Tapped to Design Aga Khan Center: ...a \\$200-million cultural and religious complex in Toronto.](#) -- Vladimir Djurovic [slide show]- Architectural Record

[New supertall commissions announced by Smith and Gill for Dubai, including mega-towers, worth \\$15 billion...](#) By Blair Kamin -- Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture [images]- Chicago Tribune

[Bank has perfect bones for science museum: Chemistry is the subject of the new institution in the former First National Bank...Chemical Heritage museum...not only meant to restore grandeur to the historic Chestnut Street bank, but to the chemistry profession itself.](#) By Inga Saffron -- SaylorGregg Architects; Ralph Appelbaum Associates [images]- Philadelphia Inquirer

[Cooper-Hewitt Is Poised for an Expansion and a Sprucing Up](#) -- Gluckman Mayner; Beyer Blinder Belle- New York Times

[Das Boot design kicked to the curb: Once designated the L Tower due to its boot-like shape, the building will now take the shape of the letter L...revised plan...shows a plain, generous plaza...where the boot was meant to come down. The handsome limestone cladding of the Sony Centre's western elevation remains largely unmolested, as does its roof.](#) -- Daniel Libeskind- Globe and Mail (Canada)

[Removing Cars to Create Public Space: Cars dominate cities, especially in America. But as many cities in other countries have found, removing cars can turn busy streets into lively public places. Now the U.S. is starting to catch on.](#)- PLANetizen

[Against the environmentalist, aesthetes have no hope: What they did to our interiors with their ghastly fluorescent light bulbs they are now doing to our streets. "Low-carbon street lighting" is coming fast, and it ain't pretty.](#)- Globe and Mail (Canada)

[4 new buildings that enrich San Francisco: ...these high-profile head-turners of the past three years mark architectural progress of the best sort...landmarks of the century ahead - and tributes to the free-wheeling spirit that has made this city thrive.](#) By John King -- Daniel Libeskind; Renzo Piano; Mayne/Morphosis; Herzog & de Meuron [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

[Buildings inspired by nature: One of the world's biggest architectural firms looks to Mother Nature for ideas...to see what biomimicry can do for buildings.](#) -- HOK [links]- Fortune magazine

[Everything is illuminated: The best time to take in the new Pentagon Memorial? 1 a.m.](#) -- Kaseman/Beckman//KBAS [image]- Boston Globe

[Portrait of the artist: David Adjaye, architect: "Architecture is losing its relevance to life. It's more about spectacle than buildings"](#)- Guardian (UK)

[Niemeyer & the Sweep of History: there's a compelling serenity to much of what is on display at the Art Museum of the Americas...One virtue of the current exhibition...is its focus on detail.](#) By Philip Kennicott [images]- Washington Post

[Architect of his own legend: "Le Corbusier: The Art of Architecture" ...innocently and enthusiastically continues and amplifies the myth he bequeathed us and it is as impressive, spurious and enjoyable as it ever was.](#) By Edwin Heathcote- Financial Times (UK)

[A canvas in concrete: Architecture as Art? His bare apartment blocks and austere interiors transformed 20th-century architecture. But could Le Corbusier's forms be called art? ...show proves, unintentionally, that\[he\] was – and in no small way – a great architect because he was a minor artist.](#) By Jay Merrick- Independent (UK)

[Faith, hope and clarity: Le Corbusier infused everything he built with spirituality. Jonathan Glancey weighs up the astonishing legacy of the 'secular monk' of modernism](#) [slide show]- Guardian (UK)

["Cecil Balmond: Solid Void" reveals an engineer's creative collaboration with architects: ...projects not presented as triumphs, as is usually the case with architecture shows, but as characters in the equivalent of an architectural mystery novel that may—or may not—have a happy ending.](#) By Blair Kamin -- ARUP- Chicago Tribune

[The suburbs as a museum piece: "Worlds Away: New Suburban Landscapes" at the Carnegie Museum of Art...a testament to suburbia's adaptability and flexibility, its ability to reinvent itself.](#) - Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



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