## Today's News - Tuesday, January 13, 2009

- The problem with the environmental movement: "No one has created a vision of what happens if we get things right" (can Obama change that?).
- · Amery counts cranes as London "struggles to love skyscrapers."
- · Economic woes hit universities, once the most recession-proof of clients.
- Denver's Civic Center plans back on the table (with less "fuzzy" guidelines this time).
- 10 years later, Ottawa still trying to figure out what to do with former U.S. embassy (a Cass Gilbert no less!) a museum in the works?
- · Plans (finally) move ahead to give Nervi's George Washington Bridge Bus Terminal a make-over.
- King claps for a new public pool: proof that "21st century government can still craft public works that are likely to pay dividends within a community for decades to come."
- · Moore marvels that bureaucracy didn't turn Parry's St. Martin-in-the-Fields make-over into "a piece of grey, masticated gum."
- · Bruce Lee's home wins reprieve from life as a "love motel" to be reborn as a museum (what else?).
- · Singer George Michael has Dallas gallery plans.
- · NYC hopes its transforms its once-gloomy-now-transformed Manhattan Marriage Bureau becomes the "wedding destination of the world."
- Bernstein cheers Kundig's "strikingly simple" house in the Idaho desert.
- · Stewart finds solace in the economic gloom by speculating on who will design this year's Serpentine Pavilion.
- · A Vietnamese architect with a mission to make more natural dwellings more accessible to the poor.
- A Durham architect chronicles the modernist movement in North Carolina's Research Triangle region (who knew there was so much!).
- The California architect, still largely unknown in his own home state, "is among the best-known architects in booming Dubai."
- MIT and Gallaudet team up to re-think design to take stress out of our sense of well-being.
- · Young superstars: BD&C's 40 under 40.

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Obama and the Vision Thing: There's long been a fundamental problem with the green world...after four decades of the modern environmental movement, only a relative handful of companies and citizens have joined in...The problem is this: No one has created a vision of what happens if we get things right. By Joel Makower- GreenBiz.com

London Struggles to Love Skyscrapers as Shard Follows Gherkin: ...will be joined by the Can of Ham, the Helter Skelter and the Shard of Glass. Still, the Cheesegrater and Walkie Talkie face delays in recession, making this a good time to consider architectural quality and locations. By Colin Amery -- Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands; Foster + Partners; Renzo Piano; KPF; Foggo Associates; Rogers Stirk Harbour- Bloomberg News

Recession Forces Universities to Reconsider Building Plans: ...until recently the most recession-proof consumers of design and construction services... -- Behnisch Architekten; Raphael Moneo; Steven Holl; Furnihiko Maki; Moore Ruble Yudell; Ellenzweig- Architectural Record

Civic Center plan resurfaces: 'Fuzzy' guidelines gone as proposal heads for hearing...Now, the guidelines are more straightforward...there may be more light than heat on Civic Center - at long last. By Mary Voelz Chandler -- Mundus Bishop Design; Daniel Libeskind- Rocky Mountain News (Denver)

'It's a shame it's still not being used': A decade after the U.S. moved out of its embassy on Wellington Street, no one has moved in. This month, a senator hopes to change all that...it would make a great place for the study of Canadian government or history. — Cass Gilbert (1932)- Ottawa Citizen (Canada)

Nervi's New Look: Port Authority moves ahead with George Washington Bridge Bus Terminal renovation...Pier Luigi Nervi's sole building [1963] in the U.S...whose architectural character is easy to miss beneath 45 years of accumulated grunge. -- Robert Davidson/STV [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Charlie Sava Pool gets the details right: ...a great place to swim laps, and a building for our time....bears testimony that 21st century government can still craft public works that are likely to pay dividends within a community for decades to come. By John King -- Mark Cavagnero Associates; Paulett Taggart Architects [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

Here's the Queen's church, here's the steeple ... and inside the newly renovated St Martin-in-the-Fields there's still room for all the homeless people: ...a miracle that the finished work is not a piece of grey, masticated gum...intelligent and skilful and has moments of beauty. It would be hard to ask for more. By Rowan Moore -- James Gibbs (1720s); Eric Parry Architects [images]- Evening Standard (UK)

Bruce Lee's home to become a museum: Fans win fight to repurpose site that became a love motel-Hollywood Reporter

Pop Art: ...pop singer George Michael [and] Kenny Goss...planning a foray into architecture...they will be building a 10,000-square-foot gallery in Dallas...to display their extensive collection of contemporary British art. -- Buchanan Architecture-The Architect's Newspaper

Eloping to Vegas? Why Not Lower Manhattan? Officials are hoping that the new and gleaming Manhattan Marriage Bureau will make it more popular..."We want to be the wedding destination of the world" — Jamie Drake [images]- New York Times

Surrendering to the Landscape: A strikingly simple concrete, glass and steel house in Idaho makes the most of the constantly changing desert scenery. By Fred A. Bernstein -- Tom Kundig/Olson Sundberg Kundig Allen [slide show]- New York Times

Who will design the Serpentine summer pavilion? There is likely to be a paucity of exciting architecture coming to the market in 2009...so we architectural writers have to find solace where we can. Fortunately there is one place where fresh architectural innovation can be found every summer. By Dan Stewart-Building (UK)

Natural design: A local architect famous for his bamboo designs wants to popularize buildings made of all-natural materials...His mission is to make more natural dwellings more accessible to the poor. -- Vo Trong Nghia-Thanh Nien News (Vietnam)

Flying high with George Smart: Durham architect chronicles the modernist movement...Triangle Modernist Houses features 518 modern houses and 121 architects who built them...now working with volunteers to ensure that TMH will become a formal nonprofit...- News & Observer (North Carolina)

The Architect of Dreams: Three years ago Tony Ashai was a successful, if largely anonymous, Torrance architect...Today...while still largely unknown in the South Bay, [he] is among the best-known architects in booming Dubai. --

Ashai Design [images]- Daily Breeze (California)

MIT-Gallaudet summit brings together innovative design concepts: Some argue that our buildings today are guided more by technology and economy, and have become a stress to our sense of well-being...class looked at ways to reverse this trend...DeafSpace creates a whole new aesthetic to express and foster distinct ways of being.- Gallaudet University

Building Design+Construction Names 40 Young Superstars of U.S. Design and Construction from among 208 finalists in the publication's fourth annual "40 under 40" competition.- Building Design & Construction (BD&C)

WORDS THAT BUILD: Tip #10: Use paragraph spacing in writing and pauses in conversation to promote "out of the box" thinking. By Norman Weinstein- ArchNewsNow

Morphosis: Hypo-Alpe-Adria Bank HQ, Udine, Italy

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