

Today's News - Wednesday, January 28, 2009

- Campbell offers Obama some advice, and wonders if architects "will begin to have some influence on public architecture" (though they "aren't known for their political skills").
- High-density TODs in Sydney's future would be a good thing.
- Los Angeles gets serious about greening its alleys to "into the urban fold."
- MIT architect is serious about designing a sustainable Haitian village: the poor "should have the best architecture, not makeshift architecture."
- As California museums struggle, architecture and design curators try to stay optimistic.
- Bangladesh (finally) gets serious about preserving architectural gems in its capital city, Dhaka.
- Debate between preservationists and "empire-building doctors" continue, with the fate of historic neighborhood at stake: at least one side "must be pulling the wool over our eyes."
- Heathcote takes a taxi with Nouvel to his new Copenhagen concert hall and finds it "a joy."
- Houston's Menil Collection taps Chipperfield to master plan an expansion.
- MOS bags MoMA/P.S. 1 summer courtyard competition (great slide show).
- An impressive shortlist for London's King's Cross square.
- An impressive portfolio of parking structures.
- Germany exports punctuality to the chaotic city streets of Cali, Colombia.
- Report from Yale's Rudolph symposium.
- Call for applications: Deborah J. Norden Grant.
- Time warp: untouched Communist-era apartment discovered in Leipzig.

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Some free advice to President Obama: ...everything from a more meaningful federal role for architects to gasoline taxes...Maybe architects will begin to have some influence on public architecture? It doesn't happen often. Architects aren't known for their political skills. By Robert Campbell- Architectural Record

Space, the final frontier: If done correctly, high-density around railway stations makes sense for Sydneysiders...Australia's first "transit-oriented development", The Forum...is a prime example of a successful high-density project. -- McGregor Partners; Choi Ropiha- Sydney Morning Herald

From Utility to Amenity: Greening the Alleys of Los Angeles: Green alley projects are popping up in cities all over the U.S. and Canada in an effort to make the concrete jungle a little better at absorbing rainwater. A new alley program in Los Angeles goes beyond the runoff to actively integrate these unique spaces into the urban fold.- PLANetizen

Lifting the poor with sustainable design: MIT architect aids village in Haiti..."The poor have only one house. They should have the best architecture, not makeshift architecture."...prizing of people, not profits, has earned him a reputation as "the Walt Whitman of architects." -- Jan Wampler- Boston Globe

The Good Fight: As California Museums Struggle, Architecture and Design Curators Adapt -- Brooke Hodge; Henry Urbach; Wim de Wit; Christopher James Alexander; Michael Govan- The Architect's Newspaper

93 heritage buildings, sites listed for preservation: At long last, a government-formed expert body has come up with a preliminary list of heritage buildings and sites in the 400-year old capital city [Dhaka] for preservation.- The Daily Star (Bangladesh)

Op-Ed: In hospital debate, whom to believe? At least one side in the debate over Big Charity must be pulling the wool over our eyes...The preservationists on the one hand and the empire-building doctors on the other...The whole caboodle will cover 70 acres, obliterating scores of houses and businesses in a national historic district. -- RMJM- The Times-Picayune (New Orleans)

Sleek shell with a warm heart: Danish Radio Concert Hall, Copenhagen...sited on the edge of a city that has been determined to reinvent its public institutions through architecture...£500m broadcasting city (DR City)...an attempt to anchor the emerging quarter of Orestad...It is a joy, as rewarding a concert hall as any... By Edwin Heathcote -- Jean Nouvel; Yasuhisa Toyota [images]- Financial Times (UK)

Menil Collection picks architect to design planned expansion: ...has hired David Chipperfield Architects to design a master plan the museum will use to carry out its expansion...The other five candidates could still be considered to design individual buildings called for in the plan...- Houston Chronicle

MoMA Award Goes to Architecture for an Economic Hangover: ..."afterparty"..."a temporary urban shelter and passive cooling station" for the events at the Warm Up summer program at P.S. 1... By Robin Pogrebin -- Hilary Sample/Michael Meredith/MOS [slide show]- New York Times

Six shortlisted for £6m King's Cross square -- Field Operations/Buro Happold/Concepto/Macgregor Smith/Tomato; Gehl Architects/Martin Stockley/Simon Fenton/Four 23/Hansen & Henneberg; Gross Max; Gustafson Porter/Arup/Space Syntax/Davis Langdon; Martha Schwartz/Buro Happold/Squint/Opera/Davis Langdon/Quatro; Stanton Williams- BD/Building Design (UK)

2009 Notable Projects: Parking -- Herzog & de Meuron; Stanley Saitowitz/Natoma Architects; Moore Ruble Yudell; Leven Betts; Easton+Combs; buildingstudio architects; ArandaLasch; Giattina Fisher Aycock/GA Studio [images]- Architype Review

Germany Exports Punctuality to Colombia: Cali is known for its astonishingly chaotic city streets. Now, a German company is helping establish some degree of order. A new city bus system is set to introduce Teutonic punctuality to Latin America.- Der Spiegel (Germany)

Recalling Rudolph: "Reassessing Rudolph: Architecture and Reputation" symposium...addressed topics such as [his] use of materials, his reputation and his reception over the course of his career. -- Robert A.M. Stern; Tim Rohan; Adrian Forty; Lawrence Scarpa/Pugh + Scarpa; Marion Weiss/Weiss/Manfredi; Carter Wiseman- Yale Daily News

Call for applications: Deborah J. Norden Grant to support genuinely independent projects that require travel; deadline: March 30- Architectural League of New York

Untouched Communist-Era Apartment Discovered: Time has stood still in an eastern German apartment which has only just been opened after evidently being abandoned in a hurry in early 1989. It gives an intriguing glimpse into everyday life in

[communist times.](#) - Der Spiegel (Germany)

-- [SMC Alsop: Stratford DLR Station, London, UK](#)

-- [Grimshaw Architects/Arcadis Architecten: Bijlmer ArenA Station, Amsterdam, The Netherlands](#) - ArcSpace

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