

## Today's News - Wednesday, September 16, 2009

- Forget Thoreau and an idyllic life on Walden Pond - it will be "well-run, energy-efficient cities that ultimately save us from ourselves" (excellent links here).
- Jacobs on Gehry's tough year: why did he "squander his cultural cachet on a boondoggle" like Atlantic Yards?
- KPF London partners jump ship to start their own firm (name not announced).
- Rose has a very amusing take on Starck's new reality TV show: it ends up he doesn't want to hire any of the designers, and "none of them want to work for him any longer anyway."
- Anderton ponders "does creative architecture inspire creativity?" with Prix and Hawthorne (and other good stuff).
- The 1964 World's Fair New York State Pavilion finally wins landmark status (but is it already too far gone to really be saved? we hope not!).
- A Qatari prince battles French conservationists over his plans for the 17th century Hotel Lambert in Paris (great video tour).
- An excellent team tapped for San Francisco's new cruise ship terminal.
- Pickrel explores two green Queensland houses that "exhibit powerful simplicity in form, space, and circulation" and are "environmentally conscious responses" to their locale.
- Professionals and amateurs protest the U.K.'s "draconian" terror laws that have had one architectural photographer accused of "hostile reconnaissance" (also experienced by yours truly in NYC).
- Call for entries: 2010 Palladio Awards for traditional design; and Zerofootprint Re-Skinning Award for exceptional projects that don't meet the performance standards of the ZEROprize.
- Winners all: RIBA Special Awards finalists; 2009 LEAF Awards winners; 2009 North American Copper in Architecture Awards (great site!); Virginia Society AIA Awards for Excellence in Design; and ASLA 2009 Student Awards.
- We couldn't resist: a new bat house for the London Wetland Centre: "I wouldn't mind living there myself."

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Sustainable cities are the solution: Despite our romantic ideas about nature, it will be well-run, energy-efficient cities that ultimately save us from ourselves. -- Mitchell Joachim; Dorothee Imbert; Rem Koolhaas [links] - Guardian (UK)

Frank Gehry, Writ Smaller: It's been a tough year for the world's most famous architect...Why would someone as socially and politically adroit as Gehry squander his cultural cachet on a boondoggle? ...the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum...is my favorite of the architect's recent work—which makes me think that a lesser Gehry might actually be a greater one. By Karrie Jacobs - Metropolis Magazine

KPF's London partners quit to set up new practice: Five partners of Kohn Pedersen Fox's London office have dramatically jumped ship...Lee Poliso, David Leventhal, Karen Cook, Ronaldus Bakker and Fred Pilbrow all resigned from the firm yesterday with immediate effect. - BD/Building Design (UK)

The Starck truth: Does British design need saving? British design is alive and kicking. So why is Philippe Starck hosting an Apprentice-style TV show aimed at giving it a hand? ...an act of Gallic gall that should have us spluttering into our Earl Grey...if "Design for Life" is anything to go by, the future does not look bright...[he] can't find any British people talented enough... By Steve Rose - Guardian (UK)

DnA/Frances Anderton: Does Creative Architecture Inspire Creativity? The LAUSD's new flagship arts high school opened last week. Will this icon for the underserved enable creativity? + hear about the real (M)ad Men, from filmmaker Doug Pray; Ken Bernstein: why the city is surveying every single building in LA. -- Wolf Prix/Coop Himmelb(l)au; Christopher Hawthorne [images, video, links] - KCRW (Los Angeles)

New York State Pavilion, relic of the 1964 World's Fair in Queens, wins approval as landmark: ...designation opens it to desperately needed rehab grants. -- Philip Johnson [image, links] - NY Daily News

Qatari prince's battle over Paris mansion: ...locked in a legal battle with French conservationists who object to his plans to renovate historic 17th century Hotel Lambert [video] - BBC

Pfau Long Architecture, KMD Architects tapped for Port of San Francisco's \$86.5 million cruise ship terminal - San Francisco Business Times

Two Houses in East Australia: ...exhibit powerful simplicity in form, space, and circulation...show environmentally conscious responses to the subtropical climate of the southeastern Queensland area  
By Debra Pickrel -- Base Architecture; James Russell Architect [images, links] - ArchitectureWeek

Photo protest challenges "draconian" terror laws: The act of photographing people or places around the UK has become trickier in recent years for amateurs and professionals alike...Architectural photographer Grant Smith...has often been accused of "hostile reconnaissance"... - The Wharf (UK)

Call for entries: 2010 Palladio Awards: 9th annual competition will recognize outstanding work in traditional design for commercial, institutional, public and residential projects; deadline: November 20 - Traditional Building Magazine / Period Homes

Call for entries: Zerofootprint Re-Skinning Award for state-of-the-art retrofitted and re-skinned buildings that are exceptional, but do not meet the performance standards of the ZEROprize; deadline: January 10 - Zerofootprint

RIBA announces Special Awards finalists: Crown Estate Conservation Award; RIBA/CABE Public Space Award; Stephen Lawrence Prize; RIBA/Sorrell Foundation Schools Award; Client of the Year Award - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Emirates Glass LEAF Awards 2009 winners celebrate architectural excellence in the fields of innovation, structural and interior design -- Woods Bagot; EAA-Emre Arolat Architects; David Chipperfield; Studio mk27; gpy arquitectos; Atelier Brückner; Strootman Landscape Architects/Palmbout Urban Landscapes; John Pardey Architects; Chetwoods Architects; Amanda Levet Architects - designbuild-network.com (UK)

2009 North American Copper in Architecture Awards -- Theodore Brown & Partners; SmithGroup; 4240 Architecture; Antoine Predock; Lett Architects/Salter Pilon Architecture; Gould Evans; Marlon Blackwell; Schacht Aslani Architects; Beyer Blinder Belle; Klepper, Hahn & Hyatt; D.M. Steeves & Associates; Werleman Guy McMahon Architects [images] - Copper Development Association/Canadian Copper & Brass Development Association

Virginia Society AIA Awards for Excellence in Design 2009 -- SMBW/W.G. Clark Associates/William Sherman Associates; Robert M. Gurney Architect; Hays+Ewing Design Studio; OnSite; David Jameson Architect; Studio 27 Architecture; SmithGroup; demianwilburarchitects; etc. - Virginia Society AIA

ASLA 2009 Student Awards Announced: 21 projects in seven categories from colleges and universities around the world. -

American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

[Award-Winning Architectural Bat House Opens for Bat-ness: Artist Jeremy Deller is bat happy...organised a competition to design a wildlife-friendly house for bats, to be built at the London Wetland Centre..."It's great, I wouldn't mind living there myself." \[images, links\]- TreeHugger.com](#)

[INSIGHT: Sustainability -- The Great Divide: Do we nationalize and centralize sustainable policies or do we individualize and decentralize them? By Richard Carson- ArchNewsNow](#)



[-- Competition winner: BIG: National Library, Astana, Kazakhstan](#)  
[-- Book: "Le Corbusier in His Own Words" - An introduction for children by Antoine Vigne](#)

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