

Today's News - Wednesday, October 14, 2009

- Rybczynski weighs in on design for new Barnes Collection home: he finds some troubling aspects.
- Patience pays: three years - and many revisions - later, Foster's Parke-Bernet addition wins approval.
- Kamin cheers "at least a temporary victory" for preservationists re: a Chicago Art Deco treasure.
- Populous picks a 30-member team to help design Birmingham, Alabama's new domed stadium.
- University of South Australia researchers to take on Reynolds' "earthships."
- Calatrava gives court-awarded €30,000 in damages for Isozaki's "add-on" to his Bilbao bridge to a local charity.
- Maya Lin's sculpture for Aria at Las Vegas CityCenter is "elegant, graceful" and "a tricky piece."
- Kudos to NZIA Auckland Architecture Awards winners; and an eyeful of one of the winners.
- A new ploy to encourage exercise: a subway station in Stockholm has commuters preferring to "play" the stairs instead of riding the escalators (courtesy of VW, no less).
- St. Louis 30-day test run of a new streetscape design is so successful that the city may leave it in place.
- Some major corporate folks get behind public proposal to add light rail and eliminate cars for NYC's 42nd St. (cut the city remains mum).
- Kansas City's public library parking garage is a real page-turner.
- In Siberia, some parking lots have a second purpose: storage for radioactive waste (yikes!).
- One we couldn't resist: architects (or their relatives) take on shoe design (with pix to prove it).

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[Careful With That Matisse: The Barnes Collection is moving. Does its new Philadelphia home measure up? ..troubling aspect of ...otherwise attractively low-key design is the opaque glazed box...gratuitous gesture...intended to provide the "wow" factor...reduces the importance of the gallery building, which should be the star. By Witold Rybczynski -- Tod Williams Billie Tsien; Laurie Olin \[images, links\]- Slate](#)

[Crowning 980 Madison: Foster and Aby Rosen finally win approval to top off Parke-Bernet galleries...after the further elimination of one story and certain important cosmetic changes that give the addition a lighter feel, the Landmarks Preservation Commission finally approved the project... -- Foster + Partners \[images\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[New life for once-threatened Art Deco landmark: Zell's Equity Group renovating old Chicago Daily News Building: A recession, it's often said, is a historic preservationist's best friend...is not a full-fledged historic restoration...at least a temporary victory by staving off either a demolition or defacement of 2 North Riverside. By Blair Kamin -- Holabird & Root \(1929\); Solomon Cordwell Buenz \[images, slide show\]- Chicago Tribune](#)

[Lead architect for Birmingham's dome stadium unveils design team: Populous has assembled a 30-member team to help design the \\$530 million facility that boosters say will reshape downtown's fortunes. -- Charles Williams & Associates; Cohen Carnaggio Reynolds; Dorsey Architects; Formworks Architects; Giattina Aycock Architecture Studio; Hoskins Architecture; Margret D. Jones Interiors; NHB Group; TRI Architecture; Williams-Blackstock Architects \[image\]- The Birmingham News \(Alabama\)](#)

[Setting sail in an ecological 'Earthship': Could sustainable architecture address pollution, climate change and resource depletion by helping us build self-sufficient, off-grid, housing from 'waste'...That's the question researchers at the University of South Australia hope to answer in the International Journal of Sustainable Design. -- Martin Freney; Michael Reynolds- Science Centric](#)

[Valencian architect donates damages to charity: Santiago Calatrava has donated the €30,000 damages he was awarded by the courts for having another architect's work added to his Zubi-Zuri bridge in Bilbao...the walkway, designed by Arata Isozaki that was tacked on to the end of \[his\] bridge...was an infringement of his intellectual property rights. \[image\]- ThinkSpain](#)

[Sculpture at CityCenter's Aria designed to provoke thought about water: "Silver River"...hangs from steel cables, slants horizontally and swells at two points of its winding journey...Elegant, graceful and floating before a panoramic window, it is a tricky piece. -- Maya Lin; Pelli Clarke Pelli \[slide show\]- Las Vegas Sun](#)

[Auckland's best architecture named: New Zealand Institute of Architecture's \[NZIA\] Auckland Architecture Awards 09/10...kudos going to the best of sustainable buildings, the most impressive commercial projects and best refurbishment of a heritage building. -- RTA Studio; Jasmox; Mitchinson Simiona Limited/Gascoigne Associates; Peddle Thorp Architects; Gerrard Hall; Yellow Architects; Noel Lane Architects \[images\]- National Business Review \(New Zealand\)](#)

[Ironbank, a mixed-use project in Auckland, New Zealand by RTA Studio \[images\]- The Architectural Review/AR \(UK\)](#)

[Scaling new heights: Piano stairway encourages commuters to ditch the escalators...Volkswagen has come up with a nifty way of encouraging people to exercise more...transformed the stairs leading out of the Odenplan subway in Stockholm, Sweden, into a giant functioning piano keyboard...66% more people than normal chose the musical stairs over the escalator. \[images, videos\]- Daily Mail \(UK\)](#)

[Sustainable Streetscape: St. Louis tests green road design: A 30-day test run of a new streetscape design has been so successful that the city may leave it in place...project aims to change the way area communities view streets,](#)

making them safe and appealing for all modes of transportation... -- Design Workshop- The Architect's Newspaper

Without Cars, a Different Sort of 42nd St.: With parts of Times Square converted into a pedestrian mall, at least temporarily, some people say they believe the city should take an even more radical step: close 42nd Street to car traffic and build a light rail system to run the width of Manhattan. -- Vision 42- New York Times

Big buzz about those big books on downtown garage: ...larger-than-life "Community Bookshelf" covering the Kansas City Public Library parking garage...south façade looks like a giant's book shelf, with 22 nearly 30-foot tall book spines sandwiched between glass-surrounded stairwells made to look like bookends. -- 360 Architecture; BNIM Architects [image]- Kansas City Star

Recycling Atomic Waste: Nuclear Materials Stored In Siberian Carparks: ...radioactive materials from nuclear power plants are being stored in containers in a Siberian parking lot. - Der Spiegel (Germany)

Architects Tread in New Territory: Shoe Design: "Architecture offers really great preparation for all sorts of careers. It's nice to know you have options." -- Frank Gehry; Alejandro Gehry; Bernard Rudofsky; Zaha Hadid; Rem D. Koolhaas; Annie Mohaupt [slide show]- Architectural Record

Eclectic Tech: Facebook Headquarters in Palo Alto, California: Employees were hands-on in designing the new HQ for the social media giant - and not everything is "Facebook blue." -- Studio O+A [images]- ArchNewsNow



-- Morphosis / Gruzen Samton: 41 Cooper Square, Cooper Union, New York, NY
-- EASTERN design office: Slit Court, Sumizome, Fushimi, Kyoto, Japan

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