

## Today's News - Tuesday, April 27, 2010

- Weinstein reviews "Having Words" by "architecture's 'Athena'" Denise Scott Brown, whose essays "trace a trenchant trajectory of learning from Las Vegas to learning from everything."
- Lamster finds one essay is particularly topical with Sejima and Nishizawa's Pritzker win.
- Q&A with Wang Jun, a folk hero to Beijing residents losing their heritage "under the steamroller of modernization" (and "a troublemaker" to officials, of course).
- Campbell on what ails and how to save Boston's Kennedy Greenway: "Make it a neighborhood...Planning for people has been an afterthought."
- Moore weighs in on Shanghai Expo British Pavilion: it is "outstandingly memorable" that "promises to be the star of the show"; the Chelsea Barracks saga, on the other hand, disproves "the expo message that we are a happening, go-ahead country" (pesky prince included).
- McGill University Health Centre's new hospital in Montreal "looks a lot better than expected" - it might not be a Safdie, but "it is nonetheless surprisingly impressive" (there is a gorilla in the room, though).
- A new hybrid, mixed-use condominium tower "aims to become one of the landmarks of Cebu through its green design."
- Gopnik on Hirshhorn Museum bookstore: an artist "envision[s] a heavenly bookshop in the basement" (and it's going to be accessioned as a work of art - so it better be good).
- In Houston, "jury duty gears up to go glam" - and the city gets a new green space.
- Niemeyer hospitalized again, but "doctors do not feel this is a serious illness."
- McDonald talks to Architectural Association of Ireland awards jury: "Are we too much 'architects' architecture?'" wonders Jenks.
- ASLA 2010 Professional Awards announced (one of the best, most informative awards sites we've seen!).
- Hefner, Tiffany, and a Getty come through to rescue Cahuenga Peak - and the Hollywood sign - from development.
- London Festival of Architecture announces program under the motto of "The Welcoming City."
- A good reason to head to Washington, D.C., in June: EDRA41: Linking Insight to Action.
- Call for entries: RFQ to transform Hunters Point Shipyard building in San Francisco into a sustainability incubator.

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**Book Review: Sage Architectural Reflections from Architecture's "Athena": Denise Scott Brown's "Having Words" distills a lifetime of theorizing and practice into practical and succinct guidance for thriving through difficult times...trace a trenchant trajectory of learning from Las Vegas to learning from everything.** By Norman Weinstein - ArchNewsNow

**The Guru Track: Denise Scott Brown's essay, "Room at the Top? Sexism and the Star System in Architecture" ...became topical...with the selection of Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa of SANAA, as winners of this year's Pritzker Prize...one might ask if they are really any more deserving than, say, MVRDV or Diller Scofidio + Renfro/DS + R (both with female partners)...** By Mark Lamster [links] - Design Observer

**Old Beijing disappearing under the steamroller of modernization: Wang Jun has become an outspoken advocate of saving old cities and their cultural and architectural legacies. To Beijing residents...[he] is a kind of folk hero. To scholars of traditional architecture, he is a fearless fighter. But to officials who wish to boost GDP figures through property development, he is a troublemaker.** [images] - CNN

**How to save the Greenway? Make it a neighborhood: A place where people live their lives...The edges...should be salted with new housing...Planning for people has been an afterthought...** By Robert Campbell - Boston Globe

**British Pavilion, Shanghai Expo...promises to be the star of the show...hairy cube/dandelion/hedgehog...a brilliant response to what an expo pavilion is...latest twists in the Chelsea Barracks saga are doing their best to disprove the expo message that we are a happening, go-ahead country...prince's influence has indeed worked on behalf of local people, but for the rich ones rather than the poor ones.** By Rowan Moore -- Thomas Heatherwick; Rogers Stirk Harbour; Dixon Jones; Squire and Partners; Kim Wilkie - Observer (UK)

**McGill University unveils a handsome new hospital: Architects' long awaited mock-up looks a lot better than expected...\$1.3-billion hospital's final design, which the MUHC made public last week, might not be up to the standards of Moshe Safdie...but it is nonetheless surprisingly impressive...Not so another problem - a major one. -- SNC-Lavalin/Innisfree - Montreal Gazette**

**Eco-friendly condominium set to rise: ...first green hybrid condominium in Cebu located across The Walk in Asiatown IT Park...Calyx Center...aims to become one of the landmarks of Cebu through its green design. -- Aidea Philippines - Sun.Star (Philippines)**

**Blake Gopnik on Hirshhorn Museum bookstore redesign by Doug Aitken: Artist envisions a heavenly bookshop in the basement...This is hardly the model most museums use when considering their shops...will also be accessioned into the museum's holdings as a work of art...that means the design had better be as good and substantial as other work the same money could have bought.** [image] - Washington Post

**Don't hate the summons: Downtown, jury duty gears up to go glam...a new take on a much-loathed aspect of the democratic process...Best of all? The new Jury Assembly Room and Transportation Plaza is being built underground, transforming the parking lot into green space... -- PageSoutherlandPage [images] - CultureMap Houston**

**102-Year-Old Brazilian Architect Oscar Niemeyer Hospitalized: ...his**

health is stable and doctors do not feel this is a serious illness... - Latin American Herald Tribune

Building on the future: The jurors for this year's Architectural Association of Ireland awards favoured a human dimension while asking for more risk-takers. "Are we too much "architects' architecture"? By Frank McDonald -- A2 Architects; O'Donnell + Tuomey; Niall McLaughlin [images]- Irish Times

Landscape Architects Announce 2010 Professional Awards: ...jury considered 618 entries – the largest number in ASLA history – from 20 countries, selecting 49 projects for distinction. -- Turenscape; Andrea Cochran Landscape Architecture; Vladimir Djurovic Landscape Architecture; Michael Van Valkenburgh; James Corner Field Operations/Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Ten Eyck Landscape Architects; Office of James Burnett; EDSA; Hoerr Schaudt Landscape Architects; Landworks Studio; AECOM Technical Services; dlandstudio; Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects; etc. [images]- American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Hefner's \$900,000 ensures protection for Hollywood sign: Thanks to the Playboy founder's gift and \$500,000 from the Tiffany & Co. Foundation and Aileen Getty, the campaign reaches the total needed to buy Cahuenga Peak...now will become part of Griffith Park. -- Trust for Public Land- Los Angeles Times

London announces program for architecture festival: Under the motto of 'The Welcoming City,' the London Festival of Architecture (LFA2010) will invite the public as well as professionals to take a closer look at how exactly planners, architects and local communities contribute to the development of the city in the run-up to the event; June 19 to July 4- Independent (UK)

EDRA41: Linking Insight to Action: How does place design influence human experience and behavior? How can physical environments enhance lives? Washington, DC, June 2-6, 2010- Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA)

Call for entries/Request for Qualifications: Big Green Box: RFQ seeks to rehab Hunters Point Shipyard building in San Francisco as sustainability incubator; deadline: May 24 link to RFQ]- The Architect's Newspaper

Disappearing Act: North Carolina Museum of Art West Building by Thomas Phifer and Partners and Pearce Brinkley Cease + Lee: A new museum building strives to nearly disappear, deferring to the beauty of the artworks and the surrounding landscape. By Lisa Delgado- ArchNewsNow



Dominique Perrault: Olympic Tennis Center, Madrid, Spain

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