

Today's News - Monday, June 28, 2010

- ArcSpace revisits the University of Cincinnati Campus Recreation Center by Morphosis.
- Millard gets into Mayne's mind re: 41 Cooper Square and how he used a 500-year-old idea in understanding "the communicative value of a healthy mind game, an effect willfully, but not wantonly, alien to the ordinary."
- Weder on Vancouver's architectural revival: "Making architecture is, at its core, a political action."
- "The Death of Sprawl": a new report "analyzes the high, true cost of urban and exurban sprawl...and proposes multiple appropriate responses."
- The case for changing minimum parking requirements in cities to make them "more nimble and efficient" and to eliminate what has become a "de facto subsidy in favor of driving."
- Vision California "takes direct aim at today's development politics" (even without "teeth" it may make an impact).
- GBC Italia is the first EU organization to sign on for USGBC's LEED rating system.
- A new U.N. sustainability study shows "somewhat surprising" results: even in a down economy, CEOs around the world are more committed to sustainability than ever.
- New co-working spaces go green and grow business by attracting small environmental ventures.
- de Portzamparc to bring two French kisses to Manhattan with two of the largest new developments in the city.
- SHoP wins big in Botswana (beating out some very big names, to boot).
- Grimshaw tapped for a dramatic, new transport hub in Hanley, UK (where there's much relief the project is actually going forward - unless you read the comments).
- Moore minces no words re: the Chelsea Barracks imbroglio: "The prince and the lord...seem to be playing similar games, with the important difference that the lord has at least earned his influence with a lifetime of achievement in his field. Practiced by either, it stinks."
- Birnbaum gets serious (and more than a bit hot under the collar) about changing an out-of-date attitude that landscape architecture is just "'parsley around the roast' of architecture."
- MoMA/P.S.1's summer playground x 2: Bergdoll calls it "an extremely serious playground" that's "not just about fun" (but you'll probably find it "is in fact quite a lot of fun") + a profile of SO-IL, "the lean, mean firm behind the P.S.1 courtyard installation...this summer's hottest architecture project." (great pix with both!)
- Hadid named this year's UN Artist for Peace for promoting the ideals of UNESCO.
- Eyefuls of the European Solar Decathlon that recently kicked off in Madrid.
- A sneak-peek at some highlights of what's planned for the U.S. pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale: "an exquisitely earnest exhibit on social change."
- An amusing inside look at the jury's dilemmas in choosing the 2010 IDEA Awards (and great presentation of the winners).

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[Morphosis: University of Cincinnati Campus Recreation Center, Cincinnati, Ohio](#)

[MetaMorphosis: Thom Mayne's Cooper Union: 41 Cooper Square brings fresh thinking about progress, community, and contextuality to New York City..."It's a 500-year-old idea." As far back as the Renaissance, it seems, some architects understood the communicative value of a healthy mind game, an effect willfully, but not wantonly, alien to the ordinary. By Bill Millard \[images\] - designbuild-network.com / The LEAF Review \(UK\)](#)

[Vancouver's Architectural Revival: Behind the shiny surfaces there is a public logic guided by City Hall policies...Making architecture is, at its core, a political action. Implicit in the design approach is the decision to encourage or thwart public gatherings, nurture or displace the poor, ignite or asphyxiate street life, rabble-rouse or calm the streets for paying visitors. By Adele Weder -- Henriquez Partners; Busby Perkins+Wili; Pechet and Robb; James Cheng; Arthur Erickson \[slide show\] - The Tyee \(Vancouver\)](#)

[New Report Details the Future Dangers of U.S. and Global \(Ex\)Urban Growth: "The Death of Sprawl: Designing Urban Resilience for the 21st Century Resource & Climate Crises" by Warren Karlenzig...analyzes the high, true cost of urban and exurban sprawl...and proposes multiple appropriate responses. \[link to report\] - Post Carbon Institute](#)

[There's No Such Thing as Free Parking: How eliminating parking spaces could make cities more nimble and efficient...minimum parking requirements warp markets and create a de facto subsidy in favor of driving. - Slate](#)

[Cut suburban sprawl, save energy, study urges: Vision California, the state's first major planning document in almost 30 years...Growth should focus not on increasing suburban sprawl but...on creating compact development in already established cities...Even though the report is only a recommendation with no teeth, the plan takes direct aim at today's development politics... -- Peter Calthorpe/Calthorpe Associates - San Francisco Chronicle](#)

[USGBC and GBC Italia \[Green Building Council Italia\] Enter into Momentous International Green Building Agreement: ...will be the first organization in the European Union that has decided to implement the LEED green building rating system. - Green Building Focus](#)

[CEOs Around the World Think Sustainability Is Critical: "A New Era of Sustainability: UN Global Compact-Accenture CEO Study 2010" is based on findings from a survey...results are somewhat surprising: Despite the recent economic slump, executives are more committed to sustainability than ever. - Fast Company](#)

[At Shared Offices, How Green Is My Work Space: ...co-working spaces are trying to go green by recycling, composting and shifting to renewable sources of energy. But some, like Green Spaces, go further, branding themselves as the office space of choice for small environmental ventures. -- Green Desk; New Living - New York Times](#)

[Extell Has French Kiss for de Portzamparc: Pritzker winner returns to New York with two triumphal projects...two of the largest anywhere in the city - the Riverside Center and Carnegie 57... \[images\] - The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[SHoP Innovates for Botswana: ..."energy blanket" design has been selected for a new Innovation Hub...in the capital city of Gaborone...a 270,000-square-foot office building and research facility for tech-driven and knowledge-based businesses...to establish Botswana as a leading research and development destination for Africa... \[image\] - Metropolis Magazine](#)

[Eden Project architects picked to design Hanley's £15m city centre bus station: ...transport hub is seen as the first phase of the planned £360 million East West Centre shopping precinct..."will play a significant role in shaping the on-going redevelopment of Stoke-on-Trent." -- Grimshaw Architects \[images, links\] - This is Staffordshire \(UK\)](#)

The prince, the lord and the Chelsea stitch-up: The row over the Chelsea Barracks development scheme exposes the tawdry practices behind planning decisions...The prince and the lord...seem to be playing similar games, with the important difference that the lord has at least earned his influence with a lifetime of achievement in his field. Practised by either, it stinks. By Rowan Moore -- Rogers Stirk Harbour - Observer (UK)

Is Landscape Architecture Just "Parsley Around the Roast" of Architecture? The nation's designed landscape heritage is rich, varied and fascinating...for the "betterment of [the] human environment"...that very sentiment resulted in a legacy of architecture (and architects) that is embraced and valued, and a legacy of landscape architecture (and landscape architects) that deserves to be embraced and valued. By Charles A. Birnbaum -- The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF); Hideo Sasaki; Gary Hilderbrand; Grimshaw [images, links] - Huffington Post

Seriously Playful: MoMA/P.S.1 Young Architects Program installation...Barry Bergdoll likened it to a playground - but then quickly qualified that assessment. "Turns out it's an extremely serious playground...about our contemporary condition and not just about fun." You could have fooled me. Pole Dance...is in fact quite a lot of fun. -- Solid Objectives - Idenburg Liu (SO-IL) [images, links] - Metropolis Magazine

A Dancing, Shifting Architecture Installation Opens in Queens: A profile of SO-IL, the lean, mean firm behind the P.S.1 courtyard installation "Pole Dance", this summer's hottest architecture project..."Getting new work is a bit like a tumbleweed. You're not exactly sure where you're going but you pick up things along the way." -- Solid Objectives Idenburg Liu [images] - Fast Company

Iraqi-British Architect Named UN Artist for Peace: Zaha Hadid has been named to the roster of artists who use their influence and prestige to promote the ideals of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). - Scoop (New Zealand)

The European Solar Decathlon Kicks Off: Seventeen teams from around the globe are battling it out in the center of Madrid to see who has the most efficient solar powered and eco-friendly house. [images] - Inhabitat

America Gets Earnest With Social Change Theme at Venice Architecture Biennale: A preview of some of the projects which will be featured... -- MOS; cityLAB; Archeworks; Walter Hood/Hood Design; John Portman & Associates; Guy Nordenson - Fast Company

2010 International Design Excellence Awards (2010 IDEA): The winners can help you ride the waves, grill a burger, catch varmints, and save the earth...18 design luminaries serving as jurors...blazed through a pool of 1,900 entries from 28 countries, choosing 38 gold-medal winners. And now they are stuck, deadlocked over the final selection for Best in Show. [images, links] - Fast Company

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