

Today's News - Tuesday, August 17, 2010

- St. Louis unveiled the CityArchRiver2015 finalists' designs this morning (lots of info & pix) + "The concepts are intricate and energizing, a sublime mix of small, medium and monumental...What a choice. What a chance."
- Lincoln, Nebraska, gives its residents the chance to help shape its 30-year city-county master plan.
- Sydney's Barangaroo development raising hackles: changes to the approved concept plan would dramatically increase building heights and shrink the public promenade by half + the National Trust calls it "an architectural, historical and financial disaster" and "a dumping ground for poor government policy."
- Urban guerillas (a.k.a. "urban repair squad") make over some of São Paulo's "woefully pedestrian-unfriendly streets" with crosswalks and signage (our fave: "Lives: Go Slowly"); we're cheered to hear it's "a growing worldwide trend" (great pix, links).
- Glancey on the rise of "junkitecture" and the Jellyfish, "Britain's first fully functioning recycled theatre...this is not some trippy 1960s-style architectural happening, but a serious, if good-natured, public building project."
- Webb waxes poetic re: Nouvel's "study in scarlet that is one of the boldest and most effective" Serpentine Pavilions to date.
- Kamin on plans to expand a historic Chicago church: high-rise no longer included.
- Sozanski takes on Philly museums' penchant to "build spaces for gatherings, not galleries...Art museums 'not just about art' - how pathetically sad"; on the upside, they might "attract customers who don't care beans for art but just like to hang out in classy surroundings."
- Mumbai's Taj Mahal Palace now restored heritage suites "opened their doors to guests Sunday - much grander than ever."
- AIA 2010 CAE Educational Facility Design Award winners announced.
- Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation hires an archive expert to suggest ways to protect and share thousands of documents left behind by the master (might a new home for the archive at Taliesin West follow?).
- University of Rhode Island discovers buried treasures: WPA murals hidden for decades beneath drywall.
- Could California's Proposition 23 re: global warming measures also suspend other landmark environmental rules? (let's hope not!)
- Ending on a brighter note: German architecture students combine "pretentious archi-speak and beer" to construct the Boxel summer pavilion, a "swooping canopy of more than 2,000 empty beer boxes (we want one!)."

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Finalists offer ideas for remaking Arch grounds, riverfront: Five visions for reshaping the downtown riverfront go before the public today... -- [CityArchRiver2015](#); [Behnisch Architekten](#); [Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates](#); [PWP Landscape Architecture/Foster + Partners/Civitas](#); [Skidmore, Owings & Merrill \(SOM\)](#)/ [Hargreaves/BIG](#); [Weiss/Manfredi](#) [[links to images, info](#)] - St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Editorial: End of the beginning for a new era of St. Louis' riverfront: Envy and pity the eight jurors who have been asked to judge the entries in The City + The Arch + The River 2015 International Design Competition...The concepts are intricate and energizing, a sublime mix of small, medium and monumental proposals with uncounted moving parts...What a choice. What a chance. - St. Louis Post-Dispatch

City wants ideas for improving master plan: Got a great idea for improving the city, but don't know what to do with it? Now you can take your idea to an online...where it will be vetted and voted upon by other Lincolnites and possibly will make it into the 30-year city-county master plan, nicknamed LPlan 2040. - [Lincoln Journal Star](#) (Nebraska)

Tall storeys cast long shadow on harbour: Six of the towers in the Barangaroo development would increase dramatically in height from the approved concept plan and the promenade would shrink to half its original width under the first formal plans lodged with the state government. [[images](#)] - [Sydney Morning Herald](#)

National Trust claims Barangaroo utter "disaster": Call for complete review: "The proposed Barangaroo headland is an architectural, historical and financial disaster. It has become a dumping ground for poor government policy." - [Cumberland Courier](#) (Australia)

"Urban Repair Squad" Makes Over São Paulo Streets: ...activists took advantage of the carless streets during the World Cup games to paint zebra-style crosswalks and add other signage and warnings to the city's woefully pedestrian-unfriendly streets. The do-it-yourself street makeovers are part of a growing worldwide trend... [[images, links](#)] - [TheCityFix.com/EMBARQ](#) -- The World Resources Institute Center for Sustainable Transport

Junkitecture and the Jellyfish theatre: It is Britain's first fully functioning recycled theatre -- made of old nails, pallets and discarded doors...This is not some trippy 1960s-style architectural happening, but a serious, if good-natured, public building project. By [Jonathan Glancey](#) -- [Folke K bberling/Martin Kaltwasse](#); [Walter Segal](#) (1970s) [[image, links](#)] - [Guardian](#) (UK)

Nouvel's Serpentine Pavilion Pimps the Scarlet: With a decades-worth of projects, the Frenchman's glowing red construction may be the best...a study in scarlet that is one of the boldest and most effective in the series to date. By [Michael Webb](#) [[images](#)] - [The Architect's Newspaper](#)

Abandoning high-rise plans, Fourth Presbyterian ready to unveil design for a five-story addition to its historic North Michigan Avenue church...a future high-rise expansion on top of the building are not part of the proposal...forgoing millions of dollars in future revenue... By [Blair Kamin](#) -- [Ralph Adams Cram](#) and [Howard Van Doren Shaw](#) (1914); [Gensler](#) [[images](#)] - [Chicago Tribune](#)

What is art's place in the picture? As museums grasp for new visitors, they build spaces for gatherings, not galleries...Art museums "not just about art" - how pathetically sad...might even attract customers who don't care beans for art but just like to hang out in classy surroundings. By [Edward Sozanski](#) -- [KieranTimberlake](#); [Venturi, Scott Brown](#) [[images](#)] - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

Taj welcomes guests to grand palace wing: Nearly 21 months after the palace wing of the Taj Mahal Palace was destroyed in the 26/11 terror attack on Mumbai, the restored heritage suites opened their doors to guests Sunday - much grander than ever. -- [Lissoni Associati](#); [BAMO San Francisco](#); [DesignWilkes](#); [James Park Associates](#); [LTW Designworks](#); [Rockwell Group](#) [[slide show](#)] - [Hindustan Times](#) (India)

AIA Announces 2010 CAE Educational Facility Design Awards: Design matters...especially when facilitating a healthful, productive educational environment. -- [NAC/Architecture](#); [O'Brien/Atkins Associates & The Freelon Group](#); [VMDO Architects](#); [Mahlum](#); [Perkins Eastman](#); [Ehrenkrantz Eckstut & Kuhn Architects](#); [Oak Point Associates](#) [[images](#)] - [Interior Design magazine](#)

Expert to protect work of Frank Lloyd Wright: ...Foundation has hired an archive expert to suggest ways to protect and share thousands of documents left behind by the legendary architect...board recognizes the collection's cultural value and that it needs to be made more widely available. -- [Nicholas Olsberg](#) - [Arizona Republic](#)

Long-lost murals uncovered at University of Rhode Island: ...Depression-era murals...hidden for decades beneath drywall put up during an earlier renovation inside Edwards Hall. They are bound for restoration and an eventual return to URI. -- [Gino](#)

[Conti \[image\]](#)- Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

[Global warming measure could suspend other landmark environmental rules: How broadly courts might interpret Proposition 23 is setting off alarm bells among Silicon Valley executives and environmental groups..."Every measure to reduce greenhouse gases in California is at risk"...](#)- Mercury News (California)

[College Kids Build High-Tech Monument to Beer \(Of Course\): It's the twee architects' version of a beer-can pyramid. Boxel is a summer pavilion that combines architecture students' two favorite pastimes: pretentious archi-speak and beer...a swooping canopy of more than 2,000 empty beer boxes.](#) By Suzanne LaBarre -- University of Applied Sciences, Detmold, Germany [\[images, links\]](#)- Fast Company

[Why "Greatest Hits" Lists by Architecture's Stars Should Be Mocked: Transferring the musical or cinematic "greatest hits" list mind-set to architecture is deleterious, and here's why.](#) By Norman Weinstein- ArchNewsNow



[Arata Isozaki & Associates: CAFA Art Museum \(China Central Academy of Fine Arts\), Beijing, China](#)

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