

## Today's News - Friday, October 29, 2010

- Booth tackles the Prince's Foundation's possible bid to take CAFE's place: the possibility "has been met with dismay by leading modernist architects" (and Finch says the Prince's interest appeared "predatory" - we're sure to hear much more on this one).
- de Monchaux finds Foster's Manhattan gallery "a movable feast for the senses"; despite a couple of missed opportunities, "everything else is pretty much perfect (right down to electric sockets are "a miniscule masterpiece").
- Iovine admits to becoming a convert after her initial "antipathy" toward Selldorf's 200 Eleventh Avenue: "there's a fine appreciation for rational design and even a sense of modesty" (nary a gilded swan faucet in sight).
- Kamin surveys AIA Chicago's 2010 Design Excellence Award winners.
- Brussat cheers inaugural Bulfinch Award winners: perhaps Charles Bulfinch is spinning a bit more slowly in his grave from most of today's architects "determined to uglify" America with their "perverse notions of beauty" (ouch!).
- In honor of Halloween (and because we couldn't resist):
- Glancey visits what was once considered the scariest building in Britain, "adored by film-makers" - now transformed into luxury flats (complete with a murder of crows, but ghosts not included). + A selection of oh-so-artful skulls. + For all you closet rock-n-rollers: the Skull Crusher overdrive pedal to "bring out your Alice Cooper."
- Weekend diversions:
- In "Boomburbs" at the Museum of Sydney, aerial photographs "weave a patchwork quilt from Sydney's spreading, fraying urban fringe (Farrelly called it "terrifying").
- In Liverpool, "Do It Yourself Integrated City" explores "how architecture can transform the inner city, turning the spotlight away, if briefly, from the city centre and big business."
- Rawsthorn cheers "Rietveld's Universe" at the Centraal Museum in Utrecht: "Design's odd-man-out" finally gets his long-overdue "moment in the sun."
- In Memphis, "Paul Revere Williams, American Architect" is the first museum exhibition to honor the barrier-breaking African-American "architect to the stars."
- "Made in New York" gives NYC architects an unusual platform in Greenwich Village's West 4th Street subway station.
- Venturi and Scott Brown's road show lands at the Graham Foundation in Chicago.
- The Institut Valencià d'Art Modern celebrates Félix Candela.
- Q&A with John Carey re: his new book "The Power of Pro Bono."
- McGuirk cheers "The Story of Eames Furniture": instead of the "hagiography we might expect of such a sumptuous book, it presents the warts-and-all view from inside the studio."

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Prince Charles offers to take on key architectural planning role: ...offer to take on architectural planning role means he could extend influence over UK's skyline...Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment...is considering stepping into the breach left by the decision to withdraw funding from the CAFE...has been met with dismay by leading modernist architects...foundation's interest appeared "predatory"... By Robert Booth -- Hank Dittmar; Paul Finch - Guardian (UK)

Crit: Sperone Westwater Gallery: Thomas de Monchaux takes a ride in Norman Foster's new Bowery museum, and finds it a movable feast for the senses...The fact that the elevator doesn't descend to the ground floor...dulls that perennial Manhattan dream of delirious mechanized ascent from sidewalk to skyline...Everything else...is pretty much perfect. -- Foster + Partners [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Selldorf's Paved Paradise: My antipathy toward 200 Eleventh Avenue was partly on principle...condo with a garage off every unit...seemed a flagrant abuse of the New Yorker code of honor to use public transportation...But a tour with Annabelle Selldorf made a quick convert of me...a sophisticated response to the relentless glass fishbowl phenomenon that mars so many glass-box condos. By Julie V. Iovine [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Aqua leads parade of AIA Chicago 2010 Design Excellence Award winners: ...Chicago architects take a break from being battered by the weak economy and recognize top design achievements. By Blair Kamin -- Studio Gang; Ross Barney Architects; David Woodhouse Architects; Wingardh Arkitektkontor/VOA Associates; David C. Hovey; John Ronan Architects; UrbanLab; tvsdesign; Florian Architects; Gensler; Epstein | Metter Studio; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Dirk Denison Architects; etc. [images] - Chicago Tribune

Bulfinch Awards slow architect's spin: It pains me to imagine Charles Bulfinch spinning in his grave...at the state of his profession today, much of which seems determined to uglify those parts of America's cities, towns and countryside that have not already fallen prey to its perverse notions of beauty. Mercifully, with...the inaugural Awards, their namesake's rate of spin has slowed noticeably. By David Brussat -- Institute of Classical Architecture & Classical America (ICA&CA); Ivan Bereznicki Associates; Dell Mitchell Architects; Polhemus Savery DaSilva; Philip C. Lowe; The S/L/A/M Collaborative; Keith LeBlanc Landscape Architecture; SLC Interiors; Wilson Kelsey Design [images] - Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

The scariest building in Britain? Is the Royal Masonic School for Boys the scariest building in Britain? As Halloween looms, Jonathan Glancey visits the school adored by film-makers that's being turned into luxury flats. -- Gordon, Lowther and Guntton (1903); Catherine Yeatman/ADP Architecture [images] - Guardian (UK)

A Collection of Tasteful Skulls: With Halloween and the Day of the Dead both right around the corner, we've decided to round up some of our favorite skull-related items for your viewing pleasure. [images] - Flavorpill

Bring out your inner Alice Cooper with the Tone Box Skull Crusher overdrive pedal [images] - Gizmag (Australia)

Photographs weave patchwork quilt from fraying urban fringe: "Boomburbs" at the Museum of Sydney: Call it McMansion land, suburban sprawl or the boomburbs - photographer Andrew Merry is fascinated by Sydney's spreading urban fringe...aerial photos play with the striking patterns of new estates and roads, but also with the politics of sustainability, urban development and the city's favourite topic: housing. [image] - Sydney Morning Herald

"Do It Yourself Integrated City" (DIYC) exhibition at the Post & Echo Building in Liverpool: ...24 exhibits...the culmination of a year of collaboration between architects, artists and local communities exploring how architecture can transform the inner city, turning the spotlight away, if briefly, from the city centre and big business. -- Liverpool Architectural Society (LAS); Austin-Smith:Lord; Building Design Partnership (BDP); RCP Architects; Halsall Lloyd Partnership; Pavilion Architecture; Ainsley Gomon Architects - Northwest Regional Development Agency (UK)

Design's Odd Man Out Gets Moment in the Sun: "Rietveld's Universe" at the Centraal Museum in Utrecht...showing the breadth of [his] achievements in design and architecture and comparing his work to that of contemporaries such as Le Corbusier, Mies Van Der Rohe and Walter Gropius...Why hasn't he been fully appreciated? One explanation is his shaky standing with his contemporaries. By Alice Rawsthorn [images] - New York Times

Memphis Exhibition Honors Paul Revere Williams, Architect to the Stars: Art Museum of the University of Memphis is hosting the first museum exhibition of African-American architect...capturing the breadth of [his] work...offers insights into the barrier-breaking life of the first African-American member of the American Institute of Architects and one of the most esteemed architects of the 20th century. [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

["Made in New York" but felt around globe: An unusual exhibit at a Greenwich Village West 4th Street subway station has turned spaces normally reserved for advertising images into a subterranean gallery showcasing 200 projects from New York-based architects...through Oct. 31. -- Steven Holl Architects/CCDI; Louise Braverman; Marble Fairbanks; Selldorf Architects; Magnusson Architecture and Planning; etc. - AM New York](#)

["Las Vegas Studio: Images from the Archives of Robert Venturi and Denise Scott Brown" at the Graham Foundation, Chicago, through February 19, 2011 \[slide show\] - Graham Foundation \(Chicago\)](#)

["Félix Candela. The Architect & His Circumstances. 1910 - 2010": IVAM commemorates the centenary of the architect's birth: ...left his mark on 20th-century architecture with the reinforced concrete structures, popularly known as shells, built in the 1950s-60s... \[slide show\] - IVAM / Institut Valencià d'Art Modern](#)

[Q&A with John Carey, CEO of Next American City: "The Power of Pro Bono: 40 Stories about Design for the Public Good by Architects and Their Clients" with a foreword by Majora Carter and a preface by Public Architecture's John Peterson, the first-of-its-kind book equally presents the voices of nonprofit clients and design firm leaders, who together have realized an incredible array of pro bono design projects. - Contract magazine](#)

[There's no I in Eames: "The Story of Eames Furniture" by Marilyn Neuhart reveals that the famous 20th-century furniture designers' work was very much a team effort...instead of the hagiography we might expect of such a sumptuous book, it presents the warts-and-all view from inside the studio...usefully explodes idea of the designer as a solitary genius, which has always been a myth. By Justin McGuirk - Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[A Meditation on the Beauty of Zaha Hadid's Door Handle: Hadid's design issues a challenge: define beauty by lyrically playing with illusion. By Norman Weinstein - ArchNewsNow](#)



[BIG: 8 House, Copenhagen, Denmark: "... a three-dimensional neighborhood rather than an architectural object." -- Bjarke Ingels Group](#)

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