

Today's News - Wednesday, October 26, 2011

- Leinberger lays out 19 building types that caused the recession: "We built the wrong product in the wrong location, and nobody wants it any more" (but there's hope!).
- A new study looks at the 2010 Winter Olympics economic and cultural boost across Canada.
- In the midst of a building boom, Canadian universities are finally "dreaming big."
- Hawthorne cheers LTL's new campus center at Claremont Colleges that wraps "fidelity and novelty together...eager to take risks and full of ideas."
- Russell roams Safdie's Crystal Bridges and finds a "tour de force" here and "lyricism and sensuality" there; though he also finds "not just a lack of civic grace in Bentonville but what seems a mean-spirited aversion to it" (perhaps people who love the museum will change that).
- An eyeful of BIG's big ideas to transform a Basel neighborhood into an alternative Arts District (master planned by H&deM, no less).
- London's Science Museum ditches Wilkinson Eyre master plan, says BD; though AJ reports (behind a pay wall) that the museum has denied such reports.
- King reports on a reversal of plans so mega-yachts will not be blocking views along San Francisco's Embarcadero during the 2013 America's Cup after all.
- New York State's first Passive House (and only the 11th in the U.S.) is so green it "almost heats itself" (and it's stunning, too boot!).
- Glancey's week in review includes Foster's "natty new airport in Kuwait and winsome winery" in Spain (we missed it a few weeks ago - gasp!).
- Two-wheeler rejoice! Angotti considers how NYC can make bikes a welcome part of neighborhoods just as the buzz really begins re: the city's plan to launch the largest bikeshare program in the country.
- Maybe New York City can find inspiration in Mexico City's Muévete en Bici that "spreads a message that bikers deserve respect."
- Both cities would benefit from NACTO's New Urban Bikeway Design Guide that makes "recommendations that are well-considered and most seem to be common sense."
- Auckland University launches Architecture + Women website to gather information about what happens to New Zealand's women architects after they graduate.
- Winners all: A stellar shortlist just announced for Stage I in the National Mall Design Competition + NBM awards EPA's William K. Reilly the 13th Vincent Scully Prize + 2011 WAN Awards Urban Design winners show "bravery in design and artistic conceptualization" + ASLA names 6 new Honorary Members (yay Ann!).

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The 19 Building Types That Caused the Recession: "We built the wrong product in the wrong location, and nobody wants it any more"...Now the downturn – and the accompanying construction hiatus – may give developers...time to think about this...when the Grocery Anchored Transit-Oriented Mixed-Use High-Rise becomes a nationally replicable commodity, that'll be a good sign. -- Christopher Leinberger - The Atlantic Cities

2010 Winter Olympics provided economic and cultural boost: ...all likely related to the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, says a University of British Columbia study that measured the impact of the Games...also noted other positive outcomes including the development of sport and culture across Canada... - University of British Columbia

How campuses are being made more livable: ...the building boom has meant that Canadian universities are finally "dreaming big." -- Gilles Saucier/Saucier + Perrotte Architects; Bruce Kuwabara/Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects (KPMB); Michael Heeney/Bing Thom; Diamond+Schmitt- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Administrative Campus Center at Claremont Colleges: It reveals the architecture of the old building and hides it at the same time — fidelity and novelty all wrapped up together...an exceedingly responsible project, with a budget to match. From an architectural point of view, it's just the opposite: ambitious, eager to take risks and full...of ideas. It's precisely the contradiction between those two extremes that makes the end result so fascinating. By Christopher Hawthorne -- Lewis Tsurumaki Lewis (LTL); AHBE Landscape Architects - Los Angeles Times

Wal-Mart Heiress Puts Warhol Dolly Parton in \$1.2 Billion Crystal Bridges: ...one of the bridges...opens up in front of me. It's a tour de force...Safdie...achieves a lyricism and sensuality rarely found in other projects...you find not just a lack of civic grace in Bentonville but what seems a mean-spirited aversion to it. While a museum won't change that - Bentonville isn't Bilbao - maybe people who love the museum will. By James S. Russell -- Moshe Safdie [images]- Bloomberg News

BIG transforms Transitlager in Switzerland into an alternative Arts District: Located in Basel's upcoming Dreispitz neighborhood, which is envisioned as an attractive and inviting urban quarter in Herzog & de Meuron's master plan from 2003... -- Bjarke Ingels Group [images]- ArchDaily

Science Museum ditches Wilkinson Eyre masterplan: Museum director scraps predecessor's Museum of the Future project...planning to launch his own ambitious plans for the South Kensington site. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Big yachts yield to bay views: Oversize private yachts won't be able to line up along San Francisco's Embarcadero during the 2013 America's Cup after all. By John King -- AECOM [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

First Green, Passive House in New York State Constructed in Claverack (Columbia County), NY: An architect committed to sustainable living designs an extremely green home that almost heats itself...a passive house...the 11th to be certified in the U.S.. -- Passivhaus-Institut; Dennis Wedlick Architect; Bill Stratton Building Company [images]- Hudson Valley Magazine

Constructive criticism: the week in architecture: Foster + Partners unveil a natty new airport and winsome winery, France builds Museum of the Battle of Fromelles for lost soldiers, RIBA's Forgotten Spaces 2011 competition, and Camden Town says farewell to the TV-am building. By Jonathan Glancey -- Serero Architects; Coop Himmelb(l)au; Terry Farrell [images]- Guardian (UK)

Making Bikes a Part of the Neighborhood: ...the buzz has turned to New York City's plan to launch the largest bikeshare program in the country. Highly publicized efforts to erase new bike lanes...may have run out of steam...the city needs to be ready to work with neighborhoods. By Tom Angotti- Gotham Gazette (NYC)

How Mexico City Got Bikers to Stop Worrying and Ride: The Mexican capital has some of the worst traffic in the world, yet cycling is catching on...Muévete en Bici...part of a plan to add bike infrastructure and spread a message that bikers deserve respect...bike-sharing system Ecobici launched in 2010, residents embraced it... The Atlantic Cities

Review: NACTO's New Urban Bikeway Design Guide: ...smart bicycle infrastructure design can not only make roadways safer for all, but can also boost economic growth...intended to help practitioners make good decisions about urban bikeway design...recommendations are well-considered and most seem to be common sense. -- National Association of City Transportation Officials; Janette Sadik-Khan- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Auckland University seeks information from New Zealand's women architects: What happens to them after they graduate? This is the central question behind the launch of a new website, Architecture + Women...in conjunction with a similar project in Australia, has the potential to identify new patterns of architectural practice for both men and women in the future." - Scoop (New Zealand)

National Mall Design Competition Stage I finalists: ...selected from more than 1,200 entrants...to redesign one of three prominent National Mall locations... -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro/Hood Design; Gustafson Guthrie Nichol/AEDAS; Pei Cobb Freed/Ken Smith Landscape Architect; Reed Hilderbrand/Chan Krieger NBBJ; Rogers Marvel Architects/Peter Walker and Partners; Snohetta/AECOM; Balmori Associates/Work Architect Company (WORKac); Handel Architects/W Architecture and Landscape Architecture; Michael Maltzan Architecture/Tom Leader Studio; OLIN/Weiss/Manfredi; TEN Arquitectos/Andrea Cochran Landscape Architects; Adropogon/Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; Lee and Associates/Arthur Cotton Moore/Associates; McKissack & McKissack/Oehme Van Sweden; Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architect/Paul Murdoch Architects - Trust for the National Mall (Washington, DC)

National Building Museum Awards William K. Reilly Its 13th Vincent Scully Prize: Award presentation and lecture by former administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will be held at the National Building Museum on November 8- National Building Museum (Washington, DC)

Only the brave...: Both juries commend bravery of 2011 WAN Awards Urban Design winners: ...bravery in design and artistic conceptualisation. -- Code: arkitektur; Office of Architecture in Barcelona [images]- World Architecture News (UK)

ASLA Names Six New Honorary Members -- Shaun Saer Duncan/The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF); Robert Harris/University of Southern California School of Architecture; Julia McFeely Lent and Ann Looper Pryor/American Society of Landscape Architects; Nathaniel Reed/Conservationist; Stan Skalka/Victor Stanley Inc- American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)



Foster + Partners: Spaceport America, Upham, New Mexico

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