

Today's News - Thursday, October 27, 2011

- Kamin x 2: Chicago's Grant Park has new plan that doesn't include the Children's Museum.
- On his trek to Columbus, OH, he finds retail complex atop an expressway that is a model of an urban design trend.
- Team picked for a 42-acre project that will include a man-made river in Glendale, CO.
- A 4.2-acre park on the southwest waterfront in Washington, DC, moves to the front of the line in a 6-square mile redevelopment project.
- Brandes Gratz cheers efforts in Pittsburgh that prove historic preservation is "an effective tool for community revitalization and urban rebirth."
- K. Jacobs finds Detroit's renewal efforts could learn something from young architects and urban homesteaders.
- Russell raves about NY City Center's "over-the-top Moorish-style romanticism...wondrously restored."
- Dvir on the Tel Aviv Museum of Art's new wing, and an upcoming symposium (with a stellar line-up) that will explore what we talk about when we talk about buildings: "museums today are urban landmarks, playgrounds for bold architectural games. The new wing is no exception."
- Orlando's midcentury modern round building is definitely facing the wrecking ball, but hopes are high that the distinctive concrete latticework façade will be preserved somewhere else in town.
- Brussat finds architectural "nihilism in spades" in D.C.
- Gehry looks to Asia for new business, though "he would prefer to travel less."
- Ma Yansong wows them in Prague, urging young architects to head to China, but warns "a lot of opportunities also have a lot of traps."
- Teherani is "part of a select group of 'starchitects' whose brand extends beyond buildings."
- Denmark tries to deal with NIMBYs with high-design pylons, but "despite these efforts, obstacles to beautifying the power lines linger."
- Wainwright offers up a fabulous line-up (and eye-fuls) of Top 10 "buildings that never were" (great series!).
- We couldn't resist: truly amazing pumpkin sculptures that look like real human faces ('tis the season, after all).

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[Children's Museum out of new plan for renovating Grant Park's northeast corner; leader of park advisory group says controversial project is dead... "This is sort of design on a dime"...](#) By Blair Kamin and Ryan Haggerty -- Krueck + Sexton Architects; Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates [images]- Chicago Tribune

[Ohio highway cap at forefront of urban design trend; retail complex atop Columbus expressway offers model for Chicago: Cap at Union Station, which opened in 2004, put Columbus at the forefront of a national trend...began in 1976 when Seattle dedicated its 5-acre Freeway Park over Interstate Highway 5.](#) By Blair Kamin -- David Meleca/Meleca Architecture; Lawrence Halprin [images]- Chicago Tribune

[Riverwalk project picks Integral, HOK Architects: ...42-acre project will include a man-made river and up to 1.5 million square feet of retail and restaurant space..."a dynamic entertainment district along the Cherry Creek corridor"...](#) -- Populous Architecture; Tryba Architects - Denver Business Journal

[Developer Financed, Community Designed: A 4.2-acre park is slowly taking shape where a huge parking lot now exists on the southwest waterfront in Washington, D.C...just a tiny piece of the \\$1.5 billion, 26-square mile redevelopment project...responded to community demands for their park to be moved up in the queue. Now part of the first phase of development, the park is getting expedited treatment...](#) -- Nelson Byrd Woltz; Jeff Lee & Associates [images, links]- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

[Making Pittsburgh New by Keeping it Old: Forming the Pittsburgh History and Landmark Foundation, Arthur Ziegler and Jamie Van Trump set out to prove that historic preservation was an effective tool for community revitalization and urban rebirth...the PHLF approach has been enormously successful...Residents were involved in the process from the beginning.](#) By Roberta Brandes Gratz - The Atlantic Cities

[One House at a Time: Detroit's Mayor Bing might learn something from the urban homesteaders descending on his city...The city's leading renewal project...is essentially a triage program...Pretty much everything you read about Detroit Works carries the whiff of stale bureaucratess...maybe the mayor's program would be more powerful if it could reposition itself as Detroit Dreams.](#) By Karrie Jacobs -- Catie Newell; Gina Reichert/Mitch Cope/Power House Productions [images]- Metropolis Magazine

[For \\$57 Million New York City Center Restores Aladdin's Arabesque Lair: The achievement is major...over-the-top Moorish-style romanticism that has been wondrously restored.](#) By James S. Russell -- Harry P. Knowles (1924); Duncan Hazard/Ennead Architects [images]- Bloomberg News

[What we talk about when we talk about buildings: How will critics react to the Tel Aviv Museum of Art's new wing, and how will it fit into the city's architectural story? A symposium next week aims to answer these questions...museums today are urban landmarks, playgrounds for bold architectural games. The new wing...is no exception. This very impressive and complex building is sure to become a familiar icon in short order.](#) By Noam Dvir -- Preston Scott Cohen-Ha'aretz (Israel)

[Orlando Round Building: Hope grows for saving distinctive latticework: ...former American Federal Savings and Loan Building...will eventually be demolished to make way for Orlando's new performing-arts center...Nils M. Schweizer Fellows, fans of midcentury architectural design, hope to preserve the distinctive concrete latticework somewhere else in town — perhaps as a sculpture or decorative wall.](#) -- Robert B. Murphy/Murphy Hunton Shivers & Brady (1963) [image]- Orlando Sentinel (Florida)

[Occupy nihilism in the nation's capital: ...after decades of attaching alien spaceships to schools and museums, and letting them land and multiply on our city streets, it seems almost a normal thing. This is nihilism in spades...we don't even notice its absurdity.](#) By David Brussat -- Frank Gehry; Maya Lin - Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

[Frank Gehry Looks to Asia for Projects as U.S. Growth Slows: ...he would prefer to travel less..."The Abu Dhabi building we've been working on in the last five to six years has been stopped, and that's painful"...](#) - Bloomberg/BusinessWeek

[Interview: Chinese architect Ma Yansong: Rising star from MAD studio talks the Asian building boom... he refuses the label "starchitect"... "Some architects have a lot of opportunities, but that doesn't mean good architecture...A lot of opportunities also have a lot of traps."](#) [images]- The Prague Post

[Hadi Teherani's functional, alluring designs: ...part of a select group of "starchitects" whose brand extends beyond buildings to adorn everything from lemon squeezers to laptops...new Zayed University campus in Khalifa City is one of the most significant and challenging projects that he has ever worked on...](#) -- BRT Architekten, Bothe, Richter, Teherani - The National (Abu Dhabi)

[Dressing Up Power Lines Comes With Limits: To deal with resistance to new high-tension power lines, the Danes hit on the idea of involving industrial architects in the pylons' design...Despite these efforts, obstacles to beautifying the power lines linger.](#) -- Erik Bystrup [\[image\]](#)- [New York Times](#)

[The Buildings That Never Were: Top 10 unbuilt towers.](#) By Oliver Wainwright -- JP Seddon & EB Lamb; Ivan Leonidov; Mies van der Rohe; OMA; Boris Iofan; Hans Kollhoff; Frank Lloyd Wright; Foster + Partners; Antoni Gaudí; Adolf Loos [\[images\]](#)- [BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Incredible Carved Pumpkins by renowned sand and pumpkin sculptor Ray Villafane: ...makes the hard pumpkin flesh look soft and malleable, like a real human face.](#) [\[slide show\]](#)- [Flavorwire](#)



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