

Today's News - Friday, January 20, 2012

- Reiter offers an in-depth look at three U.S. cities that have "visited the front lines of the future and are reporting back to the rest of us, a bit wobbly and worse for wear, but still standing."
- Hume is less optimistic about Mississauga, "bankrolled by decades of barely controlled development," it never had to "face the consequences of its heedless rush to suburbanize" and "has hit middle age with a thud."
- Zandberg has a long and thoughtful conversation with Badran, the "first Arab architect to hold an official post in any architectural organization in Israel" - a "watershed moment for Israel's architectural establishment."
- Russell roams Piano's new wing at the Gardner Museum and finds it "one of the architect's better designs, executed with sensitivity and delicacy" (and where "lurid orchids run rampant").
- The new "sleek, chic hangouts" in Miami Beach: starchitect-designed parking garages "that redefine the drab bunkers of old."
- Winners all: 2012 AIA Young Architects Awards + APA National Planning Awards 2012 (great presentations for both).
- Call for entries: Suburbia Transformed 2.0: 2nd international residential design competition/exhibition for built and visionary (unbuilt) residential landscapes.
- Weekend diversions:
- Rochon says Hustwit's "Urbanized" is an "enlightening and sumptuous film" for "cool for urbanites" and a "necessary primer for any leaders who dare to call themselves urban."
- Kamin's "Terror and Wonder" offers "sharp and readable" criticism, made "more so because he places ordinary people before architects, planners or developers in his appraisal of the changes he has witnessed to the urban environment over the last 10 years."
- Hawthorne cheers "Centers of the USA" at the Center for Land Use Interpretation (through Sunday) that "charts all the places in the U.S. that claim to occupy the center of the country."
- "Working Legacies" offers "visions of post-industrial Milwaukee" and draws attention to the city's "stealthy (but steady) movement for positive urban change" (fab slide show).
- "Vertical Moscow" captures "rarely seen views of the city from atop the Stalinist towers that dominate its skyline."
- "Houston 20/20 Visions: Ten Years to Clarity" considers "the most critical issues challenging the city today and ideas to solve them."
- The Museum of Finnish Architecture in Helsinki kicks off its World Design Capital programs with "Seven Connections: A window on contemporary Finnish architecture."
- "Max Dupain on Assignment" is a touring exhibition of iconic images of Australia, 1940s-1970s, from the National Archives of Australia.
- Heatherwick "finally makes his mark in the U.S." with a Manhattan exhibition.
- "Learning from Organisms" charts Arizona State University graduate students' adventures in Panama to "create biomimetic architectural and product-design concepts for a scientific field station."

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Urban Optimism - The New Big Three: New Orleans, Detroit, Phoenix: three U.S. cities have visited the front lines of the future and are reporting back to the rest of us, a bit wobbly and worse for wear, but still standing...and reflective of the most critical issues of our time. By Wellington Reiter - AIArchitect

Mississauga waking up to a new reality: The suburban dream of high lifestyle and low taxes has come crashing to earth...Bankrolled by decades of barely controlled development, Canada's sixth-largest city never had to grow up or face the consequences of its heedless rush to suburbanize...it has hit middle age with a thud. By Christopher Hume- Toronto Star

From outer space to the inner circle: Arab architects, who have a marginalized role in Israeli design, got a boost recently when Abed Badran was tapped to join Israel's professional association. Badran wants to change the discourse, and won't be playing the part of token representative, he says...a watershed moment for Israel's architectural establishment. By Esther Zandberg -- Israel Association of United Architects; Baruch Baruch- Ha'aretz (Israel)

Boston's Eccentric Gardner Art Palace Gets Piano Wing: ...this is one of the architect's better designs, executed with sensitivity and delicacy...Of course, [his] idiosyncrasy is nothing compared to Gardner's, but he deploys his familiar kit of industrial-styled parts to enhance the beloved intimacy of the original. By James S. Russell -- Renzo Piano [images]- Bloomberg News

Sleek, Chic Hangout ... a Garage: In Miami Beach, High-End Architects Turn Lowly Lots Into Statements in Style: ...car parks that redefine the drab bunkers of old. -- Zaha Hadid; Herzog & de Meuron; Frank Gehry; Enrique Norten/TEN Arquitectos; Arquitectonica; Rem Koolhaas/OMA; ADD [slide show]- Wall Street Journal

2012 AIA Young Architects Award: ...individuals who have shown exceptional leadership and made significant contributions to the profession in an early stage of their architectural career. -- Timothy C. Bicknell/AECOM; Brian Cavanaugh/Architecture Building Culture; James M. Evans/Collaborative Designworks; Shari G. Grant/Architectural Presence; Michael Halfants/Halfants + Pichette; Michael J. Hanrahan/Clarke Caton Hintz; Katie M. Harms/OPN Architects; Thomas Jacobs/Krueck + Sexton Architects; Hao Ko/Gensler; Stuart Magruder/Studio Nova A Architects; Adam Palmer/Schmidt Associates; Jonathan Penndorf/Perkins+Will; Brad Tomecek/Studio H:T [images]- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

APA National Planning Awards 2012: honor the best planning efforts and individuals that create communities of lasting value. -- Sasaki Associates; Leonardo Vazquez; etc. [images, info]- American Planning Association (APA)

Call for entries: Suburbia Transformed 2.0: second international residential design competition/exhibition for built and visionary (unbuilt) residential landscapes (professional and student); registration deadline: February 17- James Rose Center for Landscape Architectural Research and Design

Rob Ford, this doc's for you: Gary Hustwit's documentary "Urbanized"...enlightening and sumptuous film...tuning in to this doc is not only cool for urbanites, it's a necessary primer for any leaders who dare to call themselves urban. By Lisa Rochon -- Norman Foster; Jan Gehl; Rem Koolhaas; Ricky Burdett; Sheela Patel/Shack/Slum Dwellers International; Ellen Dunham-Jones; Amanda Burden; Enrique Penalosa- Globe and Mail (Canada)

"Terror and Wonder: Architecture in a Tumultuous Age" by Blair Kamin: Kamin's criticism is sharp and readable, more so because he places ordinary people before architects, planners or developers in his appraisal of the changes he has witnessed to the urban environment over the last 10 years.- The Architects' Journal (UK)

"Centers of the USA" at the Center for Land Use Interpretation: ...charts all the places in the United States, nine in all, that claim to occupy the center of the country...The true appeal of the show is the rich variety of themes that swirl up around its straightforward, even myopic focus. By Christopher Hawthorne- Los Angeles Times

Visions of post-industrial Milwaukee: Goodbye, "abandonment porn": "Working Legacies: The Death and (After) Life of Post-Industrial Milwaukee" at the Grohmann Museum celebrates efforts to renovate and revitalize industrial space...draws attention to the buildings, projects and people behind this stealthy (but steady) movement for positive urban change. -- Michael Carriere; David Schalliol [slide show]- Salon

Urban vertigo: "Vertical Moscow"...architectural photographer Gabriele Basilico has...turned his lens to Moscow, capturing rarely seen views of the city from atop the Stalinist towers that dominate its skyline...at the Shchusev State Museum of Architecture until Feb. 5- [Moscow News \(Russia\)](#)

AIA Houston & Architecture Center Houston present "Houston 20/20 Visions: Ten Years to Clarity": ...exhibits what Houstonians consider the most critical issues challenging the city today and their ideas to solve them; through February 24 - [David Robinson/Robinson Architecture Workshop; Camilo Parra/Parra Design Group- The Cypress Times \(Texas\)](#)

"Seven Connections: A window on contemporary Finnish architecture": Marks the kick-off of its official World Design Capital programme at the Museum of Finnish Architecture, Helsinki, through February 26 -- [Lahdelma & Mahlamäki; PES Architects; Helin & Co; ALA Architects; Vapaavuori Architects; VIIVA Architects; VIIVA Architects \[images\]- Museum of Finnish Architecture](#)

"Max Dupain on Assignment": A touring exhibition of black and white images of Australian architecture, industry, landscape and people by Max Dupain is currently on display at the Gippsland Art Gallery in Sale, Victoria...he worked closely with Jorn Utzon to document the creation of the Sydney Opera House. [\[images\]- Architecture & Design \(Australia\)](#)

A Star Designer's British Invasion: A gallery in New York's Chelsea neighborhood features the work of Thomas Heatherwick...he's finally making his mark in the U.S. "Extruding and Spinning" runs through March 3 at the Haunch of Venison gallery...- [Wall Street Journal](#)

Tropical classroom inspires exhibit, Smithsonian field station design: ...graduate students are partners in the traveling studio program developed by The Design School at ASU, which journeyed to Gamboa, Panama, to collaborate with the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute...assignment was to create biomimetic architectural and product-design concepts for a scientific field station..."Learning from Organisms" January 24 - February 9- [Arizona State University](#)



-- MAD: Ordos Museum, Kang Ba Shi City, Inner Mongolia, China -- [Ma Yansong](#)

-- Exhibition: Situ Studio: reOrder: An Architectural Environment, Brooklyn Museum, New York -- [Ennead Architects](#)

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