

Today's News - Tuesday, August 14, 2012

- ArcSpace brings us Plant's winery planted into a hill in Hungary.
- Davies takes issue with Farrelly's argument that London planned its Olympics better than Sydney did: "no two cities are alike at the fine-grain level."
- An in-depth look at what happens next in East London now the Games are over: will the regeneration have "the hallmarks of Barcelona's transformation, or an empty and bedraggled temple to hubris of Athenian proportions?"
- U.K.'s Article 25 to recycle some of the Olympic stadium wrapping for humanitarian projects in Uganda and Rio.
- Chan parses what's in store for Rio with the 2016 Olympics master plan: expect "a calculated effort to develop a city, not just through Olympic hype, but through the concrete measures of architecture and urban design" (farmers' markets included).
- NYC may have lost its 2012 Olympics bid, but it still has left an Olympic-sized legacy - Hudson Yards, a \$15 billion, 26-acre "city within a city."
- Chan also chomps on the "design evolution" of 1 WTC and the "saga of its tortuous realization...this may not be the Freedom Tower we've been waiting for."
- Two young architects have high hopes of putting once-isolated Myanmar (a.k.a. Burma) on the architectural map as a "creative oasis": "We would like to stop the brain drain."
- As its capital city Rangoon (a.k.a. Yangon) races into the future, there are fears of losing its stunning architectural past - the "largest collection of late 19th century and early 20th century urban architecture anywhere in Southeast Asia."
- A Salt Lake City "architectural gem" faces demolition to make way for a performing arts center: "razing it is made easy because 'it doesn't exist in the mind's eye of the community'" (some would beg to differ).
- Salt Lake City mayor to announce winning design team for the performing arts center today.
- Saffron is not so thrilled with approval of a Delaware waterfront apartment complex: "its design violates some of the master plan's most cherished urban values" (and "sets the bar so low").
- King is a bit more hopeful about proposed changes to San Francisco's Market Street (bike lanes included).
- In Melbourne, a "formerly grimy space" under a new rail bridge is transformed into a public park that's "a bit cool, a bit grand...its success and popularity is achieved through what it is not."
- Paris pedestrianizes the riverbanks along the Seine in an effort to reverse the city's "auto-centric planning mentality."
- Moore minces no words about what he thinks of plan to redevelop the Southbank Centre: it is "sheer folly" and "would benefit from a level of architectural advice that it does not appear to be getting."
- An eyeful of BIG's Blåvand Bunker Museum in Denmark.
- A look at why unpaid internships are such a hot topic right now: "the practice of unpaid internships may soon become the contemporary equivalent of the entry-level job" (check out the infographic!).
- Architecture for Humanity launches Philippines floods response program.
- Call for entries: GSA issues RFI for ideas on how to preserve and reuse a beautiful historic courthouse in Miami.

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PLANT: Bazaltbor Winery, Badacsonyotomaj, Hungary

Was Sydney's Olympics in the wrong place? Elizabeth Farrelly wrote...that London planned their Games better than Sydney...But comparing and judging cities on the basis of their physical planning for the Games is a fraught exercise...no two cities are alike at the fine-grain level. By Alan Davies - Crikey (Australia)

Olympics 2012: What happens next? ...when the celebrations are over...what will Londoners find? Will we see an East London regeneration that has the hallmarks of Barcelona's transformation, or an empty and bedraggled temple to hubris of Athenian proportions? ...the legacy...is most likely to be judged on their impact on urban renewal and place-making... -- AECOM; Hopkins Architects; Zaha Hadid; Make Architects; John McAslan and Partners; Fletcher Priest- Blueprint Magazine (UK)

Olympic stadium wrapping bound for Rio, Uganda: The hundreds of fabric panels that adorn the London's Olympic Stadium will be recycled, some going to a project for former child soldiers in Uganda, others to a welfare initiative in Rio de Janeiro, host of the next summer Games in 2016. -- Article 25- Reuters

Rio 2016 Olympics Masterplan Highlights an Emerging Focus on Leaving a Sustainable Legacy (And Farmers Markets): The celebrated sporting event is swinging...toward a calculated effort to develop a city, not just through...Olympic hype, but through the concrete measures of architecture and urban design. By Kelly Chan -- AECOM; DG Architecture; Wilkinson Eyre [images, links]- Artinfo

Hudson Yards: NYC's urban town within a city: New York lost the 2012 Olympics, but the city's bid for the summer games spurred another, visionary venture: building up the largest undeveloped parcel in Manhattan...a \$15 billion small city within a city planned for 26 acres... -- Bill Pedersen/Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF); David Childs/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Elizabeth Diller/Diller Scofidio + Renfro; David Rockwell (AP)- Washington Post

The Design Evolution of NYC's One World Trade Center: What You Need to Know: ...for those following the saga of the design's tortuous realization, the images represent a formal debut of a wholly different vision from the one proposed six years ago...this may not be the Freedom Tower we've been waiting for. By Kelly Chan -- David Childs/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) [slide show]- Artinfo

Putting Myanmar on the Architectural Map: As the country opens to the world after decades of isolation and harsh military rule, a couple hopes to help transform the country's former capital into a creative oasis..."We would like to stop the brain drain"... -- Stephen Zawmoe Shwe/Amelie Chai/SPINE Architects - New York Times

As Rangoon Races Forward, a Push to Preserve Its Architectural Past: Unbridled development could hasten the destruction of...the largest collection of late 19th century and early 20th century urban architecture anywhere in Southeast Asia...recent efforts of conservationists have made an

impact...there are still few safeguards in place... -- Sun Oo; Association of Myanmar Architects
[images]- Time Magazine

Curtain to fall on Salt Lake City architectural gem? Main Street Prudential Building would be razed if a Broadway-style theater is built...will be reduced to dust and twisted steel...for the Utah Performing Arts Center...razing [it] is made easy because "it doesn't exist in the mind's eye of the community." -- William L. Pereira (1963) [images]- Salt Lake Tribune (Utah)

Mayor to announce mega-theater architects: Three city firms in running to design \$110 million Utah Performing Arts Center. -- Architectural Nexus/H3 Hardy Collaboration Architecture; GSBS Architects/Pfeiffer Partners Architects; HKS Architects/Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects - Salt Lake Tribune (Utah)

Proposed Delaware waterfront apartment complex gets approval: ...under Philadelphia's ambitious new Delaware River waterfront master plan...though its design violates some of the plan's most cherished urban values...disappointed waterfront advocates and preservationists..."it sets the bar so low"... By Inga Saffron -- BLT Architects [image]- Philadelphia Inquirer

Market Street proposals focus on flow: planners say they want "a simplicity of place and movement" to define San Francisco's main drag. The concepts themselves suggest that no such simplicity is possible. But they include two innovations...would add bike lanes [and] reduce the number of historic streetcar stops... By John King -- Gehl Architects; CMG Landscape Architecture - San Francisco Chronicle

Clifton Hill Railway Project: A new rail bridge coupled with pedestrian paths in Melbourne's Clifton Hill has helped Jeavons Landscape Architects transform a formerly grimy space into a public park that's "a bit cool, a bit grand"...How do you design for an attractive awkwardness? Bridge Park is an in-between space, and its success and popularity is achieved through what it is not... -- McGauran Giannini Soon [images]- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Vives les Plages! Paris Rethinks its Riverbanks by Banishing Cars: Mayor Bertrand Delanoë has made it his mission to reverse Paris' auto-centric planning mentality...The pedestrianization of the Seine also follows his Paris-Plages program, started in 2002. [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Why the Southbank Centre redevelopment plan is sheer folly: Cramming [it] with restaurants and retail will rob the capital of precious open space...free, unprogrammed, unconsumed by branding and marketing...would benefit from a level of architectural advice that it does not appear to be getting.
By Rowan Moore -- Rick Mather; Grimshaw; Rem Koolhaas/OMA; Allies and Morrison - Observer (UK)

Inside The Shell Of An Old Bunker, Denmark's WWII History Comes Alive: BIG's latest museum, inside a World War II-era Bunker, is a blast. So to speak...the Blåvand Bunker Museum... By Kelsey Campbell-Dollaghan -- Bjarke Ingels Group [images]- Fast Company

Unpaid internships are so hot right now: ...young people are made to pay their dues to prove that they can handle the pressure of an elite service industry. Unpaid internships fit well into this paradigm...Many interns enjoy the challenge...But for Gen Y, the practice of unpaid internships may soon become the contemporary equivalent of the entry-level job. - Archinect

Architecture for Humanity Launches Philippines Floods Response Program for Long-Term Disaster Mitigation in Manila: Donate, help get the word out, volunteer your design services. - Architecture for Humanity

Call for entries: Request for Information/RFI/RFP: U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) is asking the development community for ideas on how to preserve and reuse a beautiful historic courthouse; deadline: October 1 [images, link to RFI]- Metropolis Magazine

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