

## Today's News - Friday, February 8, 2013

- A new EPA report offers a menu of land use and community design strategies for advancing smart growth, environmental justice, and equitable development.
- Sydney's second largest urban renewal project (after Barangaroo), complete with a garden in the sky, is starchitect-studded - and "Nouvel's Sydney opus" (EPA report might come in handy?).
- Lubell offers an eyeful of what will be the West Coast's tallest tower - the L.A. skyline will never be the same (in a good way - we can't wait to see the views from the top!).
- Green does a walkabout around the new Barnes: "The effect of the new building and landscape on Philadelphia is significant" (and the new Sister Cities park nearby is a breath of fresh air).
- Brandes Gratz cheers NYC being in "high celebratory mode" re: Grand Central's centennial, and its historic battle for landmark designation that changed "urban history nationwide," but the "real estate community is still trying to weaken the very foundation [of historic preservation] for their own purposes."
- Grossman reports that Goldberg's Prentice hospital loses yet another bitter battle to be landmarked, "but the bulldozers won't run just yet."
- On a brighter note, the "long, rancorous debate over the fate" of Rudolph's Orange County Government Center in Goshen, NY, has ended "abruptly" in "a stinging defeat" for the county executive who wanted to see it demolished - renovation is on the horizon!
- Pallister parses Zumthor's Gold Medal lecture: the "medieval knight of Swiss architecture" wants an architecture "not of meaning but of being. It's just there like a tree. It doesn't need a goddamn explanation!"
- Hopkirk finds out that the Swiss master has some "big ambitions" - if he can find a client who will let him to put aesthetics and "social engineering" before money: "If I wanted to dip my hands in dirty things I would do it in the sandbox with my grandchildren."
- Some sorry statistics in the second AJ Women in Architecture survey: "unequal pay persists," and "61% do not think the building industry has fully accepted the authority of the female architect" (how pitiful is that?!?!?).
- To cheer things up a bit, a great slideshow essay of Travel + Leisure Design Awards 2013.
- Call for entries: Vauxhall the Missing Link International Competition to link the U.S. Embassy Quarter and London's South Bank.
- Weekend diversions:
- Pelletier parses CCA's "ABC : MTL - A Self-Portrait of Montréal": while it reveals "a city of fragmented identity and anecdotal history," can it "act as a platform to foster meaningful dialogue on current issues and encourage cultural change?"
- Moore is a bit disappointed in "Extraordinary Stories About Ordinary Things" at London's Design Museum: "it has yet to shake off a bad postwar hangover," and is "still straitjacketed by a too-limited world view."
- Kimmelman gives two thumbs-ups to Stoller show in NYC: his "pictures enshrine an era and an aesthetic that still speak to us."
- In San Francisco, Dijardin's architectural photography will "break your brain": his "exquisitely crafted collages are so beautiful, it's sad to learn they're fakes."
- Brin dives into the brine with "wave whisperer" Raichlen's new book, and Metz & van den Heuvel "Sweet & Salt" ("an elegant tome").
- Bey brings us another gem from the Chicago Film Archives: "The City to See in '63": its "purposely deadpan narration - like a Carl Sandburgesque poem to the city - is also amusing."

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New EPA report features strategies for advancing smart growth, environmental justice, and equitable development: "Creating Equitable, Healthy, and Sustainable Communities" provides a menu of land use and community design strategies...- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Towering ambition: In a vast inner-city precinct under renewal, an audacious steel platform for a garden in the sky rises up at One Central Park, Jean Nouvel's Sydney opus...part of Sydney's second-largest urban renewal project after Barangaroo...an architecture-led renaissance, with a who's-who... -- Patrick Blanc; Godden Mackay Logan; Urbis; Foster + Partners; Johnson Pilton Walker; Jeppe Aagaard Andersen; Turf Design; Koichi Takada Architects; Smart Design Studio; PTW Architects; Tzannes Associates; Tonkin Zulaikha Greer [images] - ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Winging It: Schematic designs unveiled for the West Coast's tallest tower, the Wilshire Grand in Los Angeles...The \$1 billion, 73-story project...is downtown's first high-rise office in decades. (The building also contains a large hotel.)...The top terrace will be completely open to the elements, a rarity in tall buildings. By Sam Lubell -- AC Martin Partners [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

The New Barnes Elevates Philadelphia: ...the story about the new landscape architecture...is about as fascinating as the story about the new building...Logan Circle has also been revitalized. The new Sister Cities park...with its fun watery playground and a green roof-covered angular pavilion...bring a burst of contemporary design to the fairway. By Jared Green - Todd Williams Billie Tsien Architects; OLIN; Studio Bryan Hayes; Digsau [images] - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Grand Central: New York City has been in high celebratory mode...marking the 100th anniversary of that world-class landmark...the incomparable Beaux Arts structure was almost lost...In 1978, the Supreme Court upheld...the terminal's designation, changing urban history nationwide...real estate community still trying to weaken its very foundation for their own purposes. By Roberta Brandes Gratz - Citiwire

Old Prentice Women's Hospital loses again in landmark vote: ...could mark the end of a bitter contest between preservationists and Northwestern University...But the bulldozers won't run just yet...next court hearing Feb. 15...."Chicago is known for tearing down better buildings than other cities build"... By Ron Grossman -- Bertrand Goldberg (1975)- Chicago Tribune

Orange County lawmakers vote to renovate Government Center: 15-6 vote a stinging defeat for County Executive Ed Diana: The long, rancorous debate over the fate of the Orange County Government Center ended abruptly...pass a proposal to renovate the 43-year-old complex. -- Paul Rudolph- Times Herald-Record (Middletown, NY)

Match report: Gold Medalist Peter Zumthor lectures at the RIBA: The medieval knight of Swiss architecture was in town, playing to a packed house...He wants an architecture "not of meaning but of being. It's just there like a tree. It doesn't need a goddamn explanation!" So far, so straightforward (ish). By James Pallister - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Peter Zumthor reveals his big ambitions: Swiss architect would consider skyscrapers and cities...would accept a city-scale commission if the client allowed him to put aesthetics and "social engineering" before money..."I like to do beautiful buildings and neighbourhoods. If I wanted to dip my hands in dirty things I would do it in the sandbox with my grandchildren." By Elizabeth Hopkirk - BDI/Building Design (UK)

Glass ceiling pay gap revealed: 26% of women directors earn less: Second AJ Women in Architecture survey reveals that unequal pay persists, while 89% of women say having children is detrimental to career progression...61% do not think the building industry has fully accepted the authority of the female architect. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

T+L Design Awards 2013 -- Schneider & Schumacher; Ennead Architects; Cazu Zegers; Louis I. Kahn; Heatherwick Studio; Morris Adjmi Architects; Workstead; Kois Associated Architects; Opus 5 Architectes; GA Design International; Michael Batista; Reiulf Ramstad Arkitekter; Atelier SAD; J. Mayer H. Architects [slide show essay] - Travel + Leisure

Call for entries: Vauxhall the Missing Link International Competition: landscape, architecture and urban design ideas for between the US Embassy Quarter and London's South Bank; registration deadline: March 7; submission deadline: March 12 - Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

Multiple Identities: An ambitious exhibition gathers diverse visions of Montreal at the Canadian Centre for Architecture..."ABC : MTL - A Self-Portrait of Montréal"...would seem to reveal a city of fragmented identity and anecdotal history. On the other hand, can [it] act as a platform to foster meaningful dialogue on current issues and encourage cultural change, as its creators also claim? By Louise Pelletier [images] - Canadian Architect

"Extraordinary Stories About Ordinary Things": An exhibition of objects amassed by the Design Museum over 24 years shows it has yet to shake off a bad postwar hangover. Perhaps a trip to Milan is in order...is still straitjacketed by a too-limited world view and by excessive reverence for particular names and styles. By Rowan Moore -- Deyan Sudjic - Observer (UK)

Capturing Modernism's Chic and Sheen: Ezra Stoller's photographs of architecture helped fix modern design into America's consciousness...To be "Stollerized" became a verb and requirement for designers...[his] pictures enshrine an era and an aesthetic that still speak to us. ["Ezra Stoller: Beyond Architecture" at Yossi Milo Gallery, NYC] By Michael Kimmelman [images] - New York Times

Architectural Photography That Breaks Your Brain On Second Glance: "(DIS)LOCATION": Filip Djardin's exquisitely crafted collages are so beautiful, it's sad to learn they're fakes. Highlight Gallery, San Francisco through March 28. By Kelsey Campbell-Dollaghan [images, links] - Fast Company

Neptune Calling: Ocean speaks, water levels rise: Frederic Raichlen...has a new book "Waves." He is a kind of wave whisperer...gave me a more substantial understanding of the coastal impact of global warming..."Sweet & Salt," an elegant tome by Tracy Metz & Maartje van den Heuvel...the history of Dutch attempts to tame the ocean...Eric Klinenberg "Adaptation" provides other perspectives... By Joseph G. Brin - Metropolis Magazine

"The City to See in '63": Vintage film showcases Chicago of 50 years ago: ...another gem from the Chicago Film Archives touting the places, spaces and other virtues of Chicago...The purposely deadpan narration - written like Carl Sandburg's poem to the city - is also amusing. By Lee Bey [video] - WBEZ Chicago Public Radio

Laurie Olin Remembers Ada Louise Huxtable, Champion of Urban Design: With eloquence and warmth, the master landscape architect shares his personal encounters with most notable of critics. - ArchNewsNow



-- Gehry Partners: Biomuseum/Biomuseo, Panama City, Panama -- Bruce Mau Design; Edwina von Gal  
-- Provencher Roy + Associés Architectes: Claire & Marc Bourgie Pavilion, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Montreal, Canada  
-- Visiting the Shard, London, England -- Renzo Piano

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