

Today's News - Tuesday, March 26, 2013

- Pedersen takes down The New Republic's take-down of Make It Right (yay! we say...).
- Hawthorne doesn't just rain on Mayne - he dumps a verbal typhoon on his Perot Museum in Dallas: it "belongs to a preening old breed"; "a thoroughly cynical piece of work"; "a kind of bullhorn urbanism" (and that's the good news).
- On a more positive note, SANAA's González talks about how architects have become "the voice of the people" in post-earthquake/tsunami Japan.
- MacGillis ponders the urbanization of Beltway sprawl: can municipalities "redeem the planning and development sins of the second half of the 20th century" ("nothing says bright lights, big city like Potemkin retail in shipping containers designed by a handful of 20-year-olds!").
- Glaeser offers "five somewhat contradictory lessons from Detroit's sad history that relate to the larger national debate" (beware of big-project binges).
- Wainwright is a bit wary of (and hopeful about) Farrell's independent review into the U.K.'s architecture policy: it's "something of a surprise, given that we don't have an architecture policy."
- Betsky is more than bothered that an upcoming NYT sustainability conference includes no architects: "Is that because architects have created too many bad buildings and planners too many dysfunctional city plans?"
- Davidson plays mayor in SimCity: "The game is a totalitarian dream...a candy-colored illustration of city planning at its most brutally amoral" (a hoot of a read!).
- Indianapolis transforms its old 1931 art deco ballpark into loft apartments - a home run for all.
- Goodyear reports on a new initiative that "gives domestic violence agencies resources and models for fundamentally changing the way shelters are structured" ("It does something wonderful to see all this beautifulness," says one resident).
- Darley calls for less concrete and more jungle for kids: "Schools need to equip children with the landscapes that can charge their imagination."
- If you'll take Oklahoma City's 1958 gold geodesic dome off the developer's hands, he'll give you a hundred grand.
- Forget archiving your life on FB - McDonough will be the first living archive at Stanford University.
- One we couldn't resist: Hill brings us eyefuls of uncommissioned work by 10 architectural photographers.

To subscribe to the free daily newsletter [click here](#)

In Defense of Make it Right: Brad Pitt's beautiful houses are not a drag on New Orleans: The New Republic recently posted..."If You Rebuild It, They Might Not Come"...Lydia DePillis argues that the project...has diverted resources that could be better spent in other parts of the city...it might not look like it to the casual observer, or to the visiting out-of-town journalist, but something is stirring in the Lower Ninth. By Martin C. Pedersen- Metropolis Magazine

Perot Museum belongs to a preening old breed: ...uses a frenzy of forms to endorse the idea that architecture, in the end, is mere decoration...a largely windowless crypt...a thoroughly cynical piece of work...apparent radicalism is tacked on, its braggadocio paper-thin...a work of architecture without the courage of its convictions...It's a kind of bullhorn urbanism. By Christopher Hawthorne -- Thom Mayne/Morphosis; Talley Associates; Amaze Design; Paul Bernard Exhibit Design- Los Angeles Times

The Japanese Architect, or How to Be the Voice of People After the Disaster: Gone are the utopias of mega cities...Today, the architect faces demands as real and vital as cooperation and dialogue and many young architects have thrown themselves to the help the north of Japan, feeling the time is "now or never!" By Andrea González/SANAA -- Toyo Ito; Yoshiharu Tsukamoto; Kumiko Inui; Sou Fujimoto; Riken Yamamoto; Akihisa Hirata; Ippei Takahashi- Huffington Post

Is It Too Late to Fix DC's Suburbs? The trouble with urbanizing Beltway sprawl: ...a major test of whether municipalities can redeem the planning and development sins of the second half of the 20th century...proving awfully difficult to transform into something that more closely resembles the rejuvenated urban ideal. By Alec MacGillis [links]- The New Republic

Big-Project Binge Fueled Motor City's Meltdown: ...five somewhat contradictory lessons from the Motor City's sad history that relate to the larger national debate about America's future...Lesson No. 1: Government can do good things...Lesson No. 4: The government can also do foolish things. By Edward Glaeser- Bloomberg News

What should the government's architecture review focus on? Terry Farrell is conducting the first review into the built environment since the Urban Task Force in 2000...will undertake an independent review into the UK's architecture policy...That should come as something of a surprise, given that we don't have an architecture policy. By Oliver Wainwright- Guardian (UK)

'The New York Times' to Architects: Drop Dead: A mayor, a secretary of housing, and an urban expert—but no architects—will keynote Energy for Tomorrow sustainability conference...Is that because architects have created too many bad buildings and planners too many dysfunctional city plans? ...whatever the case, designers will have to work harder to get a seat at the conference table. By Aaron Betsky- Architect Magazine

My Week As Robert Moses, With Oil Wells: An architecture critic takes up residence in SimCity: The pursuit of prosperity is booby-trapped. The slightest misstep is enough to turn your shiny new metropolis into 1968 Newark...The game is a totalitarian dream...a candy-colored illustration of city planning at its most brutally amoral. By Justin Davidson- New York Magazine

Home Plate: Indianapolis's old 1931 art deco ballpark has been left to languish...But now Bush Stadium is getting back in the game...will fill its grandstand not with fans but with loft apartments...The design preserves the stadium's quirky features and iconic elements... -- Heartland Design [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Fighting Domestic Violence With Architecture and Design: A new generation of shelters is changing the way women and children recover from abusive environments...gives domestic violence agencies around the country resources and models for fundamentally changing the way shelters are structured. By Sarah Goodyear -- Mahlum; Building Dignity; The 1%; Public Architecture- The Atlantic Cities

Kids need less concrete, more jungle: Schools need to equip children with the landscapes that can charge their imagination...Tough marginal places allow the imagination free rein...Colin Ward...books should be required reading on every design and social profession course in the country By Gillian Darley- BD/Building Design (UK)

Oklahoma City Developer: Take my Geodesic Dome and Get \$100,000! The city and its developer community have been trying to do away with John Johansen's famous Mummars Theater and

now...wants to get rid of a unique geodesic dome built in 1958... By Bill Menking -- Bailey, Bozalis, Dickinson, and Roloff [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

The Era of Deep Archiving Begins: Soon everyone may be digitally archiving their lives. The architect William McDonough offers a glimpse of where we're going...will be the first living archive at Stanford University. - New York Times

Viewpoints: Uncommissioned work by architectural photographers: 10 photographers from around the world...three photos and three questions and answers... By John Hill -- hiepler, brunier; Philipp Schaerer; Peter Aaron; Brigida González; Hugo Moura; Frederik Vercruysse; Anja Schlamann; Albert Vecerka; Upasana Jain; Aaron Dougherty - World-Architects.com

Preservation Alert: P.S. 199, by Edward Durell Stone (1963): The public school on Manhattan's Upper West Side could be facing demolition if a developer takes up New York City's offer to sell the site. By Fred A. Bernstein - ArchNewsNow

Note: Pages will open in a new browser window.
External news links are not endorsed by ArchNewsNow.com.
Free registration may be required on some sites.
Some pages may expire after a few days.

[Yesterday's News](#)

© 2013 ArchNewsNow.com