

## Today's News - Tuesday, May 14, 2013

- ArcSpace brings us eyefuls of Foster in France, Meier in Barcelona, and a Tree Hotel in Sweden.
- Badger reports on the Rockefeller Foundation plans to fund a Chief Resilience Officer in 100 cities worldwide with a \$100 million prize: "Maybe this will be one of those jobs that becomes obsolete through its own success."
- An Australian reports from post-flood Brisbane that offers "a glimpse into our climate-challenged future": it might mean "rethinking the whole premise that designers need to keep adding stuff to the world"; sometimes infrastructure and local building materials could be "more valuable than prefabricated shelters designed by outsiders."
- Ancient Buddhist symbols of Lhasa, Tibet, are being destroyed or under threat by China's efforts to make it a "tourist city" (shopping malls and massive underground parking included).
- Capps reports on yet more revisions to Gehry's Eisenhower Memorial: "It's uncertain whether any design changes would placate the critics," but it's clear "the design remains in flux."
- Q&A with Haworth Tompkins' Dillon re: the "big, red, awesome, and slightly freakish Shed" for London's National Theatre.
- A skateboard veteran makes a plea to not destroy the South Bank undercroft much-used (and loved) by skaters and cyclists alike: "to bulldoze it would be utterly visionless" and "vandalism of our cultural heritage."
- Hume cheers that crowds gather in Toronto's Maple Leaf Square for hockey games, but it "needs more than people" - it "lacks some details that would make it flourish."
- While debate still swirls around proposed East Midtown zoning changes in Manhattan, our spirits are a bit lifted by news that NYC has tapped Gehl and others to spearhead the East Midtown Public Realm Vision Plan.
- Palin ponders what made Chipperfield's "starry building project" for the Geffrye Museum "turn so sour": perhaps the applicant and architect "simply lost touch with the public" - and "completely failed to charm, engage or persuade the committee."
- Inside the Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum, where entire homes and shops have been transplanted intact: "Amid these structures are some unexpected gems."
- SEED Network co-founders commit to training 800 people per year in public interest design: "New models and professional training demonstrate ways to do good and make a living."
- Goodyear almost gasps at the stats re: the fastest warming cities in the U.S. - Louisville, KY, is at the top of the list, "so why are city leaders reluctant to adopt a comprehensive tree-planting policy?"
- Moore has a most engaging conversation with Correa (whose retrospective at the RIBA opens today): "Most of what he says and does makes eminent sense, yet the mass of new construction does not follow his example now, any more than it did 50 years ago."
- Betsky is taken by visions of cities imagined by three artists: "the cities of their (sometimes dark) dreams...bring out our dreams and our nightmares, and thus put our discipline on the couch."
- Winners all: 6 young firms take the Architectural League Prize 2013 + 3 take AIA/HUD Secretary Awards for Outstanding Housing Projects + 6 take home AIA 2013 Housing Awards + 7 honored with 2013 AIA Wisconsin Design Awards.
- Call for entries (deadline extended!): 2013 Burnham Prize Competition: NEXT STOP - Designing Chicago BRT Stations international design ideas competition.

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-- Foster + Partners: Musée de Préhistoire des Gorges du Verdon, Quinson, France  
-- Hotels: Tree Hotel, Harads, Sweden  
-- Richard Meier & Partners: Museum of Contemporary Art, Barcelona, Spain

**Does Every City Need A Chief Resilience Officer?** The Rockefeller Foundation plans to fund positions in 100 cities worldwide...takes as a given that some pretty bad things will inevitably happen...now the mark of a competent city is this: How quickly can it bounce back? ...100 Resilient Cities Centennial Challenge, a three-year, \$100 million prize...Maybe this will be one of those jobs that becomes obsolete through its own success. By Emily Badger- The Atlantic Cities

**After the Floods: Living in Australia provides a glimpse into our climate-challenged future:** Preventative action might...mean rethinking the whole premise that designers need to keep adding stuff to the world...It might also mean facing the inevitable and designing for disaster...infrastructure and local building materials were more valuable than prefabricated shelters designed by outsiders. By Peter Hall -- Tony Fry; Jared Diamond; Naomi Hay- Metropolis Magazine

**Designing for the Public and You:** Through two-day institutes, SEED Network co-founders have committed to training 800 people per year in public interest design...projects don't have to be resource-depleting pro-bono work. New models and professional training demonstrate ways to do good and make a living. -- Bryan Bell; Public Interest Design Institute; Social Economic Environmental Design (SEED); Lisa Abendroth- Architect Magazine

**China destroys the ancient Buddhist symbols of Lhasa City in Tibet:** ...and replace it with a tourist city...Several large-scale construction projects are underway for a number of shopping malls around the Buddhist holy temple as well as underground parking...should be considered 'tourist colonialism'. - The Tibet Post International

**In Stone and Bronze, a Memorial Changes Course:** The most recent Frank Gehry design for the Eisenhower Memorial reconciles features of other known versions...It's uncertain whether any design changes would placate Gehry's critics. The available clues nevertheless demonstrate that the design remains in flux. By Kriston Capps [images, links]- Architect Magazine

**Talk of the Thames:** Haworth Tompkins gives London's National Theatre a signal red, temporary "Shed": ...this attention-seeking building is a welcome cut through the neighbouring concrete memoirs of Brutalism...Q&A with lead architect Paddy Dillon to find out more about the big, red, awesome, and slightly freakish Shed... [slide show]- Uncube magazine (Germany)

**Moving South Bank's skaters would be vandalism of our cultural heritage:** This tiny, reclaimed plot in central London is an inspiration and a way of life - to bulldoze it would be utterly visionless...to replace the undercroft with yet more soulless glass-fronted corporate retail units is an attack on our communal spaces and ability to lead creative lives with spontaneity and a measure of freedom. By Crispin Robinson [slide show]- Guardian (UK)

To really serve Toronto - even hockey fans - Maple Leaf Square needs more than people: The urban space created with hockey lovers in mind lacks some details that would make it flourish...remains a work in progress...Toronto still isn't comfortable in its new-found urban skin. By Christopher Hume- Toronto Star

NYC DOT, Department of City Planning announce community planning process for east midtown streetscape improvements: ...Jonathan Rose Company, Gehl Architects and Skanska to lead the City's public planning and design process for the East Midtown Public Realm Vision Plan... -- Janette Sadik-Khan; Amanda Burden- NYC Department of City Planning

Punch drunk: how a museum took on an old pub and ended up on the ropes: ...lessons learned from Hackney's shock refusal of David Chipperfield's Geffrye Museum extension: So how did this starry building project turn so sour? ...a sense that the applicant and Chipperfield simply lost touch with the public...completely failed to charm, engage or persuade the committee. By William Palin/Spitalfields Historic Buildings Trust/SAVE Britain's Heritage- BD/Building Design (UK)

Going Inside: The Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum: ...entire homes and shops have been transplanted intact from their original locations around Tokyo and opened to the public...from early Edo-period (1603-1867) farmhouses, to a 1928 grocery store...to a 1950s family residence...Amid these structures are some unexpected gems... [images]- Artscape Japan

There Are Few Trees in Louisville, America's Fastest Warming City: An analysis of the 50 largest U.S. cities found that temperatures are rising the fastest in Louisville, Ky. So why are city leaders reluctant to adopt a comprehensive tree-planting policy? By Sarah Goodyear- Next City (formerly Next American City)

"Charles Correa: India's greatest architect": Ahead of a retrospective show at the RIBA, our critic meets the man whose buildings were designed to beat the elements: ...he is interested in the ways that Indian cities work, in their resilience...Most of what he says and does makes eminent sense, yet the mass of new construction does not follow his example now, any more than it did 50 years ago. By Rowan Moore [slide show]- Observer (UK)

Cities on a Hill: Carl Laubin, Cyprien Gaillard, and Nicolas Moulin each make art that envisions the cities of their (sometimes dark) dreams...They bring out our dreams and our nightmares, and thus put our discipline on the couch. By Aaron Betsky [images]- Architect Magazine

Architectural League Prize 2013: Range: ...awards young architects and designers. -- Brandon Clifford/Wes McGee/Matter Design; Luis Callejas/Lcla Office; Rafael Luna/Dongwoo Yim/PRAUD; Skylar J.E. Tibbits/SJET; MARC FORNES / THEVERYMANY; Bryan Young/Young Projects [links to images, info]- Architectural League of New York

AIA/HUD Secretary Awards Recognize Three Outstanding Housing Projects: Excellence in Affordable Housing Design; Community-Informed Design; Housing Accessibility - Alan J. Rothman Award -- Dattner Architects/Grimshaw Architects; Abacus Architects + Planners [links to images, info]- American Institute of Architects (AIA) / U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

AIA Selects Six Recipients for the 2013 Housing Awards -- Gary Gladwish Architecture; Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; GLUCK+; Alterstudio Architecture; Dattner Architects/Grimshaw Architects; Mahlum Architects [links to images, info]- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

2013 AIA Wisconsin Design Awards honor seven projects by practicing Wisconsin architects: A modernist home, a pragmatic fix for a 1960s dorm building, a commercial building with a big heart and a clever disguise for an old power plant tank... By Mary Louise Schumacher -- Johnsen Schmalig Architects; Workshop Architects; Continuum Continuum Architects + Planners; Flad Architects; Gastrau Fuerer & Associates; HGA Architects; KEE Architecture [slide show]- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Call for entries (deadline extended!): 2013 Burnham Prize Competition: NEXT STOP - Designing Chicago BRT Stations international design ideas competition; cash prizes; deadline: May 21- Chicago Architectural Club / Chicago Architecture Foundation

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