

## Today's News - Friday, June 28, 2013

- H&deM and TFP Farrells rise to the top of a starchitect-filled shortlist to design the M+ museum in Hong Kong's West Kowloon Cultural District.
- NYC's plan to deal with climate change "is only the beginning of a long struggle to fortify cities around the world - resiliency construction could very well be its own industry," and "as if on cue," some design competitions that should help things move along.
- Speaking of which, 3C: Comprehensive Coastal Communities Competition to re-imagine the coastal communities hit by Superstorm Sandy has extended the registration deadline to July 8.
- The Ikea Foundation and the UNCHR are planning to "roll out one of the major innovations for war-torn homeless since the canvas tent: cheap, flat-packed, build-it-yourself homes" (solar power included).
- Russell and Rosenbaum have a conversation about the Whitney Museum's new digs: he likes the terraces; she doesn't think the inside is as well-designed as the exterior + Rosenbaum expands on her take: even with its downsides, "the new Whitney promises to be an exciting addition to New York's cultural life."
- Wainwright weighs in on the growing pressure from U.K. architecture students to change "training that has remained largely unchanged since 1960s": everyone seems to agree, but change to what: "at least students' plaintive pleas for relevant teaching are finally being taken seriously - and they may soon have an alternative to costly years trapped in fantasy factories."
- Weekend diversions (and lots of 'em - catching up after not posting last Friday).
- Kaplan and Hess review the Getty's "Overdrive" from two very different perspectives (both great reads - did they see the same show?).
- Russell wrestles with Corbu at MoMA, and finds "the architect who wanted to bulldoze much of Paris was a romantic at heart."
- Turrell at the Guggenheim x 4 (we couldn't resist): Lange says the museum "was built for his work," and the rotunda is "where Turrell meets Wright's mischievousness with a twinkle of his own."
- Wyma warns it is not the "hallucinatory, mind-blowing experience" visitors might expect, but Turrell's "slow-burning phantasmagoria of light and color is good, clean site-specific fun."
- Gopnik, on the other hand, wants to "feel the spirit move me," but what he feels and sees "most clearly are dollar signs, and the troubling social structures that art such as this now reflects."
- Rosenbaum is not much rosier: problem is Turrell's Skyspace "isn't a skyspace at all."
- A great Q&A with "Reprogramming the City" curator Burnham about what to expect from Boston's BSA Space show about reuse from cities around the world.
- Blanchfield cheers "Low-Rise High-Density Housing" at NYC's Center for Architecture that looks at what past solutions teach us about solving today's housing crisis: it may be a "small show," but it's "an archival feat."
- "Where If Not Us? Participatory Design and Its Radical Approaches" at Chicago's Graham Foundation is a visual journey of the findings of a multi-year research project focusing on the work of 7 community design architects and planners.
- In London, "Elisabeth Blanchet: Prefabs: Palaces for the people" is "an intensive study of prefabs across the country and some of their oldest residents."
- Keats cheers the CCA's "Archaeology of the Digital" that shows how "ambivalence about digital architecture was characteristic of most of the architects who pioneered it."
- With "Creating Green Roadways," Sipes and Sipes "are dedicated to turning our transportation systems to assets, not liabilities, and have written a book to help guide this transformation."

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[Herzog & de Meuron to design M+ museum in Hong Kong's new West Kowloon Cultural District: ...will work alongside TFP Farrells...giving the city a dedicated centre for 20th and 21st century art, design, architecture and film...WKCD is being masterplanned by Foster + Partners... -- Aric Chen \[images\]- Dezeen](#)

[Building the indestructible metropolis: New York City's plan to bolster its infrastructure to deal with climate change is only the beginning of a long struggle to fortify cities around the world...resiliency construction could very well be its own industry...As if on cue, a number of design competitions have sprung up...asking for "extreme weather architecture" solutions...Rebuild by Design \(HUD\); Designing Recovery \(AIA\); 3C: Comprehensive Coastal Communities - Fortune magazine](#)

[Registration deadline extended: Call for entries: 3C: Comprehensive Coastal Communities Competition \(international\): re-imagine the coastal communities hit by Superstorm Sandy; no fee; registration deadline now July 8 \(submission deadline: July 25\)- Operation Resilient Long Island / ORLI \(New York Institute of Technology/NYIT\)](#)

[A New Ingeniously Designed Shelter For Refugees—Made By Ikea: ...a cheap, solar-powered hut that only takes four hours to assemble...Ikea Foundation and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees \(UNCHR\) will roll out one of the major innovations for war-torn homeless since the canvas tent: cheap, flat-packed, build-it-yourself homes with electricity-generating roofs. \[images\]- Fast Company](#)

[Whitney Museum Downtown Puts Art on the Terrace: ...edgy new building...But how does it measure up to the museum's previous digs? ...interview with James S. Russell: "the most exciting aspect of it are these stepped terraces that rise up from the High Line in a slope"; Lee Rosenbaum says the inside of the building isn't as well-designed as the exterior. -- Renzo Piano \[audio\]- WNYC.org](#)

[Meet the New Whitney, Not Like the Old Whitney: Although it graciously offers some hat-tips to the Marcel Breuer-designed building...is, in many ways, the anti-Breuer...So what are the downsides? ...even the permanent-collection galleries may feel impermanent...That said, the new Whitney...promises to be an exciting addition to New York's cultural life... By Lee Rosenbaum- ArtsJournal](#)

[Pressure builds for change in Britain's schools of architecture: Architecture students are unhappy paying ever more for lengthy training that has remained largely unchanged since 1960s: Everyone...is in agreement...but there is reluctance to commit to what the replacement should be...at least students' plaintive pleas for relevant teaching are finally being taken seriously - and they may soon have an alternative to costly years trapped in fantasy factories. By Oliver Wainwright- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Comment> Sam Hall Kaplan: Questions about the Getty's focus on LA's flashiest stars: There is nothing middling in the Getty Center's..."Overdrive"...the 1980s was marked by a sad shift in architecture from its social imperative to...how things look taking precedence over how things work...implications of permanence had become a photo opportunity. -- Irving Gill; Frank Lloyd Wright; R.M. Schindler; Richard Neutra; Cliff May; Ray Kappe; Frank Gehry; Thom Mayne; Eric Owen Moss; Jerde Associates; Killefer Flammang; Brenda Levin; AECOM; Gensler; Michael Maltzan; Frank Israel; Richard Meier- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Wide Angle Lens: Alan Hess on the Getty's "Overdrive: LA Constructs the Future 1940-1990":](#)

...cannily shows how architects creatively interpreted the new conditions of Southern California's multi-centered suburban metropolis... -- Palmer and Krisel, Edward H. Fickett, Jones and Emmons; John Lautner, Armet and Davis, and Edward Killingsworth, to Smith and Williams, Ray Kappe, and Victor Gruen; S. Charles Lee, and then their reverberation through the city and culture in Richard Neutra and Philip Johnson; Armet and Davis; Morphosis; Cesar Pelli and Gruen Associates' Pacific Design Center to the geometrically warped arcades of Edward Durell Stone; Charles Moore; Frank Gehry [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Urban Nightmare, Sensual Landscapes in Le Corbusier Legacy: ...the architect who wanted to bulldoze much of Paris was a romantic at heart. That's the takeaway from the 320-object retrospective on the 20th century's most influential architect, "Le Corbusier: An Atlas of Modern Landscapes" at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. By James S. Russell -- Jean-Louis Cohen; Barry Bergdoll [images]- Bloomberg News

The Guggenheim Museum Opens Aten Reign by James Turrell: [His] first museum exhibit in New York since 1980 reveals that the Guggenheim was built for his work: ...manages to defy and celebrate the building all at once...you could be forgiven for leaving the atrium: That's where Turrell meets Wright's mischievousness with a twinkle of his own. By Alexandra Lange [images]- Architect Magazine

Light Entertainment: James Turrell Gives the Gugg a Mellow Makeover: ...visitors expecting a hallucinatory, mind-blowing experience might be mildly disappointed...Stripped of its spiritual trappings, his slow-burning phantasmagoria of light and color is good, clean site-specific fun. By Chloe Wyma [slide show]- Artinfo

James Turrell at the Guggenheim: ...looking up into "Aten Reign"...I'm supposed to almost literally see stars, and feel the spirit move me...my soul ought to reach out from Plato's cave to the light of timeless truth. But I'm afraid that what I feel and see most clearly are dollar signs, and the troubling social structures that art such as this now reflects. By Blake Gopnik [slide show]- Architectural Record

Guggenheim's "Aten Reign": Turrell's "Skyspace" Obscures the Sky: I have been eagerly anticipating James Turrell's "reimagining the rotunda of Frank Lloyd Wright's iconic building...The only problem is, it isn't a skyspace at all. By Lee Rosenbaum [images]- ArtsJournal

Reusing Infrastructure to Reprogram the City: In anticipation of his return to Boston for "Reprogramming the City: Opportunities for Urban Infrastructure," we talked with curator Scott Burnham to learn more about what to expect from a show about reuse from cities around the world. [images]- Next City (formerly Next American City)

"Reprogramming the City: Opportunities for Urban Infrastructure": ...a global overview of ways in which the existing infrastructure of cities around the world is being redesigned, repurposed, and reimaged...for urban dwellers and visitors. - BSA Space (Boston)

Looking back at Low-Rise High-Density Housing in NYC: What can past solutions teach us about solving today's housing crisis? ...a small show at the Center for Architecture looks back [at] the moment of its emergence, and its bearing on how we face housing crises today. The show is an archival feat. By Caitlin Blanchfield -- Karen Kubey; Alvaro Siza; Atelier 5; Kenneth Frampton; Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies/IAUS; Craig Hodgetts; Peter Eisenman; Pyatok Architects; Jonathan Kirshenfeld; Institute for Public Architecture [images]- Metropolis Magazine

"Where If Not Us? Participatory Design and Its Radical Approaches": A Visual Journey by Mathias Heyden & Ines Schaber: Focusing on the work of 7 U.S.-based community design architects and planners and their projects...the findings of a multi-year research project funded by the Graham Foundation. -- Adams Group Architects; Roberta Feldman/City Design Center; Landon Bone Baker Architects; David Perkes/Gulf Coast Community Design Studio; Michael Rios/UC Davis; Henry Sanoff/Community Development Group; Ron Shiffman/Pratt Center for Community Development-Graham Foundation (Chicago)

"Elisabeth Blanchet: Prefabs: Palaces for the people": A new photography exhibition in London documents the UK's threatened prefabs...an intensive study of prefabs across the country and some of their oldest residents. [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Is Your Architect A Computer? A New Exhibit Reveals How Building Went Digital... And Why You Should Care: As "Archaeology of the Digital" at the Canadian Centre for Architecture shows, ambivalence about digital architecture was characteristic of most of the architects who pioneered it, including Peter Eisenman, Chuck Hoberman and Shoei Yoh. By Jonathon Keats - Forbes

A Road Can Be More than a Road: "Creating Green Roadways: Integrating Cultural, Natural, and Visual Resources into Transportation" by James L. Sipes and Matthew L. Sipes: With common language, thorough research and numerous case studies...The authors are dedicated to turning our transportation systems to assets, not liabilities, and have written a book to help guide this transformation. - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Review: "False Solution" by Oren Safdie: The third in Safdie's series of plays about architects and architecture makes its world premiere at La MaMa in Manhattan (only a few days left to see it!). By Kristen Richards - ArchNewsNow.com

Some Pointed Architectural Queries for Three Connoisseurs of Albert Speer's Monumental Classicism on the Occasion of the Re-publication of "Albert Speer: Architecture 1932-1942" by Leon Krier. By Norman Weinstein -- Robert A.M. Stern; Witold Rybczynski - ArchNewsNow

-- "A Topology of Everyday Constellations" by Georges Teyssot...his latest, brilliant book...  
-- "Zaha Hadid – World Architecture" at the Danish Architecture Center, Copenhagen, Denmark  
-- Obituary: Henning Larsen, 87: ...the essential link between the old masters from the Golden Age of Danish architecture...and the new, internationally oriented generation...  
-- "Reiulf Ramstad Architects" by Boris Brorman Jensen (editor)

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