

Today's News - Tuesday, March 18, 2014

- ArcSpace brings us Meyer's take on Coop Himmelb(l)au's ECB HQ in Frankfurt am Main (and lots of pix!).
- Wolfe puts out an S.O.S. re: Moscow's Shukhov Tower, the "controversial prospect" of it being reconstructed elsewhere, and Jean-Louis Cohen and Richard Pare's petition denouncing the tower's dismantlement.
- Kimmelman x 2: his take on the future of Shukhov's "engineering landmark: it's "destruction makes way for reckless development - a classic case of demolition by neglect."
- He gives (mostly) thumbs-up to a new public school that "is part of a joint project designed to revitalize a blighted section of East Baltimore"; will it work? "To be successful, architecture depends on what happens in and around it. So does a neighborhood."
- Wainwright weighs in on plans for the U.K.'s first "garden city" in 100 years: it "is rooted in the vision of a radical socialist, but can the model work today?"
- Jenkins minces no words about what he thinks of the garden city plan: "Don't make me laugh" - thinking "15,000 new homes at Ebbsfleet can help solve the housing crisis is pie in the sky. As a brave new dawn for the quaint garden city, Ebbsfleet is a joke."
- Davidson x 2: if NYC's new mayor wants to see how to build affordable housing, he "might start by sending a fact-finding team to Vienna" and other cities that "treat housing as a social good, rather than a byproduct of real-estate investments," where new housing "doesn't empty the bank account or crush the soul."
- He finds the "refreshed UN looks like a period movie" where "vintage cars shine and every outfit is impeccably tailored," but "the cosmetic improvements are but the icing on a high-risk rescue of a creaky modern landmark."
- Selldorf is tapped for expansion of the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego: "She creates beautiful spaces that are at the service of the art."
- The Art Gallery of Greater Victoria taps a team for its own addition because it "demonstrated an understanding of the changing roles of museums and public galleries, which do more today than just hang pictures on the walls."
- Eyefuls of the Goods Line, Sydney's own version of the High Line, which will turn a disused rail freight corridor into a link connecting arts, education, and cultural institutions along the city's Cultural Ribbon.
- Richter brings us eyefuls of Ordos, China's "ghost city," in a fabulous(!) two-part photo-essay: "It was time to get off the approved footpaths, to start opening some doors and ignoring no entry signs."
- The Society of Architectural Historians offers a unique opportunity this July "to experience three Modernist masterworks - the Maison de Verre, Villa Savoye, and the Maison Louis Carré - like never before."
- Call for entries: IIDA / ALA 2014 Library Interior Design Awards (deadline looms!) + Euramax Aludesign Open International Competition to transform its factory wall front in the Netherlands + WAF 2014 Awards and INSIDE Awards.

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[Coop Himmelb\(l\)au: European Central Bank, Frankfurt am Main, Germany: Germany may be the biggest country in the European Union, but so far it has been devoid of any major EU-institutions...ECB\) is one notable exception. By Ulf Meyer \[images\]](#)

[S.O.S. Shukhov: Moscow Icon Set to Be Dismantled: The Shukhov Tower, one of the 20th century's engineering marvels, is expected to be demolished and reconstructed elsewhere...a still more controversial prospect...\[t\]he government's actions just show the law isn't important in Russia"...new petition drafted by historian Jean-Louis Cohen and photographer Richard Pare...denounced the tower's dismantlement. By Ross Wolfe -- Vladimir Shukhov \[images, link to petition\]- Metropolis Magazine](#)

[An Engineering Landmark Faces Demolition: Architects, engineers and preservationists are fighting to save the \[1922\] Shabolovka radio tower, considered the Eiffel Tower of Moscow...destruction makes way for reckless development...a classic case of demolition by neglect...a final decision by Russian authorities is expected by March 24. By Michael Kimmelman -- Vladimir Shukhov- New York Times](#)

[Reading, Writing and Renewal \(the Urban Kind\): A new public school that also includes a community center and other public amenities is part of a joint project designed to revitalize a blighted section of East Baltimore...Can Henderson-Hopkins work? ...To be successful, architecture depends on what happens in and around it. So does a neighborhood. By Michael Kimmelman -- Rogers Partners \(formerly Rogers Marvel\) \[images\]- New York Times](#)

[The garden city movement: from Ebenezer to Ebbsfleet: George Osborne's plan for 15,000 homes in Kent is rooted in the vision of a radical socialist, but can the model work today? By Oliver Wainwright- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Ebbsfleet as a brave new dawn for the garden city? Don't make me laugh: George Osborne's announcement that 15,000 new homes at Ebbsfleet can help solve the housing crisis is pie in the sky...real attention should go to proper urban renewal, the revival of rundown city areas and increasing housing densities. As a brave new dawn for the quaint garden city, Ebbsfleet is a joke. By Simon Jenkins- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[These Cities Built Affordable Housing That's Also Appealing. Can NYC? The mayor might start by sending a fact-finding team to Vienna...treats housing as a social good, rather than a byproduct of real-estate investments...how to build new housing that doesn't empty the bank account or crush the soul. By Justin Davidson -- Coop Himmelb\(l\)au; Königslarch Architekten; SCDA Architects; Ole Scheeren Büro; David Baker; ECDM; Foreign Office Architects \(FOA\) \[images\]- New York Magazine](#)

[Nation Building: New York's United Nations Headquarters, completed in 1952, pioneered the global workplace. Now nearing the end of a \\$2.1 billion makeover, it's again in the vanguard...the refreshed UN looks like a period movie, the kind in which the vintage cars shine and every outfit is impeccably tailored...All the cosmetic improvements are but the icing on a high-risk rescue of a creaky modern landmark. By Justin Davidson -- Le Corbusier; Wallace K. Harrison; Oscar Niemeyer \[slide show\]- Bloomberg News](#)

[Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego \(MCASD\) names architect for expansion: New York-based Selldorf Architects to take on \\$30 million project in La Jolla..."Her work doesn't impose itself. So much architecture, you're aware of the architecture more than you're aware of the art. She has a way of being, not self effacing, but respectful, if you will. She creates beautiful spaces that are at the service of the art." - San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

[Architects selected for Art Gallery of Greater Victoria addition: ...demonstrated an understanding of the changing roles of museums and public galleries, which do more today than just hang pictures on the walls..."We're not here to unveil a big](#)

[design today. It's really about process..." -- LWPAC Lang Wilson Practice in Architecture Culture; Moore Architecture- Times Colonist \(Canada\)](#)

[New design concepts unveiled for Sydney's New York style 'High Line': "The Goods Line turns a disused rail freight corridor into a fantastic people area"...The strategically planned link will connect with arts, education and cultural institutions along Sydney's Cultural Ribbon. -- Aspect Studios; Choi Ropiha Fighere \[images, video\]- Architecture & Design \(Australia\)](#)

[Part I: Welcome To The World's Largest Ghost City: Ordos, China: Built for over a million people, the city of Ordos was designed to be the crowning glory of Inner Mongolia. Doomed to incompletion however, this futuristic metropolis now rises empty out of the deserts... By Darmon Richter \[images\]- Gizmodo](#)

[Part II: An Inside Peek At China's Ghost City: Built for a population in excess of a million — yet largely uninhabited to this day — it's little surprise that Ordos has earned itself the nickname...It was time to get off the approved footpaths, to start opening some doors and ignoring no entry signs... By Darmon Richter \[images\]- Gizmodo](#)

[SAH in Paris: Modernist Masterworks: A Special Event Benefiting SAH Archipedia...a unique opportunity to experience three Modernist masterworks—the Maison de Verre, Villa Savoye, and the Maison Louis Carré—like never before; July 11-12- Society of Architectural Historians \(SAH\)](#)

[Call for entries: IIDA / ALA 2014 Library Interior Design Awards \(international\); deadline: March 28- International Interior Design Association \(IIDA\) / American Library Association \(ALA\)](#)

[Call for entries: WAF 2014 Awards: 17 Completed Building categories; 11 Future Project categories; Landscape category; INSIDE awards for interiors; deadline: May 30- World Architecture Festival \(WAF\)](#)

[Call for entries: Euramax Aludesign Open International Competition: Transform Euramax's 200 square meter factory wall front in the Netherlands; cash prize; deadline: May 20- Archello / Euramax](#)

[Magnusson Architecture and Planning: Looking back at the last 30 years and toward the future: MAP has worked hard to create affordable communities that people actually want to live in – not just containers for living. Q&A with the senior leadership...- ArchNewsNow](#)

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