

Today's News - Thursday, September 25, 2014

- Yet "another twist in the 15-year saga" of Gehry's Eisenhower Memorial as the memorial commission seeks preliminary approval of the modified design - "and only that design."
- Bad news in Big Development land as San Francisco's Transbay Transit Center's future is now "in doubt" after deal between the city and developers "falls apart" + Brooklyn's B2 modular tower in Atlantic Yards (er - Pacific Park) stalls mid-rise in a nasty dispute between the developer and contractor/fabricator (why can't we all just get along?!?!?).
- Hadid's Brisbane towers "continue to raise eyebrows" and public debate: "Anything that creates discourse about what the city wants to look like is always positive."
- Sydney's newest project will have a decidedly Danish accent as 3XN wins the bid "to remodel one of Sydney skyline's ugly ducklings" with "an extreme \$1 billion makeover" (looks pretty cool!).
- Lamster is left "sickened and angry" as he bears witness to the "unwarranted execution" of a "venerable" building in downtown Dallas's national historic district: "I will not soon forget the mortifying sound" (and it's not the only one).
- Heatherwick's "Charlie-and-the-Chocolate-like" distillery for Bombay Sapphire "makes you see gin in a new light," so "raise a G&T to gin and country!" (we're game!).
- Rinaldi cheers the Colorado Ballet's new home in Denver, and its architecture that "is a gift to the community" and the city's arts district (even better: "no flying ballerina is going to knock her head on the rafters").
- University of Lethbridge in Alberta gets its first look at conceptual designs for its future science and academic building by KPMB/Stantec team.
- Bernstein ponders who might be celebrating and who might be crying as nine cities contending for the Obama Presidential Library is winnowed down to four.
- Miami is pleasantly surprised to find out that a team of local talent beat out international contenders to transform a parking lot into a park.
- Three teams make the shortlist in the Changing Course Lower Mississippi River Delta Design Competition.
- Two researchers, each on their own, seek to connect the calming effects parks and green spaces have on the brain.
- British researchers connect the "positive psychological effects" of walking, biking, or taking public transit to work.
- Jencks considers 10 Post-Modernist buildings and the movement's "unlikely rebirth": "architects were able to pick up the ideas and practice them with renewed power and grace - self-consciousness had to die so that creativity could live."
- Fedorova considers the De La Warr Pavilion, "one of the most significant modernist buildings in Britain - almost 80 years after it was built it still strikes you as a slice of pure artistic vision."
- Interns can "rejoice" now that NCARB has finally voted to approve big changes to streamline and overhaul the Intern Development Program.
- A good reason to be in Barcelona Oct. 6-10: Gaudi 1st World Congress.
- Call for entries: 2014 Berkeley Prize Student Essay Competition: Architects Confront Poverty (now international!).

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[Eisenhower Memorial panel moves forward with controversial Gehry design: ...will seek preliminary approval of the modified Frank Gehry design - and only that design - from the National Capital Planning Commission...The vote is another twist in the 15-year saga to create a public monument to the Kansas-born general and president... - Washington Post](#)

[Transbay Transit Center's future in doubt after deal falls apart: An agreement between San Francisco officials and downtown developers over a proposed tax district collapsed this week, throwing into jeopardy the future of Transbay, the extension of Caltrain downtown and the construction of half a dozen skyscrapers, including one that's set to be the largest on the West Coast...Outcome unclear. -- Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects - San Francisco Chronicle](#)

[Skanska cancels Atlantic Yards contract: ...said it could no longer incur millions of dollars in extra costs while Forest City Ratner worked out issues it had with a modular \[B2 BKLYN\] apartment building in Brooklyn...Atlantic Yards project, which was recently rebranded Pacific Park - though the long-running legal dispute is far from over. -- SHoP Architects - Crain's New York Business](#)

[Zaha Hadid's Brisbane towers continue to raise eyebrows: The public debate surrounding her proposal for three new residential towers at Toowong Brisbane is still thriving...some called it "interesting" and "a welcome change", others thought it was "ridiculous"...'Grace of Coronation' was not an appropriate title...would prefer that the site should have been made a public park...'Anything that creates discourse about what the city wants to look like is always positive.' \[images, links\]- Architecture & Design \(Australia\)](#)

[Danish architect set to remodel one of Sydney skyline's ugly ducklings: ...set to undergo an extreme \\$1 billion makeover...45-floor Quay Quarter tower...resembles transparent glass cubes stacked on top of each other at different angles...'It is one of those projects that can really start to regenerate Circular Quay'... -- 3XN \[images\]- Daily Telegraph \(Australia\)](#)

[We Regret to Inform You that Your City Has Been Destroyed: I found myself...watching as a wrecking ball slammed into a venerable commercial building registered as a part of downtown's national historic district. I will not soon forget the mortifying sound...We had witnessed an execution...that was unwarranted. That zero attempt was made to salvage the building's handsome terra-cotta detailing only made the proceedings more revolting. By Mark Lamster - Dallas Morning News](#)

[Thomas Heatherwick's marvellous gin factory: British design maverick has created a distillery like no other for Bombay Sapphire gin: ...transforming a derelict paper mill into an intriguing state-of-the-art distillery, makes you see gin in a new light. And not just gin, but our industrial heritage...Charlie-and-the-Chocolate-like place...there is much to toast at Laverstoke Mill...you can raise a G&T \[to\] gin and country. -- Heatherwick Studio \[images\]- Telegraph \(UK\)](#)

[Colorado Ballet's new home, sunny and full of possibilities: ...ceilings rise to 20 feet; no flying ballerina is going to knock her head on the rafters...The architecture is a gift to the community as well, particularly to the arts district...the design is sleek and forward-looking in an area that can appear shabby on its edges. By Ray Mark Rinaldi -- Semple Brown Design - Denver Post](#)

[Designs on the future: Architects revealed three new conceptual designs for the future science and academic building, a key component of the Destination Project, at the University of Lethbridge, Alberta...new building will accommodate in excess of 2,000 people. "A lot of what we're proposing to do in this building is about public outreach, getting people involved in the building..." -- KPMB Architects; Stantec Architecture \[link to images\]- Lethbridge Herald \(Canada\)](#)

[Four Possible Homes for the Obama Presidential Library Leaves Some to Celebrate, Others to Cry: When the Barack Obama Foundation \[eliminated\] nine other contenders, it didn't say a word about who might design the building. But there may be reason for several well-known architects to celebrate. By Fred A. Bernstein -- Renzo Piano; Thom Mayne; HOK; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill \(SOM\); Jeanne Gang/Studio Gang Architects; David Adjaye - Architectural Record](#)

[Miami artist, architects win design competition for new Wynwood park: "I thought, why keep this as a parking lot when I can do something impactful for the community?" ...Wynwood Greenhouse ...a way to bring back a bit of nature to a neighborhood](#)

defined by concrete... -- Jim Drain; Studio Roberto Rovira; Nick Gelpi/Gelpi Projects [images]- Miami Herald

Three Teams Selected as Finalists for Changing Course Lower Mississippi River Delta Design Competition: ...will develop innovative designs...that reduce land loss in the region while improving navigation conditions and strengthening resilience for local communities and industries. -- Baird & Associates Team; Moffatt & Nichol Team; STUDIO Misi-Zibi/H3 Studio Team-Van Alen Institute

What a Park's Design Does to Your Brain: We know that green space can have a calming effect...But Anna Olszewska is seeking to take our knowledge a step further - to enable designers and planners to maximize the serenity of urban green refuges...part of a larger, nascent movement to try to connect neuroscience to architecture and design...both she and Julio Bermudez...hope to prove it... By Rebecca Tuhus-Dubrow - Next City (formerly Next American City)

The case for walking or cycling (or taking the train) to work: British researchers at the University of East Anglia found that walkers and bikers reported positive psychological effects from getting a little fresh air and moderate exercise on their way to work...they were able to concentrate more at work and were under less strain than when they traveled by car. - Washington Post

Post-Modernism Resurgent: Ten buildings that made a difference: ...the movement has experienced an unlikely rebirth...architects were able to pick up the ideas of this movement and practice them with renewed power and grace...self-consciousness had to die so that creativity could live. By Charles Jencks -- Herzog & de Meuron; Foreign Office Architects/FOA; Toyo Ito/Cecil Balmond; Norman Foster/Foster + Partners; Frank Gehry; Peter Eisenman; Alan Short/Short and Associates; Enric Miralles/Benedetta Tagliabue/EMBT; Rem Koolhaas/OMA [images]- DesignCurial / Blueprint Magazine (UK)

On the beach: memory, modernity and how an émigré's artistic vision built an English seafront icon: The De La Warr Pavilion is a modernist classic. But the legacy of its co-creator, Serge Chermayeff, says everything about the English coast as a place of identity, exile and reinvention...one of the most significant modernist buildings in Britain...almost 80 years after it was built it still strikes you as a slice of pure artistic vision. By Anastasiia Fedorova -- Erich Mendelsohn; Sam Chermayeff [images]- The Calvert Journal (UK)

Interns, Rejoice: Required Hours to Be Reduced by a Third: The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) has finally voted to approve big changes to streamline and overhaul the Intern Development Program (IDP)...will correspond with the Architect Registration Examination (ARE) categories...[and] future version of the ARE 5.0 licensing exam. - Architizer

Gaudí 1st World Congress, Barcelona, October 6 - 10: The Genius's laboratory and the origin of forms. The Church at Colònia Güell, Santa Coloma de Cervelló...leading scholars and experts to share with the world their knowledge and theories about the architect. -- Gaudí Research Institute- Gaudí Research Institute / University of Barcelona

Call for entries: 2014 Berkeley Prize Student Essay Competition: Architects Confront Poverty (international); 17th annual competition open to all current full-time registered students in accredited schools of architecture worldwide; cash prizes; Stage One deadline: November 1, 2014- Berkeley Prize / Department of Architecture, University of California, Berkeley



-- Travel guide: Tokyo: Like Kenzo Tange and his fellow Metabolists famously noted, Tokyo has the appearance of a sophisticated organism with a highly developed metabolism, constantly modifying its own urban fabric. By Ulf Meyer  
-- Herzog & de Meuron: What truly distinguishes them is their commitment to challenging the Modernist ornament-aversion. By Jakob Harry Hybel  
-- 7 Sharp-Eyed Architectural Photographers -- Åke E:son Lindman; Thomas Mayer; Michael Wolf; Ken Konchel; Andrew Prokos; CphCph; Pygmalion Karatzas  
-- 7 Unmistakable Architect's Sketches: ...remarkable architects, who are using the freedom of the hand drawing to express their particular architectural vision. -- Dominique Perrault; Frank O. Gehry; Santiago Calatrava; SANAA; Jørn Utzon; Alvaro Siza; Steven Holl

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