

Today's News - Wednesday, April 20, 2016

- ArcSpace brings us eye-fuls of Urban-Think Tank's Empower Shack in Cape Town that is the "basis for a prototype housing unit designed in collaboration with the local community."
- Stephens delves into talk of MoMA eliminating its dedicated architecture and design galleries and its continuing "lack of transparency. Did it learn nothing from how they handled the Folk Art Museum fiasco? No wonder the architecture community is nervous."
- Hurst outlines "why the Garden Bridge debacle should concern us all" (again, having to do with transparency).
- Chicago lays out a new plan for the Lucas Museum, but borrowing \$1.2 billion probably makes it "a financial non-starter," and there's still the legal hurdle of handing over public trust land to a private entity.
- Freeman visits Grace Farms and Rural Studio projects that "seem to be perfect architectural embodiments of the extreme inequality of wealth that afflicts the world today. But maybe it's not so simple" (a great read!).
- Wainwright wanders Christ & Gantenbein projects in Zurich and Basel that "mix the ancient and modern in beguiling ways," and he comes to understand their focus on "the thingness of things."
- Lange gets the skinny from the president of the Ford Foundation re: proposed makeover of its landmarked Kevin Roche John Dinkeloo-designed building: "The changing definition of public service, for architecture as well as a social justice foundation, will be reflected in physical changes."
- Meanwhile, Ford of carmaker fame has a \$1 billion plan to make over its Dearborn HQ that will include "rebuilding more than 7.5 million square feet of workspace" over the next 10 years.
- It's official: Zaha Hadid Architects will carry on as ZHA without its founder.
- Stott reports on an Internet copyright ruling in Sweden that "should have architects up in arms" - scary stuff, indeed!
- On a brighter note, Dewane reports on the Wa\$ted Market initiative "to expand the material reuse marketplace - an architect-led design project to re-envision the opportunities of the emergent recycling/reuse reality."
- A new website offers "a selection of scale figures often under-represented in architectural renderings/images," with a great name: Just Nøt The Same.
- M@Studio Architects' "playfully" recreated suburban car wash wins the National Gallery of Victoria 2016 Architecture Commission for the Grollo Equiset Garden.
- Speaking of follies, Hou de Sousa wins the 2016 Socrates Sculpture Park Folly Competition with "Sticks" - the "design supports an array of repurposed on-site scrap materials" (the firm is really on a roll!).
- The Knight Foundation awards grants for 37 experimental urban projects - hip hop music and storytelling included.
- Two we couldn't resist (we'll bet you can't either!): Eye-fuls of "Australia's most weird (and wonderful) new architecture" (architects "creatively let 'off the leash,'" indeed!).
- Eye-fuls of some charming crooked houses that "were never meant to lean," but "have become crooked masterpieces of architectural fortitude" (and in use).
- Call for entries: World Architecture Festival Awards 2016 + EO: Australian National Botanic Gardens Ian Potter National Conservatory.

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Urban-Think Tank (U-TT): Empower Shack, Cape Town, South Africa: ...a growing group of architects...who have reframed their perspective on the urban condition of the slum - not as a problem but as a solution...shacks became the basis for a prototype housing unit designed in collaboration with the local community. By Nina Tory-Henderson -- Design Space Africa [images]

What is the Future for Architecture and Design at MoMA? The one thing that MoMA can be accused of now, certainly, is a lack of transparency with which it seems to continue to operate. Did it learn nothing from how they handled the Folk Art Museum fiasco? No wonder the architecture community is nervous. By Suzanne Stephens - Architectural Record

Why the Garden Bridge debacle should concern us all: A damning report has strongly criticised Boris Johnson and TfL's actions in selecting Thomas Heatherwick to design the controversial Thames crossing: We should care if we think procurement and transparency are important...what impact could this escalating row have on public sector procurement... By Will Hurst -- Heatherwick Studio; Marks Barfield; Wilkinson Eyre- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Editorial: The new Lucas museum plan: Improved looks but the same high legal hurdle: ...plan creates a new complication all its own: a financing scheme that involves borrowing nearly \$1.2 billion...This new plan answers one aesthetic complication of the original proposal. It's probably a financial non-starter. But the key issue is still the control of public trust land by a private entity. - Chicago Tribune

Rural Visions: Grace Farms and Rural Studio would seem to be perfect architectural embodiments of the extreme inequality of wealth that afflicts the world today. But maybe it's not so simple: ...they meet on common ground to demonstrate that artistic, and ethical, values need not correlate with budget, and that the means to a simple end are rarely straightforward. By Belmont Freeman -- Kazuyo Sejima/Ryue Nishizawa/SANAA; Samuel Mockbee; Andrew Freear [images]- Places Journal

Swiss architecture's star double act: 'We're all about Dinghaftigkeit!': When Christ & Gantenbein talk about 'the thingness of things', it's more than waffle. From a zigzag extension in Zurich to Basel's new Kunstmuseum, their landmark projects mix the ancient and modern in beguiling ways...Cementing their position as the go-to architects for projects of national pride... By Oliver Wainwright [images]- Guardian (UK)

Inside the Proposed Changes to the Landmarked Ford Foundation: The changing definition of public service, for architecture as well as a social justice foundation, will be reflected in physical changes...Darren Walker embraced the position as not only "advancing the cause of human dignity, but you also are the steward for a masterpiece of modern architecture." By Alexandra Lange -- Kevin Roche John Dinkeloo and Associates; Dan Kiley; Warren Platner (1967); Gensler; Raymond Jungles [images]- Curbed New York

Ford to overhaul headquarters campus, research and engineering hub in 10-year plan: By 2026, 30,000 employees from 70 buildings to be located at pair of campus-like locations in Dearborn...estimated price tag at about \$1 billion...rebuilding more than 7.5 million square feet of workspace...to include a new 700,000 square-foot-plus design center... -- SmithGroupJJR [images]- Crain's Detroit Business

Zaha Hadid Architects to carry on without its founder: ...to complete the 36 projects that were under development in 21 countries at the time of her death. The office has confirmed it will retain the name Zaha Hadid Architects and its acronym ZHA... [images]- Dezeen

[Freedom of Panorama: The Internet Copyright Law that Should Have Architects Up in Arms: We live in a world that requires freedom of panorama in order for architects to make the world a better place. And architects should be pretty upset about how many restrictions have been placed, and continue to be placed, on that freedom. By Rory Stott - ArchDaily](#)

[Wa\\$ted Market Seeks A New Architecture Amid The Rubble: "What happens when one county in America took the radical step of demanding all buildings be built with other buildings?": ...a multi-year initiative to expand the material reuse marketplace...an architect-led design project...to understand the consequences and re-envision the opportunities of the emergent recycling/reuse... By David Dewane/Librii -- Archeworks; Port- Impact Design Hub \(formerly PublicInterestDesign.org\)](#)

[Just Not The Same: Representing the under-acknowledged in architectural renderings: A new website, poignantly holding the domain justnotthesame.us, allows users to download a selection of scale figures often under-represented in architectural renderings/images. \[images\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Winner revealed: National Gallery of Victoria/NGV's 2016 Architecture Commission: ...to develop a temporary architectural work for the Grollo Equiset Garden...will playfully recreate a suburban car wash...hopes to turn the everyday familiar archetype of the suburban car wash on its head by placing it in a gallery setting. -- M@Studio Architects \[images\]- ArchitectureAU \(Australia\)](#)

[Hou de Sousa wins the 2016 Socrates Sculpture Park Folly Competition: The theme this year was "function," a break from the themes of years past..."Sticks"...design supports an array of repurposed on-site scrap materials... \[images\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Knight Foundation awards \\$5 million for 37 experimental urban projects: The use of hip hop music and storytelling to engage urban residents are among the creative ideas to receive the foundation's support. - Citiscope.org](#)

[Australia's most weird \(and wonderful\) new architecture: ...some of the quirkiest work derives from the Public \(bus stops, kiosks, toilet blocks etc\), and the Small Projects sections, because this is where architects are often creatively let 'off the leash'. -- Australian Institute of Architects; David Luck Architecture; Cumulus Studio; Workshop Architecture; Sans-Arc Studio \[images\]- Domain \(Australia\)](#)

[The Asymmetrical Charm of Crooked Houses: They're like regular buildings, but with a twist: Some whimsical tourist traps have been purpose-built at odd angles, but it's the buildings that were never meant to lean that are far more fascinating...have become crooked masterpieces of architectural fortitude. By Eric Grundhauser \[images\]- Atlas Obscura](#)

[Call for entries: World Architecture Festival Awards 2016; earlybird deadline \(save money!\): April 28; submissions due May 19- World Architecture Festival \(WAF\)](#)

[Call for entries: Expressions of Interest/EOI: Australian National Botanic Gardens Ian Potter National Conservatory, Canberra; deadline: May 5- Australian National Botanic Gardens](#)

[ANN feature: Zaha. A special issue: I didn't know Zaha Hadid. We met once - in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, of all places. My encounter with her left an indelible impression. By Kristen Richards - ArchNewsNow.com](#)

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