

Today's News - Thursday, August 25, 2016

EDITOR'S NOTE: As summer winds down and Labor Day approaches, we've decided to take a (much-needed) break for a spell. We plan to return Tuesday, September 6 (unless we have to report for jury duty at 8:30 that morning). Enjoy the rest of your summer - or winter (depending on what hemisphere you're in)!

- ANN feature: Belogolovsky is back (yay!) with another in his "One-on-One" interview series, this time with Russian architect Nikita Yaveyn, who talks about creative freedom (and sometimes lack thereof) and much more.
- Moore gives us a sneak-peek at what the London Olympicopolis might have looked like if Scheeren's design had been picked instead of the "dull as ditchwater" (per Alsop) final design.
- Kamin x 2: he gives (mostly) thumbs-up to Gang's City Hyde Park apartment building that is very "different from Chicago's current crop of glass-sheathed minimalist towers."
- He cheers on a plan to make Chicago's now-polluted rivers swimmable by 2030: "My advice: Don't throw out your disinfectant just yet - significant hurdles loom."
- Zacks gives two thumbs-ups to Liberty Park atop the WTC Vehicular Security Center: "As a leftover space, the designers were unencumbered by the duties of solemn remembrance, architectural spectacle, real estate bravado, and tourism."
- Nyren rounds up 10 recent projects that offer "model strategies for making micro housing more livable."
- The APA gets a \$300,000 NOAA Grant to "help communities address climate extremes," and will result in a free online resource.
- Donoff issues a call to the lighting community "to figure out how to document its past before its masterworks are lost to demolition and renovation - never has there been a more critical time to take this issue seriously."
- A guide to free online courses on urbanism, architecture, sustainability, and development.
- Call for entries: Future Cities Accelerator offering \$100,000 grants: to 10 early-stage for-profit or non-profit organizations + Deadline reminder: 38th Annual Interiors Awards.
- Weekend diversions:
 - World premiere of "Harry Seidler: Modernist" documentary set for September 7 at the Seidler-designed Australian embassy in Paris, alongside Belogolovsky's exhibition, then it's on to the Sydney Opera House.
 - A trio of exhibitions at the Pulitzer Arts Foundation in St. Louis "makes an in-depth exploration of the home," and "raises as many questions as they answer."
 - In Berlin, "ZAI XING TU-MU - Sixteen Chinese Museums, Fifteen Chinese Architects" presents commissioned oil paintings instead of photography along with a selection of models.
 - At Cornell, "Homo Ludens: The Architecture of Play" examines "links between childhood play with building blocks and morphologies embraced by architectural pedagogy and professional practice."
 - "Yesterday's Future: Visionary Designs by Future Systems and Archigram" details "why architects make such great futurists" (great images!).
 - Landon lauds Locktov's "Dream of Venice Architecture" with essays by "some of the world's leading architectural minds" about "their obsession with Venice," and "exquisite" images by Riccardo de Cal.
- Q&A Kamin re: "Gates of Harvard Yard" and the stories they have to tell.
- Q&A with Rybczynski re: "Now I Sit Me Down: From Klismos to Plastic Chair - A Natural History" - a "slim, insightful introduction to the piece of furniture that shapes not only the way we sit, but the way we live, too."
- Brownlee cheers "Chairs by Architects" in which Toromanoff presents "examples of chairs laid out side-by-side with pictures of their designers' most iconic buildings," making it "easy to see how a designer's personal style makes the leap from architecture to industrial design."
- A great excerpt (and images) from LTL's "Manual of Section."

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ANN feature: One-on-One: "Architecture is the Construction of a New World": Interview with Nikita Yaveyn: The Russian architect talks about creative freedom (and sometimes lack thereof), wooden architecture, and what St. Petersburg might look like in 50 years. By Vladimir Belogolovsky [images]- ArchNewsNow

London Olympicopolis: the design we might've had: Plans for the cultural hub to be built on the site of the 2012 London Olympics have been called 'dull as ditchwater'. It could have all been so different, judging by an inventive, rejected proposal seen here for the first time. By Rowan Moore -- Büro Ole Scheeren; Allies and Morrison; O'Donnell + Tuomey; Josep Camps & Olga Felip [images]- Observer (UK)

City Hyde Park high-rise breaks up apartment monotony: Jeanne Gang's buildings invariably are experiments, as intriguing for the ideas behind them as for the buildings themselves...one of the bright spots of the current building boom...Syncopated rhythms and sculptural projections, so different from Chicago's current crop of glass-sheathed minimalist towers, deliver a quirky energy that suggests individualism, not mass man. By Blair Kamin -- Studio Gang [images]- Chicago Tribune

New rivers plan: Bold strokes and big challenges: ..."Our Great Rivers" comes with a headline-generating goal: Make the now-polluted rivers so clean that people will be able to swim in them by 2030. My advice: Don't throw out your disinfectant just yet. Still, there's more to the plan than that improbable swimming vision...But significant hurdles loom. By Blair Kamin -- Ross Barney Architects- Chicago Tribune

Liberty Park successfully fills a critical role in the World Trade Center site: ...slipped on top of the WTC Vehicular Security Center...[it] provides two qualities that the reborn WTC lacks: A sense of place and a free passage for walking...As a leftover space, the designers were unencumbered by the duties of solemn remembrance, architectural spectacle, real estate bravado, and tourism. By Stephen Zacks -- Gonzalo Cruz/Joe Brown/AECOM [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

ULX: Innovative Density: 10 projects - all completed over the past five years - model strategies for making micro housing more livable... By Ron Nyren -- Barbara Bestor/Bestor Architecture; Stefano Boeri Architetti; nARCHITECTS; OMA/Ole Scheeren; RSP Architects; Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners; John Robertson Architects; Michael Maltzan Architecture; KTG Architecture + Planning; Safdie Architects; DCA Architects; SCDA Architects; SsD; Gluck+ [images]- Urban Land Magazine (ULI)

APA Receives \$300K NOAA Grant to Help Communities Address Climate Extremes: The City of Berwyn and the Village of Richton Park, Illinois, will serve as two of the pilot communities: At conclusion of the research project, free online resources for identifying trustworthy climate data sources and incorporating climate data will be available. -- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration- American Planning Association (APA)

Can Lighting's Past be Saved? The lighting community needs to figure out how to document its past before its masterworks are lost to demolition and renovation: ...never has there been a more critical time to take this issue seriously...Without respect for one's own past, how can others be expected to show concern? By Elizabeth Donoff -- Richard Kelly- Architectural Lighting magazine

Here Is Your Guide to Free Online Courses on Urbanism: Get schooled on architecture, sustainability and development.- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Call for entries: Future Cities Accelerator: we're looking for 10 early-stage for-profit or non-profit organizations with the potential to create lasting impact for poor or vulnerable populations in U.S. cities; 10 \$100,000 grants + 9 months of intensive support; deadline: September 25- Rockefeller Foundation / Unreasonable Institute

Call for entries (deadline reminder!): 38th Annual Interiors Awards (international): celebrate great design in projects across 14 categories; deadline: September 15- Contract magazine

"Harry Seidler: Modernist": New documentary shows intimate portrayal of Seidler's life and work: ...at the Sydney Opera House on October 22...presents the life and work of one of the architects who brought mainstream modernism to Australia...world premiere...September 7 at the Australian embassy in Paris (designed by Seidler 1971-77) alongside a free exhibition... -- Daryl Dellora; Colin Griffiths, who started working with Seidler in 1954, Peter Hirst, who worked with Seidler from the 1960s, and Greg Holman; Penelope Evatt Seidler; Vladimir Belogolovsky- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

With a trio of exhibitions, the Pulitzer Arts Foundation makes an in-depth exploration of the home: Home. Everyday. Ordinary. These words describe what binds..."raumlaborberlin: 4562 Enright Avenue"; "Exquisite Everyday: 18th-Century Decorative Arts from the J. Paul Getty Museum"; "The Ordinary Must Not Be Dull: Claes Oldenburg's Soft Sculptures"...But they raise as many questions as they answer. Whose home? What routines? The prospect is ripe with dichotomies...; in St. Louis. By Susan Morris [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

"ZAI XING TU-MU - Sixteen Chinese Museums, Fifteen Chinese Architects": ...multi-faceted insight in the relation of program and form of contemporary Chinese Architecture as well as in the interplay of the museums within their social, urban or rural context....ANCB commissioned professional painter Yiming Liao...to interpret the buildings...oil paintings will be presented in a traditional, museum-style layout, together with a selection of models for each project. [images]- Aedes Architecture Forum (Berlin)

"Homo Ludens: The Architecture of Play": exhibition examines links between childhood play with building blocks and morphologies embraced by architectural pedagogy and professional practice. It explores the relationship between architecture, education, and play, as part of what Johan Huizinga called homo ludens, or "playing man."- Cornell University College of Architecture, Art, and Planning

Why Architects Make Such Great Futurists: As detailed in a new book "Yesterday's Future: Visionary Designs by Future Systems and Archigram" by Philipp Sturm and Peter Cachola Schmal...both groups took stock of the current cultural and political climate and looked, with both inventiveness and trepidation, at what was to come - in a way only architects can...As Jetsonian and fantastical as these ideas may seem to us today, they actually were designed to be built, even if most of them never were. By Meg Miller -- Peter Cook, Ron Herron, Dennis Crompton, Jan Kaplický [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

Some of the world's leading architectural minds recount their obsession with Venice: "Dream of Venice Architecture" - edited, published, and with a preface by JoAnn Locktov - gathers 35 very short essays...each accompanied by a single, exquisite image by Riccardo de Cal...In imagining a future for Venice, the essays also return...to the work of Venetian-born Carlo Scarpa as a model. By Robert Landon [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Q&A: The Gates at Harvard Have Stories to Tell: To Blair Kamin...the wrought-iron gates that ring the campus green at Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass., are more than decorative. They are storytellers through design and time capsules of university history..."Gates of Harvard Yard"...thoughtful essays examine the 25 gates surrounding the yard...- New York Times

Witold Rybczynski on his new book about the history of chairs: "Now I Sit Me Down: From Klismos to Plastic Chair - A Natural History"...a slim, insightful introduction to the piece of furniture that shapes not only the way we sit, but the way we live, too. By Mark Medley [Q&A]- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Why Architects Design Chairs: Working at a small scale has some surprising benefits: In "Chairs by Architects"...Agata Toromanoff says that chairs afford architects an opportunity to distill their techniques, innovations, and style into a new medium...filled with dozens of examples of chairs laid out side-by-side with pictures of their designers' most iconic buildings...it's easy to see how a designer's personal style makes the leap from architecture to industrial design. By John Brownlee [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

Architecture 101: What Is a Section? "Manual of Section"...offers a comprehensive gallery of orthographic slices through famous buildings, but it goes further than that...Paul Lewis, Marc Tsurumaki and David J. Lewis go right back to basics and ask a fundamental question that should prove informative to architecture students and experienced professionals alike: What is a section? Read on for the definitive definition. [excerpt, images]- Architizer



Architecture for Fashionistas: When top profiles of both worlds join forces, lines between architecture and advertisement blur...surreal settings are created, and magical spaces occur. -- Frank Gehry/Gehry Partners; Olafur Eliasson; Massimiliano and Doriana Fuksas; Rem Koolhaas/OMA; Gluckman Mayner Architects; William Russell/Pentagram; Legoretta + Legoretta; Kumiko Inui; Toyo Ito; Peter Marino; Renzo Piano; Jun Aoki [images]

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