

Today's News - May 15, 2006

ArcSpace takes us to Pelli's concert hall in Orange County, CA. -- Prince-Ramus and Koolhaas split "with no hard feelings" (is anyone really surprised?). -- One Florida development is not New Urbanism as we've come to expect: it's "stranger than that" (with a touch of Frank Lloyd Wright to boot). -- Another Florida development is pure New Urbanism, this time with a golf course. -- Bing Thom has big plans for Vancouver. -- Australian cities offer lessons for Johannesburg. -- In Chicago, the "green" revolution is finally trickling down to impoverished areas. -- A grass-roots green revolution in Cincinnati is slowly taking root. -- U.K.'s SixtyK houses will cost a lot more to buy (builders are licking their chops - so what's the point?). -- At least the winning SixtyK's are going on display. -- Another cool take on the mobile house (pronounced mouse). -- Could a \$1.6 billion "Disney-meets-Hollywood entertainment complex" be headed for Connecticut's shore? -- Pawson's Kew Garden footbridge is a "sublime break from prevailing design." -- All sorts of secrets surround the new Capitol Visitor Center (but you'll be able to use your cell phone). -- Infrastructure gets its due from AIA Wisconsin. -- "Planet of Slums" is "an illuminating, frustrating primer." -- Times Square nostalgia goes under the gavel this week.

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[Under construction: Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects: Renée & Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall/Samueli Theatre, Orange County Performing Arts Center, Costa Mesa, California](#)

[Joshua Prince-Ramus Leaving Koolhaas's O.M.A. to Start New Architecture Firm: ...striking out on his own and taking the entire 35-member New York staff with him. But no hard feelings, they say. -- Office for Metropolitan Architecture; Ramus Ella Architects/REX; MVRDV; Foreign Office Architecture; Work Architecture- New York Times](#)

[The Virgin Mary Is in the Details: The developers claim that the town of Ave Maria will be open to all, but the town's theology is obvious in its design...arguably the ultimate New Urbanist place...But we can't pin this one on DPZ because that's not what's in the rendering. Ave Maria is stranger than that. By Karrie Jacobs -- Cannon Design; EDAW \[link to images\]- Metropolis Magazine](#)

[Add 'Elevation' to 'Location, Location': ...Owl's Head, near Freeport, Fla., has something Seaside can't offer: elevation...one of the few New Urbanist towns to incorporate a golf course. By Fred A. Bernstein -- Duany Plater-Zyberk & Company- New York Times](#)

[In B.C., artists dream of bricks and mortar: If Toronto is the new Florence, ablaze with construction in an unprecedented cultural building boom, Vancouver is the new Venice. So says architect Bing Thom, the visionary behind a recent plan to create a so-called "cultural precinct" for the city.- Globe and Mail \(Canada\)](#)

[A lesson from Sydney and Melbourne: In most instances, Australia's cities...are an example of what can be achieved - from preserving heritage to safety, security and cleanliness. But the bureaucracy can be trimmed down. By Neil Fraser/Urban Inc- City of Johannesburg](#)

["Green" revolution comes to inner city: ...a new crop of environmentally sensitive designs is showing that the benefits of green architecture can -- and should -- be spread to impoverished areas far outside the Loop. By Blair Kamin -- Farr Associates; Harley Ellis Devereaux- Chicago Tribune](#)

[City's green-building effort waiting to bloom: New York City...Chicago...Portland, Ore...These are the cities that get it. Cincinnati doesn't yet get it...the movement is grass-roots. But supporters believe if individuals and the corporate community get behind green building, government will follow. -- Alan Warner/GBBN Architects- Cincinnati Business Courier](#)

[Bolted together and clad in cedar tiles, the house that costs £60,000 to build - but a good deal more to buy: Prescott's challenge is met, but builders will charge market rates...SixtyK house... -- Sheppard Robson \[image\]- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[\[U.K.\] Design Competition Demonstrates Future for Affordable Housing: Design for Manufacture exhibition showcases the nine winning designs...\[of\] good-quality home for a construction cost of £60,000. \[links\]- AZoBuild.com \(Australia\)](#)

[Unique Mobile Dwellings: The latest innovation in dwellings that straddle the line between trailer and residence is the m-house \(pronounced mouse\) by Tim Pyne... \[image\]- Globe and Mail \(Canada\)](#)

[Orlando on the Thames? A vote on a proposed entertainment complex could make Preston, Conn., a destination in its own right...\\$1.6 billion Dream: The Utopia Studios...Disney-meets-Hollywood entertainment complex... -- Jerde Partnership; Bastien & Associates \[image\]- New York Times](#)

[Walk on water at Kew: John Pawson's bronze and granite footbridge is a sublime break from prevailing design, yet sits perfectly with Kew's great landmarks, says Deyan Sudjic -- Wilkinson Eyre; Decimus Burton- Observer \(UK\)](#)

[Fortress on the Hill: \\$559 million Capitol Visitor Center has 580,000 square feet underground, but officials won't say whether it is a congressional bunker -- RTKL- Federal Computer Week \(FCW\)](#)

[The lowly becomes lofty: Infrastructure gets its due as awards honor excellence in AIA Wisconsin design awards -- La Dallman Architects/design; Vetter Denk Architects; HGA; Louis Wasserman & Associates; Plunkett Raysich Architects; Kubala Washatko](#)

[Architects \[slide show\]](#)- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

[Third World degradation: "Planet of Slums" \[by Mike Davis\] is an illuminating, frustrating primer for a sprawling subject. By Alan G. Brake-](#) Courier-Journal (Louisville, KY)

[Neon Nostalgia From Times Square to Be Sold by Sign Maker: ...nostalgia itself will be for sale when a Philadelphia auction house sells an eclectic collection \[Thursday\]...being sold by Artkraft Strauss... \[images\]](#)- New York Times

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