

Today's News - July 13, 2006

Rybczynski's take on why experimental architecture isn't working out for Denver (comment section interesting, too). – Five Denverites envision a new "urban heart" for the city. – British mayor launching international competition to transform his town. – Famous for the infamous, a magistrates' court bows out after 271 years. – Renewed life for a museum in Australia. – With 46 interior design and architecture magazines, design is hot in Russia, though "aesthetic standards still have a long way to go" (but there's always Photoshop). – The Chicago architect who left his mark on Sydney. – Green roofs no longer an oddity. – Can edible lawns be far behind? – A wow of a W Hotel for Philadelphia. – An architectural battle in Santa Fe: will it "devolve into a cartoon version of itself"? – The world's first feminist bridge crosses the Seine. – A new book asks where do poor people live. – The Happy Planet Index measures quality of life against environmental impact. – Forbes comes up with the most expensive cities (and zip codes) in the U.S.

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[The Mile-High Club: Why experimental architecture isn't working out for Denver...three buildings make an odd grouping...Architecture's tottering, wayward course between 1970 and 2000 is all here. By Witold Rybczynski -- Daniel Libeskind; Davis Partnership; Gio Ponti \(1971\); Michael Graves/Klipp Colussy Jenks DuBois \(1996\) \[slide show essay\]- Slate](#)

[Center of attention: Ever since the Civic Center Conservancy hired architect Daniel Libeskind...the urban heart of Denver has been the talk of the town...five respected local design professionals propose the one big idea... By Mary Voelz Chandler -- William Wenk; Yong Cho/Studio Completiva; Steve Chucovich/ArchitectureDenver; Susan Saarinen Landscape Architecture; Richard Farley/Civitas \[images\]- Rocky Mountain News \(Denver\)](#)

[Reshaping the Potteries: Elected mayor, Mark Meredith, is calling on the world's best architects to transform Stoke-on-Trent...An international urban design competition is being launched...- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Bow Street Magistrates Court bows out after 271 years: It is to be sold, along with most of its history, to an Irish property developer who is believed to want to turn it into a hotel...new City of Westminster magistrates' court, which Judge Workman described as "bland and plastic"- Telegraph \(UK\)](#)

[The new Heide's bigger picture: Millions of dollars have been spent and hundreds of thousands of people are expected to visit the revamped museum of art. It's a far cry from the lonely final days of founders John and Sunday Reed -- O'Connor + Houle- The Age \(Australia\)](#)

[For Russian Style, an Extreme Makeover: The new wealth in Russia has created a gold rush for European and American interior designers...the country's aesthetic standards still have a long way to go. -- Alexei Haas; Juan Pablo Molyneux; Brigitte Saby; Andrei Dmitriev; Mira Apraxine; Bill Stubbs \[slide show\]- New York Times](#)

[Walter, Walter everywhere: Canberra's designer left an indelible impression on Sydney -- Walter Burley Griffin- Sydney Morning Herald](#)

[Plants, grass on the rooftop? No longer an oddity: With grants and other incentives, Chicago leads the nation in installing green roofs. -- Green Roofs for Healthy Cities; Conservation Design Forum- Christian Science Monitor](#)

[Redefining American Beauty, by the Yard: Edible landscaping, which dates to Washington, has a revival, but put tomatoes where the grass used to be and some neighbors get upset...Edible Estates, an experimental project by Fritz Haeg, a Los Angeles architect and ersatz Frederick Law Olmsted.- New York Times](#)

[Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Wow: W Hotels Plans Hotel & Residences in Philadelphia - - Handel Architects; AvroKO- BusinessWire](#)

[In Santa Fe, an Architectural Battle Goes Casa a Casa: New residential architecture is becoming a flash point of conflict as the city's large historic district gets stricter about what can and can't be built there. By Fred A. Bernstein -- Trey Jordan \[images\]- New York Times](#)

[Building bridges: Icon of feminism across the Seine: Paris's latest river crossing, its 37th, blends elegance, modernity and practicality in a tribute to Simone de Beauvoir...It is, perhaps, appropriate that it looks like a discarded bra or an outstretched woman's arm. Paris can now claim the world's first feminist bridge. -- Dietmar Feichtinger- Independent \(UK\)](#)

[New Book Asks "Where Are Poor People to Live?": Federal policy has shifted responsibility for affordable housing to local governments and local markets without fully considering the social, political and economic risks in a global context- Newswise](#)

[Happy Isle Tops Happy Planet Index: ...a new index that measures quality of life against environmental impact, with industrial countries, perhaps unsurprisingly, faring badly.- Environmental News Network](#)

[The 10 most overpriced places in the United States: It's not just that they've got high housing prices and living costs -- it's that salaries and job growth don't keep up, either. \[slide how\]- Forbes](#)

[Jean Nouvel/Architectural Alliance: Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis, Minnesota](#)

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