

Today's News - September 13, 2006

We lose a master of modern office furniture (whatever would we do without our Aeron?). – A call for Canada to take back its city centers that are "losing the war against bad taste, poor planning and the power of big-box retail." – Pelli as the "architect's architect." – Toronto's new botanical garden is "a supremely civilizing force and, therefore, much needed." – Campuses jumping on the green bandwagon find payoff in many ways. – A low-tech, self-sustainable school takes shape in the Himalayas. – Long favored in Europe, a recycled composite is becoming a hot building material in the U.S. – Instead of filling landfills, vaporize them (there are skeptics). – A new documentary about a house made out of scrap. – Architectural ornament is beginning to come back. – Two teams named winners in Singapore's Gardens by the Bay master plan competition. – An Austrian gives Nepal its own garden of Babylon (along with a few thorns). – Call for entries: 2007 Chicago Athenaeum International Architecture Awards, and Because Green Matters Awards. – South Africa celebrates its best. – ASLA awards students. – One we couldn't resist: the Shakespearean cast of characters who star in architecture crits - "that tragicomic rite of passage."

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[Obituary: Bill Stumpf, 70, a Designer of the Aeron Ergonomic Office Chair -- Stumpf, Weber & Associates; Herman Miller](#)- New York Times

[Citizens: Take back Main Street: Better use of public buildings can boost city centres...They are neglected and are losing the war against bad taste, poor planning and the power of big-box retail. By Glen Murray](#)- Toronto Star

[Cathedral Builder: With a passion for how architecture affects life and culture, César Pelli has designed splendid spaces for public gatherings, such as his two new performing arts centers opening this fall. By Michael J. Crosbie \[images\]](#)- Panache Magazine

[Rebuilt to inspire — and it does: Toronto Botanical Garden...the new facility is a supremely civilizing force and, therefore, much needed. By Christopher Hume -- Piet Oudolf; PMA; Tom Sparling; Paul Ehnes; Martin Wade; Montgomery Sisam Architects](#)- Toronto Star

[Alma Matters: Colleges and universities are learning what it takes to go green...It's about being seen as a sustainability leader in order to attract students, funding, and media attention. By Joel Makower](#)- Grist Magazine

[Visionary School Takes Shape in the Himalayas: Druk White Lotus School, a low-tech, unique and virtually self-sustainable educational complex for 800 children...exhibit will be on display Sept. 14-24 in the UB Art Gallery -- Arup Associates; Ove Arup](#)- University at Buffalo News

[Going Green: It's Rastra, Mon: ...a composite of recycled polystyrene, cement and concrete that, thanks to the growing attraction of green living, has become one of the hottest building materials in the United States.](#)- New York Times

[Florida county plans to vaporize landfill trash: \\$425 million facility ...will use lightning-like plasma arcs to turn trash into gas and rock-like material...skeptics question whether the technology can meet the lofty expectations. \(AP\)](#)- Miami Herald

["ScrapHouse": Putting junk in perspective: Film shows how city's trash became a home in 30 days -- Public Architecture; Peterson Architects; Interstice Architects; Jensen & Macy Architects; Shift Design Studio; etc. \[links\]](#)- San Francisco Chronicle

[Delight In The Detail: ...after a long hiatus, architectural ornament is beginning to come back - not just at Yale but in many places around the country. By Philip Langdon -- Kent Bloomer \[slide show\]](#)- Hartford Courant (Connecticut)

[Gardens by the Bay \[Singapore\] Master Plan Design Competition: Two design teams have been named as joint winners -- Grant Associates/Wilkinson Eyre/Atelier One/Atelier Ten/Land Design Studios/Meinhardt Infrastructure/Davis Langdon & Seah Singapore; Gustafson Porter/Ove Arup/Davis Langdon & Seah Singapore \[links\]](#)- National Parks Board (Singapore)

[Nepal gets its own garden of Babylon: However, the fabulous Garden of Dreams is not without thorns. -- Gotz Hagmüller](#)- DailyIndia

[Call for entries: 2007 Chicago Athenaeum International Architecture Awards; deadline: December 1, 2006](#)- Chicago Athenaeum

[Call for entries: Because Green Matters Award; deadline: March 1, 2007](#)- Project EverGreen

[Qb's celebrate the best of South African architecture and interior design -- INK/George Boorsma/Lisebo Mokhesi; Keith Architects; The Design Partnership; Sarah Stevens Design; Beth Murray; Boogertman & Partners; R&L Architects; Lionel Levin](#)- ITP (Dubai)

[ASLA Announces 2006 Student Awards: ... jury selected 24 projects representing 15 schools \[links to images\]](#)- American Society of Landscape Architect (ASLA)

[Designis Personae: The architecture crit — that tragicomic rite of passage — often has a cast of characters worthy of Shakespeare...Many professions haze their future generations, but is there another that takes such delight in it? By Philip Nobel](#)- Metropolis Magazine

[Sex and the City: Field Notes from the 10th Venice Architecture Biennale - Part 1: Libidos on fire in Venice: Urbanism may not be sexy, but our lives may depend on it. By Margaret Helfand, FAIA \[images\]](#)- ArchNewsNow

[INSIGHT: Sounding Good: Inspired by the classics: Nashville's new Schermerhorn Symphony Center. By Paul Scarbrough -- David M. Schwarz; Akustiks; Fisher Dachs-](#)



[Tadao Ando: Langen Foundation, Neuss, Germany](#)

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