Today's News - October 4, 2006

Toronto reaches out to the world to revitalize Nathan Phillips Square. — Three massive projects planned (or in progress) in Salt Lake City, Washington, DC, and Newhall, UK (try as we might, no architects mentioned for any of them!). — One architect's big plans for Plymouth, UK, slowly moving forward. — University of Chicago invites star power to compete for design of new arts center (and generate buzz to pay for it). — King finds San Francisco's new vertical mall an adventure in "elegant chaos...a camival of consumerism that won't go stale too soon." — The ink is finally dry on design contract for Cleveland State University student center. — Adrian Smith leaves SOM in "a friendly separation." — Glancey says Canterbury cathedral "stands as a rebuke to the crassness of modern life." — A look at the starts in line for the Stirling Prize. — de Botton offers and "erudite and readable treatise on the aesthetics of architecture." — Word has it that Herzog & de Meuron wins 2006 RIBA Royal Gold Medal. —— EDITOR'S NOTE: ANN is on the road and Internet access may be spotty...we'll do our best to post daily.

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Call for entries: Revitalization of Nathan Phillips Square International Design Competition; deadline for Stage I/Design and Experience Statements: November 16- City of Toronto

After three years of refining its vision of a new downtown, LDS Church unveils a real blockbuster: ...plans to remake - and redefine - downtown Salt Lake City by demolishing nearly 20 acres of cookie-cutter malls and replacing them with a walkable, upscale City Creek Center. [links]- Salt Lake Tribune (Utah)

Developers Selected to Transform Southwest Washington Waterfront: ...transform 47 acres...into a multimillion-dollar neighborhood with housing, restaurants, shops, offices and cultural attractions...PN Hoffman/Struever Bros. Eccles & Rouseplan to invest \$800 million to turn a concrete-heavy product of 1960s urban renewal... [slide show]-Washington Post

Wow factor revisited: John Prescott has praised its bold vision. Fred Redwood assesses Newhall in Essex...a development by the idealist Moen family...the emphasis is on architecture, sustainability and community-building...The result is bold and not for the architecturally fainthearted.- The Times (UK)

Realising one man's capital idea: It is the dream of one architect that Plymouth should be ranked among Europe's top cities... a grand vision for the Devon city's landscape. — David Mackay/MBM- BBC (UK)

University of Chicago has \$100 million idea to raise arts profile: ...holding a design competition for the still-unfunded project among five architectural heavyweights... -- Daniel Libeskind; Hans Hollein; Fumihiko Maki; Thom Mayne/Morphosis; Tod Williams Billie Tsien- Chicago Tribune

Westfield mall is mix, mismatch: If there's such a thing as elegant chaos, that's the goal at the new \$450 million San Francisco Centre slapped down in the heart of San Francisco...give the architects and developers credit. They've created a carnival of consumerism that won't go stale too soon. John King -- RTKL; Kohn Pederson Fox; Ka Architecture- San Francisco Chronicle

Cleveland State University settles on student-center architect: After six months of up and down negotiations, CSU finally has hired New York architect Charles Gwathmey to design a new, \$33 million student center. By Steven Litt -- Gwathmey Siegel; Braun & Steidl-Cleveland Plain Dealer

Adrian Smith leaves Skidmore, Owings & Merrill to start firm...will remain a design consultant to Skidmore. "It's a friendly separation"... By Blair Kamin- Chicago Tribune

Spirituality in stone: As Canterbury cathedral calls for restoration funds, Jonathan Glancey says the awesome building stands as a rebuke to the crassness of modern life...any money diverted from this developers' and devil's game into the stones of Canterbury must be a good thing.- Guardian (UK)

Stirling Prize Shortlist Shows Strength of British Architects -- Richard Rogers; Caruso St. John; Michael Hopkins; David Adjaye; Zaha Hadid-Bloomberg News

There's more truth in home, sweet home than you think: "The Architecture of Happiness," Alain de Botton's erudite and readable treatise on the aesthetics of architecture...We should demand more from our built world, and from the architects who foist their designs upon us.- San Francisco Chronicle

U-R-E is O-U-T: Hanley Wood buys Architecture and Architectural Lighting magazines as it readies for launch of Architect- ArchNewsNow

Report from IDSA 06: Elements of Change (and architecture)- ArchNewsNow

Extension: Rem Koolhaas/OMA: Milstein Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
Renzo Piano Building Workshop/Beyer Blinder Belle: Morgan Library & Museum, New YorkCity

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