

Today's News - November 27, 2006

It's a Koolhaas kind of day: ArcSpace brings us OMA in Seoul. – Time names him a hero. – Saffron finds an icy heart in his CCTV HQ. – Kamin reassesses IIT McCormick Center: "Bones outweigh blemishes." – GSA backtracks/sidesteps traditionalists vs. modernists controversy (perhaps). – Cities compete for hipness factor. – New study shows the 'burbs make people friendlier. – Strategic thinking gets UniverCity community up and running (but "Arthur was not amused."). – Creative housing for a state's aging population. – New Swedish embassy in Washington, DC, "sets an admirable example...as a few other embassy buildings have done." – Ouroussoff assesses engineering magician Balmond's steps into architecture. – Mayne's courthouse in Eugene is the "most architecturally important new building in Oregon in decades." – Heathcote lunches with Rogers, and finds houses by emerging architects "a fascinating snapshot of an extremely rich moment in architecture." – Campbell finds RISD library like "fresh architectural wine poured into an old bottle." – Betsy has big plans for Cincinnati skyline. – A secret nuclear war bunker in Germany will have new life as a museum.

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[OMA/Rem Koolhaas: Seoul National University Museum, Seoul, South Korea](#)

[60 Years of Heroes: Rem Koolhaas: The Dutch architect and urban visionary spotted a wealth of potential in our congested cities...The architect is tying buildings into very interesting knots. By Richard Lacayo- Time Europe](#)

[For China, a huge, icy landmark: ...there's no denying that Koolhaas and Scheeren have created thrilling new forms for a new kind of city. But it appears to be a city that only the coldest hearts will long to inhabit. By Inga Saffron -- Office of Metropolitan Architectur/OMA: Balmond/Arup- Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

[Critical Reversals: Time alters perspective on Koolhaas: Even if some of the IIT McCormick Tribune Campus Center's details are less than perfect, the building in its entirety has turned out to be a great success...Bones outweigh blemishes. By Blair Kamin -- Rem Koolhaas- Chicago Tribune](#)

[GSA Promotes 18-Year Veteran To Position of Chief Architect: ...selected Leslie Shepherd, an 18-year employee and acting chief architect for the past 20 months...Thomas Gordon Smith...given a "federal architectural fellowship" with the agency. By Alex Frangos- Wall Street Journal](#)

[U.S. purchasing agency picks modernist as chief architect: In a move likely to upset traditionalists, cheer modernists and widen the gulf between them, the U.S. General Services Administration \(GSA\) has bypassed classicist Thomas Gordon Smith for its influential chief architect post and instead has chosen Les Shepherd, a veteran architect at the agency. By Blair Kamin- Chicago Tribune](#)

[Cities Compete in Hipness Battle to Attract Young: ...what works in one city will not work in others...not all young people are looking for the same things.- New York Times](#)

[Where to hear 'Hi, neighbor!': in the suburbs: ...a study of 15,000 Americans, economist Jan Brueckner found that suburban living is better for people's social life than city dwelling. The less crowded a neighborhood is, the friendlier its residents become, the report says.- Los Angeles Times](#)

['Arthur was not amused': Breaking with a theme laid down for Simon Fraser University by master designer Arthur Erickson, Michael Geller has used strategic thinking to get the UniverCity community up and running. By Trevor Boddy- Globe and Mail \(Canada\)](#)

[Creative Housing Ideas for an Aging Population: ...dozens of Rhode Island developments designed to address the needs of the state's aging population.- New York Times](#)

[House of Sweden, a Multifunctional Space With a Sense of Place: ...undeniably shines, even without quite becoming stellar architecture...sets an admirable example for building design in the nation's capital, just as a few other embassy buildings have done. By Roger K. Lewis -- Gert Wingardh/Tomas Hansen \[image\]- Washington Post](#)

[An Engineering Magician, Then \(Presto\) He's an Architect: Cecil Balmond taught architects to defy gravity. Can a master engineer defy expectation? By Nicolai Ouroussoff -- Arup; Stirling; Johnson; Koolhaas; Libeskind; Siza; Ito \[images, slide show\]- New York Times](#)

[Ribbons for Lady Justice: Go see it. Without question, it \[Wayne Morse Federal Courthouse\] is the most architecturally important new building in Oregon in decades. By Randy Gragg -- Thom Mayne/Morphosis- The Oregonian](#)

[Lunch with the FT: Richard Rogers. By Edwin Heathcote- Financial Times \(UK\)](#)

[Small but beautifully formed: The house...has proved such an enduringly popular type of entry into The Architectural Review's Awards for Emerging Architecture...The quality and depth of these entries create a fascinating snapshot of an extremely rich moment in architecture... By Edwin Heathcote -- Boyd Cody; Bau/Kultur; Sou Fujimoto; Yuko Nagayama & Associates; Zosei Architecture; WOHA Architects; Dorte Mandrup Arkitekter- Financial Times \(UK\)](#)

[Banking on a modest renovation: Fleet building is converted into a RISD library: How do you pour fresh architectural wine into an old bottle? By Robert Campbell -- York and](#)

[Sawyer \(1922\); Office dA](#)- Boston Globe

[New museum is in his hands: Building expertise big factor in choice: He hopes to change the skyline of Cincinnati. Aaron Betsky, the new director of the Cincinnati Art Museum...](#)- Cincinnati Enquirer

[In Vineyards, a German 'Dr. Strangelove' Secret: The German government broke ground on a project to turn a secret nuclear war bunker into a museum.](#)- New York Times

[National Underground Railroad Freedom Center: In Cincinnati, A riverfront museum embodies the geography of escape. By John Meadows, AIA -- Blackburn Architects; BOORA Architects \[images\]](#)- ArchNewsNow

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