

Today's News - Monday, May 21, 2007

ArcSpace brings us lots of images of Holl's Nelson-Atkins addition(s). – Kennicott almost runs out of superlatives for the project ("the art feels happy in it"). – Could we get any greener? NYT Magazine devotes entire issue to "eco-tecture." – Ouroussoff explores why "Europe gets it" when it comes to building green. – Hosey takes on "green bling" and "Birkenstock architecture." – Sydney Designbuild conference to focus on green building. – Szenasy looks at what designing for living in deep space can teach us about living on Earth. – Historic preservation and modernity in Manila try to find a balance (façadectomy, anyone?). – For Hume, density should not a dirty word. – A "poster child for smart growth" coming to Connecticut. – Harvard GSD students come up with "101 Urban Salvations." – Trying to control McMansions (a.k.a. "starter castles, beltway baronials, mini Taj Mahals," and "parachute homes" that look "like they were dropped from the sky"). – An Australian planning minister opposes "housing obesity" (unless it's his own). – Seattle's Olympic Sculpture Park is "rich, complex, and aptly metaphorical." – Saffron sings high praise for Urban Outfitters' new HQ. – Czech National Library design under fire: winning design didn't play by the rules. – A long look at Libeskind: "the ghosts that haunt him, the critics that dog him" and "she to whom 'No' cannot be said." – Suspicious fire aboard Cutty Sark, "one of Britain's best-preserved maritime treasures." – Two we couldn't resist: Grand Canyon Skywalk an expensive disappointment. – Baghdad's U.S. Embassy: gargantuan (and just about the only thing that's been built on time and on budget).

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[Steven Holl Architects: Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, Missouri](#)

[This Bright Idea Is a Glowing Achievement: ...Nelson-Atkins unveiling a \\$196 million project by a controversial architect \[when\] the museum world is thinking hard about the virtues of celebrity architecture....a bold move forward in the endless argument about how to expand or add onto older buildings. By Philip Kennicott -- Steven Holl; BNIM \[images\]- Washington Post](#)

[Eco-Tecture: The Accidental Environmentalist: Shigeru Ban makes buildings that waste nothing. Just don't call him green -- The Road to Curitiba...visionary architect-mayor, Jaime Lerner -- An Eco-House for the Future: Diller Scofidio + Renfro show how sustainability can have style -- The Native Builder: Glenn Murcutt is designing houses that reimagine the woolshed -- Calling Mr. Green: Q&A with William McDonough; and more... \[images\]- New York Times Magazine](#)

[Why Are They Greener Than We Are? When it comes to designing buildings that are good for the environment, Europe gets it. By Nicolai Ouroussoff -- Sauerbruch Hutton; UNStudio; Norman Foster; Sarah Wigglesworth/Jeremy Till; MVRDV; Neutelings Riedijk; Mayne/Morphosis \[slide show\]- New York Times](#)

[Visible Green: At the root of performance is form...Certain building components...have become trendy, often independently of whether these features make sense for a project...KieranTimberlake Associates call such superficial sustainability "green bling." By Lance Hosey -- Foster + Partners; Grimshaw; Waugh Thistleton; Arup \[images\]- Architect Magazine](#)

[2007 Designbuild focuses on green building: ...will not only be the largest trade-only building and design industries show ever held in Sydney, it will also be the most eco-friendly with a major focus on sustainability...June 3-6- Infolink \(Australia\)](#)

[Space-Age Wisdom: What extreme environments designed for keeping humans alive in space can teach us about living on Earth. By Susan S. Szenasy -- Constance Adams; Jamie Drake; Kitty Hawks \[images\]- Metropolis Magazine](#)

[Preservation, modernity come together in Manila: ...owners of the Galaxy, one of the few surviving buildings designed by National Artist Pablo Antonio Sr., intend to construct a 22-story condominium on the site...NCCA is anxious that the Galaxy theater, or at least its facade, is preserved. -- National Commission for Culture and the Arts; Pablo Antonio Sr. \(1930s\)- Philippine Daily Inquirer](#)

[Density is not a scary word: It's not just the traffic, the price of gas and the waste of land, it's the environment, stupid....Places to Grow Act will radically alter growth in these parts. By Christopher Hume- Toronto Star](#)

[In Stamford, a Plan to Rebuild an Area and Build an Advantage: A new development project plans to turn South End into a people-friendly destination while preserving some of its historical structures..."a poster child for smart growth"...- New York Times](#)

[Harvard Graduate School of Design \(GSD\) students troubleshoot local problems: 'Elemental, redemptive' thinking produces..."101 Urban Salvations." The intensive studio project proposes visionary solutions for Cambridge...- Harvard Gazette](#)

[Living Larger, and Drawing Fire: More suburbs are passing laws that dictate when a big house is too big.- New York Times](#)

[Planning Minister Justin Madden says "housing obesity" is not so good for the environment. Too big is too bad, but look at his house. \[links\]- Herald Sun \(Australia\)](#)

[Zorro-like Audacity: Weiss/Manfredi's Olympic Sculpture Park boldly reconnects Seattle to its long-neglected waterfront...While flawed as an art experience, the park succeeds as a public place...landscape plan is rich, complex, and aptly metaphorical. -- Charles Anderson Landscape Architecture-](#) Metropolis Magazine

[A Stitch in Time: MS&R Architects' unusual adaptation of five historic industrial buildings made the move of Urban Outfitters' headquarters from downtown Philadelphia to its decommissioned navy yard a seamless one. By Inga Saffron \[images\]-](#) Metropolis Magazine

[Slippery Kaplický unveils his octopus: Whether futuristic architect Jan Kaplický's octopus-shaped National Library ever gets built or not, its design has already provoked some disturbing imagery. -- Future Systems: HŠH architekti-](#) Czech Business Weekly

[Inside the Crystal, outside the box: Daniel Libeskind talks to Michael Posner about the ghosts that haunt him, the critics that dog him, the work that inspires him, and the woman who's been at his side every step of the way-](#) Globe and Mail (Canada)

[Cutty Sark blaze 'suspicious': Police are treating as suspicious a fire that engulfed the Cutty Sark, one of Britain's best-preserved maritime treasures, early today. \[images, links\]-](#) The Times (UK)

[Great Space, Glass Floor-Through, Canyon Views: The Grand Canyon Skywalk...will end up paying for itself if it keeps fulfilling that promise of amusement park vertigo....The Hualapai tribe's repackaging of the natural world seems uninspired, hasty, expensive.-](#) New York Times

[One building that's been built on time and on budget in Iraq: America's fortress embassy. Vatican-sized bomb-proof structure to cost £300m/\\$592m...will cover 104 acres \(42 hectares\) of land \[image\]-](#) Guardian (UK)

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