Today's News - Tuesday, July 10, 2007

We lose an architect and beloved mentor to many. – Building codes rising to meet high-rise chalenges. – Dyckhoff adores (and disses) the 10 tallest building projects. – Another London tower (Viñoly's "Walkie Talkie") gets the green light. – A San Diego tower tones down the innuendo. – A "not a very healthy trend" in city building in "glassy, gaudy" Gurgaon, India. – Can Gehl quell Times Square? – A call to make LEED-Cl work for small businesses. – Modemists, Brutalists, and Art Nouveau masters under threat in Chicago, Wisconsin, and Malta. – Gardner takes on Meier's "Modemist bearings." – McGuigan queries MacKay-Lyons about his "renewed modemism." – Art Institute of Chicago makeover: rethinking a masterpiece. – Saitowitz cooks up a museum for Tampa (a city not known for "sophisticated architectural preferences"). – Enough with process - St. Louis wants to see "bold" design for its new museum. – Chicago's new hottest name in architecture. – How could we resist a Glass House guessing game!

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Obituary: Norman K. Dorf: ...architect...involved in preparing students for architecture exams [ARE].- Princeton Packet

High-Rise Safety, International Codes, and Tall Buildings: Rising to Meet the Challenge. By Barbara A. Nadel, FAIA — International Code Council (ICC); Intl. Building Code (IBC); National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)- Buildings.com

The world's most ambitious projects: They're big and bizarre and bold and...All are impressive. Most are gargantuan. A few are ugly as sin. But some are actually rather good. And all are going to change architecture, and the world, as we know it. By Tom Dyckhoff — Herzog & De Meuron; Heneghan Peng; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Gehry; Foster; Hadid; Koolhaas/Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA); Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF); Maki; Rogers Stirk Harbour; Calatrava; Libeskind [slide show]-The Times (UK)

'Walkie Talkie' gets go ahead: UNESCO and other campaigners such as English Heritage argued that the construction of the 'Walkie Talkie' and other skyscrapers was damaging London's historic skyline... -- Rafael Viñoly- Telegraph (UK)

Designer will 'tone down' tower over criticism: Consultant had called structure 'very phallic': They say beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and two beholders...have very different views of a 40-story residential tower proposed at a gateway to downtown San Diego. — C.W. Kim [image]- San Diego Union-Tribune

Glassy, gaudy Gurgaon: Misguided attempts to ape the West have robbed Gurgaon of local aesthetics or any individual character...looks nothing like a normal Indian city..."It is not a very healthy trend"... — Bhatt/Architecture Discipline; Bhardwaj/Design and Development; Hafeez Contractor- Rediff India

Auto-matic proposal: International urban whiz would ban cars in Times Square: NYC Department of Transportation wants to hire as a consultant Jan Gehl...to help prepare a citywide master plan, part of Bloomberg's plaNYC initiative.- NY Daily News

Innovations: Between a ---- and a hard place: ...for many small businesses, the cost premium for LEED-CI is significant and unmanageable...How big of an opportunity is the USGBC missing by not having the LEED-CI system work for smaller, creative-services firms that are most likely to consider green remodeling?- Sustainable Industries Journal

Modernist buildings in danger of being lost: Many (though certainly not all)...are tough to love...a sign of how the preservation movement has added new arrows to its quiver...lf you can't raise hell, you can at least raise consciousness. By Blair Kamin — Edward Dart (1965); Perkins & Will (1963); Philip Johnson; Preserve the Modern; DoCoMoMo-Chicago Tribune

UW-Madison building stirs contempt: ...George L. Mosse Humanities Building, the most maligned structure on campus...officials can hardly wait to knock it down...prompting an architectural backlash to preserve the building, done in the Brutalist style. -- Harry Weese [image, link]- Wisconsin State Journal

Will the rape of Sliema continue? It's Art Nouveau's turn now...Two of the most significant and beautiful houses...will bite the bust if two applications...go through...Flats and garages will go up in their stead. -- Gustav Vincenti; Giuseppe Psaila; Andrea Vassallo- Malta Independent

Meier's Modernist Bearings: Richard Meier is such an accomplished architect that, even when not at his best, he still deserves our closest attention. A case in point is One Prospect Park in Brooklyn... By James Gardner- New York Sun

Revisiting Modernism: Some contemporary architects are eschewing the extravagant, explosive forms and aiming instead for modest buildings with a sense of light and landscape. Q&A with Brian MacKay-Lyons...a leader of this "renewed modernism." By Cathleen McGuigan-Newsweek

Rethinking a masterpiece: Touring the Art Institute of Chicago with one of its lead redesigners -- Kulapat Yantrasast/Workshop Hakomori Yantrasast (wHY); Renzo Piano;

Tadao Ando; Vinci Hamp- Chicago Tribune

The art's inside, not out: That's the clear vision of architect Stanley Saitowitz and his design for the new Tampa Museum of Art. His philosophy: function, then form...He is serenely confident that he can deliver a new museum that is palatable to a community not known for sophisticated architectural preferences...- St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

St. Louis museum design will be 'bold': ...there have been four "community conversations" about the design process. A fifth was scheduled for spring but was canceled...because the public said it had had enough of process and wanted to see a design. By David Bonetti -- David Chipperfield- St. Louis Post-Dispatch

No small plans for city's hot architects: How an obscure firm became the hottest name in Chicago architecture -- Krueck & Sexton [slide show]- Crain's Chicago Business

An Architectural Record Contest: The Philip Johnson Glass House Guessing Game: ...identify as many guests as possible...at 1974 Glass House 25th birthday picnic; deadline: August 15 [images]- Architectural Record

- -- Construction start: Asymptote Architecture: 166 Perry Street, New York, NY
 -- Competition winner: Erick van Egeraat: Tatarstan National Library, Kazan, Republic of Tatarstan
- -- Announcement: arcspace + Second Life

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