

Today's News - Monday, August 20, 2007

ArcSpace brings us Corbu in Tokyo, and takes us to its new island of cubes in Second Life. – Fresno's Native American heritage inspires a library of the future. – A look at the "stark disconnect" between what architects and planners are taught and what they need to learn to do. – A call for architects to "get down in the ditches." – An insightful (and often amusing) look at what some (star)architects really think of competitions. – Farrelly pleads to leave some frills: "the useful can, sometimes, include the unpurposeful." – Goldhagen offers a chilling account of why's of America's failing infrastructure (a must-read!). – A new ethos needed in the way engineers are educated to turn bridges into "safe, economical and beautiful landmarks worth maintaining." – Ambassadors wanted for Royal Academy's London Engineering Project. – Kamin offers in in-depth look at Chicago's unprecedented reach for the sky. – Kaplan on L.A.'s growing "urbanphobia." – Is Myrtle Beach ready for New Urbanism? – A nautical aesthetic informs a permanent solution to the problem of temporary housing in London. – Gould offers kudos for a Walgreens that eludes corporate sameness (and hopes for it to become a trend). – Now all the fanfare has died down, Orange County Performing Arts Center buckles down to litigation. – Winery architecture goes big name big-time to "encourage highbrow tasting tourism." – A look at the earliest mega-projects of Malaysia: great buildings "using just local brains." – Call for entries: International Competition for Birbeck Island and Pier in Weston-super-Mare.

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[-- Exhibition: Le Corbusier: Art and Architecture - A Life of Creativity, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo](#)

[-- New location: arcspace Virtual Community, Second Life on our own island and our members are taking over the cubes in the new grid.](#)

[Henry Madden Library at California State University, Fresno: A new campus library looks to the future while embodying Fresno's Native American and agricultural heritage.](#)
[-- AC Martin Partners: RMJM Hillier \[images\]- ArchNewsNow](#)

[Architects aren't ready: There is a stark disconnect between where architects are being trained and where the challenges lie...Solutions may lie in revising academic curricula to ensure that planning and architecture students are forced to embrace the needs of the poorest in their thinking.](#)- International Herald Tribune

[Best architects get down in the ditches: Understanding construction challenges can make for a better project...a person entrusted with designing an entire building should have at least a passing knowledge of how that building will be put together.](#) By Aroel Gellner (Inman News)- Mortgage101.com

[Ready, Set, Design: Work as a Contest: Who doesn't like an architecture competition? Well, lots of architects.](#) By Robin Pogrebin -- Charles Gwathmey; Renzo Piano; Peter Eisenman; Thom Mayne/Morphosis; Richard Meier; Rem Koolhaas; Jean Nouvel; Herzog & de Meuron; Andrew Whalley/Grimshaw; Michael Maltzan; Richard Rogers; Pelli Clarke Pelli; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Michael Arad; Frank Gehry; Tod Williams Billie Tsien; Norman Foster- New York Times

[Cut, cut but leave some fat: Frugalism is set to become the new morality; waste the new sin. Which should make the minimalist flavour of contemporary architecture...also the way of the future. But there's a fly in this ointment...the useful can, sometimes, include the unpurposeful.](#) By Elizabeth Farrelly- Sydney Morning Herald

[American Collapse: Is It Already Too Late For America's Infrastructure? ...Infrastructure is one crucial point at which politics and architecture merge...The ASCE's report...reveals a shocking national indifference to the maintenance, upgrading, and creative reconceptualization of our own infrastructure.](#) By Sarah Williams Goldhagen -- Richard Burdett; Frances Halsband/Kliment & Halsband; Duany Plater-Zyberk; CNU; Koolhaas; James Comer/Field Operations; Weiss/Manfredi [pdf]- SarahWilliamsGoldhagen.com

[Op-Ed: One Bridge Doesn't Fit All: The goal of good bridge design is to integrate efficiency, economy and elegance in a single design. Few bridges built over the last century have achieved this.](#) By David P. Billington -- Robert Maillart; Christian Menn- New York Times

[Ambassadors sought to promote engineering to ethnic minorities: Royal Academy's London Engineering Project is searching for professionals to get kids considering the profession as a career.](#) - Building (UK)

[How to build today's supertalls: Elegance, not machismo, is behind Chicago's unprecedented reach for the sky.](#) By Blair Kamin -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Santiago Calatrava; R. Shankar Nair/Teng; Adrian Smith; Cesar Pelli/Thornton Tomasetti [links, slide shows, videos]- Chicago Tribune

[Beware of Urbanphobia: NIMBYism Rears Its Head in the Arts District...self-interest can be as pervasive Downtown as in other Los Angeles neighborhoods.](#) By Sam Hall Kaplan- LA Downtown News

[Developers sell their strolls: Builders talk the talk; will residents walk the walk?...The Market Common...promises to turn a barren section of the former Myrtle Beach Air Force Base into a multitude of homes and shops, with beautiful parks and underground utilities, a paradise built for walking. -- Joe Antunovich \[images\]- The Sun News \(Myrtle Beach, SC\)\)](#)

[Transition zone: Peter Barber Architects' extension to a hostel in south London is a permanent solution to the problem of temporary housing -- and a means to change lives. \[images\]- RIBA Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Kudos to Milwaukee for insisting on a better Walgreens: So how did the east side Walgreens elude corporate sameness? The short answer: The city insisted on better design... By Whitney Gould -- Albion Group \[image\]- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#)

[Suit is filed over concert hall: Orange County Performing Arts Center \(OCPAC\) blames the new Segerstrom venue's architect, builder and subcontractors for cost overruns and flaws it calls unfixable. -- Pelli Clarke Pelli; Fluor; Peter Walker and Partners- Los Angeles Times](#)

[Quixote Winery's Gold Dome, Rooftop Trees Shake Up Napa Design: Winery architecture is going big-time in part to brand wineries and encourage highbrow tasting tourism... -- Friedensreich Hundertwasser; Michael Graves; Renzo Piano; Frank Gehry; Norman Foster- Bloomberg News](#)

[The proud first 10: Could Stadium Merdeka be a better symbol of national architecture than KLCC? A book and exhibition look at the earliest mega-projects of Malaysia..."Building Merdeka: Independence Architecture in Kuala Lumpur, 1957-1966"...yes, we can build great things at down-to-earth prices using just local brains. -- Datuk Baharuddin Kassim; Stanley Jewkes; Ho Kok Hoe; Datuk Kington Loo- The Star \(Malaysia\)](#)

[Call for entries: Urban Splash International Competition: Birbeck Island and Pier in Weston-super-Mare; deadline: November 9- RIBA International Architecture Competition](#)

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