

## Today's News - Wednesday, May 7, 2008

- Is globalization making authentic architecture no longer a valid?
- Big change in rail plans may scuttle Sydney's integrated transport and housing plans.
- Dunster takes on a "post-oil" community.
- Farrelly's take on the "Stonehenge Syndrome" that can "produce some interesting architecture...But it does nothing for your connection with nature."
- A call for NYC (and elsewhere?) to create an environmental agency that can outlive political term limits.
- Voelz Chandler wonders if Denver's Take Five Environmental Pledge is just window dressing.
- An eyeful of eco buildings on view until Saturday at Grand Designs Live London.
- van Ryzin finds Austin's reborn performing arts center "common-sense elegance and fun, a sharp rethinking of what design and architecture can do - must do - to remain relevant."
- Dillon says Dallas Pavilion Project proves that "the small and fragile parts of the city are as important as the arenas and skyscrapers."
- European 9 winner finally picked.
- A Boston star heads to University of Michigan.
- FOA revolutionizes retail design.
- A profile of Fobert: "one of architecture's bright sparks."
- Searle is a bit snarky about 5 proposals for Ebbsfleet Landmark: "a bloody big sculpture on a hillside to make people remember where it is." - An eyeful of just what he's talking about.
- Two takes (and pix) on V&A's upcoming "Cold War Modern: Design 1945-70" show.
- Two we couldn't resist: Hadid's ultimate toy: a \$344,000 slide. - Vote for the world's top public intellectuals (Koolhaas on the ballot - who has also been named one of Time magazine's 100 Most Influential People in the World).

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[Authentic architecture addresses social and economic differences: The world has adapted many of what have become the archetypes of design...to the point that it is difficult to tell by architecture alone the regional context a project may have...implies that authentic architecture is no longer a valid ambition within the notion of globalization. By Andrew Wach, FRAIC- Journal of Commerce \(Vancouver\)](#)

[Metro throws Sydney's big plan on its head: Years of careful planning to link Sydney's housing, transport and employment hubs has been jettisoned by the decision to abandon a heavy rail line...and replace it with an independent metro line...has scuttled the integrated transport and housing policies ...says the Planning Institute of Australia.- Sydney Morning Herald](#)

[Dunster to drive Transition Town development: Eco architect to team up with 'post-oil' community to develop zero carbon housing and a factory for production of components for his RuralZED houses in Totnes...an eight-acre brownfield site...Called the Atmos Project, it will be a mixed use scheme...- Building \(UK\)](#)

[Love's killing the country soundtrack: Conserving nature by stopping us touching it erodes the very sense of authenticity that urges us to keep it in the first place. Call this Stonehenge Syndrome. It can produce some interesting architecture...But it does nothing for your connection with nature. By Elizabeth Farrelly- Sydney Morning Herald](#)

[Op-Ed: If Climate's The Question, Is Sticky the Answer? All NYC's designated climate office can do is give advice in case things don't work out well...ought to create a Board of Sustainability and Climate Change...should be given the ultimate responsibility and oversight powers for achieving PlaNYC's 30x30 goals, and should have the longevity to guard against backsliding. By Nancy Anderson, Ph.D.- The Sallan Foundation](#)

[Green nation wants it all: Sure, save the Earth but leave my shower alone...My face is turning green from hearing and reading the word green...Take Five Environmental Pledge is nice but verges on window dressing. By Mary Voelz Chandler- Rocky Mountain News \(Denver\)](#)

[Grand Designs Live London, May 3-11, is showcasing several ecobuildings: ...include Eco Hab \(Eco Pod\), No 1 Carbon Drive, the Log House Company and the Clear House. Kevin McCloud is in the process of building his ecohouse which should be completed by Friday. \[slide show\]- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Long on character: With plenty of material from '50s-built dome, arts center boasts 21st-century look. Long Center for the Performing Arts...absolutely, utterly distinct...speaks to a certain kind of common-sense elegance and fun, a sharp rethinking of what design and architecture can do — must do — to remain relevant. — By Jeanne Claire van Ryzin — Stan Haas/Nelsen Partners Architects \[slide show\]- Austin American-Statesman \(Texas\)](#)

[New pavilions in Dallas parks display ambitious civic architecture: ...Dallas Pavilion Project is making a...statement: that the small and fragile parts of the city are as important as the arenas and skyscrapers. By David Dillon — Frank Welch; Ron Wommack; Oglesby Greene; Laguarda,Low; Rand Elliott; Edward Baum; BRW \[slide show\]- Dallas Morning News](#)

[Winner finally unveiled for Sheffield's European site: The fate of the undecided Sheffield Skye Edge site in the European 9 contest has finally been settled...In January, the jury in the CABE-backed housing competition failed to find an outright victor for the hillside plot... — Prewett Bizley Architects \[image\]- The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Monica Ponce de Leon Appointed New Dean of the A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning... — Office dA- University of Michigan](#)

[Foreign Office Architects' John Lewis department store in Leicester: Great Drapes: ...has revolutionised retail design by wearing its curtains department on the outside. Martin Spring admires the stitching. \[images\]- Building \(UK\)](#)

[Head space: Architect Jamie Fobert: ...one of architecture's bright sparks, and boasts Givenchy and Antony Gormley among his clients. He talks to Rob Sharp about his philosophy and his current projects- Independent \(UK\)](#)

['Contemporary art, blown up and stuck in a field': Adrian Searle takes an early look at the five proposals for the Ebbsfleet Landmark...Ebbsfleet is going to be connected. It is going to be green. What it also needs is an identity, and a bloody big sculpture on a hillside to make people remember where it is. - Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Images unveiled for Ebbsfleet Valley landmark: 50m-high winning design will be built at Springhead Park, one of the first areas of the proposed 10,000 home development to be built. Costing £2 million, the landmark is intended to help establish a presence for the scheme in the Thames Gateway. – Rachel Whiteread; Mark Wallinger; Christopher Le Brun; Daniel Buren; Richard Deacon- The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Competing cold war visions of the future revealed: Sputniks, space suits, an early coupe form of the Trabant and a full-scale reconstruction of a futuristic inflatable building will all be on show at the Victoria and Albert \(V&A\) Museum's autumn exhibition."Cold War Modern: Design 1945-70" – Le Corbusier; Buckminster Fuller; Eric Bedford; Haus-Rucker-Co; Karel Hubacek \[slide show\]- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Kitchen-sink diplomacy: "Cold War Modern"...aims to remind us that design and aesthetics, just as surely as nuclear missiles, were essential elements in the battle between the postwar superpowers. - Financial Times \(UK\)](#)

[Zaha Hadid Makes Pricey Toy: ...a 175,000-pound \(\\$344,000\) slide...limited-edition, chromium-coated, high-density polystyrene toy for millionaire boys will be part of an exhibition that explores the theme of play..."Artists' Playground" \[image\]- Bloomberg News](#)

[Vote for the world's top public intellectuals – Rem Koolhaas- Prospect magazine \(UK\)](#)



[-- Construction start: UNStudio: Five Franklin Place, New York City](#)  
[-- Studio Granda: Hof Residence, Skakafjörður fjord, Iceland](#)

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