

Today's News - Thursday, July 17, 2008

- A congressman and a former governor on why Americans want (and need) "more and better options" in how they live and get around.
- Kaplan on the "guarded optimism" surrounding grand plans for L.A.'s Dodger Stadium (at least they're not tearing it down).
- Pushy or not, L.A.'s Eli Broad is the one "most likely to save notable architecture from poor financial planning."
- Rose on a TV show set in Baltimore that "gives you the measure of a real city that can trace many of its problems back to its architecture, or rather the failure of its architecture."
- Hawthorne visits the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, and finds it "something of an anti-monument" (though certainly not all the architects' fault).
- Pity the plans for U.K.'s eco-towns: first, they're in the wrong places; second, loopholes could have them generating more pollution than most existing properties.
- A Cleveland firm throws its weight behind saving Breuer's Ameritrust building.
- The Louvre's bold new Islamic wing will sport an undulating roof like "a headscarf blown in by the wind."
- A theatrical indoor garden gateway and new "micro-park" for NYC's Lincoln Center.
- An eyeful of FXFowle's Dubai Bridge (it won't block views to Zaha's opera house).
- Lin's Vancouver Land Bridge ready for its close-up.
- Lond mayor blasted for scrapping Parliament Square plans (but he promises something will be done).
- Landscape architecture at the Venice Biennale will transform a long-neglected corner of the city.
- Winners all: Australia's Premier's Design Awards. - I.D. 2008 Annual Design Review winners (lots of pix and on view in NYC). - North American Copper in Architecture Awards sparkle plenty.

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[Op-Ed: Americans Demand More and Better Options: Former Maryland Governor Parris N. Glendening says that Americans are tired of feeling like victims and are ready for innovative changes in how they live and get around. -- Smart Growth Leadership Institute- PLANetizen](#)

[Op-Ed: Taking Action for 'More and Better Options': Congressman Earl Blumenauer is doing more than responding to Gov. Glendening's calling for more and better options -- he's also introducing legislation to do just that. - PLANetizen](#)

[Op-Ed: Ups and Downs in Dodger Town: LA's Dodgerland stadium-cum-mall is crying out for mass transit...ambitious \\$500 million proposal...has been greeted with guarded optimism...down-and-dirty concern of how people are supposed to get to the new, improved, and pricey stadium, if not by private car. By Sam Hall Kaplan -- Johnson Fain; Rios Clementi Hale; HKS \[image\]- The Architect's Newspaper \(NYC\)](#)

[Ultimate Collector: Eli Broad wields his vast fortune like a blunt instrument -- buying art, hiring architects, and shaping L.A. through a mix of civic vision and force of will...Suburban sprawl may be the foundation of his \\$7 billion fortune...but the savvy that got him there has enabled him to become the philanthropist most likely to save notable architecture from poor financial planning. -- Renzo Piano; Pei Cobb Freed; Coop Himmelb\(l\)au; Mayne/Morphosis; Palladino/Richard Meier & Partners; Gehry Partners; Arata Isozaki \[slide show\]- Metropolis Magazine](#)

[Great town for a shootout: The Wire is bursting with fabulous characters - but the biggest star is the architecture...the opposite of escapism. It gives you the measure of an entire city, a real city - one that can trace many of its problems back to its architecture, or rather the failure of its architecture. By Steve Rose- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[The U.S. Embassy in Berlin: The architects had their hands full with security concerns, German building codes, a slashed budget and a desire to fit into the neighborhood. And it shows...the complicated history of urbanism in Berlin, the troubled state of U.S. embassy design and the pitfalls of slavishly contextual architecture. By Christopher Hawthorne -- Moore Ruble Yudell- Los Angeles Times](#)

[Eco-towns are in the wrong places, report claims: "Eco Towns and Beyond"...says the government should reconsider its decision to site eco-towns in rural locations only and concentrate on urban extensions with existing planning permissions. -- PRP Architects; Urbed; Design for Homes- The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Ecotown loophole leaves door open for polluters: ...could generate more pollution than most existing properties...there is an escape clause in the building standards for the estimated 100,000 new flats and houses.](#) - Guardian (UK)

[Westlake Reed Leskosky boosts plan to bring back Ameritrust building: ...throwing its weight behind saving the long-vacant Ameritrust banking complex downtown..."We can't leave this as a dark hole."](#) By Steven Litt -- Marcel Breuer (1971)- Cleveland Plain Dealer

[Louvre draws a veil over artistic neglect with bold new Islamic wing: Gallery design reflects secular republic's debate...museum's most daring project since IM Pei created the giant glass pyramid 20 years ago...glass "luminous veil" will "float" above the ground...the undulating roof "a headscarf blown in by the wind" -- Mario Bellini; Rudy Ricciotti \[image\]](#)- Guardian (UK)

[Vibrant Gateway Planned for Lincoln Center Campus: Tod Williams and Billie Tsien have redesigned Harmony Atrium...as a "theatrical garden"...Across from the visitors' center and adjacent to the New York State Theater will be a new "micro-park"... -- Pentagram; Diller Scofidio & Renfro; Beyer Blinder Belle \[images\]](#)- New York Times

[FXFowle Designs World's Largest Spanning Arch Bridge for Dubai: ...\\$800 million project also calls for pedestrian walkways that will be placed underneath the deck to shade walkers from the blazing sun. \[slide show\]](#)- Architectural Record

[Bridge spans highway and time: Vancouver Land Bridge is more than just a way to cross State Route 14...a symbol of the ties forged between local Native Americans and Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. -- Jones & Jones; Maya Lin \[image\]](#)- Daily Journal of Commerce (Oregon)

[Lords blast Boris on Parliament Square: ...Johnson's scrapping of plans to turn Square into a pedestrianised plaza were slammed by members of the House of Lords ...mayor's office...reviewing many of the public realm improvements planned under the 100 Public Spaces project -- has insisted it still plans some redevelopment of the square... -- Hawkins Brown; Vogt; DSDHA-BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Landscape Architecture to Take a Global Spotlight: "Toward Paradise" will transform a long-neglected corner of Venice at this year's Venice Biennale... -- Gustafson Porter; Gustafson Guthrie Nichol- LAND Online \(ASLA\)](#)

[Premier's Design Awards 2008: official exhibition is now open at the Melbourne Museum. -- Minifie Nixon Architects; PHOOEY Architects; McBride Charles Ryan; John Wardle; Robert Simeoni; Six Degrees; ARM \(Ashton Raggatt McDougall\); Carr Design Group; Cunningham Martyn; Eugene Cheah Architects; etc.](#) - State of Design Festival (Australia)

[I.D. 2008 Annual Design Review winners: I.D. Annual Design Review exhibition in the Sheila C. Johnson Design Center at Parsons -- Weiss/Manfredi; Acconci Studio; Office dA; López Rivera Arquitectes; etc. \[images, links\]](#)- I.D. magazine

[North American Copper in Architecture Awards -- Moriyama & Teshima/Griffith Rankin Cook; Ogilvie & Hogg; Les Architectes Desnoyers Mercure/Spencer R. Higgins; Faucher Aubertin Brodeur Gauthier; Costas Kondylis/David Abramson/James Gainfort; Peter L. Gluck; WTW](#)

[Architects/Overland Partners: Desmone & Associates; Westlake Reed Leskosky; Centerbrook Architects; Stephen Antanaros; Booziotis & Company \[images\]](#)- Copper Development Association



-- [Alsop Architects: The Public, West Bromwich, UK](#)
-- [MAD: Erdos Museum, Kang Ba Shi City, Inner Mongolia, China](#)

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