

Today's News - Monday, January 26, 2009

- ArcSpace takes flight with two airports by Alsop and Grimshaw/Arcadis.
- We lose Borges, a Cuban master and "a proponent of one of the island's boldest urban architectural movements."
- Kamin bids adieu to the "age of the architectural icon" and welcomes - with reservations - "a new era of architecture" (a.k.a. infrastructure).
- Blum takes architectural journalists to task for "eventizing" buildings to the detriment of coverage of the slower story of the city (in the Architectural League's very cool new media project).
- Can the Slow Movement help San Francisco cultivate terroir?
- Hume welcomes Livingstone to Toronto - and his "grand idea for the melting economy: renew it by rebuilding cities."
- An eyeful of the new Porsche Museum: a "spectacular piece of architecture" where "fans can worship at the temple of speed."
- King mediates a face-off between two federal buildings that "couldn't be more architecturally different."
- Campbell falls in love with the Woburn Library - "leavened by the risk of ruin" by possible (but much needed) expansion.
- Venturi wants to save his Lieb House by floating it to Long Island (but will they let him use the beach?).
- An eyeful of Hadid's Bucharest tower (but her Warsaw tower gets mothballed).
- A starchitectural shortlist for Eli Broad's new Beverly Hills museum (should we be surprised?).
- It's down to three for Stonehenge visitors center (again).
- Omaha gets a gander at its new baseball stadium design.
- Rawsthorn on the "young, increasingly fashionable discipline of service design."
- Ikemoto's "chic online community" for Sony PlayStation 3.
- Pune-based Benninger wins 'Great Master' lifetime achievement award.
- Schiphol airport names winner of "Create a Barrier of Silence" competition.
- Lots of winners in DETAIL Prize 2009 "Aesthetics and Construction" competition.
- One we couldn't resist: a short letter-to-the-editor about Obama's Inaugural message - and how the crowds on the mall didn't get it - food for thought about a bigger picture.

EDITOR'S NOTE: We welcome a grand new gang of AIA Student (AIAS) members!

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-- SMC Alsop: Stratford DLR Station, London, UK

-- Grimshaw Architects/Arcadis Architecten: Bijlmer ArenA Station, Amsterdam, The Netherlands - ArcSpace

Obituary: Max E. Borges, 90, creator of Havana's famed Tropicana nightclub: ...was also known for having been a proponent of one of the island's boldest urban architectural movements. - Miami Herald

Goodbye, icons; hello, infrastructure: Obama inaugurates a new era of architecture: The age of the architectural icon — that extravagant, exuberant, "wow"-inducing building on a pedestal — is dead, or more precisely, in its death throes. And what will replace it? ...sustainability — and survival. By Blair Kamin -- Gehry; Koolhaas; Hadid; Libeskind; Calatrava- Chicago Tribune

In Praise of Slowness: Thoughts on Writing About the Future of the City: ...the city is slow, and we write too fast...New buildings are treated more as commodities to be consumed, rather than long-living parts of the fabric of the city...Architecture is covered as event rather than as ongoing presence. By Andrew Blum - Urban Omnibus

Not So Slow: can the Slow movement help San Francisco cultivate terroir. [link to features]- LINEonline (AIA/SF)

Fixing our cities: London's colourful former mayor Ken Livingstone arrives in Toronto with a grand idea for the melting economy: renew it by rebuilding cities...as mayors around the world have argued for years, cities are the logical sites for environmental remediation programs, economic recovery schemes and infrastructure renewal plans. By Christopher Hume- Toronto Star

New Porsche Museum Celebrates the Need for Speed: Porsche's new museum in Stuttgart is a spectacular piece of architecture featuring equally spectacular cars. Auto fans can worship at the temple of speed as of Jan. 31. -- Delugan Meissl [slide show]- Der Spiegel (Germany)

Federal buildings face off at 7th and Mission: While they couldn't be more architecturally different, each embodies the priorities of our federal government at a distinct point in time... By John King -- James Knox Taylor (1905); Thom Mayne/Morphosis [images + audio slude show]- San Francisco Chronicle

The thrill of discovery is leavened by the risk of ruin: More than 400 entrants...have registered in a competition to figure out what to do with the Woburn Public Library...Is it possible to add to a building this great without damaging it? By Robert Campbell -- H.H. Richardson (1879)- Boston Globe

Venturi has 10 days to save Barnegat Light creation: ...architect wants to move the 2,000-square-foot Lieb House to Long Island, N.Y., by way of a barge. [image]- The Press of Atlantic City

Zaha Hadid unveils Romanian skyscraper: ...200m-tall tower in Bucharest...Dorobanti Tower will house a 34,000m² 5-star hotel, casino, convention centre, shops and 35,000m² of luxury apartments...not all good news...a 250m-tall tower designed for Warsaw, Poland, was put on hold due to the global financial crisis. [slide show]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

New Broad in Town: Contenders for LA art patron's new museum revealed: ...Eli Broad's new plan for a museum in Beverly Hills...shortlist for an invited competition to design the museum... -- Gensler; Thom Mayne; Jean Nouvel; Shigeru Ban; Rafael Viñoly; Christian de Portzamparc- The Architect's Newspaper

Three in final Stonehenge centre line-up: Two architects behind previous proposals remain in the running -- Edward Cullinan Architects; Denton Corker Marshall; Bennetts Associates- BD/Building Design (UK)

Omaha baseball stadium design unveiled: ...to fit within its context of the downtown entertainment district. -- HOK Sport; HDR Architecture; DLR Group [images]- Building Design & Construction (BD&C)

Creating social solutions for MS patients: What sort of help would you need if you were diagnosed with multiple sclerosis? ...the young, increasingly fashionable discipline of service design can work in practice by tackling a serious social problem...one of the new disciplines that are redefining design... By Alice Rawsthorn -- Live|Work- International Herald Tribune

Architect Designs Sony's Virtual World: When Japanese architect Kenji Ikemoto was tapped to create a virtual public square

for the Sony PlayStation 3, he invented a chic online community [slide show] - BusinessWeek

Pune-based architect wins 'Great Master' lifetime achievement award: His architectural designs have inspired generations of young architects since 1976, when he designed the Alliance Francaise in Ahmedabad. -- Christopher Benninger - Times of India

'Ecobarrier' wins Schiphol "Create a Barrier of Silence" design competition. -- Toine van Goethem [link to images]- Amsterdam Airport Schiphol

DETAIL Prize 2009 "Aesthetics and Construction" awarded in seven categories -- Fam architectura y urbanismo; Kaden + Klingbeil; TNA; Coop Himmelb(l)au; Atelier Kempe Thill; FAR frohn&rojas; Sverre Fehn; OTH/Ontwerpgroep Trude Hooykaas; Takao Shiotsuka Atelier; Bruno Fioretti Marquez Architekten; Ingenhoven Architekten; KieranTimberlake; Sean Godsell [images]- DETAIL (Germany)

Op-Ed: Take responsibility: Pick up trash: Obama's inauguration address was such an eloquent call to individual service...I was saddened to see miles of trash left behind on the Washington Mall grounds for "someone else" to pick up...How grand to have seen a mall left with the sun setting on a new era and the breeze blowing nothing but the winds of change. - Herald-Tribune (Florida)

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