Today's News - Friday, March 13, 2009

- Q&A with Public Architecture co-founders John Peterson and John Cary.
- Irish judge rules integrity of planning process a "vital national interest" bad planning decisions "sentence generations to live with the consequences" (can we clone him?).
- · Some interesting results of a "unique social experiment" for improving energy efficiency and reducing CO2 emissions.
- The Warhol economy: urban policymakers would be wise to pay attention.
- · Architecture students have a hand in new heritage center in the Ozarks.
- · Help wanted: Mayors' Institute on City Design seeks director.
- · A Scottish firm makes its mark on the island Skye.
- · Heathcote's take on Corbu's "obsession" with Eileen Gray's villa, and his "cabanon, a retreat or hut of the most elemental kind."
- · Grand Rapids scales down and goes local for Saarinen exhibition.
- · Lautner crosses the ocean to light up The Lighthouse in Glasgow.
- "Birth of the Cool" lands in Austin: it "strikes a chord, one that is more far-ranging than in-depth, but very cool."
- · Barcelona takes a long look at Rogers & company.
- · Architects and landscape architects design "memory boxes" to explore places of refuge for black travelers during segregation.
- Page turners: "Beyond the Bubble": Japanese architecture should not a be a model for the U.S. -A "groundbreaking book" claims "equitable societies are better for everyone."
- We couldn't resist: NYT circa 1992: "Recession Is Ravaging Architectural Firms." Sears Tower renamed for new tenant (but we wonder if anyone really use new name).
- EDITOR'S NOTE: We're outta here early to catch the Lieb House sail under the Brooklyn Bridge at sunrise happy Friday the 13th!

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Q&A: Public Architecture Co-founders John Peterson and John Cary- ArchNewsNow

Judge says integrity of planning process a "vital national interest": Bad planning decisions "sentence generations to live with the consequences"...rejected application for default planning permission- Irish Times

ippr has published the outcomes of a unique social experiment run by British Gas. Green Streets investigated the potential for improving energy efficiency and reducing CO2 emissions. [links]- Institute for Public Policy Research / ippr (UK)

The Warhol Economy: How cultural drivers are shaping the urban economy: Elizabeth Currid would argue that creative industries...drive the urban economy as much as - if not more than - finance, real estate, and law...Urban policymakers, she suggests, have not only seriously underestimated the importance of the cultural economy... [link to audio]- Institute for Public Policy Research / ippr (UK)

Design Talent Showcased on Museum Project: White River Valley Historical Society in Forsyth, Missouri, is turning to area college students...to preserve a part of the Ozarks history through a new heritage center while giving students at Drury University a lesson. [link to video]- KLOR 10 (Missouri)

Job Opportunity: Mayors' Institute on City Design Seeks Director; application deadline: March 27-American Architectural Foundation

Skye's the limit for designer pads: A Scottish architecture practice is making its mark on the island with its stunning holiday homes and B&Bs. -- Neil and Alasdair Stephen/Dualchas- Guardian (UK)

A modern kind of primitive: One of the strangest stories in modern architecture is that of Le Corbusier's obsession with a villa (modernistically named E 1027) by the Irish designer Eileen Gray...he returned to the site to build himself a cabanon, a retreat or hut of the most elemental kind. ..paradoxical blend of luxurious self-denial characteristic of modernism's great moments. By Edwin Heathcote- Financial Times (UK)

Grand Rapids Art Museum swaps Eero Saarinen architecture exhibit for father's work to save money: A major retrospective...from the Milwaukee Art Museum...will be replaced by a smaller show of work by his father, Eliel Saarinen...from the Cranbrook Art Museum- Grand Rapids Press

Mr Lautner Builds His Dream House: With a new film and major exhibition celebrating his life and work, maverick architect John Lautner's time may finally have come. Paul Dale looks back at the life of the man who shaped the look of US moviemaking's hometown..."Between Heaven and Earth: The Architecture of John Lautner" at The Lighthouse, Glasgow [images]- The List (Scotland)

Austin's Blanton Museum showcases 'Birth of the Cool: California Art Design and Culture at Midcentury': ...does a heroic job of packaging the efforts of many creative disciplines and presenting them in a way that strikes a chord, one that is more farranging than in-depth, but very cool. -- Saarinen; Lautner; Neutra; Eames; Shulman-Dallas Morning News

"Richard Rogers + Architects – From the House to the City" at Caixaforum Barcelona spans the early years with Norman and Wendy Foster and Su Rogers at Team 4 in the 1960s and designing the Pompidou Centre with Renzo Piano in the 1970s, to...numerous projects designed...over the past four decades. -- Rogers Stirk Harbour- Art Daily

Memory Boxes: During the Jim Crow Era...traveling blacks had to hunt for hotels and other establishments that would welcome them. in "Dresser Trunk Project"...11 prominent artists, architects and landscape architects explore places of refuge for black travelers during segregation. -- William Daryl Williams; Craig Barton; Nathaniel Belcher; Lisa Henry Benham; David Brown; Yolande Daniels; Mario Gooden; Walter Hood; Scott Ruff; Mabel Wilson [image, link]- Architect Magazine

Book review: Japanese Architecture Not a Model for the US: Especially in times of crisis..."Beyond the Bubble: The New Japanese Architecture" by Botond Bognar...Japan is employing a "less is more" approach to building its structures...constructing buildings that are both sustainable and functional...this is the lesson that American companies should learn as soon as possible.- Softpedia

Book review: Equitable societies are better for everyone: "The Spirit Level: Why More Equal Societies Almost Always Do Better" by Richard Wilkinson and Kate Pickett...a groundbreaking book, UK-based researchers go beyond either of these ideas to demonstrate that more unequal societies are bad for almost everyone within them — the well-off as well as the poor.- Gizmag (Australia)

Lessons From The Past: "Recession Is Ravaging Architectural Firms," New York Times, May 17, 1992. So apparently people always think their recession is the worst, and that things will never get back to the way they were. But so far they've always been wrong. [link]- The Architect's Newspaper

Sears Tower to be renamed for new tenant: ...will become Willis Tower: ...insurance broker...is not paying extra for the naming rights.- Crain's Chicago Business

GRAFT Architects: Dental Clinic KU64 and Kinderdentist, Berlin, Germany

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Yesterday's News

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