Today's News - Wednesday, April 1, 2009

- · Caldwell analyzes the underlying issues surrounding plans for Contemporary Art Museum at the Presidio in San Francisco: "hubris and the commonweal."
- Pittsburgh finds recession-era advantages in its slow-growth legacy, becoming a leader in the field of sustainable building now serving the city well during the economic
 downturn.
- Bronx reborn: beyond Yankee Stadium, unsung architects are "at work on more modest, community-driven developments" using "creative tactics to cultivate a greener, socially sustainable future."
- · MacArthur Foundation pumps \$32 million into affordable housing (HUD promises to help rather than hinder let's hope that's true!).
- A call for architects to become agents of change.
- Glancey says "costs may be spiraling for Tate's £215m pyramid, but I think the result will be worth every penny."
- · Hadid's MSU museum quadruples in cost, so it's back to the drawing board (not enough space for the art and contractors don't even want to try to bid on the roof).
- · Foreign architects leaving their marks on Seoul's skyline leaving home-grown talent not at all happy.
- Eyefuls of Rogers' British Museum expansion, and Levete's "twisting coil" complex for Bangkok.
- Prince Charles to deliver RIBA Trust Annual Lecture 25 years after he launched his "carbuncle" "broadside at the architectural elite" (hopes are things will be "more cordial" this time).
- · Originality in the digital age, or why many architects keep back issues of architectural magazines: "to stanch the fear of repeating someone else's work" (or not).
- · Call for entries/nominations: Aga Khan Award for Architecture.
- Winners all: NZIA 2009 Architecture Awards. The long list for WAN Education Award 2009 (great pix!). A look at Syracuse University's "From the Ground Up: Innovative Green Homes" competition winners (and, yes, they will be built).
- Two we couldn't resist: "grow" a tree on your iPhone (for \$4.99) that will plant a real tree in New Orleans. And an eyeful of the world's first flying hotel The Hotelicopter (it could be for real, but this is April Fools Day...).

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Op-Ed: CAMP Notes: Forget Don Fisher. Do we want the art or not? By Kenneth Caldwell -- Gluckman Mayner Architects; WRNS Studio [images]-ArchNewsNow

The Greening of Pittsburgh: ...finding recession-era advantages in a slow-growth legacy...in the forefront of the movement to conserve existing structures and clean up the contaminated industrial sites called brownfields, becoming a leader in the field of sustainable building...now serving Pittsburgh well during the economic downturn. -- Bob Kobet/Sustainaissance International; IKM; Rafael Viñoly- New York Times

Bronx Renaissance: When the new Yankee Stadium opens this month, it will mark a milestone in the Bronx's long-running resurrection...architects at work on more modest, community-driven developments are finding a range of creative tactics to cultivate a greener, socially sustainable future. — Dattner Architects; Ana Maria Torres/at architects; Stephen Yablon; Jonathan Kirschenfeld; BBG Architects [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

MacArthur Foundation Pumps \$32 Million Into Affordable Housing: HUD Secretary Shaun L. Donovan...pledged to improve efficiency within HUD so that it will "become not an impediment, but an encouragement to innovation" in the public-housing sector.- Architectural Record

Bryan Bell asks local architects to become agents of change: North Carolina architect suggests a design scorecard similar to LEED could advance social and economic agendas...a new initiative called SEED Network, which stands for Social, Economic and Environmental Design.- Daily Journal of Commerce (Oregon)

Why Tate Modern's extension stacks up: The costs may be spiralling for Tate's £215m pyramid, but I think the result will be worth every penny...And to have a tower dedicated to art rather than another temple dedicated to Mammon will be as much a delight as a relief. By Jonathan Glancey -- Herzog & de Meuron [image, links]- Guardian (UK)

Michigan State University struggles to keep Broad museum under budget, on time: ...initial outside estimates for the entire project were about \$160 million — or roughly four times the original projected cost...will still be completed at or around the \$40-million mark..."The architect gets to go back to the drawing board with a fresh start" -- Zaha Hadid [images]- The State News (Michigan)

Foreigners Contribute to Seoul Skyline — a Lot: ...why not hire domestic architects? ...the answer is simple: not enough professionals with experience in high-rise architecture...the merits of working with renowned foreign architects are worth the money...This fixed mind set is troubling local architects as they're stripped of the opportunity of even getting a review of their portfolio. — Richard Rogers; Daniel Libeskind; Gana Architects - Korea Times

Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners (RSHP) has revealed its long-awaited design for the £135 million extension to the British Museum in London [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Amanda Levete, formerly of Future Systems, reveals 'twisting coil' design for Bangkok: ...a new retail and hotel complex...Central Embassy [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Prince of Wales to follow up 'carbuncle' architecture speech after 25 years: ...to deliver the RIBA Trust Annual Lecture on May 12, a quarter of a century after he launched his broadside at the architectural elite...This time RIBA is hoping the atmosphere will be more cordial.- Telegraph (UK)

Originality in the digital age: Ever wonder why so many architects...keep back issues of Progressive Architecture or Architectural Record? ...the designer

who is compelled to seek the edge usually keeps his magazines just in case a new idea sparks a memory of something he saw in that old magazine. They are there to stanch the fear of repeating someone else's work. - Winter Park Examiner (Florida)

Call for entries / nominations: Aga Khan Award for Architecture 11th Award Cycle; deadline: September 15- Aga Khan Development Network

Auckland architects dominate NZ's top awards: ...18 winners at the New Zealand Institute of Architects (NZIA) 2009 Architecture Awards. -- RTA Studio; Simon Twose; Pearson & Associates; Athfield Architects; Fearon Hay Architect; etc. - New Zealand Herald

WAN Education Award 2009 - Long List -- Hawkins\Brown; Lyons; Carlos Bratke; Spowers; Allford Hall Monaghan Morris (AHMM); Perkins Eastman; Gensler; Hunters; Penezic&Rogina; AD+RG; Cox Howlett + Bailey Woodland; NAC Architecture; de blacam and meagher; Henning Larsen; P&T Group; LIAG; Steven Holl; fjmt - Francis-Jones Morehen Thorp; Fuller and D'Angelo; Coop Himmelb(I)au; GM+AD Architects; Indio da Costa AUDT; Arup; Anna Heringer; Nikken Sekkei; AMP arquitectos; S.A.R. multiprofessionele architectenvennootschap [images] - World Architecture News (UK)

Syracuse University Names Winners of "From the Ground Up: Innovative Green Homes" Competition -- Architecture Research Office (ARO)/Della Valle Bernheimer,; Cook+Fox Architects; Onion Flats [images]- Architectural Record

The Non-Killer App: Grow a Tree from your iPhone: After downloading the \$4.99 app, the iPhorest lets you go through the virtual act of planting a tree...Every time a virtual tree is planted, The Conservation Fund plants a tree along the Gulf Coast. - Fast Company

The World's first flying hotel - The Hotelicopter: ...a four story converted heavy lift aircraft with 18 luxuriously-appointed room hotels. Modeled on the Soviet MI V-12, the largest helicopter ever built...ready for its maiden flight in June 26th. [images] - Gizmag (Australia)

- -- I.M. Pei Architect: Museum of Islamic Art, Al Corniche, Doha, Qatar
- -- Experimental Urban Vision: Huaxi City Centre, Guiyang, Southwestern China
- -- Atelier Manferdini; BIG; Dieguez Fridman; Emergent/Tom Wiscombe; HouLiang Architecture; JDS; Mass Studies; Rojkind Arquitectos; Serie; Sou Fujimoto Architects; MAD

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