

## Today's News - Monday, September 21, 2009

- ArcSpace brings us Gehry's first building in Scandinavia, a "house without doors" named for the Nordic god of sunlight; and a new urban vision for a long-stalled project in Kuala Lumpur.
- We lose a champion of modernism, but the invaluable Pidgeon Digital Archive lives on.
- Swett on climate change: we've "spent too much time describing the problem and debating its causes. Too little time has been spent on distributing solutions" - and he has some.
- A new report on lessons that can be learned from Europe and Australia about energy-efficient building performance.
- Kamin x 2: USGBC ranks U.S. cities leading in LEED buildings (Chicago is #1); and Gang's Aqua rates a PETA award for its bird-friendly design.
- Glancey cheers Chicago practices "learning to think small" not only because "the recession has bitten hard, but because there has been something of a change of heart."
- An EPA certification for water-efficient homes would take national a host of local programs.
- Pearman likes Britain's new Supreme Court "in a funny old building": "a bit of a Gilbert and Sullivan stage set. Only sets of antlers are missing."
- Saffron gives (mostly) thumbs-up to Philadelphia Museum of Art's new underground garage with a design that uses "artful camouflage."
- Rochon gives two-thumbs-up's to Toronto's newest tower, "infused with the best of 21st-century thinking" that sets "a new standard has been set for building tall" in the city.
- Kansas City Ballet starts renovating Union Station Power House, "transforming the dilapidated historic structure into an airy work and performance space."
- Design selected for Columbus, Ohio's very own Center for Architecture.
- Gould gives three cheers for restoration of the "lovely artifact" that is the Edgewater Hotel, but finds other elements "problematic."
- It's been awhile since we've heard anything about University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Freshwater Sciences lakefront project - now there's lots re: power struggles and UWM pulling out; Schumacher found the proposed design "drippy," and offers an eyeful of what some other local talent would do.
- Rogers quits London mayor's design advisory and Great Spaces panels.
- We couldn't resist: Foster + Partners joins European consortium to investigate building settlements on the moon.
- Happy first day of Autumn!

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-- Gehry Partners, LLP: Counseling Center (Hejmdal), Danish Cancer Society, Aarhus, Denmark  
-- Sparch: Vision City, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Obituary: Monica Pidgeon, 1913-2009: Famed British editor of *Architectural Design* and champion of modernism...[she] began interviewing well-known architects, and hundreds of hours of those interviews are now available online as part of the Pidgeon Digital Archive. [link] - *The Architect's Newspaper*

Op-Ed: Achieving climate prosperity: Smart technology can boost energy efficiency worldwide: The debate over climate change has spent too much time describing the problem and debating its causes. Too little time has been spent on distributing solutions. It is possible to substantially reduce the global carbon footprint by profit-driven companies. By Richard N. Swett -- *Global Climate Prosperity Agreement - Washington Times*

Building Energy Efficiency Programs in Europe and Australia Offer Important Lessons for the U.S., Study Finds: ...can become more energy efficient and create more "green" jobs by adopting some of the strategies...to rate and disclose the performance of commercial and government-owned buildings [link to report] - *RAND Corporation*

Chicago ranks No. 1 in green buildings: ...has more certified green buildings than any other city in the country...has 92 LEED-certified buildings... By Blair Kamin - *Chicago Tribune*

A skyscraper for the birds: Aqua gets an award from animal rights group: People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals is giving Jeanne Gang and her firm, Studio Gang Architects, an award for the bird-friendly design... By Blair Kamin [images] - *Chicago Tribune*

Chicago learns to think small: A city of heavy bones is beginning to learn the importance of the small stuff...big local practices are learning to compete for small-scale projects...not simply because the recession has bitten hard, but because there has been something of a change of heart. By Jonathan Glancey - *BD/Building Design (UK)*

Turf Battle Heats Up Over Limits on Water-Guzzling Landscapes: An EPA certification for water-efficient homes would take national a host of local programs that offer rebates, and sometimes set strict rules, on what home owners can plant in their yards. - *Wall Street Journal*

A comic-opera stage-set: Britain's new Supreme Court is in a funny old building. That's the way we do things: ...I like it. True, the new bits aren't as good as the old bits. True also, some of the old bits are hideously ugly...a bit of a Gilbert and Sullivan stage set. Only sets of antlers are missing. By Hugh Pearman -- Gibson and Skipwith (1913); Foster + Partners; Feilden and Mawson; Kier; GHK [images] - *HughPearman.com (UK)*

Subtle subterfuge: Given the city's poor track record with its above-ground garages, I was dreading the new one at the Philadelphia Museum of Art...hasn't improved the scenery. But the nice surprise is that it hasn't made it worse. For that, we owe a debt of gratitude to the designers...design's strength comes from its artful camouflage... By Inga Saffron -- Olin Studio; Atkin Olshin Schade; CVM Engineers [images] - *Philadelphia Inquirer*

Bay Adelaide Centre: ...infused with the best of 21st-century thinking...the intent of the overall design is crystal clear: connect to pedestrians and draw them through the transparent lobby...A new standard has been set for building tall in Toronto. By Lisa Rochon -- *WZMH*; James Turrell - *Globe and Mail (Canada)*

Kansas City Ballet starts renovating Union Station Power House as new home: ...Todd Bolender Center for Dance and Creativity...ready to start transforming the dilapidated historic structure into an airy work and performance space. -- Jarvis Hunt (1913); BNIM Architects [slide show] - *Kansas City Star*

AIA Columbus announces design winner for New Center for Architecture: ...will serve as an unparalleled resource to create a more livable community by connecting the architecture and design professions with the community. -- *Lincoln Street*

[Studio; DesignGroup; MA Architects \[link to images\]](#)- The Other Paper (Columbus, Ohio)

Timid Edgewater design needs lighter touch: What a lovely artifact the Edgewater Hotel is...Three cheers for the restoration. But so far the design for the plaza looks generic...proposed tower is more problematic. By Whitney Gould -- Lawrence Monberg (1948); Elkus Manfredi [\[image\]](#)- Capital Times (Madison, Wisconsin)

Philanthropist Michael Cudahy wanted to control design, construction of University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) School of Freshwater Sciences lakefront project: ...stirred concerns...that led university Chancellor...to drop plans to develop the building there. -- McClintock Architects; Hammel, Green and Abrahamson- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

McClintock's drippy lakefront designs: ...the literal-minded design for the UWMs School of Freshwater Sciences would have been a profound embarrassment... By Mary Louise Schumacher [\[link to images\]](#)- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Area architects sketch out plans for lakefront: When UWM first announced its plans to build a spectacular building on the lakefront...it was clear it'd be tricky...a sampling of the ideas... By Mary Louise Schumacher -- Josh Ehr Architecture; Continuum Architects + Planners; David Chmielewski; Korb Tredo Architects; Research Design Office (REDO)/Architecture Landscape Urbanism (ALU); Studio 1032 Architecture; La Dallman Architects [\[images, links\]](#)- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Richard Rogers quits role as advisor to London mayor Boris Johnson: "Richard felt the roles did not give him sufficient scope to use his expertise..."- BD/Building Design (UK)

Foster + Partners in bid to build in outer space: joins European consortium interested in investigating idea of settlements on the Moon- Building (UK)

Book Review: "Urban Design for an Urban Century: Placemaking for People," by Lance Jay Brown, David Dixon, and Oliver Gillham: To the credit of the erudite authors, their sketch of urban design brings levels of political, sociological, and architectural analysis together in a readable synthesis. By Norman Weinstein- ArchNewsNow

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