

Today's News - Thursday, January 21, 2010

- The up's and down's of the last 20 years of Pittsburgh's redevelopment - good news, though some unfulfilled promises remain.
- Philadelphia charges ahead with Delaware River waterfront plans.
- Green design is important, but it's time to "focus attention on adapting our buildings to the inevitable impacts of climate change."
- In Austin, a net-zero house "shouts 'futuristic'" and "takes the concept to its limits."
- Ouroussoff says "preservationists should put away their torches and pitchforks" re: Piano's Gardner Museum expansion: it's "a thoughtful, mature, even beautiful, building" (though "some of us will mourn the loss" of some of the museum's original experience).
- Berlin's Jewish Museum getting a Libeskind extension.
- Talk about the ultimate in recycling: 2012 Olympic buildings to be made from recycled guns, bullets and knives.
- Aspen picks out-of-towners for affordable housing project and the locals are not happy.
- Russell re: new Apple store in Manhattan: the city's "latest iTemple" is "a splendid oddity amid the retail recession, all steel, marble, and glass."
- In a down economy, architects are "discovering new talents often unrelated to architecture."
- Kondylis fears for younger architects: "They are being laid off now...it will be difficult to find architects later...I don't know what is going to happen to the profession after this."
- MoMA scores a Tschumi archive.
- Two good reasons to head to Cuba in March.
- Eyefuls of Wallpaper* Design Awards 2010: '09 "was a difficult year for many, but a sterling year for design."
- Call for entries: City of Dreams Pavilion for NYC's Governors Island; and "Office Needs for Good Deeds" non-profit office makeover contest.
- Deadline reminder: Call for presentations for 2010 ASLA annual meeting.

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INSIGHT: Redeveloping Downtown Pittsburgh - The Last 20 Years: Many factors have led to an interesting take on the traditional tension between central city decline, suburban competition, and revitalization efforts to bolster Downtown's primacy in the region's economy and identity. By Michael A. Stern, ASLA, LEED AP - ArchNewsNow

Philly, Ahoy! Delaware River Waterfront Corporation (DRWC)...is charging ahead on designs for a pier near the Benjamin Franklin Bridge, plus a trail that will open public access to the long-blockaded riverfront. -- Cooper, Robertson; Olin; KieranTimberlake; Wallace Roberts & Todd (WRT); PennPraxis; James Corner Field Operations [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Adapting to Climate Change: While the need to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions is greater than ever, we now also ought to focus attention on adapting our buildings to the inevitable impacts of climate change...building for future conditions may soon become part of the building professional's "standard of care." By Alex Wilson - GreenSource

ZeroHouse is designed to be the greenest of them all: ...compact modular structure shouts "futuristic"...net-zero concept is not yet mainstream, but it's growing...design takes the concept to its limits... -- Specht Harpman [image] - Austin American-Statesman (Texas)

An Architect Pays Respects to a Dowager: More than a few eyebrows in Boston will likely be raised when Renzo Piano unveils his design for the expansion of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum...preservationists should put away their torches and pitchforks...an ideal balance between new and old...a thoughtful, mature, even beautiful, building...Still, some of us will mourn the loss... By Nicolai Ouroussoff [images] - New York Times

Berlin Jewish Museum Getting Libeskind Extension: ...a 19th century market hall for flowers, across from the original museum, would be turned into exhibition space by autumn 2011. - Architectural Record

2012 Olympic buildings to be made from recycled guns, bullets and knives: Britain's largest police force is recycling...nto materials for the construction industry, which could be used in London's Olympic site. - Metro (UK)

Aspen selects Boulder firm for Burlingame's next phase: Despite the argument that awarding a local architecture firm a multimillion-dollar contract for the second phase of Burlingame Ranch [affordable housing project] keeps the money in the valley and locals employed, the Aspen City Council voted to give the job to...Oz Architecture... -- Poss Architecture; Charles Cuniffe Architects - Aspen Daily News (Colorado)

Crit: Apple Store Upper West Side: New York's latest iTemple: ...a splendid oddity amid the retail recession, all steel, marble, and glass...a composition as austere as purposeful as a classic Greek temple...Apple is that rare retailer that has learned to use means more fundamental to architecture than retail to powerfully extend its brand. By James S. Russell -- Bohlin Cywinski Jackson [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Architect, or Whatever: A troubled economy and the implosion of the real estate market have thrown thousands of architects and designers out of work, forcing them to find or create jobs...many of those who have been laid off are discovering new talents often unrelated to architecture. -- John Morefield; Natasha Case; Freya Estreller; Leigh Ann Black; Debi van Zyl; Richard Chuk - New York Times

The Architect in Winter: ...Costas Kondylis has...stealthily secured a significant swath of the city skyline... now worries that other, younger architects will never have such opportunities for pioneering..."They are being laid off now, and I think it will be difficult to find architects later...I don't know what is going to happen to the profession after this." -- Goldstein, Hill and West Architects - New York Observer

Drawing Attention: Bernard Tschumi...announced that he would donate 43 of his father's architectural drawings to MoMA, making it the only non-European institution with a collection of Jean Tschumi originals. [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Tour of Cuba: An introduction to the history of Cuban architecture and urbanism, March 14-20- INTBAU Scandinavia / C.E.U. - Council for European Urbanism / Academy of Urbanism (UK)

Havana Urban Design Charrette, March 22-27- INTBAU Scandinavia / C.E.U. - Council for European Urbanism / Academy of Urbanism (UK)

Wallpaper* Design Awards 2010: 2009 was a difficult year for many, but a sterling year for design.... [images, links] - Wallpaper*

Call for entries: City of Dreams Pavilion for the 2010 summer season on Governors Island, NYC; registration deadline: February 8, 2010 - FIGMENT/ENYA/SEAoNY

Call for entries: Gunlocke will award one commendable non-profit organization with its first "Office Needs for Good Deeds" online office makeover contest; deadline: April 16, 2010 - Gunlocke

Deadline reminder: Call for Presentations for the 2010 ASLA annual meeting "Water, Earth, Air, Fire: DESIGN," September 10-13, in Washington, DC; deadline: January 27 - American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Beyond the Egg-crate Museum: Reflections on the Bloch Building: Q&A with Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art Director/CEO Marc Wilson re: life at Steven Holl Architects' Bloch Building - three years after opening. By Norman Weinstein - ArchNewsNow



- Sanaa & Imrey Culbert: Musée Louvre-Lens, Lens, France
- Dietmar Feichtinger Architectes: Voestalpine AG, Linz, Austria

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