

Today's News - Monday, April 26, 2010

- ArcSpace brings us Perrault's tennis center in Madrid.
- Gruber on the politics of design when it comes to civic projects: "it's demeaning to architects and designers to say that what they do is not political."
- Litt hopes he's wrong about Cleveland's slim chance of getting "an iconic, landmark bridge"; there's a better "chance that the bridge will be a dud, aesthetically speaking" (politics involved, no doubt).
- Bayley on Liverpool's return from the dead - "splendid proof that you can design your way out of a depression" (too bad politicians haven't noticed).
- Lewis welcomes the "the era of smart growth... Optimism is justified."
- Russell turns being stranded in Germany by volcanic action into a tale of two cities: "In contrast to Hamburg's bustle, Berlin is a city still sorting out the past."
- Moore marvels at Rotterdam's pride in being modern, finding many "signs of faith in the new - sometimes naïve, sometimes misguided, sometimes impressive...Dutch architects also like perversity and a touch of madness."
- An impressive shortlist (and lots of pix) for a new dance and music center in The Hague.
- King surveys a new San Francisco tower that "shows how new buildings can enrich the urban scene - not by aping the past but by taking cues from the context, then adding to it with intelligence and craft."
- L.A.'s A+D Museum (finally) opens in its new permanent home tomorrow.
- New Zealand wool leaders invite "14 internationally-renowned architects" from all over to design a concept hotel out of wool (wish we knew who they are and what they came up with!).
- SMIBE collects films "that touch on this notion of recording or 'preserving,' space visually."
- Forget Avatar - 3D printers are transforming how the world of design works: "Every garage is a potential micro-factory."
- Call entries: Conover Cottage design competition for three circa 1931 structures in Brooklyn (winning proposals will all be built); and deadline reminder: Game Changers.
- Eyefuls of Culture Counts: UNESCO Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures poster competition winners.

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[Dominique Perrault: Olympic Tennis Center, Madrid, Spain](#)

[The Politics of Design Meets the Politics of Politics: ...people should not be surprised that selecting a designer for a civic project is a political act...architecture and public design have always been and always will be political...it's demeaning to architects and designers to say that what they do is not political...\[they\] believe that what they do has social import, and that means politics. By Frank Gruber -- James Corner Field Operations - The Lookout News \(Santa Monica, CA\)](#)

[Chances for a great Inner Belt Bridge design in Cleveland are looking slim: ...plans for a new, \\$450 million bridge reflect a strong commitment to the city. There's a good chance, however, that the bridge will be a dud, aesthetically speaking. It would be a pleasure to be wrong on this...But several big factors weigh heavily against the possibility of an iconic, landmark bridge. By Steven Litt -- Rosales + Partners; Parsons Transportation Group; HNTB; FIGG \[links\]- Cleveland Plain Dealer](#)

[How Liverpool returned from the dead: Every Scouser knows that inspiring architecture creates wealth, health and happiness...splendid proof that you can design your way out of a depression. By Stephen Bayley -- Will Alsop; WilkinsonEyre; Piers Gough; John McAslan; AHMM- The Times \(UK\)](#)

[Smart growth incorporates lessons from planning mistakes: ...plans envision the redevelopment area becoming urban rather than suburban...you fear that nearby urbanization will threaten your quality of life...Relax. Your fears are unfounded. Welcome to the era of smart growth...Optimism is justified. By Roger K. Lewis - Washington Post](#)

[Volcano Victim Takes in Hamburg's Harbor, Berlin's Splendor: In contrast to Hamburg's bustle, Berlin is a city still sorting out the past. By James S. Russell -- Herzog & de Meuron; Stefan Behnisch; David Chipperfield; Daniel Libeskind; Peter Eisenman - Bloomberg News](#)

[Rotterdam in the limelight: Its pride instead is in being modern...Wherever you go...there are signs of faith in the new — sometimes naïve, sometimes misguided, sometimes impressive...One side of Dutch design is about clarity, elegance, lightness and the slightly fanatical application of reason, but there is another. Dutch architects also like perversity and a touch of madness. By Rowan Moore -- Rem Koolhaas; Piet Blom - Evening Standard \(UK\)](#)

[16 Finalists Announced for Dance and Music Center in The Hague -- Aedas; Architectenstudio HH/Rapp+RApp/Jean-Marc IBOS/Myrto VITAT; Benthem Crouwel Architekten/Merkx+Girod; Capita Architecture; Cruz y Ortiz arquitectos; de architecten Cie/KPMB; Diller Scofidio+Renfro/Solid Objectives/Idenburg Liu; Henning Larsen/Grontmij Nederland; Ian Simpson Architects/Jonkman Klinkhamer; Jo Coenen & Co Architecten/ARCADIS Nederland; Mecanoo architecten; Neutelings Riedijk Architecten/Kirkegaard Associates; Office for Metropolitan Architecture \(OMA\) Stedebouw/ABT; RAU; Wiel Arets Architect; Zaha Hadid \[images\]-](#)

Bustler

One Hawthorne tower heeds architectural context: ...shows how new buildings can enrich the urban scene - not by aping the past but by taking cues from the context, then adding to it with intelligence and craft. By John King -- EHDD Architecture [images] - San Francisco Chronicle

A+D Architecture and Design Museum Finally Lands a Permanent Home: ...will finally wrap up that nomadic journey, on April 27, with the opening of its first permanent home...in a small, Moderne, 1948 office building, opposite LACMA. -- Kanner Architects; Richard Meier; Gensler - Architectural Record

Snuggling down in a woolly hotel: New Zealand wool leaders are confident that convincing architects wool is the fibre of the future will create a trickle down effect...14 internationally-renowned architects from Europe, North America and Asia have flown in after accepting a challenge to design a concept hotel out of wool. -- Heinz Richardson; Dietmar Danner/AIT Architects [video link] - Television New Zealand (TVNZ)

Saved on Film: Society for Moving Images About the Built Environment "Story About a Place" Competition Focuses on Places: SMIBE tries to collect films that touch on this notion of recording or "preserving," space visually. [video, links] - Preservation Magazine/National Trust for Historic Preservation

Forget Avatar, the real 3D revolution is coming to your front room: 3D printers are transforming how the world of design works -- within minutes drawings can be turned into a prototype models... "Every garage is a potential micro-factory and every citizen a micro-entrepreneur in the age of democratised industry" -- Thinglab; SketchUp; Wyn Kelly Swainson (1971) [links] - Guardian (UK)

Call entries: Conover Cottage design competition: ...three tiny cottages in Red Hook, Brooklyn, N.Y....the circa 1931 structures may be some of the increasingly rare architectural holdouts in a rapidly transforming area...winning proposals will all be built; deadline: June 1 - Fast Company

Call for entries - deadline reminder: Game Changers: design a game that creates change by improving lives or inspiring new behaviors; cash prizes; deadline: May 11 - DESIGN 21: Social Design Network

Culture Counts: UNESCO Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures poster competition winners [images] - DESIGN 21: Social Design Network

Disappearing Act: North Carolina Museum of Art West Building by Thomas Phifer and Partners and Pearce Brinkley Cease + Lee: A new museum building strives to nearly disappear, deferring to the beauty of the artworks and the surrounding landscape. By Lisa Delgado - ArchNewsNow

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