

Today's News - Thursday, July 22, 2010

EDITOR'S NOTE: Just a reminder that we're three hours behind home base for the rest of this week, so newsletter will post a bit later than usual.

- Chakrabarti calls for the creation of an infrastructure coalition that will demand smart urbanization.
- A "neo-Marxist economic geographer" issues an urban manifesto: Cities like New York "are increasingly being constructed around spectacle...We're all suburbanites now, without knowing it."
- Beirut, "where money is king, it may be too late" to save its architectural heritage in a battle against "big money, corruption, lack of law."
- Szenasy on Fit City 5 and the collaboration between NYC's policy makers and creative community, resulting in the city's new Active Design Guidelines now being "downloaded to addresses far and wide."
- King on Snøhetta winning the starchitect-studded competition to design SFMOMA's new wing.
- Heathcote and Booth on RIBA's Stirling Prize shortlist of museums and schools: "We are unlikely to see many of either for a while now, so the announcement of a winner may be tinged with architectural nostalgia" + betting odds favor Hadid + shortlist in pix.
- Neuroscientists and psychologists are not far behind architects with new research showing space has a very real impact on how we feel.
- An eyeeful of 6 notable firms' visions of NYC and L.A. in 2030: the "results are stunning, and in some ways, revolutionary."
- Till tallies the problems with student end-of-year architecture shows: they're "euphoric, exuberant, and in need of an overhaul...It is essential to question how appropriate it is to stick with a 200-year-old model."
- The Israel Museum makeover "is one of the most inspired museum expansions in decades" (and nary a starchitect in sight).
- Kahn's once-threatened Trenton Bath House is (thankfully) in the last stages of a restoration.
- Calatrava's design for Denver International Airport terminal soon to be revealed.
- An alternative location and design for Philly's planned (and much-maligned) Family Court.
- Winners all: Australia's 2010 Premier's Design Awards + National Park Service first Designing the Parks competition (maybe these will stay open?).

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This Land is Our Land: Vishaan Chakrabarti calls for the creation of an infrastructure coalition that will demand smart urbanization and tackle the environmental and economic implications of population growth...As city dwellers we must win this fight to build a Country of Cities. - Urban Omnibus

David Harvey's Urban Manifesto: Down With Suburbia; Down With Bloomberg's New York: ...is having a bit of a moment in America, as much as any neo-Marxist economic geographer can...Cities like New York "are increasing being constructed around spectacle...We're all suburbanites now, without knowing it" - Fast Company

Greed destroys Beirut's architectural legacy: Historic houses fall victim to building boom. Conservationists battle big money, corruption, lack of law...A few conservationists are trying to save something from the wreckage, but in a city where money is king, it may be too late..."We are the only Arab country that has not passed a law to preserve heritage houses.. This is outrageous."-- Mona Hallak; Simone Kosremelli - Reuters

Design + Policy = Fit Cities: Creating a metropolis that encourages physical activity requires real collaboration...5th annual Fit City symposium at the Center for Architecture [AIANY], in Manhattan...foretold an era of collaboration between policy makers and the creative community...the city's new Active Design Guidelines are frequently downloaded to addresses far and wide. By Susan S. Szenasy - Metropolis Magazine

Snøhetta to design SFMOMA's vast new wing: ...San Francisco Museum of Modern Art's choice to design its new wing - a \$250 million expansion...firm will make its mark alongside the Mario Botta-designed museum...that opened in 1995...choice of a local firm is yet to be made. By John King -- Craig Dykers - San Francisco Chronicle

Schools assemble for architecture prize day: Two schools have been shortlisted for the...Royal Institute of British Architects/RIBA Stirling Prize...Schools or museums? We are unlikely to see many of either for a while now, so the announcement of a winner on October 2 may be tinged with architectural nostalgia. By Edwin Heathcote -- DSDHA; dRMM (de Rijke Marsh Morgan); Zaha Hadid; David Chipperfield; Rick Mather; Theis & Khan - Financial Times (UK)

Zaha Hadid tipped to win Stirling prize for architecture: The British-Iraqi designer was nominated for her museum of 21st century art in Rome...will vie with...David Chipperfield, another British architect who has struggled to win major commissions in his home country. By Robert Booth -- Rick Mather; de Rijke Marsh Morgan (dRMM); DSDHA; Theis and Khan Architects [links] - Guardian (UK)

In Pictures: Stirling prize shortlist 2010 -- -- DSDHA; dRMM (de Rijke Marsh Morgan); Zaha Hadid; David Chipperfield; Rick Mather; Theis & Khan - BBC

Aesthetics and Happiness: How Space Affects Well-Being: Architects and interior designers agree that space has a very real impact on how we feel. Neuroscientists and psychologists are not far behind with new research... -- Alain de Botton - Huffington Post

Architecture Firms Re-imagine Our Future Cities: What will our cities look like in 2030? ...question posed to 6 well-known firms [in New York and Los Angeles]...The results are stunning, and in some ways, revolutionary. -- Richard Meier; Cooper, Robertson & Partners; HOK; Michael Maltzan; cityLAB UCLA; Gensler [images] - Newsweek

Op-Ed: The problem with student shows: The end-of-year architecture show is euphoric, exuberant, and in need of an overhaul...a ritual that preserves some of architecture's least appealing aspects...It is essential to question how appropriate it is to stick with a 200-year-old model...given the rapidly changing external context. By Jeremy Till, dean of architecture and the built environment, University of Westminster - The Architects' Journal (UK)

In an Ancient City, the Renewed Israel Museum Looks Forward: ...five years ago, everyone expected the board to select a star architect...Instead they opted for a little-known architectural team led by James Carpenter Design Associates...and Efrat-Kowalsky Architects...It is one of the most inspired museum expansions in decades. [slide show] - Artinfo

Work in progress at 'Ewing's national treasure' - Officials tour bath house: The Louis I. Kahn Trenton Bath House (1955), is in the late stages of a restoration...while the landmark has come under criticism for its architectural simplicity, it is still a very special structure. -- Farewell, Mills, Gatsch Architects - New Jersey On-Line

DIA/Denver International Airport to unveil South Terminal design on July 29: ...\$160 million South Terminal renovation...7-year project will include a new Westin terminal hotel, FasTracks transit station with open-air plaza on top... -- Santiago Calatrava; Parsons Transportation Group - Denver Business Journal

The Old Provident Mutual Life Building: Perhaps the ideal location for the next Family Court -- Inga Saffron; Cram and

[Ferguson \(1926\); DPK& A Architects - Philadelphia Weekly Press](#)

[2010 Premier's Design Awards Winners: part of the Victorian Government's \\$15 million Design Victoria Strategy which recognises and promotes good design -- Wood Marsh/John Holland; Studio Round; Gekko Systems Pty Ltd \(Ballarat\); Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation; Swinburne University of Technology, Faculty of Design - State of Design Festival \(Australia\)](#)

[National Park Service Picks Best-designed Parks: ...first Designing the Parks competition announced a total of 17 projects won... -- Michael Van Valkenburgh; Wallace Roberts & Todd WRT\); Bargmann Hendrie + Archetype; Paul Murdoch Architects/Nelson Byrd Woltz; RYUICHI ASHIZAWA Architects; Frederic Schwartz Architects/Ken Smith Landscape Architects/Mary Miss; Mathews Nielsen; Mia Lehrer; Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; Grupo de Diseño Urbano/Mario Schjetnan; Architectural Resource Group/Leddy Maytum Stacy Architects/Office of Cheryl Barton \[link to images, info\]- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects \(ASLA\)](#)

[Veni, Vidi, Vici: Museo MAXXI by Zaha Hadid Architects: Rome, Italy: The ancient city's newest museum is a reminder that here is a woman at the top of the field - and a testament to the fact that women build, and build well. By Ann Lui- ArchNewsNow](#)

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