

Today's News - Tuesday, July 27, 2010

- ArcSpace brings us an eyeful of Gehry's Ruvo Center for Brain Health in Las Vegas.
- Moore mulls over the Stirling shortlist and finds it comes up short: the "prize has an instinct for the compromise candidate, for the one least likely to frighten any horses."
- Dutch firm wins Architecture Foundation competition to design a temporary London gateway (giant goalposts, anyone?).
- New Orleans sustainable design competition winner and some great runner-ups come up with Emergency Disaster Relief Housing.
- An Austin subdivision becoming a hot nabe for eco-minded Modernists.
- University of Kansas School of Architecture's non-profit Studio 804 can't find buyers for green homes; with \$25 in its checking account, it's "essentially bankrupt" ("it wasn't always so grim").
- Lewis cheers new Benning Library adjacent to a mundane shopping center that "continues the 20th century tradition of being non-traditional" (definitely "not your grandfather's library").
- 12 years in coming, Long Island City library finally has an architect (Holl, no less!); but who's going to foot the bill remains to be determined.
- Kennicott x 2 on siting the National Museum of the American Latino on the National Mall - there's a better place to put it.
- Birnbaum begs to differ: it would mean losing a site designed by a master landscape architect: "Is this the best alternative to keep new construction off the Mall?"
- Q&A with Freelon re: recent projects, the challenges of growing an architectural practice, and pulling together the team for the National Museum of African-American History and Culture in D.C.
- McGuirk minces no words about what he thinks of London mayor selling out new bicycle-share program to corporate branding: cities are becoming "horizontal billboards" - and "in danger of running out of unbranded space" (oh no!).
- Litt cheers plans to "sprout something healthier and more appealing" on "five acres of sunburned grass and weeds" in Cleveland.
- Luder watches the demolition begin on his iconic "Get Carter" parking garage; but wait - there's more: another of his projects faces the wrecking ball, too: "I don't understand why some people think it's an eyesore. It has character."
- Why the Living City Design Competition has the National Trust for Historic Preservation as one of its biggest allies.
- Pint-sized experts weigh in on Rockwell's Imagination Playground: it looks like it's going to be a big hit with the little ones.
- Architects use 3-D tools to uncover a murder that causes Israeli officials to open a criminal inquiry; the "report is a haunting collision of design, technology, human rights."
- Call for entries: eVolo 2011 Skyscraper Competition.

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[Gehry Partners: Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, Las Vegas](#)

[The 2010 Riba Stirling shortlist is out and, as usual, the committee has missed some of the best candidates: The prize has an instinct for the compromise candidate, for the one least likely to frighten any horses...year after year, the Stirling jury is loaded in favour of the established and middlebrow. By Rowan Moore -- Will Alsop; Zaha Hadid; Caruso St John; Tony Fretton; Rogers Stirk Harbour; Rick Mather; David Chipperfield; Julian Harrap - Observer \(UK\)](#)

[Dutch outfit wins Architecture Foundation's New Aldgate contest: ...London Gate - already dubbed the 'giant goalposts' - will be installed throughout 2012 on a traffic island site in Aldgate. -- DONIS \[images\] - The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Design Competition Challenges Architects to Create Sustainable, Safe Housing for Disaster Victims: Off-grid, kit-built home designs transport easily, rise quickly, and resist extreme weather, winds, and seismic activity...Emergency Disaster Relief Housing...grand prize to...Judith Kinnard and Tiffany Lin for their "SunShower SSIP" house. -- Ammar Eloueiini Digit-All Studio; Bild Design; Billes Partners; Mathes Briere; MetroStudio; Trapolin-Peer; Wisznia Architecture \[slide show\] - EcoHome magazine](#)

[Modern design meets subdivision living at Agave: East Austin neighborhood has 100 homes built, plans for 400 more...all have a modern aesthetic with colorful, eye-catching exteriors...and a definite eco-friendly mind-set. -- CasaBella Architects; Clayton Levy Little; Danze & Davis Architects; Eric Standridge; FAB Architects; Kevin Stewart; KRDB; Rick Black; Salas Design Workshop; Studio Momentum; Lawrence Group \[slide show\] - Austin American-Statesman \(Texas\)](#)

[Architecture students find no buyers for green homes: Studio 804, which gets no university funding but has built 15 homes since 1995, now has \\$25 in its checking account and is "essentially bankrupt," Dan Rockhill says. It wasn't always so grim. \[images, links\] - USA Today](#)

[First Out of the Gate: Placing a public library adjacent to a mundane shopping center would have once been cultural apostasy, but times have changed...Benning Library...aspires to be a vibrant, inviting social venue...continues the 20th century tradition of being non-traditional. By Roger K. Lewis -- Davis Brody Bond Aedas \[images\] - Inform: Architecture + Design in the Mid-Atlantic \(Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects\)](#)

[Plans for Long Island City library advance, despite questions: Already 12 years in the making, Queens project now has an architect but not yet a date for a ground breaking; who foots the \\$10 million bill for a site clean-up is still not clear. -- Steven Holl Architects - Crain's New York](#)

[In siting a national Latino museum, the best view is the long view: Why demand symbolically contested land as a form of redress when the National Museum of the American Latino could, instead, drive the redevelopment of a part of Washington that will, inevitably, be one of the finest streets in the nation's capital? + ...within a generation, the Mall could have a large collection of very quiet and not terribly relevant museums. By Philip Kennicott - Washington Post](#)

[The wrong spot for the National Latino Museum: Kennicott's article about proposed sites for a new museum rightly defends not locating it on Washington's already congested Mall...However, his preferred alternative...gets short shrift...site is the work of a master landscape architect, why should it be demolished to make way for the new museum? Is this the best alternative to keep new construction off the Mall? By Charles A. Birnbaum/Cultural Landscape Foundation -- Dan Kiley - Washington Post](#)

[Questions for Philip Freelon: ...on recent projects, the challenges of growing an architectural practice, and joining forces with David Adjaye and the late Max Bond...for the National Museum of African-American History and Culture in Washington, D.C. -- The Freelong Group; Freelon Adjaye Bond \[images\] - Inform: Architecture + Design in the Mid-Atlantic \(Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects\)](#)

Boris Johnson's London Cycle Hire scheme flogs our birthright to Barclays: The mayor's deal has smothered London's public spaces with what may be the largest piece of corporate branding in existence...we are in danger or running out of unbranded space...Politicians seem only too ready to turn our cities into horizontal billboards. If we're not vigilant, the urban landscape is going to become a brandscape. By Justin McGuirk - [Guardian \(UK\)](#)

Maingate Market Place plan could bring renewal to...one of the busiest [intersections] in Cleveland: five acres of sunburned grass and weeds...could sprout something healthier and more appealing than the present landscape... By Steven Litt -- [Dorsky Hodgson Parrish Yue \[images\]](#) - [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#)

Get Carter car park architect sees demolition: ...a second of [his] opinion-splitting buildings...could be razed by the end of the year. The 81-year-old designer's Derwent Tower, known as the Dunston Rocket, is also set to be pulled down..."I don't understand why some people think it's an eyesore. It has character." -- Owen Luder (1969) [[slie show](#)] - [Evening Chronicle \(UK\)](#)

Preserving the Past to Protect the Future: Sarah Costello of the Living City Design Competition explains why historic preservation is essential to the cities of tomorrow. -- [National Trust for Historic Preservation \[links\]](#) - [Metropolis Magazine](#)

A Newfangled Sandbox Arrives (Check Out the Canals): Several pint-sized experts in child's play test-drive the new, much-ballyhooed Imagination Playground at South Street Seaport. -- [David Rockwell/Rockwell Group \[images\]](#) - [New York Times](#)

Architects Use 3-D Tools to Uncover a Murder: Situ Studio recreated the scene of a Palestinian man's death - causing Israeli officials to open a criminal inquiry...report is a haunting collision of design, technology, human rights... -- [Goldsmiths' Centre for Research Architecture \[images, links\]](#) - [Fast Company](#)

Call for entries: eVolo 2011 Skyscraper Competition: examine the relationship between the skyscraper and the natural world, the community, and the city; cash prizes; early registration (save money!); November 16 - [eVolo Magazine](#)

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