

Today's News - Monday, September 20, 2010

- ArcSpace transports us to H&deM's Miami Beach parking garage.
- Hawthorne takes on the new phase in museum design where "architects are hands-on participants of urbanism."
- The saga of Predock's Taiwan museum (we'd almost forgotten about that one!): nine years and two project deadlines later, the blame game continues.
- Ohio has an "astonishing track record" for giving foreign architects their first U.S. commissions: "Here's hoping the openness to daring...will encourage daring design from local office architects."
- Litt on the riled-up local response: "Cleveland needs - and deserves - a stronger design culture...a challenge that can't be overcome simply by guilt-tripping clients to stay local."
- Indianapolis turns to local talent to transform a major thoroughfare into a sustainable civic space in time for the 2012 Super Bowl.
- Even with cheerleaders like Meier, Abe, Hodgetts, and Webb, a vigorous fight to block a block of student housing near Neutra's Strathmore Apartments strikes out (was there "a breach of procedure"?).
- Rochon on "how Finnish architecture rebranded a city" as Toronto celebrates Revell and Toronto City Hall this week.
- U.K. architects and planners should pay heed to Ranalli's "marvelous" Saratoga Avenue Community Center in Brooklyn that proves "public architecture needn't be an eyesore": "perhaps we should ask him over here, to sort out south London."
- A 21-foot-high Olympic clock in Trafalgar Square wins approval despite there being "much to take issue with in terms of design" (though no mention of designer).
- Tradition meets modernity in NYC's Sukkah City designs - most of them by non-Jews, Ha'aretz points out (today's their last day in Union Square, but exhibit opens Wednesday at the Center for Architecture).
- A new architecture academy in Chennai aims to spotlight architectural communications, and encourages not just students but also the hearing and speech impaired: "We will teach them how to see a drawing visually."
- Call for entries: 13th Annual Berkeley Undergraduate Prize international essay contest: Valuing the Sacred + Deadline reminder: 2nd Annual BrickStainable Design Competition.
- Eyefuls of the Safe Trestles competition winner + honorable mentions (great presentation).
- We couldn't resist: an eyeful of Arch Record's Cocktail Napkin Sketch Contest winner and runners-up.

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[Museums building on a renewed civic life: The Pompidou's intriguing new outpost illustrates...architects are hands-on participants of urbanism...emblematic of a rich new phase in museum design, which continues to be a surprising bright spot for architects otherwise struggling through a dismal couple of years.](#) By Christopher Hawthorne -- Shigeru Ban/Jean de Gastines; Renzo Piano; Peter Zumthor; Diller, Scofidio + Renfro; Snohetta; Foreign Office Architects (FOA); Foster + Partners; Zaha Hadid; SANAA/Imrey Culbert [slide show] - Los Angeles Times

[Architect blames National Palace Museum for lacking will: It was supposed to be one of southern Taiwan's most ambitious building projects in years, a defining NT\\$6 billion \(US\\$189 million\) world-class museum...it may never be completed. "...I'm not sure I can say that whether I really had the feeling that they were going to finish it" -- Paul Fehlau/Antoine Predock Architect - Taipei Times](#)

[Hot in Cleveland: ...while design innovation may be a hard sell for local architects, the state has had an astonishing track record in the last decade for giving cutting-edge foreign architects their first shot at building on American soil...Here's hoping the openness to daring design shown by these large cultural institutions will influence more clients and encourage daring design from local office architects. -- SANAA; Zaha Hadid; Coop Himmelb\(l\)au; Snohetta; Neutelings Riedijk; Foreign Office Architects \(FOA\) \[slide show\] - Architectural Record](#)

[Architectural Record riles local practitioners in article praising Ohio cities for hiring star architects: Cleveland needs - and deserves - a stronger design culture. But that's a challenge that can't be overcome simply by guilt-tripping clients to stay local. By Steven Litt -- Sejima/Nishizawa/SANAA; Coop Himmelb\(l\)au; Zaha Hadid; Farshid Moussavi/Foreign Office \(FOA\) Architects; HOK; Cesar Pelli; Hugh Stubbins; Wallace Harrison; Westlake Reed Leskosky; I.M Pei; Frank Gehry; SOM; Robert P. Madison International - Cleveland Plain Dealer](#)

[Super Street for the 2012 Super Bowl: Indianapolis shaves driving lanes for sustainable civic space...Georgia Street will be reconfigured into two driving lanes with some parking and a large center median with plantings, kiosks, and street furniture...will include innovative sustainability, climate control, and programming features. -- Ratio Architects \[images\] - The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Neutra Nightmare Shakes Westwood: Fight against student housing project near Richard Neutra's famed Strathmore Apartments falls short at LA planning commission...opponents insist the building is still far too large for the neighborhood...also asserted that the building was an example of "mediocre" design and would cause traffic and parking problems... -- Togawa Smith Martin \[image\] - The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Toronto City Hall: How Finnish architecture rebranded a city: A symposium and exhibit are being held to mark the 45th anniversary of the building designed by Viljo Revell -- and his colleagues..."Revell/Toronto/Helsinki: Finnish](#)

Architecture and the Image of Modern Toronto" By Lisa Rochon -- Bengt Lundsten; Seppo Valjus; Heikki Castren; Eero Saarinen; John B. Parkin [images]- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Brilliant architecture can rescue even Basingstoke: George Ranalli's marvellous work in Brooklyn should be a lesson to Britain's architects and planners...marvellous Saratoga Avenue Community Center in Brooklyn...has not just provided a much-needed facility for local people: it has lifted up the whole area. By Simon Heffer [slide show]- Telegraph (UK)

Olympic clock wins planning gold: Westminster City Council has approved plans for a 6.5 metre-high clock in Trafalgar Square, which will count down the time to the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games...despite admitting in their report that "there is much to take issue with in terms of design" [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Tradition meets modernity in New York's Sukkah City competition: While the concept seemed a bit esoteric at the beginning, the response from the professional community was impressive. Some 600 entrants submitted designs...offer intriguing combinations of old and new, permanent and transient, fixed and moveable, open and closed. -- Joshua Foer/Roger Bennett/Reboot; Matthias Karch; Volkan Alkanoglu; Ronald Rael/Virginia San Fratello; SO-IL- Ha'aretz (Israel)

Visual architects: Dhristicone Architecture Academy encourages not just students but also the hearing and speech impaired to enroll for its course in architectural communications..."This course is for everyone who is interested in being a liaison between the client and an architect...We will teach them how to see a drawing visually..." -- Vijay Bargoitra- The Hindu (India)

Safe Trestles Competition Winner + Honorable Mentions Announced -- CO-LAB design office; Lager Raabe Skafte Landscape Architects; kola+kle; ERGO4; Ken Smith Landscape Architect: WORKSHOP WEST [links to images, info]- Open Architecture Network / Architecture for Humanity

Call for entries: 13th Annual Berkeley Undergraduate Prize for Architectural Design Excellence 2011: essay contest: Valuing the Sacred (international); deadline: November 1- Berkeley Prize

Call for entries/Deadline Reminder: 2nd Annual BrickStainable Design Competition: use clay brick as the primary building material for a hypothetical net-zero energy corporate headquarters office in Baltimore, MD; cash prizes; registration deadline: November 15- Potomac Valley Brick

Cocktail Napkin Sketch Contest: After being deluged with 1,322 cocktail napkins bearing sketches from 352 architects and architecture students...jury of editors has determined the winner and runners-up... -- Truc Dang Manh Nguyen/TDMN and Associates; Keegan Carmichael/Kallmann McKinnell & Wood; David Fox; Ernesto Liebrecht; Stanley Stark; John Henley/ESa; etc. [slide shows]- Architectural Record

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