Today's News - Tuesday, October 12, 2010

- · Weinstein cheers Reisner's exuberant interviews with 16 architects in "Architecture and Beauty" (a touch of Keats included).
- · A cautionary tale offered by NYC architects to those who think they've hit a jackpot with a project in China (apparently architects from elsewhere are also chiming in).
- · The inaugural UK Passivhaus Conference and launch of the Passivhaus Trust gives a boost to the passive house movement.
- · Libeskind tapped to design the Institute for Democracy and Conflict Resolution, a new landmark for his U.K. alma mater.
- Menking finds the Israel Museum in Jerusalem "a thrilling dialogue of space, light, and landscape" (great pix, too).
- · We posted the news yesterday that Mayslits Kassif Architecture's Tel Aviv Port won big; today, an amazing offering of images (the before/after's are most intriguing).
- Q&A with Beverly Willis re: the making of "A Girl Is a Fellow Here," and how her rough childhood was a blessing in disguise: "I learned to stand up for myself...so when I entered the professional world, it was second-nature... I gave as good as I got" (now if only the paper would correct her age she's only 82 who needs 8 years added, no matter how old/young?!!?).
- · An eyeful of some architectural wonders in Seoul.
- Researchers find that having a walking or biking trail in the nabe doesn't mean anyone is using it or that it enhances home values, though "aesthetics of a trail may have something to do with its usage."
- Pennsylvania's Longwood Gardens is now "the heavy-weight champion in the living wall world" (great pix of some other contenders "from the artistic to the mammoth
 to the just plain weird").
- Engineers Without Borders takes the NBM's Turner Prize by being "a platform for the next generation of engineers (and with EWB and AFH growing, could a Landscape Architecture for Humanity be far behind?).
- Di Paola turns green flying with nonprofit SouthWings: "Aerial views expose the eye-popping scale of environmental catastrophes...Every policymaker should get up there to see the big picture."
- To balance that depressing voyage, take a look at the result of aerial photographer Arthus-Bertrand's five-year odyssey: "Every stunning aerial photograph tells a story about our changing planet" (stunning, indeed!).
- · Call for entries: 1st Annual Global Excellence Awards to honor excellence in international interior design/architecture projects.

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Book Review: "Architecture and Beauty: Conversations with Architects about a Troubled Relationship": Yael Reisner exuberantly interviews architects about beauty. Any of you architects seen Mr. Keats Lately? By Norman Weinstein-ArchNewsNow

China Confidential: An invitation to build in China sounds too good to be true, and probably is...So discovered a handful of New York architects when they were contacted...about building an office tower and housing project in Henan province, China. Or so they now believe. By Julie V. lovine -- 1100 Architect; Della Valle Bernheimer; Eisner Design; Belmont Freeman Architects; Elmslie Osler Architect- The Architect's Newspaper

A boost for Passivhaus in the UK: The inaugural UK Passivhaus conference gives a taste of what's to come...also marked the launch of the Passivhaus Trust, an umbrella body to promote and co-ordinate the standards... -- Alexis Rowell/uttingthecarbon; Bere Architects - Building (UK)

Libeskind to design landmark for University of Essex to house a new international institute promoting peace and democracy: The Institute for Democracy and Conflict Resolution (IDCR)...will be the largest purpose-built institute for independent research and policy analysis in the field.-BD/Building Design (UK)

Crit: History Refracted at the Israel Museum: Glass master James Carpenter creates a thrilling dialogue of space, light, and landscape at Jerusalem's venerable campus. By William Menking -- Alfred Mansfield/Dora Gad; Isamu Noguchi; Frederick Kiesler /Armand Bartos (1965); Efrat-Kowalsky Architects; A. Lerman Architects; Anish Kapoor [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Mayslits Kassif Architecture Takes Coveted European Landscape Architecture Award for Tel Aviv Port...had been an abandoned concrete pile for years...turned it into one of the most hopping spots in Israel's capital. [images]-Green Prophet (Middle East)

Pioneer Architect Beverly Willis Makes Her First Film, "A Girl Is a Fellow Here: 100 Women Architects in the Studio of Frank Lloyd Wright": You had a rough childhood...was it a blessing in disguise?..."I learned to stand up for myself, to defend myself...so when I entered the professional world, it was second-nature...I gave as good as I got." By David Holahan/Centerbrook Architecture-Hartford Courant (Connecticut)

Architectural highlights of Seoul: In this fast-changing city, there are unique buildings with enduring value that are well worth visiting. -- Jo Min-seok; Kim Inchul; Jang Yun-gyu/UNSANGDONG Architects Cooperation; Rem Koolhaas/OMA; Dominique Perrault [images]- Korea Herald

Suburban Trail Use Not a Sure Thing: The mere existence of a walking or biking trail near your neighborhood doesn't mean anyone is using it, researchers and trail advocates have discovered...aesthetics of a trail may have something to do with its usage.- Miller-McCune

Living Walls Take on Size and Creativity: Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, PA, has unveiled the largest green wall in North America...The 4,072 sq. ft. vegetative surface is the heavy-weight champion in the living wall world...opens the door for many adventurous and creative steps ranging from the artistic to the mammoth to the just plain weird. — Mass Studies; GSky [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Engineers Without Borders: A Platform for the Next Generation of Engineers: ...won the National Building Museum's prestigious Henry C. Turner prize...for its work connecting engineering students with international development

projects. With the growth of groups like EWB and Architecture for Humanity, perhaps a "Landscape Architecture for Humanity" group will also finally get started?- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Pilots Fly Over Environmental Horrors, Make Passengers Cry: ...SouthWings, a nonprofit conservation group that arranges flights all over southeastern U.S. for media, policy makers and community leaders. Aerial views expose the eyepopping scale of environmental catastrophes in ways that other perspectives cannot...Every policymaker should get up there to see the big picture. By Mike Di Paola [images]- Bloomberg News

Earth from Above: ...the result of the aerial photographer Yann Arthus-Bertrand's five-year airborne odyssey across six continents...Every stunning aerial photograph tells a story about our changing planet.- JustPaste.lt

Call for entries: 1st Annual Global Excellence Awards: established to honor and celebrate outstanding originality and excellence in the creation of international interior design/architecture projects in 10 categories; deadline to request an Entry Packet: November 5; submissions due November 19-International Interior Design Association (IIDA) / BMW Group DesignworksUSA

Flex Space: AECOM Design + Planning has a New York office that's as flexible as its corporate style - and LEED Gold to boot. -- Michielli + Wyetzner Architects [images]- ArchNewsNow

Renzo Piano Building Workshop: Resnick Pavilion, LACMA Expansion - Phase II, Los Angeles

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Yesterday's News

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