

Today's News - Friday, June 10, 2011

- Chatterjee finds the collection of essays in "Post-Traumatic Urbanism" to be "brave and current" (with very minor caveats).
- Jerusalem approves revised plan for controversial Museum of Tolerance; opponents plan to continue protesting.
- Hadid visits her "sophisticated shed" in Glasgow (is she having second thoughts about her "infamous pistachio color scheme"?).
- K. Jacobs visits the "biggest and best piece of eye candy on Manhattan's skyline": New York by Gehry "to see how much of the architect's exterior bling had found its way inside" (expensive views! too bad about what you see at street level).
- Horton on Ouroussoff's exit from NYT: Will he be missed? "Yes. Even by critics of critics...he brought architecture to the consciousness of the masses. He and other critics [an "endangered species"] are the public's continuing education in architecture."
- An architect heads to federal court, accused of "falsely claiming to be the designer of a number of projects that were, in fact, designed by Gensler."
- Weekend diversions (it's summer!):
- LaBarre cheers High Line Part Deux as being better than the first: there's actually "stuff to do" (with eye candy courtesy of "photog extraordinaire Iwan Baan").
- An eyeful of FIGMENT's free arts festival Governors Island this weekend.
- Kamin offers a good reason to be in the Windy City this weekend: TCLF's "What's Out There Weekend Chicago" is two days of 25 free guided tours of parks and open spaces designed by landscape masters.
- McGuirk visits "Ernő Goldfinger v Groucho Marx" - an "enigmatic little exhibition" in London that inspired him to explore Goldfinger's own house, which "reveals a clever, pragmatic designer who was ahead of his time."
- An Irish Architecture Foundation competition that paired architects with students in a challenge to re-think school design results in an exhibition in Carlow.
- In Düsseldorf, "Container Architecture" examines the creative potential of the lowly shipping container.
- In Riverside, Ontario, "Installations by Architects" highlights "the most significant projects from the last 25 years by today's most exciting architects."
- Page turners: "Fast-Forward Urbanism" challenges the powers-that-be who treat architects as irrelevant by laying "the groundwork for a new theory of architecture-as-urbanism."
- "Rethinking Modernity" is a "lucid exploration of architectural theory" going back to Vitruvius (and adds "Post-Rational" to the architectural lexicon).
- King picks five cool books about San Francisco that offer vantage points "as varied as the place itself."
- Welton cheers FLW's Fallingwater at 75 - and a luscious new tome about it (great pix!) + FLW's Cooke House in Virginia Beach can be yours for \$3.75 million (great pix - we'll take it!).
- "Genius of Place" is "good at shedding light on the less familiar aspects of Olmsted's life," portraying "an imperious and disagreeable workaholic" (even if "written in a cloyingly conversational voice").

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Book Review: "Post-Traumatic Urbanism," guest edited by Adrian Lahoud, Charles Rice, and Anthony Burke: A collection of essays highlights the recognizable and unrecognizable shifts and changes in cities following both mad-made and natural disasters. By Dr. Anuradha Chatterjee - [ArchNewsNow](#)

Jerusalem approves revised plan for contested Museum of Tolerance site: The controversial project by the Simon Wiesenthal Center is located on a medieval Muslim cemetery, which opponents say defeats the museum's goal of building tolerance. -- Frank Gehry; Chyutin Architects [\[image\]](#)- Ha'aretz (Israel)

Riverside Museum architect visits 'sophisticated shed' in Glasgow: Zaha Hadid is half an hour late. Which befits the image of the first lady of architecture but is also very apt...after almost 30 years working in the UK, why has it taken so long for her designs to come to fruition. She shrugs. "I really don't know"...the infamous pistachio colour scheme, which looks likely to divide public opinion...[she] admits it was her choice - but even she looks like she's having second thoughts. [\[images, links\]](#)- BBC (UK)

New York by Gehry: We just wanted to look at the place up close to see how much of the architect's exterior bling had found its way inside...From the outside, 8 Spruce Street is undeniably one of a kind...the biggest and best piece of eye candy on the skyline...the one seen on the skyline, is a completely different version from the building you see at street level... By Karrie Jacobs - [Metropolis Magazine](#)

Death of a Critic: When a major architecture critic heads for the exit, does anyone care? ...there is a need for architecture critics. They are already on the endangered species watch-list...Will be Nicolai Ouroussoff missed? Yes...he brought architecture to the consciousness of the masses. He and other critics are the public's continuing education in architecture...the next important question: Is anyone going to take N.O.'s place? By Guy Horton -- Nancy Levinson; Julie V. Iovine; Alexandra Lange - [ArchDaily](#)

Architect making false claims, former employer says: Gensler claims in a suit filed in federal court Thursday that onetime employee Jay Marshall Strabala has "repeatedly and willfully misrepresented the true origin and source of certain architectural and design services, falsely claiming to be the designer of a number of projects that were, in fact, designed by Gensler." -- [2Define Architecture](#)- WLS radio (Chicago)

The Second Phase Of NYC's High Line Is Even Better Than The First: This time, there are amenities that give visitors actual stuff to do. With images by architectural photog extraordinaire Iwan Baan. By Suzanne LaBarre -- James Corner Field Operations; Diller Scofidio + Renfro-Fast Company

FIGMENT's Free Art Returns to Governors Island: ...a free arts festival with performances from June 10-12, and interactive exhibitions until September 25, including a "terrace sculpture garden" featuring "17 sustainable sculpture projects"; an artist-designed mini-golf course; and this year's City of Dreams Pavilion, "Burble Bup"... [\[images, links\]](#)-

The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

What's Out There Weekend Chicago: If the abrupt transformation of the plaza at Trump International Hotel & Tower serves no other purpose, at least it directs our eyes toward the importance of landscape architecture...two-day celebration...will address that knowledge gap...25 free guided tours of parks and open spaces designed by landscape masters...June 11-12. By Blair Kamin -- The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF)- Chicago Tribune

Not Just For Fun: The National Gallery In London Takes On Climate Change With A Painting In Plants In Trafalgar Square: ...made of more than 8,000 plants of 26 varieties...It is, of course, supposed to be van Gogh's Wheatfield, With Cypresses...through October. By Judith H. Dobrzynski [images]- ArtsJournal

Meet Ernö Goldfinger, the unsung hero of furniture design: The unconventional furniture designs of a man better known for his architecture are a revelation...an enigmatic little exhibition entitled "Ernö Goldfinger v Groucho Marx"...Intrigued, I decided to pay a visit to Goldfinger's house on Willow Road...reveals a clever, pragmatic designer who was ahead of his time. By Justin McGuirk [images]- Guardian (UK)

A Space For Learning: Carlow: ...a design competition initiated by the Irish Architecture Foundation to challenge current thinking on school design, creating an opportunity for architects to collaborate with the end-users of educational spaces - the students. June 10 - August 21 at Visual Centre for Contemporary Art, Carlow [link to images, info]- Irish Architecture Foundation

A Fetish of the Modern Age: "Container Architecture" Examines Life in a Globalized World: ...a new exhibit at NRW-Forum Düsseldorf highlights the creative potential of the shipping container and its unique ability to serve eclectic contemporary lifestyles. -- Christoph Ingenhoven; Lot-ek; Luc Deleu/t.o.p. office; Michael Johansson; Sean Godsell; sculp(it) architects; Jure Kotnik; Jason Welty/SEABIN design [slide show]- Der Spiegel (Germany)

"Installations by Architects" at the Cambridge Galleries Design at Riverside: ...features a collection of the most significant projects from the last 25 years by today's most exciting architects. -- Atelier in Situ, Philip Beesley, Dan Hoffman, Diller + Scofidio, Marianne Lund, John Hejduk, James Cathcart, Frank Fantauzzi + Terence van Eslander, Lab(au), Richard Kroeker, Périphériques Architects- Canadian Architect magazine

After the City: In this post-Katrina, post-9/11, post-Bilbao, post-2008 moment, the principal players in the process of city-making...have repeatedly treated architects as irrelevant..."Fast-Forward Urbanism: Rethinking Architecture's Engagement with the City" edited by Dana Cuff and Roger Sherman/CityLab...lay the groundwork for a new theory of architecture-as-urbanism. [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Transitions in architecture: "Rethinking modernity: Towards post rational architecture" by Jaimini Mehta re-examines architectural theory...posits that architectural thought suffered an epistemological obstacle in the mid-18th century...It took the luminous genius of Louis Kahn to bring about a paradigm shift by breaking through the unconscious obstacle that the sundering of architecture and civil engineering had erected...labels Kahn the first Post-Rational architect. - Vitruvius; Santiago Calatrava; Hiroshi Naito- Deccan Herald (India)

Five books about San Francisco: ...the vantage points are as varied as the place itself: "Alcatraz: The Fortress Revealed" edited by Steve Fritz and Deborah Roundtree; "Everything Is Its Own Reward" by Paul Madonna; "Women and the Everyday City: Public Space in San Francisco, 1890-1915" by Jessica Ellen Sewell; "Vanished Waters: A History of San Francisco's Mission Bay" by Nancy Olmsted; "San Francisco in the 1930s: The WPA Guide to the City by the Bay." By John King- San Francisco Chronicle

FLWs Fallingwater, at 75: "Fallingwater: Frank Lloyd Wright's Romance with Nature" by Lynda S. Waggoner...includes correspondence between Wright and the Kaufmans, never published before [and] essays by Wright scholars David G. De Long, Justin Gunther, Neil Levine, John M. Reynolds and Robert Silman. By J. Michael Welton -- Christopher Little; Rick Darke [images]- Huffington Post

Virginia Beach Wright house can be yours for right price: The Cooke House, designed by...Frank Lloyd Wright, is for sale. It's only the second time since it was finished 51 years ago...one of only three in Virginia designed by Wright...a serious, sensitive, preservation-minded buyer will...appreciate living in a piece of history. The price of this privilege? \$3.75 million. [images, video]- The Virginian-Pilot

Meaning In a Meadow: Frederick Law Olmsted saw a unity between landscape and social order - a park could be an emblem of freedom: "Genius of Place: The Life of Frederick Law Olmsted" by Justin Martin...good at shedding light on the less familiar aspects of his life...portrays an imperious and disagreeable workaholic...at times it is rather too engaging, written in a cloyingly conversational voice...- Wall Street Journal



-- Steven Holl Architects: Nanjing Sifang Art Museum, Nanjing, China
-- Olafur Eliasson: Your rainbow panorama, ARoS Art Museum,
Aarhus, Denmark

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