

## Today's News - Wednesday, November 16, 2011

EDITOR'S NOTE: Apologies for not letting you know that we would not be posting yesterday (and thanks to all who sent notes of concern).

- Brandes Gratz on why women planners "aren't often offered seats at the table," except that "women have been in the forefront of saving and regenerating American cities. Jane Jacobs was just one of them."
- Davidson's amusing take on the NYC DOT planners' focus on public seating, making it more like the "Department of Staying Right Here."
- Pottstown, PA, votes to eliminate architectural review of its historic downtown; not all are pleased (and hopefully not a harbinger of bad news for other HARBs).
- K. Jacobs visits the WTC Memorial and is disappointed to find "a collection of compromises."
- Archaeologists may be busy at work on the contentious site of Jerusalem's Museum of Tolerance - but the architects aren't as Chyutin goes the way of Gehry.
- It looks like Rogers Stirk Harbour's towering plans for NYC's Port Authority Bus Terminal bite the dust: "the on-again, off-again project may finally be dead."
- Farrelly's (very funny) take on cleaning vs. greening and "how easily eco-neurosis can set in, progressing quickly to eco-paralysis."
- Glancey finds inspiration in Dieste's "soaring brick forms" in Uruguay that prove "it is possible to build magisterially and beautifully in hard times."
- Idenburg reports from Ithaca with a thoughtful take on OMA's Milstein Hall at Cornell: "At the end of two decades of iconicity it revokes the early debates around Post-Modernism," but "is it a prelude or a coda?" (great pix, too).
- Hadid talks to Tina Brown about architecture, feminism, and the difficulty of getting a day of rest.
- Blum studies Studio O+A's strategies that act "like a subtle siren call to the next wave" of high-tech start-ups: "We're the ones you hire to design the office that gets you the big campus."
- Arieff accesses the Vibrant Cities Challenge: Can a single good idea save cities like Detroit? "Though noble," it seems "far more geared to what IDEO refers to as the 'inspiration' end of things than the solution side."
- AIGA launches "Design for Good" initiative to encourage design-driven social change.
- The AIA ABI edges upward, which is "an encouraging sign...But there continues to be a high level of volatility in the marketplace."
- Woodman weighs in on BD's Architect of the Year Awards 2011 winners.
- Call for entries/applications: Harvard GSD's Loeb Fellowships.

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[Jane Jacobs and the Power of Women Planners: Any dogged observer of American cities of the 20th and 21st centuries can't escape the discovery that women have been in the forefront of saving and regenerating American cities. Jane Jacobs was just one of them. By Roberta Brandes Gratz -- Mindy Fullilove; Alexie Torres Flemming; Majora Carter; Kate Wood; Elizabeth Yampiere; Joan Byron; Tanya Harris; Karen Gadbois; Carol Bebelles - The Atlantic Cities](#)

[Forward Thinking on Behinds: City planners make more space for just sitting still...Public seating is a crucial element of a vibrant metropolis, which is why the Department of Transportation is also now functioning as the Department of Staying Right Here. By Justin Davidson -- WXY; Rogers Marvel Architects; Ignacio Ciocchini - New York Magazine](#)

[Council votes to eliminate architectural review of downtown Pottstown buildings: ...voted to remove jurisdiction for the Historic Architecture Review Board...evidence that the zoning of the "conservation district" is adequate..."We're just trying to stimulate investment and growth downtown"...it's better to fix HARB than get rid of it when what's at stake is our historical architecture"... - The Mercury \(Pottstown, Pennsylvania\)](#)

[Double Tragedy: The new World Trade Center memorial erases virtually all traces of the old buildings...As seen from the memorial, the new WTC, emerging all around me, looked exactly like what it is: a collection of compromises. By Karrie Jacobs -- Daniel Libeskind; Michael Arad - Metropolis Magazine](#)

[Archaeologists resume work at contentious worksite of Jerusalem Museum of Tolerance: Chyutin Architects recently quit working on the museum over differences with the Simon Wiesenthal Center. Chyutin Architects was hired...after the resignation of Frank Gehry. Chyutin has signed a contract leaving the Center with the architectural copyright for the plan. - Ha'aretz \(Israel\)](#)

[Plan for Port Authority Bus Terminal Tower Is Dropped: ...the on-again, off-again project may finally be dead. -- Rogers Stirk Harbour & Partners \[image\] - New York Times](#)

[Cleaning is not greening, and can leave you browned off: We talk as though clean and green are synonyms. But are they? ...how easily eco-neurosis can set in, progressing quickly to eco-paralysis... By Elizabeth Farrelly - Sydney Morning Herald](#)

[Let's follow the South American way: Eladio Dieste's soaring brick forms show how it's possible to achieve marvels on a low budget. I have never been to Uruguay. Now, I very much want to...Cristo Obreiro is one of those buildings...that proves it is possible to build magisterially and beautifully in hard times. By Jonathan Glancey - BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Milstein Hall, OMA Reloaded: The extension of the Cornell College of Architecture, Art and Planning in Ithaca, where Rem Koolhaas studied architecture in a time of ferment...Seemingly tame, \[it\] could be Pandora's box. Its agenda is so ambitious that to be realised it could never be openly stated. Is it a prelude or a coda? By Florian Idenburg/SO-IL At the end of two decades of iconicity it revokes the early debates around Post-Modernism. - Domus](#)

[Zaha Hadid and Tina Brown Discuss Architecture, Feminism, and More: ...a frank conversation that covered everything from modernism as an unfinished project to the difficulty of getting a day of rest...to her difficulties in a male-dominated field. \[video\] - Newsweek/Daily Beast](#)

[Acting Like a Start-Up: After designing offices for a veritable who's who of Silicon Valley tech firms, Studio O+A has a new challenge: bringing the behemoths back to their renegade roots...acting like a subtle siren call to the next wave of start-ups..."We're the ones you hire to design the office that gets you the big campus." By Andrew Blum \[images\] - Metropolis Magazine](#)

[Can a Single Good Idea Save Detroit? OpenIDEO + Steelcase Vibrant Cities Challenge...though noble, is far more geared to what IDEO refers to as the "inspiration" end of things than the solution side...Nathan Waterhouse talks about how the Challenge came about and how \(and whether\) it transforms ideas into real change. By Alison Arieff - The Atlantic Cities](#)

[AIGA Launches 'Design for Good' Initiative: The initiative will serve as a kind of clearinghouse for advice, inspiration, training, and opportunities to tackle socially minded projects. \[links\] - UnBeige](#)

[Architecture Billings Index Moves Upward: Overall business conditions remain negative: "An increase in the billings index is always an encouraging sign...But there continues to be a high level of volatility in the marketplace...it's likely we will see a similar state of affairs in the coming months." - American Institute of Architects \(AIA\)](#)

Architect of the Year Awards 2011 winners: ...a vivid snapshot of the state of the profession as it stands today. By Ellis Woodman -- Stanton Williams; Cottrell & Vermeulen; Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands; Reardon Smith Architects; Karakusevic Carson Architects; De Matos Ryan; Henley Halebrown Rorrison; Hopkins Architects; Bennetts Associates; David Archer Architects; East Architecture Landscape Urban Design; Muf Architecture Art; Sheppard Robson; Jonathan Hendry Architects (Young Architect of the Year) [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Call for entries/applications: Loeb Fellowships: open to mid-career design practitioners/emerging leaders working to improve the built and/or natural environment for a year of independent study at Harvard's Graduate School of Design; deadline: January 3, 2012- Harvard University Graduate School of Design (GSD)

Michael Sorkin: Architectural Critic as Scam Scanner and Urban(e) Design Sage: "All Over the Map," a sprawling miscellany of recent essays on buildings and cities, is a triumph of enlightened nay-saying and affirmation. By Norman Weinstein- ArchNewsNow



Exhibition: "Detour DK" - DAC Danish Architecture Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark -- Peter Zumthor/and Louise Bourgeois; Odd Aanensen/Inge Dahlman; Pushak arkitekter; 70° Nord - Gisle Løkken; Reiulf Ramstad Architects; Jensen & Skodvin Architects; Snøhetta

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