

Today's News - Wednesday, September 12, 2012

- Kimmelman and Iovine offer their takes on the Venice Biennale: "probably the less said, the better, about 'Common Ground'" (ouch!) + It "laid bare a profession wrestling with its demons and a deeper dread that the public considers it irrelevant."
- Saffron has high hopes that Philly's "luckless" Kimmel Center will "turn itself into a hip, welcoming hub" with new rooftop garden.
- Lincoln Center Theater and BAM turn to Hugh Hardy for new venues.
- Litt gets a sneak peek at Cleveland's rising convention center and medical mart: "To visit the latest stage of construction is to be impressed by the sheer bigness of the project and the raw muscularity of its interior structure."
- CF Møller's new museum in Norway is "inspired by the glacier and ice-filled surrounding landscape."
- Not all are thrilled with plans to revive Havana's incomplete and long-abandoned ballet school.
- Plans for London's long-stalled mega-mosque are submitted by yet another architect.
- More work in Hong Kong's West Kowloon Cultural District is "up for grabs."
- Canberra, Australia, and Lucknow, India, celebrate a shared architectural legacy to be commemorated this month.
- A young Cape Town architect "has a passion for the city and turning it into a pedestrian friendly city."
- A good reason to be in NYC next week: ENYA Future Now Summit for emerging professionals.
- It's a long shortlist for the Australian Institute of Architects' 2012 National Architecture Awards.
- Call for entries: RIBA launches international design competition for York's Guildhall and riverside quarter + Maison de l'architecture du Québec MAQ Young Architectural Critic competition.

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Projects Without Architects Steal the Show: The 13th Venice Architecture Biennale...Save for a few projects and pavilions, probably the less said, the better, about "Common Ground"...is well intended but, alas, a missed opportunity...a surprising number of the old boldface names, hogs much of the spotlight. By Michael Kimmelman -- David Chipperfield; Zaha Hadid; Peter Zumthor; Renzo Piano; Peter Eisenman; Bernard Tschumi; Norman Foster; Herzog & de Meuron; Anupama Kundoo; Crimson Architectural Historians; Atelier d'Architecture Autogérée; Jean Nouvel; Mia Hagg; Urban-Think Tank; Justin McGuirk; Iwan Baan; Cathy Lang Ho; Ned Cramer; David van der Leer; Institute for Urban Design; Michael Sorkin; Anne Guiney [slide show] - New York Times

Wrestling for Relevance: All the major players show up...but the mood is perhaps more earnest than glamorous. This year it was particularly so...the 13th Venice Architecture Biennale laid bare a profession wrestling with its demons and a deeper dread that the public considers it irrelevant...eager to move on and build for the everyday world where people really live. It's about time. By Julie V. Iovine -- David Chipperfield; Urban-Think Tank; Zaha Hadid; Frei Otto; FAT; Tod Williams Billie Tsien; Toyo Ito; Steven Holl; Anupama Kundoo - Wall Street Journal

Glass box is a tweak for the better at Kimmel Center: Enclosing a small rooftop garden may not sound like much of an accomplishment, but the \$6 million project is the first in a series of carefully calibrated architectural moves that are intended to win back the public's affection for the luckless Kimmel...following the same path taken by Lincoln Center...trying to turn itself into a hip, welcoming hub... By Inga Saffron -- Rafael Viñoly; BLT Architects; KieranTimberlake [images] - Philadelphia Inquirer

In New York, Two Big Arts Institutions Go Small: The Lincoln Center Theater and the Brooklyn Academy of Music have invested millions of dollars to fund new theater spaces for new work...Both...turned to Hugh Hardy...he's excited by how these two very different spaces serve similar purposes. -- H3 Hardy Collaboration Architecture [images] - National Public Radio (NPR)

Visit to new Cleveland convention center, medical mart reveals big, raw structures: To visit the latest stage of construction...is to be impressed by the sheer bigness of the project and the raw muscularity of its interior structure... By Steven Litt -- LMN Architects; Gustafson Guthrie Nichol - Cleveland Plain Dealer

A glacial kind of culture: The new Sogn & Fjordane Art Museum has opened in Forde, Norway, inspired by the glacier and ice-filled surrounding landscape -- CF Møller Architects [images] - World Architecture News (UK)

Plan For Cuban Ballet School A Dance Of Art, Politics: Cuban ballet dancer Carlos Acosta has a bold plan to transform a long-abandoned, incompletely built ballet school in Havana into a global cultural and dance center. But some fear the plan is a step toward "privatization." -- Selma Diaz; Ricardo Porro; Roberto Gottardi; Mario Coyula; Vittorio Garatti; Foster + Partners - WBUR Boston Public Radio

New architect submits plans for Newham 'mega-mosque': Scheme will be the size of Battersea Power Station...more than two years after a previous scheme by Allies & Morrison bit the dust. -- NRAP Architects [images] - BD/Building Design (UK)

More work in West Kowloon up for grabs: A fresh slice of work on Hong Kong's £1.7 billion West Kowloon Cultural District is expected to go to market this autumn...competition to design the first stage of the M+ Museum will be launched within the next two months. -- Aric Chen,; Foster + Partners - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Time to commemorate: Australia's capital Canberra and Lucknow's Tagore library (in Lucknow University) have one thing in common - architectural design. Walter Burley Griffin, an American, along with his wife Marion Mahony...Canberra-Lucknow contribution will be commemorated this month... - Hindustan Times (India)

'Urbanist' opens up city spaces with design: Mokena Makeka who was the lead architect in designing the Cape Town station five years ago is probably one of Cape Town's most talented architects...has a passion for the city and turning it into a pedestrian friendly city. -- Makeka Design Lab - The New Age (South Africa)

ENYA Future Now Summit: a day-long conference for emerging professionals, intern architects, and young architects licensed 10 years or less to investigate the evolving roles of marketing/branding, social technologies, diverse business models, and civic leadership within the

[architectural industry; at the Center for Architecture, NYC, September 22- Emerging New York Architects \(AIANY ENYA\)](#)

[Australian Institute of Architects' 2012 National Architecture Awards shortlist revealed: ...59 projects - a new record... -- architectus + ingenhoven architects; Denton Corker Marshall; Circa Morris-Nunn; Coniglio Ainsworth Architects; Fender Katsalidis; Wood/Marsh Architecture; BVN Architecture; BKK Architects/Peter Elliott Architects; Officer Woods; Bernard Seeber; Allen Jack + Cottier Architects \[images\]- Architecture & Design \(Australia\)](#)

[Call for entries: RIBA launches international design competition to explore future uses for York's Guildhall and riverside quarter; deadline: November 6- BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Call for entries: Maison de l'architecture du Québec MAQ Young Architectural Critic; registration deadline: October 12; submission deadline: November 19- Canadian Architect magazine](#)



[-- OMA/Office for Metropolitan Architecture: Garage Gorky Park, Moscow, Russia](#)
[-- Pitágoras Architects: International Center for the Arts, Jose de Guimarães, Guimarães, Portugal](#)

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