Today's News - Thursday, December 13, 2012

- Kirkham and Rudolf take an in-depth (post-Sandy) look at New Jersey's "conspicuously lenient" land-use laws "likely to perpetuate cycles of reckless development followed by storm-inflicted devastation" it's "a battle between nostalgia and enlightened coastal management" (a must-read!).
- NJIT and Tulane architecture students to help reconstruct Seaside Heights, NJ (let's hope they read the previous report first!).
- Maly offers a fascinating tour of NYC's "landscapes of dredge...the greatest unrecognized landscape architecture project in the world."
- · Florida follows up on his report about the uselessness of economic development incentives with additional evidence.
- · A new AlA report connects design and public health.
- Gould's Q&A with lvy re: AlA's "Decade of Design" initiative: "While many of us believe that the connections between health and design are there, what we need is proof."
- Hart's Part 2 of his "New Humanism" series focuses on experience and how our built environments "shape everyone's moods, thoughts, emotions and the ways we
 move and act."
- Hume on why it's going to be painful for Toronto to finally pay the piper for the Gardiner Expressway: "prepare to hear from every architect and artist" with grand schemes "their ideas, as crazy as they always seemed, make more sense than ever."
- · Woodman isn't totally wowed by the Louvre-Lens; "Intuitive, it is not," but "quibbles aside, it does feel like a building that works."
- Eyefuls of the final towering proposals for Shell Centre on London's South Bank.
- · NEX wins contest for a new café on London's King's Road (it was our fave).
- Cox Richardson speaks out about the pending demolition of its award-winning (and only 24-year-old) convention center in Sydney: it's an "act of vandalism" (though the Hassell/OMA/Populous team designing its replacement is "top notch").
- On a brighter note, Q&A with Martine of Strada re: the complexities of "stitching together" 7 buildings to create a successful mixed-use complex in the heart of Pittsburgh.
- Barreneche pays tribute to Niemeyer, who "reinvigorated Modernism by taking the chill off its rigid, dogmatic Bauhaus approach, imbuing its rationality with sensuality, optimism, and a joie de vivre."
- · Chicago's Beeby to receive the 2013 Driehaus Prize: "he helped bring traditional architecture and urban design back into the public consciousness."
- Brussat couldn't be happier: last year, "Graves's Driehaus baffled most classicists. Beeby's Driehaus will gratify those with a deeper understanding of both classical and modernist creativity."
- · NBMs Turner Prize for Innovation in Construction Technology Award goes to the Society of Women Engineers (bravo!).
- · Eyefuls of the inaugural IIDA Best Interiors of Latin America Award winners.
- Big Future Group launches with its first project: a school for Himalayan children.

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New Jersey Shore Development Failures Exposed By Hurricane Sandy: NJ's coastal land-use regulations are conspicuously lenient...likely to perpetuate what has played out here for decades: cycles of reckless development followed by storm-inflicted devastation...Experts describe Sandy's legacy here as a battle between nostalgia and enlightened coastal management... By Chris Kirkham and John Rudolf- Huffington Post

Architects who helped rebuild New Orleans teaming up with NJIT to reconstruct Seaside Heights: ...students from NJIT will work alongside Tulane architecture students...in any way they're needed — from helping to clean up to designing new buildings. -- Darius Sollohub/Thomas Dallessio/New Jersey Institute of Technology; Kenneth Schwartz/Tulane School of Architecture- New Jersey Star-Ledger

City Built on Dredge: Tim Maly takes us on a tour of New York City's landscapes of dredge, and explores how the city's past, present and future are shaped by technologies and processes of what he calls "the greatest unrecognized landscape architecture project in the world." [images]- Urban Omnibus

Regardless How They're Counted, Incentives Do Nothing for Economic Development: A follow-up on our analysis of The New York Times series on state and local incentives to business...provides additional evidence of the inefficacy — what I dubbed the "uselessness" of...economic development incentives. By Richard Florida- The Atlantic Cities

New AIA Report Connects Design and Public Health: "Local Leaders: Healthier Communities Through Design" demonstrates the power of architecture to improve public health and provides a roadmap for cities looking to help their citizens stay healthy. [link to report]- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Architects and the public health imperative: AIA makes 10 year commitment to funding research...putting human and environmental health and wellness at the center of the architecture mission...I asked Robert by to talk about the impetus for the "Decade of Design" program..."While many of us believe that the connections between health and design are there, what we need is proof." By Kira Gould- Metropolis Magazine

A New Humanism: Part 2: Experience: What is it like to be there? ...the environments we've built shape everyone's moods, thoughts, emotions and the ways we move and act...I have drawn on six current sets of ideas about how the mind and body work... By Robert Lamb Hart/Hart Howerton; drawings by Albrecht Pichler- Metropolis Magazine

Crumbling Gardiner Expressway forces Toronto to face reality: Repairs...will be costly and painful...prepare to hear from every architect and artist who ever went to sleep dreaming about turning [it] into a hanging garden, a linear park, the world's longest High Line, a bicycle super-path.... These days, their ideas, as crazy as they always seemed, make more sense than ever. By Christopher Hume-Toronto Star

Louvre-Lens by SANAA: ...the suspicion remains that what we are looking at is a tremendous set piece...spatial dividends unlocked by Sanaa's refusal to establish a conventional circulation system have not come without cost...Intuitive, it is not...quibbles aside, [it] does feel like a building that works — which is not always something that one has been able to say about Sanaa's projects. By Ellis Woodman — Christian de Portzamparc; Michel Desvigne; Mosbach Paysagistes; Imrey Culbert [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Final proposals for Shell Centre unveiled: Six architects release visualisations of eight new towers for London's South Bank..have designed elements of the 5.25-acre mixed-use scheme... -- Squire & Partners; KPF; Stanton Williams; Patel Taylor; GRID Architecture; Townshend Landscape Architects [images]- Building (UK)

NEX wins Cadogan café contest: Up-and-coming practice NEX Architecture has won the high-profile contest to design a £2 million café in Duke of York Square on London's King's Road...saw off Architecture 00:/, Carmody Groarke, Duggan Morris, TaylorSnell and Pernilla Ohrstedt... [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Cox Richardson laments 'tragic' Sydney harbourside demolition: The architects behind Sydney's award-winning convention centre (1988) have spoken out..."a great tragedy for architecture"...Philip Cox terming it an "act of vandalism"...he remained positive about the plans for the new buildings, describing the appointed architects...Hassell, OMA and Populous – as "top notch." [images]- Architecture & Design (Australia)

Behold, the (Highly Desirable) Frankenstein of Green Building: A design firm stitched together 7 distinct buildings of different eras and styles, creating a mixed-use complex in the heart of Pittsburgh...the complexities behind Market Square Place and what it took to make this adaptive reuse succeed. By Julia Rocchi/National Trust -- John Martine/Strada [images]- The Atlantic Cities

Oscar Niemeyer: One of the last living links to the founding generation of Modernist architects, he indelibly shaped Brazil's architectural identity, immortalized in...Brasilia...reinvigorated Modernism by taking the chill off its rigid, dogmatic Bauhaus approach, imbuing its rationality with sensuality, optimism, and a joie de vivre... By Raul Barreneche — Le Corbusier; Lucio Costa- Architectural Record

Thomas H. Beeby named the recipient of the 2013 Richard H. Driehaus Prize: A designer whose versatility and critical spirit helped reshape American architecture...As one of the "Chicago Seven" architects who challenged modernist orthodoxy in the 1970s and 1980s, he helped bring traditional architecture and urban design back into the public consciousness. -- HBRA Architects- University of Notre Dame School of Architecture (Indiana)

Driehaus Prize honors epitome of classicism: ...Thomas Beeby, whose work expresses the quality of genuine inventiveness at which classicism beats modernism hands down all the time....Michael Graves's Driehaus baffled most classicists and had modernists sniggering into their sleeves...Beeby's Driehaus will gratify those with a deeper understanding of both classical and modernist creativity. By David Brussat — HBRA [images]- Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

Society of Women Engineers to Receive the National Building Museum's Henry C. Turner Prize for Innovation in Construction Technology Award- National Building Museum

IIDA Best Interiors of Latin America Award Winners: ...first annual competition. One Best of Competition, 7 Best of Category projects, and 13 Honorable Mentions from more than 100 projects from Mexico and Central and South America. -- Islay Weinfeld; Arquitectura e Interiores; Studio MK27; Arditti + RDT Arquitectos; Gonzalo Mardones Arquitecto; SPACE; etc. [slide show essays]- Contract magazine

Introducing Big Future Group and its First Project, a School for Himalayan Children: ...a new organization facilitating culturally conscious and sustainable architecture and infrastructure in the developing world. -- Sharon Davis/Sharon Davis Design; Julie Farris/XS Space), Arun Rimal/Office of Structural Design; Eric Rothestein/eDesign Dynamics-Big Future Group

- -- Herzog & de Meuron: Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, New York -- Douglas Moyer Architect; Reed Hilderbrand Landscape Architects
- -- Diamond Schmitt Architects: Ryerson Image Centre, Toronto, Canada
- -- Riding the Los Angeles Metro: Architects and artists have collaborated on turning the new LA Metro Stations into exciting, colorful spaces that reflect a community of culturally diverse people. By Kirsten Kiser -- The Tanzmann Associates; Siegel Diamond Architecture; Dworsky Associates; Miralles Associates; Escudero-Fribourg Architects; Diedrich Architects & Associates; Ellerbe Becket; Anil Verma Associates; Arquitectonica; etc.

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