

## Today's News - Friday, January 4, 2013

- Chakrabarti weighs in on how to move ahead in a post-Sandy world: "Yes, too much of our urban environment is in harm's way. The solution, however, isn't to throw the urban baby out with the bath water of rising seas."
- A new British study finds school design "can influence a child's development by as much as 25% - positively or negatively" (just in time for the U.K.'s controversial standardized-template plan for new school buildings "with the expressed purpose of reducing the costs of hiring architects").
- Just when you thought China was bulldozing its architectural heritage, it turns out that "business is booming for buyers, movers, rehabilitators and sellers of old buildings" (though it's "not all smooth sailing for the preservation profiteers").
- Riwaq's young architects are returning home from foreign studies and work to help preserve Palestine's architectural heritage.
- Wainwright has high praise for a new South London health center with "big civic ambitions" to be "a beacon for its community. But will it be a model for the future?" (he hopes so).
- Seattle's new Museum of History & Industry opens in an old waterfront armory that "has moments of breathtaking grace, but it also has kitsch. It's almost as if it knew its better future was as a museum."
- Q&A with CPG's senior VP of architecture re: the groundwork that went into Singapore's Gardens by the Bay: it "has set the standard for a new generation of garden developments."
- An update on San Francisco architect Chris Downey, who went blind in 2008, "not a good time to hit the streets looking for work, especially when seeing was not an option."
- Eyefuls of the Top 14 Buildings Of 2012, "some of the most mind-blowing structures of the last year (some might - or should? - remain on the drawing board).
- Architecture to watch in 2013 (in two parts): "what cool architecture will make headlines" (just a few surprises).
- Weekend diversions:
- "16 Acres" is an "intelligent documentary" about the saga of building at Ground Zero that "brings the personalities and their motivations to vivid life and shows their true colors" (not all of them so pretty).
- Hatherley expounds eloquently on the history of Modern architecture and photography, which served as "a handmaiden to an architectural culture that no longer has an interest in anything but its own image."
- Meanwhile, new tomes on Parker and Stoller "invite us to appreciate architectural photography as an art in itself."
- Photojournalist Obara's "Reset - Beyond Fukushima" is a call for "us to learn our lesson," and "reminds us to brace ourselves for the inevitable tragedies to come."
- A second coffee table might be needed to hold Phaidon's "20th Century World Architecture," but "it'd be well worth it."

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Comment: All hands on deck to protect Metropolitan New York: The tragedy of Hurricane Sandy has raised many profound questions...Yes, too much of our urban environment is in harm's way. The solution, however, isn't to throw the urban baby out with the bath water of rising seas. By Vishaan Chakrabarti- The Architect's Newspaper

School Design May Affect a Child's Grades: A study has discovered that school layouts can influence a child's development by as much as 25% — positively or negatively...The results are particularly interesting as the coalition U.K. government has introduced a controversial range of standardised templates for new school buildings, with the expressed purpose of reducing the costs of hiring architects. -- Peter Barrett- Wired

Uncertain Future for Architectural Treasures: Centuries-old temples and similar structures are threatened across China...an entire industrial chain has formed to feed off demand for ancient architecture. Indeed, business is booming for buyers, movers, rehabilitators and sellers of old buildings...It's not all smooth sailing for the preservation profiteers...- Caixin (China)

Preserving Palestine's architectural heritage: Riwaq's young architects have returned home to help fellow citizens reclaim not only their land but also their past...goal is to breathe life back into 50% of Palestine's heritage buildings and the communities in and around them... -- Lana Judeh; Michel Salameh; Renad Shqairat; Sahar Qawasmi [images]- Gulf News (UAE)

A cathedral for GPs: the south London health centre with big civic ambition: The Akerman Health Centre...is a beacon for its community. But will it be a model for the future? By Oliver Wainwright -- Henley Halebrown Rorrison- Guardian (UK)

The Museum That's a Ship: The New Museum of History & Industry [MOHAI] and Our Better Future: ...this is what good museums do to us. They provide environments that ship us to places unplanned...This armory...has moments of breathtaking grace, but it also has kitsch...It's almost as if it knew its better future was as a museum. Evolution is full of stories like these, when things become what they are, rather than being born that way. By Jen Graves -- Paul Thiry (1952); B. Marcus Priteca (1942); LMN Architects- The Stranger (Seattle)

Candid takes with Wong Wai Ying of CPG Consultants: ...an inside peek into the groundwork that went into Gardens by the Bay...worked alongside Wilkinson Eyre Architects and Grant Associates that brought about the grand realisation..."has set the standard for a new generation of garden developments..."- New Straits Times (Malaysia)

Blind architect finds inspiration in loss: There's never a good time to lose your sight, especially for architects. But it was 2008...not a good time to hit the streets looking for work, especially when seeing was not an option..."It's the creative side, it's the drawing, that was the real challenge." Downey isn't easily deterred. -- Chris Downey- KPCC / Southern California Public Radio (SCPR)

The Top 14 Buildings Of 2012: From a skyscraper that cleans pollution to a re-invented college dorm to a pre-fab house that comes in a shipping container, these are some of the most mindblowing structures of the last year. By Morgan Clendaniel -- Lundgaard & Tranberg; Eric Laine/Suzanne Steelman; Zhi Zheng/Hongchuan Zhao/Dongbai Song; Brad Pitt/Make It Right Foundation; Frank Gehry; Koen Olthuis/Waterstudio.NL; David Baker and Partners Architects; Gordon Stott/Jared Levy; Marmol Radziner; Danny Mui/Benjamin Sahagun; Urban-Think Tank; Christo; Castro Mello Architects; Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture; Gensler [images]- Fast Company

Architecture To Watch In 2013: Part 1: ...what cool architecture will make headlines...some big names and a starchitect or two in the mix, but there are plenty of sleeper candidates...Pirated buildings? Check. Cardboard buildings? Check again. -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Shigeru Ban; Frank Gehry; Bjarke Ingles Group/BIG; Steven Holl; Snøhetta; Zaha Hadid; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Fernandes Arquitetos Associados [slide show essay]- Architizer

Architecture To Watch In 2013: Part 2 -- Frank Gehry; OMA; Toyo Ito; Reiser + Umemoto/RUR Architecture; J. Mayer H.; Herzog & de Meuron; +Pool; Deep Ocean Technology; Foster + Partners; Christo [slide show essay]- Architizer

Prime Real Estate: Susan Morris reviews the new movie, "16 Acres," about rebuilding the World Trade Center site: ...after seeing the intelligent documentary...we come to understand what is behind the saga of building at Ground Zero...brings these personalities and their motivations to vivid life and shows their true colors... -- Philip Noble; Scott Raab; Daniel Libeskind; Roland Betts; David Childs/SOM; Michael Arad- The Architect's Newspaper

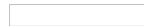
Owen Hatherley on Photography and Modern Architecture: ...was the first architecture to really market itself, so it makes sense that it has become an architecture largely consumed through photographs...a handmaiden to an architectural culture that no longer has an interest in anything but its own image. How did this happen? -- Le Corbusier; Gerrit Reitveld; Bruno Taut; Mies van der Rohe; Albert Renger-Patzsch; Walter Gropius; Laszlo Moholy-Nagy; Aleksandr Rodchenko; Moisei Ginzburg; Eric de Mare; John Davies; etc. [images]- [The Photographers' Gallery](#)

Picturing Two Sides of Modern American Architecture: "Maynard L. Parker: Modern Photography" edited by Jennifer A. Watts, and "Ezra Stoller: Photographer" by Nina Rappaport and Erica Stoller: Both invite us to appreciate architectural photography as an art in itself...critical essays and supporting documentation that reveal the social and economic context in which the images were produced. By Gideon Fink Shapiro [slide show]- [Architect Magazine](#)

"Reset—Beyond Fukushima: Will the Nuclear Catastrophe Bring Humanity to its Senses?" by photojournalist Kazuma Obara: Photos of the fallout from the earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear reactor failure of 2011...calls us to learn our lesson...also reminds us to brace ourselves for the inevitable tragedies to come in 2013—though we hope for none.- [Architect Magazine](#)

20th Century World Architecture: The Phaidon Atlas delivers: You may require a second coffee table just to hold this architectural survey, but it'd be well worth it. By Anthony Paletta [images]- [Metropolis Magazine](#)

Ten Years and Counting...: Reflections on the year, ArchNewsNow's first decade, and our 10th ANNiversary Fête: If you're reading this, it means the Mayans weren't wrong (but the End-of-Timers were) – Happy Winter Solstice! By Kristen Richards - [ArchNewsNow.com](#)



Bookcase: "Three Little Pigs - An Architectural Tale" by Steven Guarnaccia: ...inspired by the architecture of Frank Gehry, Philip Johnson, and Frank Lloyd Wright.

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