

## Today's News - Friday, January 11, 2013

- Rochon's take on 2013: four ideas that "can inspire us to take to the barricades, and demand beauty, environmental breakthroughs and intelligent, healing landscapes."
- Assemblage may have won the competition to design the new Iraqi Parliament, but might it be awarded to Hadid, instead (if the contract is "snatched," says the winner, it's "bad news for architecture").
- Baillieu takes issue with some aspects of the competition: "nothing in Iraq is simple."
- Litt takes a long look at SOM's Enquist's years-long (and pro-bono) efforts to lay out a vision for the future of the Great Lakes region "that would make Daniel Burnham proud."
- Farrelly issues her "second official opinion-recall" re: a comment about a bypass saving Berry: "It is not a bypass at all. It's a through-pass. A bugger-up. A wrecking ball, dividing the town, and the community."
- Chaban reports on Durst's disagreement with Friends of Hudson River Park re: Pier 40, resulting in a new plan by Dattner: "Play ball, write some code, sip a cappuccino."
- Asato feels "a dot-com fever coming on" in her San Francisco neighborhood: "I'm curious to see if, this time, SoMa gets more out of the deal than a new crop of buildings and some places to drink."
- Florida's Q&A with Speck re: why cities are becoming more walkable: "because they understand that their sustainability depends on it; or because they want to attract and retain young, educated adults; or because..."
- Why the Zombie Safe House Competition has been called off - for now.
- Bozikovic pays his respects to Ada Louise: "She found art in the streets, she defended it, and out of journalism she made an art that matters."
- Gardner does likewise: "she was unapologetically a creature of her time and place" (with a few barbs for a few who succeeded her).
- Rosenbaum reaches Huxtable's estate attorney to "discuss her Getty surprise": he says it was "a good reminder that it's a big world in which she's certainly being recognized"; "Am I reading too much into this to see this 'good reminder' as a wake-up call and a rebuke to New York institutions?"
- Two we couldn't resist: "The ABC of Architects" animated short is an alphabet of famous architects (even with some questionable liberties taken with the ABCs - it's our must-see of the day) + Scariest must-see of the day: a "red wave" dust storm in Australia is "a wild sight that you would certainly not want to behold in person" (never mind the cyclone due to hit this weekend).
- Weekend diversions:
  - In London, "Prototyping Architecture" explores the importance of prototypes in the delivery of high quality contemporary design.
  - In Dublin, "Atlas of an Irish City" is "an architectural survey of Galway and design projects that explore new ways to think about the future of the city" by ETH Zurich students.
  - Kampfner offers kudos to "Why We Build": Moore "critiques the most important buildings and the people who masterminded them with a style that is both entertaining and cuts through the crap."
  - Webb wends his way through the Phaidon Atlas of 20th-century architecture, and finds it "surprisingly eclectic and inclusive" with "nearly all the usual suspects and many agreeable surprises" (despite a few minor criticisms).
  - "Thanks for the View, Mr. Mies" is a "vivid postmortem of an unsung success of modern architecture in a city full of exemplary failures."

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[Architecture in 2013: Gimme shelter – plus security, fitness, warmth and exuberance: ...expect more integrity, more humanity and more morality in architecture...These four ideas can inspire us to...take to the barricades, and demand beauty, environmental breakthroughs and intelligent, healing landscapes.](#) By Lisa Rochon -- Michael van Valkenburgh; Fit City; Center for Active Design; KPMB Architects; Bing Thom; Levitt Goodman Architects; Reiulf Ramstad Arkitekter; Michael Green- Globe and Mail (Canada)

[Hadid or Assemblage? Confusion reigns over Iraqi Parliament victory: The winner of the competition to design the £620 million complex has described the confusion over who will be awarded the contract as 'bad news for architecture' -- Peter Besley \[images\]- The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[A democratic Iraq must start with its parliament: Zaha Hadid may be the obvious candidate for Baghdad's most important building, but she must win it on merit...But nothing in Iraq is simple.](#) By Amanda Baillieu -- Peter Besley/Assemblage-BD/Building Design (UK)

[Game Changers | Planning: The Great Lakes Century: Philip Enquist and his team envision a future for the region that would make Daniel Burnham proud....Another goal is to foster a more positive and nuanced identity for the region than that of the Rust Belt, which brings to mind ruin-porn images of Detroit and abandoned neighborhoods reverting to prairie.](#) By Steven Litt -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) [images]- Metropolis Magazine

[Their way or the highway: archaic plan cuts straight to heart of Berry: It's my second official opinion-recall...I suggested in passing that a bypass might save Windsor "as it has saved Berry"...My remark had been...without examining the detail. Now, having done that, I'm here to tell you. It's a shocker. It is not a bypass at all. It's a through-pass. A bugger-up. A wrecking ball, dividing the town, and the community.](#) By Elizabeth Farrelly- Sydney Morning Herald

[Douglas Durst Floats Plan for Tech Offices and Galleries to Save Pier 40: Play ball, write some code, sip a cappuccino.](#) By Matt Chaban -- Dattner Architects [slide show]- New York Observer

[Party Like It's 1999: Another dot-com bubble in San Francisco? I'm curious to see if, this time, SoMa gets more out of the deal than a new crop of buildings and some places to drink.](#) By Yosh Asato [images, links]- Metropolis Magazine

[Toward the Walkable City: Urban planner Jeff Speck chats about his latest book: Why are cities becoming more walkable? "...because they understand that their sustainability \(economic, health, and environmental\) depends on it; or because they want to attract and retain young, educated adults; or because..."](#) By Richard Florida- The Atlantic Cities

[Zombie Safe House Competition Creators Call Off Contest in Wake of Sandy Hook Shooting \[in Newtown, CT\]: Shea Trahan talks about why his team decided to call off this year's contest — for now.](#)- Architect Magazine

[Ada Louise Huxtable, and building for the future: ...she was a titan: a historical figure who basically invented the profession of architecture critic 50 years ago, and was still doing it, very well...She found art in the streets, she defended it, and out of journalism she made an art that matters.](#) By Alex Bozikovic- No Mean City (Toronto)

[Ada Louise Huxtable, an architecture critic for the golden age of International Style: ...she was unapologetically a creature of her time and place...More recent architecture critics at the Times have veered from being recklessly opinionated about everything...to having opinions on nothing...Sometimes they fell somewhere in between](#) By James Gardner -- Herbert Muschamp; Michael Kimmelman; Nicolai Ouroussoff- The Real Deal (NYC)

[Ada Louise Huxtable's Estate Attorney Discusses Her Getty Surprise: When I noted that the migration of her archives to the West Coast was a great loss for New York City...\[he\] noted that this resolution was "a good reminder that it's a big world in which she's certainly being recognized..."](#) Am I reading too much into this to see this "good reminder" as a wake-up call and a rebuke to New York institutions...? By Lee Rosenbaum - ArtsJournal

The Who's Who of Architecture In Under 2 Minutes: "The ABC of Architects" by Andrea Stinga and and Federico Gonzalez...animated short lists the world's most famous architects in alphabetical order with cartoon designs of their most famous buildings. [video]- Business Insider

'Red Wave' Dust Storm Pounds Australia: As if they didn't have enough to worry about: The massive storm was unrelated to a cyclone expected to hit the north coast this weekend...photos reveal a wild sight that you would certainly not want to behold in person. [images, links]- The Atlantic Cities

"Prototyping Architecture" at The Building Centre, London: Merging the work of architects, engineers, manufacturers, product designers, academics and artists...explores the importance of prototypes in the delivery of high quality contemporary design. -- Amanda Levet Architects/AL\_A; Barkow Leibinger; Yves Ebnoether; KieranTimberlake; Philip Beesley; Jonathan Tyrrell/Waterloo Architecture [videos]- ArchDaily

"Atlas of an Irish City": an architectural survey of Galway and design projects that explore new ways to think about the future of the city by students of Studio Tom Emerson at the ETH Zurich; Oonagh Young Gallery, Dublin- Irish Architecture Foundation

"Why We Build" by Rowan Moore: One of the UK's most accomplished writers on the profession, he critiques the most important buildings and the people who masterminded them with a style that is both entertaining and cuts through the crap. By John Kampfner- Observer (UK)

Architecture from the Armchair: "20th Century World Architecture: The Phaidon Atlas": Critical opinions will change, but most of the architects and buildings shown here have won their place in the pantheon...surprisingly eclectic and inclusive...minor criticisms, far outweighed by the corralling of nearly all the usual suspects and many agreeable surprises. By Michael Webb- The Architect's Newspaper

An Unlikely Success Story For Modern Architecture, Mies, And Detroit: Barber shops, birdwatching, and community newsletters: livable Modernism is in the details at Mies van der Rohe's Lafayette Park..."Thanks for the View, Mr. Mies" provides a vivid postmortem (or, actually, a pre-mortem) of an unsung success of modern architecture located in a city full of exemplary failures...the kind of post-occupancy study that every great building deserves but few receive. [images]- Fast Company



-- Morphosis: Perot Museum of Nature and Science, Dallas, Texas  
-- Zaha Hadid Architects: Galaxy SOHO, Beijing, China

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