

Today's News - Monday, May 20, 2013

- ArcSpace brings us SANAA's Musée Louvre-Lens, Foster's show in Nîmes, and a garden of arts in Krakow.
- Q&A with an artist who has "pretty thoroughly documented the 'copy towns'" of China (now he wants to document the real deals).
- Kennicott hopes the Smithsonian will "break D.C. from stagnation" with DS+R's Hirshhorn Bubble, but fears "the political knives are out for one of the best ideas proposed in Washington in a decade or more. Is it all about turf? Let's hope not."
- Litt cheers seeing light at the end of an eight-year-long tunnel (and several architects) with groundbreaking finally set for the Cleveland Institute of Art's final phase of expansion and renovation.
- Heathcote x 2: he hails Nouvel's plans for the National Art Museum of China in Beijing: "to anchor a new museum district in a city where the monumental has become commonplace is going to need something remarkable" - and this is "something that should do the job."
- He spends some quality time with Correa: "The man presents a modest and charmingly self-deprecating image. Far too modest in fact."
- Wainwright and Moore both give thumbs-up to Cullinan's Maggie's Centre, Newcastle (and both are charmed by the architect).
- Q&A with the Nature Conservancy's Tercek re: how his organization is changing with the times, and bringing its message to us urban critters.
- Saffron cheers Philly's new Paine's Park - "one of the first purpose-built skate parks designed by an architect" that welcomes skaters and picnickers alike: "it is a measure of how far our ideas about urban space have evolved."
- Meanwhile on the other side of the Big Pond, the debate continues over whether the skateboarder community should have to move from the Southbank undercroft: Yes, says McCart; No, says Borden.
- A great take on the "pleasures and pitfalls" of owning an FLW home: there are 20 now for sale, "but owning an architectural treasure can come with significant headaches."
- One we couldn't resist x 2: A bigger-than-life-size (15,000 square feet!) "Barbie Dreamhouse" opens in Berlin: "everything is, obviously, very, very pink" + "Occupy Barbie" is a call to arms by Berlin Leftists: "I feel sorry about how some people interpret our giant pink playground."
- A good reason to be in Montreal later this week: the Montreal International Design Show's SIDIM in the City.
- Call for entries/ EOI (international) for a new HQ for Scotland Yard.

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-- SANAA: Musée Louvre-Lens, Lens, France
-- Moving. Norman Foster on Art, Carré d'Art, Nîmes Museum of Contemporary Art, Nîmes, France
-- Ingarden & Ewy: The Malopolska Garden of Arts, Krakow, Poland

Why Is China Stealing Cities, Towns, and Buildings? We don't really know, but if anybody does, it's Phil Thompson...Much of the awareness of this comes from artists Sebastian Acker and Thompson, who...pretty thoroughly documented the "copy towns"...A lot of Chinese people look up to the West as an ideal, so...could be seen as...a quick way of achieving through emulation.- Pacific Standard

With Hirshhorn Bubble, Smithsonian could break D.C. from stagnation: An internal report...was leaked last week, and both the curiously insubstantial document and the leak itself suggest the political knives are out for one of the best ideas proposed in Washington in a decade or more...Is it all about turf? Let's hope not. By Philip Kennicott -- Richard Koshalek; Diller Scofidio + Renfro-Washington Post

Cleveland Institute of Art to break ground on final phase of an eight-year, \$63.5 million expansion and renovation in University Circle: It's been a long haul...but completion...is finally within sight. By Steven Litt -- Albert Kahn (1916); Winy Maas/MVRDV; Burt Hill/Stantec [image]- Cleveland Plain Dealer

A stroke of genius: Jean Nouvel has seen off world-class rivals for the job of designing National Art Museum of China (Namoc): ...to anchor a new museum district in a city where the monumental has become commonplace is going to need something remarkable. Nouvel is about to start building something that should do the job...for Beijing... By Edwin Heathcote [image]- Financial Times (UK)

Humane development: Why architect Charles Correa subscribes to the view that 'cities aren't the problem, they're the solution': The man...presents a modest and charmingly self-deprecating image. Far too modest in fact..."What would be the point of building all over the world?"...Look at Mies [van der Rohe]...when he moved to the US he became global and got lost in the banality of a US downtown." By Edwin Heathcote- Financial Times (UK)

Newcastle's new Maggie's Cancer Care Centre is a model of low-key comfort: Ted Cullinan's 50-year career culminates in a building that distills his simple 'loose-fit, low-energy' approach: ...may be one of the less striking of Jencks' architectural collection from the outside...But within, it is undoubtedly one of the most humane and comfortable of the lot...his particular brand of "romantic pragmatism" will shine through. By Oliver Wainwright- Guardian (UK)

Maggie's cancer care centre, Newcastle: Ted Cullinan talks about his lifelong love of building and the importance of climate, composition – and croquet. By Rowan Moore- Observer (UK)

Ted Cullinan designs latest Maggie's Centre in Newcastle: ...the UK's sixteenth Maggie's...sits between two post-war buildings within the grounds of the Freeman Hospital and is 'designed to be a little paradise'... [slide show]- Wallpaper*

Nature's CEO: Mark Tercek says conservation is good for business: ...leads the largest conservation group in the galaxy...the Nature Conservancy...how his organization is changing with the times, the challenge of getting city people to care about conservation... By Greg Hanscom- Grist Magazine

Finding common ground for skateboarders, picnickers: ...it is a measure of how far our ideas about urban space have evolved...Paine's Park, one of the first in the country to welcome all users...As one of the first purpose-built skate parks designed by an architect, the difference in quality really shows. By Inga Saffron -- Anthony Bracali/Friday Architects/Planners [slide show]- Philadelphia Inquirer

Should the skateboarder community have to move from the Southbank undercroft? Campaigners have criticised plans to turn the Centre's skate park into retail units as part of a £120m revamp. Yes: [Mike McCart/Southbank Centre director](#); No: [Iain Borden/Bartlett professor of architecture and urban culture](#)- [BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

The Pleasures and Pitfalls of Frank Lloyd Wright Homes: There are 20 Frank Lloyd Wright homes now on the market, and some are available at a markdown. But owning an architectural treasure can come with significant headaches. [\[slide show\]](#) - [Wall Street Journal](#)

Berlin: Barbie's New Home: The famous doll now has a life-sized mansion in the center of European Bohemianism...a life-sized "Barbie Dreamhouse"...Everything is, obviously, very, very pink. [\[images\]](#)- [The Atlantic Cities](#)

Berlin Leftists' New Target: Barbie Dreamhouse: Workers of the World Unite to Fight 'Pinkified' Resident, Stiletto Chairs ["Occupy Barbie"]..."Barbie has and always will be a lightning rod for cultural conversation"... "I feel sorry about how some people interpret our giant pink playground"... [\[images\]](#)- [Wall Street Journal](#)

Montreal International Design Show: SIDIM in the City highlights the design and creative features of our metropolis; [May 23rd to 26](#)- [SIDIM](#)

Call for entries/Expressions of Interest (EOI): [Curtis Green Metropolitan Police Service New HQ Building to be called Scotland Yard \(international\)](#); deadline: [June 27](#) - [RIBA Competitions Office](#)

Nuts + Bolts #4: Spring into Growth Mode: Organize Your Process to Maximize Your Potential: Internal organization, clearly defined workflows, and a focused approach to the things you do best will put you on the right track to long-term growth. By [Steve Whitehorn](#)- [ArchNewsNow](#)

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