

## Today's News - Monday, June 17, 2013

- ArcSpace brings us Sejima's 2010 Inujima Art House Project, and 3XN's amazing aquarium Copenhagen.
- An in-depth - and totally fascinating - Q&A with Herzog, von Gerkan, and Ingenhoven re: Hamburg's Elbphilharmonie, the Berlin Brandenburg Airport, and Stuttgart 21 "building debacles," and how much of the blame they should bear (time for a "Department for the Invention of Additional Features"). - Quinton queries Living Cities CEO Ben Hecht, "the public-private partnership whisperer who is reinventing how cities leverage investment for big projects."
- Chakrabarti considers "how do we build delightful cities that make us more prosperous, ecological, fit, and equitable?"
- Goodyear parses some of the "grim political odds facing" Bloomberg's SIRR climate change plan for NYC + While his Seaport City proposal is not being totally written off by some experts, "real estate insiders said they weren't holding their breath."
- Rice lunches with Kimmelman, "the people's critic," to find out more about his "war on Madison Square Garden" and Penn Station's "daily blight": "the sheer crappiness of this place is so universally understood" (and a few more barbs re: Foster's NYPL plans).
- Many in Christchurch are complaining that new buildings are, for the most part, "unimaginative glass boxes" - blame it on widespread post-quake demolition, beefed up structural requirements, and strict planning rules.
- Three years later, the wraps finally come off six "blue-sky visions" for Toronto's Gardiner Expressway by an international who's-who shortlist.
- Hume is not very hopeful about the Gardiner's fate: "In the end, we will revert to form, and do what we always have, as little as possible."
- Three international teams are shortlisted for Stage Two of Australia's Gold Coast Cultural Precinct Design Competition (we won't see designs 'til a winner is announced in the fall).
- The Pritzker jury denies Scott Brown's request for recognition, though she's eligible for a future Pritzker (she says the "jury misunderstood the intent of the petition"); but Palumbo does thank the petitioners "for calling directly to our attention a more general problem, namely that of assuring women a fair and equal place within the profession."
- McGuigan reports on AIANY's efforts to change AIA Gold Medal rules that say it can only go to an individual - the "initiative is on a fast track."
- Badger offers up some "jaw-dropping" history from Collins' "fantastic" book "When Everything Changed" chronicling 50 years of women's history in America: in 1961, Harvard "told married women they probably shouldn't bother studying urban planning."
- Wainwright is wowed by RSH+P's Cheesegrater, "a slender tapering form of rare elegance" that "attempts to give as much back to London as it can" (his take on the city's "bizarre dinner party in the sky" is a hoot!).
- Hecht reports on Heneghan Peng's Palestinian Museum that "drew inspiration from the West Bank's landscape. Exactly what the museum will collect is still under discussion."
- Campbell on Corbu at MoMA: it is "a hodgepodge, a grandma's attic of unexpected delights" + He offers a few words about MoMA's "exercise in placelessness" + his AFAM commentary is spot-on (in our humble opinion).
- Hawthorne has a few issues with the Corbu show's thesis, but does find it "a vast, dense and beautifully installed exhibition."
- Call for entries: PLAYscapes International Design Competition (registration deadline reminder) + 54 Jefferson International Ideas Competition for the former Grand Rapids Public Museum + BOFFO Building Fashion competition for a pop-up boutique on NYC's Pier 57 + EO: Canterbury Cathedral Landscape Design Competition.

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-- Kazuyo Sejima & Associates [SANAA]: Inujima Art House Project (2010), Inujima, Higashi-ku, Okayama, Japan  
-- 3XN: The Blue Planet, Copenhagen, Denmark

Starchitect Trio: The Men Behind Germany's Building Debacles: Stuttgart's train station, Hamburg's concert house and Berlin's airport...competing to be seen as the country's most disastrous projects...How much of the blame do you bear?... "Is the reputation really that bad? ...regarding the bogeyman theory, that isn't how we see ourselves." -- Pierre de Meuron/Herzog & de Meuron; Meinhard von Gerkan/Gerkan, Marg and Partners; Christoph Ingenhoven - Der Spiegel (Germany)

The Public-Private Partnership Whisperer: Living Cities CEO Ben Hecht is reinventing how cities leverage investment for big projects. By Sophie Quinton - The Atlantic Cities

Building Hyperdensity and Civic Delight: ...dense cities are the most efficient economic engines; they are the most environmentally sustainable and the most likely to encourage joyful and healthy lifestyles. So, how do we build delightful cities...? [excerpt from "A Country of Cities: A Manifesto for an Urban America"] By Vishaan Chakrabarti/SHoP Architects [images] - Places Journal

The Grim Political Odds Facing the Bloomberg Climate Change Plan: No mayor can get a project this ambitious done on his own, and that's a huge problem for everyone...a \$20 billion plan formulated by the Special Initiative for Rebuilding and Resiliency...loaded with hundreds of specific recommendations... By Sarah Goodyear - The Atlantic Cities

'Seaport City' is revival of projects never realized: Plans to extend lower Manhattan date back decades but have always fallen through. However, experts are not writing off the one proposed by Mayor Michael Bloomberg...But real estate insiders said they weren't holding their breath..."it's like putting people on the moon. But I think that happened." - Crain's New York Business

The People's Critic: Michael Kimmelman's war on Madison Square Garden: If the wrecking ball does swing someday, it will be clear who set it in motion...the New York Times's architecture critic. He has been inveighing against Penn Station's "daily blight"...the sheer crappiness of this place is so universally understood." By Andrew Rice - New York Magazine

Architects defend 'dull' new city designs: Widespread demolition, beefed up structural requirements and strict planning rules have dictated how new Christchurch buildings look...many complaining they are unimaginative glass boxes. By Charlie Gates -- David Hill/New Zealand Institute of Architects (NZIA); Barnaby Bennett/Project Freerange - The Press (New Zealand)

Wraps come off plans for the Gardiner Expressway: Conceptual plans...prepared three years ago by a who's-who of international firms are finally seeing the light of day. The blue-sky visions commissioned by the city and Waterfront Toronto... -- Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture; Rem Koolhaas/Office for Metropolitan Architecture/OMA; Architects Alliance/Diller Scofidio + Renfro; James Corner Field Operations; Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg (KPMB) + Bjarke Ingels Group/BIG; West 8/DTAH/Cecil Beaumont AGU [images] - Globe and Mail (Canada)

[Future of Toronto's Gardiner Expressway at stake: Three years after they were completed, six proposals...were finally released...Whatever its fate, the Gardiner isn't likely to disappear...In the end, we will revert to form, and do what we always have, as little as possible.](#) By Christopher Hume-  
Toronto Star

[Gold Coast Cultural Precinct Design Competition: Three international teams are shortlisted for Stage Two: design development...designs will be kept under wraps until the announcement of an overall winner is made in November. -- ARM Architecture; Nikken Sekkei; CRAB\\_VOGT\\_DBI- ArchitectureAU \(Australia\)](#)

[Denied: Despite a public outcry, the Pritzker Architecture Prize committee will not honor Denise Scott Brown's request for Pritzker recognition: ...\[she\] said that the Pritzker jury misunderstood the intent of the petition..."we should like to thank you for calling directly to our attention a more general problem, namely that of assuring women a fair and equal place within the profession." -- Peter Palumbo- Architect Magazine](#)

[AIA New York Chapter Recommends a Change to AIA Gold Medal Rules: Currently the medal can only go to an individual...The initiative to overturn the current rules is on a fast track... By Cathleen McGuigan- Architectural Record](#)

[In 1961, Harvard Told Married Women They Probably Shouldn't Bother Studying Urban Planning: Gail Collins' fantastic book \["When Everything Changed"\] chronicling the last 50 years of women's history in America is full of jaw-dropping stories just like this one from would-be professional women... By Emily Badger- The Atlantic Cities](#)

[The Cheesegrater: Richard Rogers sprinkles the Square Mile: ...takes his hi-tech, inside-out architecture to new heights...Leadenhall Building...the latest arrival in an ever-growing menagerie of novelty silhouettes...a slender tapering form of rare elegance...attempts to give as much back to the City as it can. By Oliver Wainwright -- Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Palestinian Museum Will Link the Past and the Present: Heneghan Peng Architects drew inspiration from the West Bank's landscape...Exactly what the museum will collect is still under discussion... By Esther Hecht \[slide show\]- Architectural Record](#)

[At MoMA, viewing Corbusier through the lens of landscape: "Le Corbusier: An Atlas of Modern Landscapes"...a hodgepodge, a grandma's attic of unexpected delights...an exploration of the many sides of an incredibly diverse, flawed, and gifted human being...a few words about MoMA...an exercise in placelessness... By Robert Campbell -- Jean-Louis Cohen; Barry Bergdoll; Yoshio Taniguchi; Tod Williams Billie Tsien; Diller Scofidio + Renfro- Boston Globe](#)

[Le Corbusier as a force for nature? A MoMA show's thesis that the architectural giant put concern with the natural world at the center of his work defies conventional wisdom.: ..."Le Corbusier: An Atlas of Modern Landscapes," a vast, dense and beautifully installed new exhibition... By Christopher Hawthorne -- Jean-Louis Cohen; Barry Bergdoll- Los Angeles Times](#)

[Call for entries \(registration deadline reminder\): PLAYscapes International Design Competition: Turning spaces into places; registration deadline: July 1 \(submissions due July 29\)- Building Trust International \(UK\)](#)

[Call fo entries: 54 Jefferson International Ideas Competition: create a compelling visions for the future of the former Grand Rapids Public Museum, closed to the public since 1994. It needs a purpose; cash prizes; deadline: August 15- SITE:LAB](#)

[Call for entries: BOFFO Building Fashion competition: Design and produce retail installation in collaboration with eyewear designer Linda Farrow on Pier 57 in New York City; deadline: July 14- Architizer / BOFFO Building Fashion](#)

[Call for entries/Expressions of Interest/EOI: Canterbury Cathedral Landscape Design Competition: seeking design team to re-imagine and reinvigorate the existing setting; deadline: July 17- Malcolm Reading Consultants](#)

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