

Today's News - Monday, December 8, 2014

- ArcSpace brings us eye-fuls of 7 examples of enchanting retail architecture.
- Dunlap delves deep into how the transit hub at Ground Zero ended up costing nearly \$4 billion - and what did it buy: "Certainly an arresting structure, but one whose details do not match the shimmering images that Calatrava used to seduce officials a decade ago" (enlightening and depressing, with amazing animations).
- VanderKlippe offers a fascinating look at Beijing's efforts to curb "weird architecture": "the war on weird has sparked near-panic in some architectural circles."
- Davidson isn't digging the "emerging aesthetic" of Manhattan's new supertalls that "tend to flummox our marquee architects. We have to live with the follies of the outlandishly wealthy; we can at least insist that they pamper themselves in a way that also enriches the city."
- Rustin reflects on the sad state of women in architecture and planning in the U.K., and talks to some pros about how cities might differ if women designed them.
- Scott Johnson pens his own response to the scorching controversy smoldering in Dallas around the Museum Tower and Nasher Sculpture Center: very few of his critics "have asked me, the design architect, to contribute to this very important issue" (but he's hopeful for an agreeable solution).
- The push is on to re-open Rudolph's Orange County Government Center by 2017 (local shopkeepers want their customers back); plans include a straight-line wall for the back and fewer roof levels (no mention of Gene Kaufman's offer to buy and repurpose).
- Merrick cheers Dundee being named UNESCO's City of Design, which "underlines its growing reputation as a cultural and creative powerhouse" (and some great architecture).
- Filmanowicz goes face-to-face with Glaeser re: "the enduring value of in-person conversations, what we can learn from successful cities," and much more (great Q&A!).
- Dovey finds much to love in Civitas's makeover of San Diego's waterfront that invites "foot traffic into the city, as well as toward the water," but Phase 2 "faces financial uncertainty going forward."
- Eye-fuls of Safdie's design for Singapore's newest airport with "a number of features that make it both spectacular and striking - like a science fiction daydream come true" (a huge bio-dome, a gigantic waterfall, and acres of shopping/dining included).
- Gehry talks "cones, domes and messiness re: his Guggenheim Abu Dhabi.
- Murg muses on a recent conversation between Graves and Eisenman, who "dazzle with comedic stylings and incisive critiques" (reference to Yogi and Boo-Boo included).
- For those who couldn't get enough of (or are recovering from) Design Miami/ and Art Basel Miami: Eye-fuls of FR-EE's Latin American Art Museum - Romero "plays the stacking game" that "could become Miami's next architectural icon."
- Duray delves deep into Miami's battling museum boards as a new (but old) museum heads to the Design District (a soap opera if ever there was one).
- Bernstein's rather irreverent (and amusing) take on the "vast vanity project" at the Bass Museum, "Peter Marino: One Way": "Clearly, the one way is his way."
- A Q&A with an irreverent Marino, who "takes no prisoners" with "a stream of no-holds-barred opinion" in "a vivid dissection of the current retail scene."
- We are totally bummed with news that Goldhagen (along with many, many others) has resigned from The New Republic (soon to re-launch as a vertically integrated digital media company - oh joy): "To lose this national platform for serious, long-form architectural criticism is really heartbreaking."
- On a brighter note, 3 projects take home the WAN Urban Design Award (yay SCADpad!).
- The Icon Awards 2014 include Piet Oudolf as Icon of the Year.
- The Rockefeller Foundation announces 35 new cities joining its 100 Resilient Cities initiative.

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[How Cost of Train Station at World Trade Center Swelled to \\$4 Billion](#): "The hub is a project driven by institutional ambition, and once begun, the decisions that have made it so costly became irreversible"... "The original schedules and budgets were unrealistic to begin with"... What did nearly \$4 billion buy? Certainly an arresting structure, but one whose details do not match the shimmering images that Santiago Calatrava used to seduce officials a decade ago. By David W. Dunlap [images, animations]- New York Times

[Beijing wants architects to think inside the state-sanctioned box](#): ...home to buildings in the shape of mountains, eggs, a bird's nest and a phallus is working to formalize President Xi Jinping's campaign against "weird architecture"...drafting rules to limit ostentatious construction...in order to "improve their design level"... the war on weird has sparked near-panic in some architectural circles. By Nathan VanderKlippe- Globe and Mail (Canada)

[If women built cities, what would our urban landscape look like?](#) The number of women in UK architecture firms is falling, and many urbanists are worried by the 'very, very male-dominated' worlds of planning and construction. So how would cities differ if women designed them? By Susanna Rustin -- Fiona Scott/Gort Scott; Wendy Davis/Women's Design Service; Catherine Greig/make: good; Liane Hartley/Urbanistas/Mend; Caroline Moser; Dolores Hayden; Yasminah Beebeejaun; Caren Levy- Guardian (UK)

[Who Wants a Supertall Skyline? The Emerging Aesthetic of the 1,000-Foot Tower](#): Too many high-gloss behemoths are so superficially designed...Skyscrapers tend to flummox our marquee architects...We're caught between...the diva and the nerd...We have to live with the follies of the outlandishly wealthy; we can at least insist that they pamper themselves in a way that also enriches the city. By Justin Davidson -- Frank Gehry; Christian de Portzamparc; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Rafael Viñoly; Jeanne Gang/Studio Gang; SHoP; Herzog & De Meuron- New York Magazine

[Comment> Scott Johnson: Dallas Museum Tower architect, Johnson Fain, answers critics](#): ...has been at the center of a controversy due to the sunlight that its curved glass facade reflects into the nearby Nasher Sculpture Center...Johnson goes on the record about his design and hope for an agreeable solution. -- Renzo Piano- The Architect's Newspaper

[Orange County Government Center may re-open in 2017](#): Latest design plan is bigger than the last, but will cost about the same: ...latest plans to replace the curtain wall planned for the back of the building with a straight-line wall...facing pressure to get the center going again from the Village of Goshen, whose shopkeepers are missing the daily influx of customers among the government workers who once worked in the village. -- Paul Rudolph; DesignLabs; Clark Patterson Lee [image]- The Warwick Advertiser

[Dundee: The 'City of Design' that's pushing the boat out as a cultural and creative powerhouse](#): ...the first place in the UK to achieve that status -- underlines its growing reputation as a cultural and creative powerhouse...The thumbs up from Unesco was strongly influenced by excitement over the Dundee V&A Museum of Design... By Jay Merrick -- Kengo Kuma; Frank Gehry; Richard Murphy; Reich and Hall- Independent (UK)

[Humanity's Greatest Invention? Face-to-face with Edward Glaeser, author of "Triumph of the City"](#): ...talks about...the enduring value of in-person conversations, what we can learn from successful cities...where Milwaukee is likely to find its best path to urban success, and what's truly green about neighborhoods full of concrete, brick and glass? By Stephen Filmanowicz- Marquette Business (Marquette University)

[New San Diego Park Reconnects City and Waterfront: North Embarcadero Visionary Project's \\$31 million "phase one"...](#)to invite foot traffic into the city, as well as toward the water...the project faces financial uncertainty going forward. By Rachel Dovey -- Civitas [images]- Next City (formerly Next American City)

[Moshe Safdie Creates Spectacular Bio Dome for Singapore Airport: aims to turn the Jewel Changi Airport into a public gathering space with gardens, retail stores, hotel, restaurants, and entertainment that will lure travelers, airport employees, and local residents...](#)plan has a number of features that make it both spectacular and striking...looks like a science fiction daydream come true. -- Safdie Architects; PWP Landscape Architecture [images]- Architizer

[Gehry on Cones, Domes and Messiness: Frank Gehry talks about his asymmetrical design for the planned 450,000-square-foot Guggenheim Abu Dhabi and his inspiration for the museum's huge, cooling cones.](#) [video]- New York Times

[Michael Graves and Peter Eisenman Dazzle with Comedic Stylings, Incisive Critiques: ...at "Past as Prologue," the Architectural League of New York symposium...](#)PE: "This [conversation] is projected as Yogi and Boo-Boo and that we're two different people, but most people think we're the same." MG: "They do?" By Stephanie Murg- UnBeige

[Fernando Romero plays the stacking game with the Latin American Art Museum in Miami: ...could become Miami's next architectural icon...](#) -- FR-EE/Fernando Romero Enterprise [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

[Miami Vices: With the ICA, Miami's Getting a New Art Museum, But At What Cost? Though Miami's population is smaller than Omaha's, it boasts six museums in its orbit...will be joined by the Institute of Contemporary Art Miami...in the chic Design District...has already distinguished itself from Miami's other museums with the unique way it came about.](#) By Dan Duray -- Charles Gwathmey/Gwathmey Siegel (1996); Aranguren & Gallegos [images]- ARTnews

[Design Miami Dispatch: Marino's Way: ...has enlisted the Bass Museum in Miami Beach in a vast vanity project...called "Peter Marino: One Way." Clearly, the one way is his way.](#) By Fred A. Bernstein -- Rem Koolhaas/Shohei Shigematsu/OMA- Architectural Record

[Fashion's Go-To Architect on the Downfall of Department Stores and the Problem With Marketers: Peter Marino takes no prisoners. That's apparent in everything from the way he dresses...to the way he talks - a stream of no-holds-barred opinion...a vivid dissection of the current retail scene.](#)- Style.com

[Amid Upheaval at The New Republic Architecture Critic Sarah Williams Goldhagen Departs: "To lose this national platform for serious, long-form architectural criticism is really heartbreaking."](#)- The Architect's Newspaper

[Hard-fought competition sees trio of projects celebrated in WAN Urban Design Award: projects in Christchurch, New Zealand, Atlanta, GA, and Copenhagen, Denmark -- Blueprint Consortium: Warren and Mahoney, Boffa Miskell, Woods Bagot, RCP, Sheppard & Rout Architects; Savannah College of Art and Design/SCAD; Urban-Agency](#) [images]- World Architecture News (UK)

[Icon Awards 2014: Icon of the Year Piet Oudolf -- O'Donnell + Tuomey Architects; Caruso St John; OMA; Assemble; Martino Gamper; Study O Portable; Barber Osgerby; etc.](#) [images]- Icon (UK)

[Announcing Our Next Round of Resilient Cities! ...35 cities who have demonstrated a commitment to building their own capacities to navigate the shocks and stresses of an increasingly complex 21st Century.](#) [links to details]- 100 Resilient Cities / Rockefeller Foundation (100RC)

[ANN Feature: Nuts + Bolts #10: Charting a Course from Career Bewilderment to Career Betterment: Be curious, be adventurous, and, when necessary, be assertive.](#) By Stanley Stark, FAIA, LEED AP- ArchNewsNow

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