

Today's News - Tuesday, February 10, 2015

- We lose Jerde (so young!), whose "blow-up-the-box ideas" redefined shopping malls and urban spaces, making "outdoor walking and gathering areas a top priority."
- Florida is intrigued with a new study that indicates neighborhoods aren't changing because of gentrification, but rather "youthification."
- CannonDesign's Ellis explains how his Boomer generation will shape cities' futures - "joined by the young Millennials, we will be a powerful force for change."
- Hosey parses the first ARCADIS Sustainable Cities Index ranking 50 leading cities globally: "the idea is to figure out what is working well now so that other cities can chart a manageable path for the future."
- Brasuell parses a new report by Smart Growth America's National Complete Streets Coalition that cheers on the "Best Complete Streets Policies of 2014."
- Birnbaum and Francis call Chicago officials on the carpet re: the Obama Presidential Library for being "so accepting of University of Chicago's demands based on vague justifications, unsubstantiated claims, and misleading polling" - Washington Park "is not the only choice" (and could tarnish Obama's legacy).
- Pogrebin reports that Viñoly/ESI Design's Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate in Boston is almost ready for its close-up, with the aim "to restore respect for Congress at a time when rancor and partisanship have seriously damaged its reputation" (that's a tall order these days!).
- Colgate University gives the go-ahead for Adjaye's \$21 million Center for Art and Culture in Upstate New York.
- Pearson reports on a gathering of international architects in Bangladesh, and the founding of the new Bengal Institute for Architecture, Landscapes, and Settlements: "We need a new kind of urbanism."
- Fast Company names The World's Top 10 Most Innovative Companies in Architecture, and The World's Top 10 Most Innovative Companies of 2015 in Design (a few surprises).
- Jess Tse, a 23-year-old Australian architect, designs a wing for a maximum security prison in Victoria: ""Prisons should be therapeutic, not punitive, for both staff and inmates," she says.
- Q&A with Nicki Reckziegel, winner of the Canada Council's 2014 Prix de Rome in Architecture for Emerging Practitioners, re: "institutions of refuge" and what she plans to do with her win.
- Q&A with Alison Killing re: how the "Death in Venice" project at the Venice Biennale "has challenged her own perception of death, and how she plans to make space for better dying."
- Hattenstone finds himself "in modernist heaven" on a walking tour of Manchester, U.K.'s Brutalist buildings: "There is something heartbreakingly ugly about these buildings. But there is also something strangely beautiful."
- Hatherley names his "top 10 favorite ugly buildings" around the UK that "are all worth a visit."
- Speaking of which (and one we couldn't resist): "Brutal London" paper cut-outs "for the concrete apologist."
- MacKay-Lyons takes home the RAIC 2015 Gold Medal: he continues to be a "major influence on current and future generations of architects."
- 40 projects shortlisted for the 2015 EU Prize for Contemporary Architecture - Mies van der Rohe Award (some expected, some not so expected).
- Five are in the running for the 2015 Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence.

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Obituary: Jon Jerde, 75; L.A. architect redefined shopping mall, urban spaces: Unlike architects who focus on structures, he made outdoor walking and gathering areas a top priority...in projects such as Universal CityWalk, Horton Plaza in San Diego and the 1984 L.A. Olympics. -- Deborah Sussman/Sussman/Prejza and Co.; Jerde Partnership [images]- Los Angeles Times

Is Your Neighborhood Changing? It Might Be Youthification, Not Gentrification: In intriguing new work, geographer and urban planner Markus Moos of the University of Waterloo...defines youthification as the "influx of young adults into higher density" cities and neighborhoods. And in some ways these neighborhoods are "forever young"... By Richard Florida- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

How Boomers Will Shape the Future of Our Cities: My generation is not alone in our desire for a stimulating urban environment, but are joined by the young Millennials who are moving to our cities in ever greater numbers...United, we will be a powerful force for change. By Peter Ellis/CannonDesign- Metropolis Magazine

Is Boston the Greenest American City? The first ARCADIS Sustainable Cities Index ranks 50 of the world's leading cities...according to their social, economic and environmental sustainability, or people, profit and planet. ... "No utopian city exists"...the idea is to figure out what is working well now so that other cities can chart a manageable path for the future. By Lance Hosey/RTKL- Huffington Post

Celebrating the Best Complete Streets Policies of 2014: A new report by Smart Growth America's National Complete Streets Coalition assumes that not all complete streets policies are created equally...evaluates all 74 policies approved in 2014.... By James Brasuell- PLANetizen

Op-Ed: Taking parkland for Obama Library is not the only choice: ...there are almost 79 acres of vacant city-owned land in the Washington Park community. Why take land that is being actively used by parkgoers? ...why are city officials so accepting of University of Chicago's demands based on vague justifications, unsubstantiated claims, and misleading polling? By Cassandra J. Francis/Friends of the Parks and Charles A. Birnbaum/The Cultural Landscape Foundation- Chicago Sun-Times

In the Mold of a Senator Who Bartered: Edward M. Kennedy Institute Aims to Teach Collaboration: ...will be aiming to restore respect for Congress at a time when rancor and partisanship have seriously damaged its reputation...."The system is broken, and the only way to fix it is to get citizens engaged".... By Robin Pogrebin -- Edwin Schlossberg/ESI Design; Rafael Viñoly- New York Times

Colgate University Aareas to Fund David Adiave's \$21 Million Center

for Art and Culture: ...planned for its campus in Hamilton, New York. -- Adjaye Associates [images]- ArchDaily

Architects Take the Stage in Bangladesh: A cultural foundation brings designers to Dhaka and announces new Bengal Institute for Architecture, Landscapes, and Settlements...directed by architect and educator Kazi Khaleed Ashraf... "We need a new kind of urbanism" ... By Clifford A. Pearson -- Bengal Foundation; Fumihiko Maki; William J.R. Curtis; Ken Yeang; Héctor Fernández Elorza; John Lin/Rural Urban Framework (RUF); Anupama Kundoo; Palinda Kannangara; Kongjian Yu/Turenscape- Architectural Record

The World's Top 10 Most Innovative Companies in Architecture -- Houzz; Bjarke Ingels Group/BIG; David Benjamin/The Living; Perkins+Will; C.F. Møller Architects; NBBJ; Svigals + Partners; MMA Architects; Rockwell Group; Heatherwick Studio- Fast Company

The World's Top 10 Most Innovative Companies of 2015 in Design -- Herman Miller/Design Within Reach; 30 Weeks/Parsons/Pratt/School of Visual Arts/Cooper Union; Michael Graves Architecture & Design; Be Original Americas; John Maeda/Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers; etc.- Fast Company

Young architect Jess Tse designs wing of maximum security prison in Victoria: Prison design is no longer about four walls of confinement...Increasingly, it is about weaving in as many elements of the outside world as possible to build environments that are therapeutic, not punitive. -- Katherine Longhurst/Perumal Pedavoli Architects - Sydney Morning Herald

5 Questions: Nicki Reckziegel, Emerging Architect: ...winner of the Canada Council's 2014 Prix de Rome in Architecture for Emerging Practitioners...will travel to "institutions of refuge"...in 18 locations across Central and East Africa. She will also intern with MASS Design Group...- Canada Council for the Arts

Design for dying: Alison Killing on the architecture of death: ...the Netherlands-based British architect and urban designer, who specializes in humanitarian architecture, talks about how the "Death in Venice" project has challenged her own perception of death, and how she plans to make space for better dying.- TED.com

A strange kind of beauty: Manchester's brutalist buildings: ...a bunch of brutalists are hanging on to Eddy Rhead's every word. Concrete to the left of us, concrete to the right, Eddy is in modernist heaven...There is something heartbreakingly ugly about these buildings. But there is also something strangely beautiful – the simplicity, the vision, the ambition (for a better world), the hope (for a sunny world). By Simon Hattenstone [images]- Guardian (UK)

My top 10 favourite ugly buildings: Whether you love or hate modern architecture, these striking buildings around the UK are all worth a visit. By Owen Hatherley (from "A New Kind of Bleak - Journeys Through Urban Britain") -- Christopher Woodward, Stuart Mossop, Fred Roche; Victor Pasmore; Lyons Israel Ellis; Norman Foster; Ken Norrish; Peter Womersley; Patrick Abercrombie [images]- Guardian (UK)

Build Your Own Brutalist Playground in Paper Cut-Outs: A London-inspired set piece for the concrete apologist: ..."Brutal London" by Polish design studio Zupagrafika...showcases five Brutalist landmarks built in the 1960s and 1970s...even at this small scale, the buildings retain their stark power. -- Erno" Goldfinger; Alison and Peter Smithson; Basil Spence; Hans P. Trenton; Richard Seifert & Partners [images]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

RAIC Honors Brian MacKay-Lyons with 2015 Gold Medal: "His work is universally recognized as pure, dignified, poetic and beautiful"...as the founder of Ghost Lab, MacKay-Lyons continues to be a "major influence on current and future generations of architects." -- Royal Architectural Institute of Canada; MacKay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects; Ghost Lab [images]- ArchDaily

40 Projects Shortlisted for the 2015 EU Prize for Contemporary Architecture – Mies van der Rohe Award: Chosen from the 420 original nominees, five of the shortlisted projects will be chosen for the next round of selection, to be announced on February 19 in London. [images]- ArchDaily

Five finalists selected for the 2015 Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence -- Falls Park on the Reedy, Greenville, SC; Grand Rapids Downtown Market, Grand Rapids, MI; Miller's Court, Baltimore, MD; Quixote Village, Olympia, WA; Uptown District, Cleveland, OH- Bruner Foundation

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