Today's News - Thursday, June 4, 2015

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow is this week's "floating" no-newsletter day - we'll be back Monday, June 8.

- ANN feature: In the 12th installment of our Nuts + Bolts series, Maltzan debunks mentoring myths: mentoring "should be considered rewarding and an honor for everyone involved"
- · Pogrebin reports that the Frick is going back to the drawing board with its expansion plans after the "groundswell of opposition" the Russell Page garden is safe!
- Bernstein's open letter to Chipperfield re: his new museum in Milan that the architect has disowned because of the floors: "The floors are horrible," but it's "a fabulous museum even bad floors can't spoil it. You should put your name back on it" (Fred's own fab photos prove it! His own preferred title: "When Bad Floors Happen to Good Buildings").
- McDonald weighs in on the debate about ESB's plans to replace its block-long Brutalist building in Dublin: the last thing that should be apporved is "an overscaled redevelopment scheme that pays no more than lip-service to its context" (the Georgian character of the streetscape).
- O'Toole, on the other hand, stands up for Brutalist block, calling it "a 'unique and crucial component' of modern architectural character in the Georgian core"; others "raised its contentious history."
- Heathcote takes on suburbs, once a "place to escape from evolves into a place to be," but "is a densified suburb a suburb?"
- Saffron looks at two of Philly's "old-school commuter suburbs" and what makes one the "buzzier place," and the other "a frustrating example of potential unrealized."
- · A great Q&A with Kommpa re: her new study on how city planners and developers can (and should) make cities friendly for families.
- · Paulas points out how using mental mapping to get "a better sense of how people visualize their neighborhoods could be the first step toward improving them."
- Hume is none too pleased with Toronto's mayor, who "has a historic opportunity to do the right thing" when it comes to the Gardiner Expessway: "His is a fantasy that mixes equal parts of nostalgia and warmed-over emotion with a healthy dollop of fear and a pinch of deceit" (a tale of truckers vs. Torontonians).
- · Eyefuls of what SHoP and West 8 have in mind for the 10-acre Miami Innovation District (pending approval but wow).
- · How Jaklitsch/Gardner "stumbled on a unique project through a stroke of luck": an "airy apiary" for beekeepers in Tanzania (stunning!).
- Morpholio launches a messaging app for architects (apparently Android owners are disappointed).
- Call for entries: the U.S. Department of State is looking for an architect to design a new U.S. Embassy compound in Brasilia + CBRE Urban Photographer of the Year competition: "Cities at Work."
- Weekend diversions:
- Kats takes apart "Lina Bo Bardi: Together" at Chicago's Graham Foundation that positions the architect "as a modernist wonder woman of sorts," but bemoans that "a thorough, nuanced analysis has been in large part foiled by a pernicious political correctness that fetishizes her."
- Betsky x 2: the Art Institute of Chicago's "Chatter: Architecture Talks Back" is, at times, "a thoughtful sampling of architectural images about building. Too often, however, the work at hand here remains a collection of quotes, one-liners, and parodies."
- He totally disses 2015 Milan Expo: it is "so horrendously bad. There is a whole lot of flailing going on" with almost every pavilion "the architecture equivalent of a high school student trying to rock out stay away."
- · Karatzas offers his own 3-part guide to the Milan Expo filled with his own fabulous photography (so you can make up your own mind).
- · Brantley's "Henry Howard: Louisiana's Architect" is a "lavishly illustrated" profile of one of New Orleans' most influential architects.

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Keeping Up With the Built Environment ding to Kristen Richards	

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Nuts + Bolts #12: The Importance of Mentorship: Debunking Mentoring Myths in the AEC Industry: Mentoring can help anyone make meaningful professional connections, and it should be considered rewarding and an honor for everyone involved. By Donna Maltzan- ArchNewsNow.com

Frick Museum Abandons Contested Renovation Plan: Facing a groundswell of opposition...has decided to abandon those plans and start over from scratch...Any new plan would seek to preserve the Russell Page garden while retaining as many of the elements of the now scuttled plan as possible... By Robin Pogrebin — Davis Brody Bond; Russell Page- New York Times

An Open Letter to David Chipperfield: I know you were unhappy with the floors at your new Museum in Milan, the Museo delle Culture (Mudec)...So unhappy...you chose to go public: first disowning the building...The floors are horrible...But don't worry, because you've created an interior that draws eyes upward...Your building has so much going for it that even bad floors can't spoil it. You should put your name back on it. By Fred A. Bernstein [images]- Huffington Post

Time for ESB to reinstate Georgian houses on Fitzwilliam Street? ...design by Grafton Architects and OMP has "addressed" the Georgian character of the streetscape...The last thing An Bord Pleanála should permit is an overscaled redevelopment scheme that pays no more than lip-service to its context. By Frank McDonald -- Stephenson Gibney and Associates (1970); Shane O'Toole; David Slattery- Irish Times

ESB headquarters a 'unique' component of Fitzwilliam Street: Architect Shane O'Toole criticises decision to demolish building...castigated a decision by Dublin City Council planners to sanction its replacement...expert witnesses appearing on behalf of the ESB...raised its contentious history..."it is an anachronism of the modern era"... Stephenson Gibney and Associates (1970); David Slattery- Irish Times

Suburbs: Place to escape from evolves into place to be: Cities are endlessly celebrated; the suburbs are derided. Urban culture is the apex of cool. Suburbs are places to leave...what happens when the city becomes too successful? When the young can no longer afford to rent even the tiniest of apartments? The solution will require the densification of the city fringes"...Is a densified suburb a suburb? By Edwin Heathcote -- Ellis Woodman/Architecture Foundation- Financial Times (UK)

Could Haddon Township be cool as Collingswood? ...old-school commuter suburbs...models for what smart-growth advocates call walkable urbanism, but Collingswood's downtown is by far the buzzier place...Westmont is a frustrating example of potential unrealized...it's no simple matter to bring back a downtown that has been fragmented by auto-centric designs...Haddon appears ready to give it a shot...As millennials have replaced first-generation suburbanites, the Collingswood approach is spreading. By Inga Saffron- Philadelphia Inquirer

What Happens When Millennials Age Out of Micro-Lofts? Q&A with the author of a new study on keeping cities friendly for families: Sarah Snider Kommpa offers suggestions on how city planners and developers can create a more welcoming atmosphere for young families in "Downtown Families: Discovering How Cities Support Urban Family Living." By Alexis Stephens- Next City (formerly Next American City)

Mental Maps and the Neuroscience of Neighborhood Blight: Getting a better sense of how people visualize their neighborhoods could be the first step toward improving them. By Rick Paulas- Pacific Standard

John Tory's Gardiner ambitions are a pathway to yesterday: Toronto's mayor has a historic opportunity to do the right thing and tear that bridge down: The Toronto he imagines he represents no longer exists...lt will be fascinating to see who Tory chooses: truckers or Torontonians. By Christopher Hume-Toronto Star

SHoP Architects and West 8 Will Design Miami's New Tech District: ...10-acre site proposed as the hub for the city's anticipated tech industry...Miami Innovation District... [images]- Architect Magazine

Designed for Bee Kind: Jaklitsch / Gardner's Airy Apiary in Tanzania: Mizengo Pinda Asali and Nyuki Sanctuary: a beekeeping and honey extraction center that will cater to the growing beekeeping community in the region....J/GA stumbled on the unique project through a stroke of luck... [images]- Architizer

Morpholio Launches Crit, a Messaging App for Architects: ...allows users to critique designs, share ideas and send key information...aims to provide designers, contractors and clients a place to discuss design decisions that is instant, intuitive and innately visual.- ArchDaily

Call for entries: Brasilia New U.S. Embassy Compound Design 2-stage competition; open to U.S. firms; deadline: July 1- U.S. Department of State

Call for entries: CBRE Urban Photographer of the Year competition: "Cities at Work" (international); no fee; deadline: July 31-CBRE

Taking Apart "Lina Bo Bardi: Together," at Chicago's Graham Foundation: ...celebrates [her] work and legacy, positioning her as an inclusive, socially engaged polymath - a modernist wonder woman of sorts...a thorough, nuanced analysis...has been in large part foiled by a pernicious political correctness that fetishizes her as a woman and an emblem of progress in a society in the midst of rapid modernization. By Anna Kats -- Noemi Blager; Assemble [images]- Artinfo

Art Institute of Chicago Hosts "Chatter: Architecture Talks Back": ...a thoughtful sampling of architectural images about building: Too often, however, the work at hand here remains a collection of quotes, one-liners, and parodies. It is time for some serious archaeology and collage. By Aaron Betsky [images]- Architect Magazine

Failures of the 2015 Milan Expo: ...long lines and little substance: ...so horrendously bad...one interminable axis leading from nowhere to somewhere else...Of course there can be hidden gems that I missed...There is a whole lot of flailing going...turn almost every offering into the architecture equivalent of a high school student trying to rock out...stay away. By Aaron Betsky-Architect Magazine

EXPO 2015 Milano - A Guide to the Pavilions, Part 3: ...the most architecturally, structurally and thematically fascinating pavilions of this six-month global showcase of over 140 participating countries... By Pygmalion Karatzas [images; link to Parts 1 & 2 at bottom]- ArcSpace

The legacy of Henry Howard, one of New Orleans' most influential architects: His influence can be spotted on nearly every block of the Garden District, through much of Uptown and in swaths of downtown...The Irish-born architect's prolific career is the subject of a lavishly illustrated book, "Henry Howard: Louisiana's Architect," by writer and photographer Robert S. Brantley [images]- The Times-Picayune (New Orleans)

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