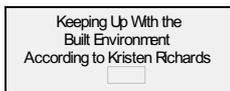


Today's News - Monday, June 15, 2015

- It's a Koolhaas kind of day (all must-reads): Heathcote weighs in on OMA's Garage Museum and Fondazione Prada in Milan: "the great iconoclast of contemporary architecture is delving into the past" in Moscow, while Prada "is not an irony-free zone."
- Moore says the Garage Museum is "not a work of obvious bling," and "has few of the tics and the stunts that OMA often likes to pull"; Fondazione Prada is "mesmerizing and intensely considered and self-conscious."
- Wainwright has a fun time with "ping pong and polka dots in Gorky Park" that has turned Moscow's "grim" park "into a hipster hangout" - the Garage "is relatively straightforward and free of OMA's usual quirky structural tricks."
- Kats didn't mind that "construction workers were still toiling. In a sense, it was very fitting. Even after that's all finished Garage will remain an active construction site of a different variety."
- Q&A with Ingels re: 2WTC and the rebirth of Lower Manhattan (and no "bad blood between him and Norman Foster").
- Foster is "unfazed" by his "ouster" from the 2WTC project: "These things happen. They're part of the profession."
- Scheeren shows off his towering plan for Vancouver: it's a "distinctive Jenga-like tower - but not everybody is a fan...there are concerns it signals a move away from harmonious urban planning."
- Kamin x 2: he cheers Sasaki/Ross Barney 's Riverwalk: "Here, in bold strokes worthy of Daniel Burnham, Chicago is confirming and renewing its identity as a civilized metropolis."
- He gives (mostly) thumbs-up to the elevated 606 (formerly known as Bloomingdale Trail): it "stands as the most important and creative open space addition to Chicago's off-the-lakefront neighborhoods in decades" - but it "still needs signs, shade" (and watch out for those "people on wheels").
- Hume, meanwhile, totally fumes over Toronto's mayor getting behind the "hybrid" plan for the elevated Gardiner Expressway: "Had he done the right thing and agreed to rid Toronto of an obstruction, he would have faced the wrath of Car Nation."
- Handel's 26-story residential tower for Cornell Tech on Roosevelt Island will be the tallest Passive House on the planet + Weiss/Månfred's The Bridge is Cornell Tech's declaration that academia's traditional "Ivory Tower is dead."
- Quaking times: Miranda delves into how Elemental is working with Constitución, Chile, to rebuild after a devastating earthquake and tsunami: "the project offers a fresh way of thinking about how cities can contend with the ravages of climate: through acceptance."
- Tabet (mostly) cheers the rebuilding efforts in Christchurch: it "has become the uncontested capital of 'transitional' or 'ephemeral' urbanism" that may have "novelty appeal," but "doesn't really lay the foundations for a lasting urban fabric or a functional city."
- The recent earthquake in Nepal shows the need for better building regulations: "rapid urbanization - and the shoddily built homes that have come with it - left countless people particularly vulnerable."
- Byrnes delves deep into the "slow death" of Rudolph's vision for affordable housing in Buffalo, and Campagna's campaign to save at least a piece of it: "It's your classic case of 'demolition by neglect.'" (a fascinating read!).
- Help wanted in NYC (and elsewhere): there's a "hole in the talent pool - a missing generation of young architects whose careers failed to take root in the Great Recession."
- Eye-fuls of the Boston Living With Water winners.

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Rem Koolhaas: architect of the new looks back: New art spaces in Moscow and Milan pay homage to each city's history: Preservation is not, frankly, what you expect from Koolhaas...Yet here he is...the great iconoclast of contemporary architecture is delving into the past to impose limitations on himself. It is a fascinating development...The upside is a freshness, a freedom to create flowing, grand spaces and a communion with the public landscape...Unlike the Garage, the Fondazione Prada is not an irony-free zone. By Edwin Heathcote -- OMA- Financial Times (UK)

You wait ages for a Rem Koolhaas-designed contemporary art space, then two come along at once: Dasha Zhukova's new Moscow museum used to be a Soviet-era canteen, while Milan's Fondazione Prada is a converted distillery: Garage Museum of Contemporary Art in Gorky Park...not an oligarchic treasury, or a work of obvious bling...has few of the tics and the stunts that OMA often likes to pull...Fondazione Prada is mesmerizing and intensely considered and self-conscious. By Rowan Moore [images]- Observer (UK)

Ping pong and polka dots in Gorky Park: Moscow's Garage gallery: Dasha Zhukova's transformation of a vast Soviet-era cafeteria into a gallery designed by Rem Koolhaas has turned grim Gorky Park into a hipster hangout: Now scrubbed but left intentionally battered and bruised...The design is relatively straightforward and free of OMA's usual quirky structural tricks...Against all the odds, it sets an important precedent for how more buildings of the period...might be saved from the march of Moscow's insatiable wrecking ball. By Oliver Wainwright- Guardian (UK)

The Garage Museum of Contemporary Art Opens Its New OMA Building: ...construction workers were still toiling...there was still concrete to be polished...and grout to be poured. In a sense, it was very fitting. Even after that's all finished Garage will remain an active construction site of a different variety, where art and art history will hopefully continue to be made long after the last concrete surface is smooth. By Anna Kats [images]- Artinfo

Q+A> Bjarke Ingels: Henry Melcher sits down with Ingels to discuss the architect's design for Two World Trade Center: ...talk about the new tower, the rebirth of Lower Manhattan, and if there is any bad blood between him and Norman Foster. -- BIG-Bjarke Ingels Group; Foster + Partners [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Foster Unfazed by WTC Ouster: "These things happen," says the Pritzker Prize-winning architect. "They happen to every architect. They're part of the profession." By Anna Fixsen and Clifford A. Pearson -- BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Foster + Partners- Architectural Record

Downtown Vancouver highrise design reaches across, too: Horizontal features 'engage the space of the city,' but not everybody is a fan: A distinctive Jenga-like tower...designed to be a landmark on the city's skyline, but there are concerns it signals a move away from harmonious urban planning. -- Buro Ole Scheeren [images]- Vancouver Sun

Chicago's downtown Riverwalk keeps getting better: ...the new sections don't just repeat the old ones. They raise the Riverwalk to a higher level of urbanity, furthering its transformation from a hard-edged industrial waterfront to a welcoming post-industrial amenity...Here, in bold strokes worthy of Daniel Burnham, Chicago is confirming and renewing its identity as a civilized metropolis. By Blair Kamin -- Sasaki Associates; Ross Barney Architects [images]- Chicago Tribune

The 606 is a gem but still needs signs, shade: ...a former elevated freight line whose centerpiece is the 2.7-mile-long Bloomingdale Trail...In classic Chicago fashion, it's more useful than fashionable...stands as the most important and creative open space addition to Chicago's off-the-lakefront neighborhoods in decades. Managing The 606's transformative, potentially disruptive, impact will require just as much skill and foresight. By Blair Kamin -- Collins Engineers; Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates; Frances Whitehead [images]- Chicago Tribune

John Tory's Gardiner Expressway win is Toronto's loss: Mayor's previous concerns about what sort of city his grandkids will inhabit have apparently given way to a fear of change: Had he done the right thing and agreed to rid Toronto of an obstruction,

he would have faced the wrath of Car Nation...Underlying the folly is an unquestioned assumption that a great city can be built on the back of the car. By Christopher Hume- Toronto Star

World's Tallest Passive House Breaks Ground on Roosevelt Island: ...tower will rise 270 feet [26 stories], contain 350 units and house about 530 graduate students, faculty and staff on a new 12-acre campus for Cornell Tech...energy consumption should be 60% to 70% less than that of conventional high-rises. -- Blake Middleton/Handel Architects [image]- New York Times

Introducing The Bridge, The Innovation Hub Of New York City's \$2 Billion Tech Campus: Cornell Tech is building a new type of campus where companies and academia will work together more closely than ever: At New York City's newest university, the Ivory Tower is being declared dead before it even gets built...can help the innovation economy flourish and create more companies rooted in New York. By Jessica Leber -- Weiss/Manfredi [images]- Fast Company

Earthquake lessons: A Chilean city develops a new way of living with nature: Constitución was devastated by an earthquake and tsunami...Now the city is rebuilding - but with climate change in mind...the project offers a fresh way of thinking about how cities can contend with the ravages of climate: through acceptance. By Carolina A. Miranda -- Juan Ignacio Cerda/Alejandro Aravena/Elemental [images]- Los Angeles Times

Christchurch - time to remember city making is an iterative process: ...rebuilding a city and a place that people love is much more than a feat of engineering...has become the uncontested capital of "transitional" or "ephemeral" urbanism...Whilst this has novelty appeal...this doesn't really lay the foundations for a lasting urban fabric or a functional city. But it does offer an alternative narrative...that doesn't harp back to a pre-earthquake identity...City making is part art, part science, but it is also an emotional process. By Michelle Tabet- The Fifth Estate (Australia)

Disaster, Tragedy: The recent earthquake in the Kathmandu Valley has spotlighted Nepal's need for better building regulations: ...rapid urbanization - and the shoddily built homes that have come with it - left countless people particularly vulnerable... -- Kathmandu Valley Preservation Trust (KVPT)- The Architect's Newspaper

The Slow Death of a Brutalist Vision for Buffalo: Paul Rudolph had an ambitious design plan for affordable city housing that was only partly realized. Today, the proof of that is beginning to disappear...Shoreline debuted in 1974...age and poor management are catching up to a complex that was arguably doomed from the start...Soon enough, New Urbanist-style housing will replace Rudolph's signature corrugated concrete... By Mark Byrnes -- Barbara Campagna; Docomomo; ICOMOS; World Monuments Fund (WMF); Torti Gallas [images]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Where have all the architects gone? The field is finally booming again, but designers with five to 10 years of experience are rare commodities - and they command big bucks...a hole in the talent pool: a missing generation of young architects whose careers failed to take root in the Great Recession... -- Michael Szerbaty/MD Szerbaty & Associates; David Briggs/Loci Architecture; AIANY; Lance Jay Brown; Vishaan Chakrabarti/SHoP Architects; Tomas Rossant/Ennead Architects - Crain's New York Business

Boston Living With Water Winners: ...chosen to address three sites particularly vulnerable to rising sea levels...on display in Boston Society of Architects' BSA Space through June. -- Stephanie Goldberg/Mark Reed; Architerra; Thetis S.p.A.; NBBJ [images]- Next City (formerly Next American City)

ANN feature: Keeping Supertalls Grounded, Connected: Q&A with SWA's John Wong, FASLA, FAAR: Tall buildings "are beautiful, sleek structures, truly awe-inspiring, but a lot of a building's long-term economic success is dependent on the integration and beauty at the ground level." [images]- ArchNewsNow.com

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