

Today's News - Tuesday, August 16, 2016

- ArcSpace brings us racks of "architecture for fashionistas," where the "lines between architecture and advertisement blur" to create "surreal settings" and "magical."
- Baillieu ponders a post-Brexit Britain: "you can definitely blame Brexit: for "the north-south divide," but will the new government "fail at regional development like all the rest?"
- Moore, meanwhile, points to a new report that "points out the benefits of listening to planners' ideas instead of denigrating them" ("If you know any planners, go out and hug them" - at some point "most people will have reason to be grateful to their profession").
- The Planning Institute of Australia issues national guidelines for planning resilient communities as an e-handbook.
- Speck explains to Australians why "a 'walkable city' is more healthy, wealthy and socially cohesive."
- Sisson delves into what is helping Birmingham, Alabama, bounce back, and how "historical preservation plays a big role" in the city's unified development plan (even though "things aren't all rosy").
- Byles and Blaylock bring us a serious (and seriously amusing) photo essay about "Brooklyn's new everyday architecture for the 1%" designed by "actual architects" whose motto is: "A dollop of Walter Gropius does everybody good."
- Losse takes a long look at the "architectural rivalry" between Rio and São Paulo that ultimately serves "as perfect cultural complements to one another."
- Plotnick parses how owners and developers "are experimenting with smaller and smaller units and amenity-rich environments of rental properties to address the affordability problem and attract tenants" (doggy washrooms included).
- Villagomez views Vancouver's new TELUS Garden building as complex - in a good way - but full of contradictions that should serve as "reminders to be vigilant about critically assessing what we hold dear about the public realm."
- ASLA's new HQ in DC, by Gensler, is "pursuing certification through the International WELL Building Institute's WELL standard."
- Llamas and Shanker bring up a most interesting issue re: London's Illuminated River International Design Competition - there isn't one lighting expert on the jury: "How effective are we at communicating the value of our practice beyond the lighting community?"
- The winner of Design Our Ryde competition in Australia hails from Beijing.
- It's a "star-filled shortlist" now vying to design the Royal College of Art's "ambitious expansion."
- Macarthur and Holden ponder the use of the pavilion "as a device to explore the crossover between" architecture and art.
- Quirk brings of eye-fuls of Erskine's photos of the dismantling of Rudolph's Orange County Government Center: "he knew he needed to bear witness to its demise."
- On a brighter (but also eerie) note, Stephanie d'Arc Taylor brings us the fascinating tale - and eye-fuls - of Niemeyer's "forgotten fairground of the future" and "an abandoned trove of futuristic modern architecture" in Tripoli that is now pure "Instagram gold."
- Forsyth's new photo series "Metro" offers nearly 150 "dreamy, colorful, empty subway stations" from Canada to Germany.
- Cheers to Graham Foundation Grant winners, from retrospectives to biennials to provocative publications that will "offer forums for new ideas with the potential to expand the field of architecture."
- Call for entries: Presentations for the 2017 Coverings International Tile & Stone Show in Orlando next April + Good Walls Make Good Neighbors, Mr. Trump competition (we kid you not).

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[Architecture for Fashionistas: When top profiles of both worlds join forces, lines between architecture and advertisement blur...surreal settings are created, and magical spaces occur. -- Frank Gehry/Gehry Partners; Olafur Eliasson; Massimiliano and Doriana Fuksas; Rem Koolhaas/OMA; Gluckman Mayner Architects; William Russell/Pentagram; Legoretta + Legoretta; Kumiko Inui; Toyo Ito; Peter Marino; Renzo Piano; Jun Aoki \[images\]](#)

[Will this government fail at regional development like all the rest? Brexit exposed our country's deep divide between London and the regions but we don't have any detail on how Theresa May's team plans to heal it: It's not hard to understand why architects are attracted to London with its huge wealth...But this is nothing compared with London's arrogance...one thing you can definitely blame Brexit on is the north-south divide... By Amanda Baillieu - BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Planners could build a better Britain - given the chance: A new report points out the benefits of listening to planners' ideas instead of denigrating them: ...report argues that reforms of the planning system often don't work. It challenges the fantasy that, if only the bolts on the planning machine could be loosened enough, private enterprise would achieve the abundant flow of new housing that the country desires. By Rowan Moore - Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[National guidelines for planning resilient communities released: ...an e-handbook, the "National Land Use Planning Guidelines for Disaster Resilient Communities"...brings together some of the best-practice thinking in the area of disaster planning, recovery and betterment, including the Rockefeller Foundation's Framework for Resilient Cities. -- Planning Institute of Australia - The Fifth Estate \(Australia\)](#)

[Improving cities: one step at a time: ...Australia is one of the most urbanised countries...how 'walkable' will our cities be? According to visiting American city planner and architectural designer Jeff Speck, a 'walkable city' is more healthy, wealthy and socially cohesive. -- Speck & Associates \[audio\] - ABC RN/Radio National \(Australia\)](#)

[Birmingham, Alabama, is bouncing back, and historical preservation plays a big role: The Magic City has seen great rewards from targeted investment and taking advantage of its own history...a unified development plan...Things aren't all rosy...But developers and boosters see a stabilized and growing downtown as an economic engine that can hopefully be leveraged to help the entire region. By Patrick Sisson \[images\] - Curbed](#)

[Photo Essay: Brooklyn's New Everyday Architecture for the 1%: Brooklyn can be rough around the edges...Not to worry...We are delivering loft living to communities that have been chronically, unjustly deprived of lofts. And penthouses. And...covered parking spots available for an additional cost...This jaunty architecture was designed by actual architects...They're not ashamed to bring a bit of jaunt to Brooklyn. They have a motto, too: A dollop of Walter Gropius does everybody good. By Jeff Byles; photos by Cameron Blaylock \[images\] - Failed Architecture \(Amsterdam\)](#)

[Rio versus São Paulo: An architectural rivalry: São Paulo's towers reach skyward in mile after mile of office buildings...In Rio de Janeiro, the buildings hug its beaches and its jutting, green mountains as if clinging to nature even in the midst of urban sprawl...serve as perfect cultural complements to one another. By Kate Losse -- Oscar Niemeyer; Roberto Burle Marx; Afonso Eduardo Reidy; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Lina Bo Bardi \[images\] - Curbed](#)

Rental complexes focus on affordability, accessibility, and specialty amenities: To address the affordability problem and attract tenants, owners and developers are experimenting with smaller and smaller units, amenity-rich environments, and "co-living" concepts...transit-oriented developments may be catching on. By Mike Plotnick -- Niles Bolton Associates; CallisonRTKL; FitzGerald Associates Architects; Perkins Eastman- Building Design + Construction (BD+C)

Complexity and Contradiction: The new TELUS Garden building in Vancouver attempts a delicate balance between fitting into its urban context and creating a distinct architectural brand...the company's commitment to delivering courageous, important works of architecture and design should be applauded...a reminder to be vigilant about critically assessing what we hold dear about the public realm. By Erick Villagomez/Metis Design Build -- Henriquez Partners Architects; mcfarlane biggar architects + designers (formerly McFarlane Green Biggar Architecture + Design); PFS Studio- Canadian Architect

New ASLA Headquarters Will Boost Well-Being: ...to become a showcase not only for sustainable building and landscape design, but also healthy employee environments...pursuing certification through the International WELL Building Institute's WELL standard...The major difference between WELL and LEED is that much of the onus for meeting WELL requirements falls on owner policies. -- Gensler [images]- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Opinion: Where Are We Now? ...Illuminated River International Design Competition...encouraged applications from cross-disciplinary teams...the absence of a lighting expert on the selection committee...has provided cause for us to step back and reflect more broadly on the visibility and maturity of the lighting industry...How effective are we...at communicating the value of our practice beyond the lighting community? By Monica Llamas + Leela Shanker - illumni - The World Of Creative Lighting Design

Winner announced: Design Our Ryde competition: ...a new civic precinct at the gateway to the municipality north-west of Sydney's CBD. Ryde Hub by Beijing Institute of Architectural Design emerged victorious... [images]- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Star-filled shortlist for Royal College of Art's £108 million ambitious expansion: The invited design competition...attracted 97 expressions of interest...for a building that will complete the RCA's campus just south of Battersea Bridge. -- Christian Kerez; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Herzog & de Meuron; Lacaton & Vassal; Robbrecht en Daem architecten; Serie Architects; Studio Gang - BD/Building Design (UK)

Is architecture art? John Macarthur and Susan Holden of Architecture Theory Criticism History (ATCH) use the pavilion as a device to explore the crossover between the disciplines...Serpentine Pavilion...has inspired a global phenomenon..."Is Architecture Art? An intellectual history of categories, concepts and recent practices"...aims to examine how such momentum in the art world is changing the concept of architecture.- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

A Brutal Dismantling: As soon as photographer Harlan Erskine discovered the plans to demolish Paul Rudolph's iconic Orange County Government Center in New York, he knew he needed to bear witness to its demise. Vanessa Quirk [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Inside Lebanon's forgotten fairground of the future: ...Tripoli is possibly the last place anyone would expect to find an abandoned trove of futuristic modern architecture. But weirdly, that's exactly what can be found...Even more weirdly, it's almost always deserted...few people visit beyond evening joggers and the occasional tourist, marveling at having struck Instagram gold. By Stephanie d'Arc Taylor -- Oscar Niemeyer [images]- CNN

Dreamy, Colorful, Empty Subway Stations: Chris Forsyth's camera brings out the best in transit platforms from Canada to Germany: ...has photographed nearly 150 subway stations...for a photo series titled, "Metro"...The life of a straphanger rarely seems exciting, but...there's beauty to be found while stuck on a platform. [images]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Graham Foundation Awards \$419,000 in Grants to Organizations in 2016: The funded projects - including major museum retrospectives, site-specific commissions, art and architecture biennials, and provocative journals and publications - offer forums for new ideas with the potential to expand the field of architecture. [images]- Graham Foundation (Chicago)

Call for entries: Call for presentations: 2017 Coverings International Tile & Stone Show, April 4-7, 2017, Orlando, Florida; deadline: September 6- Coverings

Call for entries: Enter this competition to design a wall separating Donald Trump from the United States: Good Walls Make Good Neighbors, Mr. Trump; deadline: September 8 -- Reality Cues - The Architect's Newspaper

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