

Today's News - Tuesday, November 1, 2016

EDITOR'S NOTE: Apologies for not posting for such a long time with no explanation: the dog ate our database, then we were kidnapped by aliens, after which we just needed a break. Now we're back and there's lots of catching up to do...

- ArcSpace brings us jaja architects' Park'n'Play parking garage in Copenhagen - with a very cool play space and great views on the roof.
- Kimmelman came away from "a chaotic" Habitat III "heartened" by a "crowd skewed young and idealistic" and "embracing urban ideals, including the common ground of public spaces, mass transit, streets and sidewalks."
- King parses MAD's two designs for a Lucas Museum on Treasure Island in San Francisco, and in L.A.'s Exposition Park: one is "a cross between a silvery cloud and a souped-up sports car"; the other "has a turbo-charged air - an elongated spaceship."
- Hawthorne's take on the two Lucas Museum designs: "Lucas is hoping that either the third or fourth time will be the charm. Call it hedging your bets - the dual-track proposal is an unusual gambit by any measure."
- Meanwhile, Adjaye is tapped to be the "master plan architect and creative director" for the second phase of the gigantic San Francisco Shipyard development.
- Pogrebin reports that the Frick Collection picked Selldorf Architects for its long-planned (and beleaguered) renovation: eradicating Page's garden is "off the table."
- Wainwright hails the new, "perfect home" for Britain's own Rube Goldberg, "a museum fit for the cobbled-together contraption king."
- Saffron is more than a bit saddened by a new Whole Foods building on Philly's Rodin Square: it "has everything except good design."
- Moore, meanwhile, finds Leeds' new Victoria Gate shopping arcade "one of the strangest and most enjoyable contributions that retail has made to a British city for many years (with "robo-gothic," "exuberant," and "promiscuous" thrown in).
- Dimendberg almost runs out of adjectives for DS+R's Vagelos Center at Columbia University that "obtains a wondrous harmony," along with being "joyous and life-affirming" (and then some!).
- Schindler explains why this might be a good time to revisit Model Cities, the "federal program meant to rebuild the country's poorest neighborhoods without the displacement and disenfranchisement" - but "was written off as a failure and a footnote in 1974."
- Keegan waxes poetic about the two ballparks hosting the World Series, where "the 2016 season will unfold in venues that are genuine fields of dreams."
- Ingalls has an interesting Q&A with Lorenzen and Tolkin re: "Does teaching architecture enhance architectural practice?"
- One we couldn't resist: Dudley rounds up "the coolest empty buildings in America" - many built in a "spasm of corporate hubris."
- Cheers to the shortlist of six in the running for the inaugural RIBA International Prize (great presentation). And congrats to the inaugural American Architecture Prize winners (also good presentation).
- Call for entries: 2017 Coverings Installation & Design (CID) Awards + 2017 Ceramic of Italy Tile Competition.

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jaja architects: Park'n'Play, Copenhagen, Denmark: Parking House Lüders...challenges the conventional monofunctional parking house. With its characteristic recreational urban space on the roof it strives to be an exciting asset to the new neighborhood. [images]

Michael Kimmelman: The Kind of Thinking Cities Need: In an era of climate change, cities no longer look like the problem...my takeaway from Habitat III had...a great deal to do with what I sense is a worldwide sea change, a generational shift...Young generations around the world...are embracing urban ideals, including the common ground of public spaces, mass transit, streets and sidewalks. -- Chelina Odbert/Kounkuey Design Initiative- *New York Times*

John King: Cloud-shape design floated for Lucas museum: Forget the mock-classical temple...at Crissy Field...His newly unveiled vision for Treasure Island is utterly different - a cross between a silvery cloud and a souped-up sports car...The Los Angeles version...is more conventional but still has a turbo-charged air - it's an elongated spaceship that would touch down [in] Exposition Park. -- Ma Yansong/MAD Architects [images]- *San Francisco Chronicle*

Christopher Hawthorne: George Lucas' museum designs for L.A. and S.F.: [He] is hoping the third time will be the charm for his Museum of Narrative Art...Actually that's not quite right: Lucas is hoping that either the third or fourth time will be the charm...unveiling two different designs...on Treasure Island, in San Francisco Bay [and] Exposition Park in Los Angeles...Call it hedging your bets...The dual-track proposal is an unusual gambit by any measure. -- Ma Yansong/MAD architects [images]- *Los Angeles Times*

David Adjaye to master plan expansive San Francisco waterfront development: ...will helm The San Francisco Shipyard development...the project's "master plan architect and creative director"...will "include approximately 12,000 homesites and roughly 4.1 million square feet of commercial space"...second phase of the project...building upon the work of...IBI Architects [IBI Group]. - *The Architect's Newspaper*

Robin Pogrebin: Frick Collection Names Selldorf Architects for Its Renovation: ...evaluated a wide pool of architects, inviting 20 to submit proposals...eliminating the gated landscape remains off the table. "There is no question that we're not going to disturb the garden," Annabelle Selldorf said. -- Thomas Hastings; Russell Page (1914); Davis Brody Bond- *New York Times*

Oliver Wainwright: Heath Robinson: a museum fit for the cobbled-together contraption king: Wiggling ducts, jumbles of planks, coils of cable ... William Heath Robinson's peculiar genius has been given the perfect home: ...a shrine to the king of cobbled-together contraptions... -- Adam Zombory-Moldovan/ZMMA [images]- *Guardian (UK)*

Inga Saffron: Philly's new Whole Foods building has everything except good design: Rodin Square...demonstrates how far Philadelphia developers have come in understanding how cities work, as well as how little they care about the architecture that the public sees...a reminder that, although you can take the supermarket out of the suburbs, it's a challenge to make such a building a true citizen of the city. -- Jim Voelzke/MV+A- *Philadelphia Inquirer*

Rowan Moore: Victoria Gate, Leeds: shop and awe: Built to house a new John Lewis store, [the] glittering arcade draws on digital wizardry and the city's rich textile past: ...one of the strangest and most enjoyable contributions that retail has made to a British city for many years...well made, built to last and crafted, but also automated, cyber-heraldic, robo-gothic...You might call the whole riotous or exuberant, except that it is also cool and mechanical. It is promiscuous. -- Friedrich Ludwig/ACME [images]- *Observer (UK)*

Edward Dimendberg: Diller Scofidio + Renfro's Vagelos Center [at Columbia University] masterfully balances verticality, high-tech medicine, and spaces for learning: ...the micro and the macro, the cell and the city, obtain a wondrous harmony...DS+R's most perfectly resolved building...joyous and life-affirming... -- Gensler [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Susanne Schindler: Model Cities Redux: This federal program meant to rebuild the country's poorest neighborhoods without the displacement and disenfranchisement of urban renewal lasted only eight years before it was written off as a failure and a footnote in 1974...Fifty years after it was passed into law, Model Cities deserves a second look. [images]- Urban Omnibus

Edward Keegan: A tale of two ballparks: Wrigley vs. Progressive: Chicago and Cleveland...Neither team's current ballpark existed when they last raised the world championship pennant...Neither was the work of a neophyte ballpark designer...Neither has its original name...The last four to seven games of the 2016 season will unfold in venues that are genuine fields of dreams. -- Zachary Taylor Davis (1910); HOK Sport (1994) [images]- Crain's Chicago Business

Julia Ingalls: Does Teaching Architecture Enhance Architectural Practice? ...architects that both teach and practice serve as a crucial connective tissue between the highly abstract realm of academia and the gritty, oftentimes grinding reality of permits, stakeholder meetings and aesthetic compromises; Q&A with Sarah Lorenzen and Peter Tolkin.- Archinect

David Dudley: Pretty Vacants: The Coolest Empty Buildings in America: They're weird, amazing, and available. Behold the nation's most impressive vacant structures. [images]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

RIBA International Prize 2016 Shortlist: ...six buildings in the running...Projects demonstrate a range of innovative responses to the role of public architecture... -- Menos é Mais, Arquitectos Associados/João Mendes Ribeiro Arquitecto; Zaha Hadid Architects; David Chipperfield Architects/Taller Abierto de Arquitectura y Urbanismo; Agence d'Architecture Philippe Prost; DRDH Architects; Grafton Architects/Shell Arquitectos [images]- RIBA / Royal Institute of British Architects

Inaugural American Architecture Prize [AAP] Winners: Architectural Design Of The Year, Interior Design Of The Year, Landscape Architecture of The Year + winners in 41 categories. --Dan Winey/Gensler; McBride Charles Ryan Architecture & Interior Design; Turf Design Studio & Environmental Partnership/Alluvium/Turpin + Crawford Studio/Dragonfly Environmental/Partridge [images]- American Architecture Prize

Call for entries: 2017 Coverings Installation & Design (CID) Awards (international) for outstanding achievements in the design and installation of tile and stone; cash prizes; deadline: January 6, 2017- Coverings

Call for entries: 2017 Ceramic of Italy Tile Competition: open to North America-based architects and designers for domestic and international projects; cash prizes + CEU-accredited trip to Italy; deadline: January 6, 2017- Ceramic Tiles of Italy

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