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PLAN FOCUSES ON DEVELOPING TRANSIT HUBS AND PROTECTING QUIET RESIDENTIAL STREETS

JAMAICA GETS REZONED

Though much has changed in Jamaica, Queens, since 1961, one thing that has not is the zoning map. For the past five years, the Department of City Planning (DCP) has been hard at work on a new zoning plan to balance economic growth downtown while protecting the surrounding suburban streets from overdevelopment, while also emphasizing mass transit, sustainability, and affordability. The draft plan, which was released on January 29, will be the second largest rezoning in city history, encompassing 368 blocks.

We call this strategy fine-grained zoning," DCP commissioner Amanda Burden said in an interview. "We looked at every street and lot and block to find the existing use and look at what is appropriate for the strength of the neighborhood.'

The greatest strength in Jamaica, according to planners, is its transportation assets. The area is served by the F train along Hillside Avenue, and the E, J, and Z trains along Archer Avenue. The Long Island Railroad's Jamaica Station serves 10 of the 11 LIRR lines and adjoins the new AirTrain Station, which combined serve more than 100,000 riders a day. DCP hopes that by increasing density around these transit hubs, it can encourage development without exacerbating Jamaica's congestion problem. continued on page 7



On February 8, the Museum for African Art announced plans for a new building designed by Robert A. M. Stern Architects on 5th Avenue between East 109th and 110th streets. When the 92,920 square-foot space opens in 2009, it will contain galleries, a theater, a restaurant, a store, and classrooms plaza, wraps the south and

over five stories, two of which are below-grade. The proposal includes plans for a 19-story residential tower on top of the museum that would share much of its structural system.

The museum's L-shaped footprint, complete with a 6.650-square-foot outdoor

east sides of Duke Ellington Circle at the northeastern corner of Central Park. In a recent phone conversation, architect Robert Stern explained, "I'm proud of the public spaces the museum will create." In particular, the lobby area will feature 44foot ceilings and an interior wall clad continued on page 6



PLAN TO REMOVE COMPLEX FROM MITCHELL-LAMA RAISES SPECTER OF CRISIS IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Starrett City Sale Under Fire

Nearly every politician in New York has raised objections about the proposed sale of the 46-building, 5,881-unit Brooklyn affordable housing complex known as Starrett City, because many believe that the \$1.3 billion price continued on page 5

TADAO ANDO ARCHITECTS AND ASSOCIATES



MOSES' MODERN POOLS PENDING LPC HISTORIC PROTECTION LANDMARKS MAKING A SPLASH

Though many still cringe at the mention of his name, a few historians are now championing Robert Moses as a builder of great public architecture. Concurrent with the recent opening of three widely hailed exhibitions reconsidering Moses' legacy, nine of his Works Progress Administration (WPA) swimming pools are being considered for landmark status by the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC). Astoria Park Pool

and the Orchard Beach Bathhouse and Promenade were declared landmarks in 2006. In a recent New Yorker column Paul Goldberger wrote, "Whatever Moses' racial views, the swimming pools he built were monuments that continued on page 12 ABU DHABI'S NEW MUSEUM ISLAND WILL FEATURE STARCHITECT GALORE AND THE WORLD'S BIGGEST GUGGENHEIM



Even by architectural dream team standards, plans for a cultural district built around a Guggenheim Museum designed by Frank Gehry on Saadiyat Island off the coast of Abu Dhabi are near-utopian. And it just might work.

The ambitious ensemble is the architectural opportunity that Guggenheim director Thomas Krens has longed for: a real desert island, the "Island of Happiness" in Arabic, designed by his favorite architects, with

Tadao Ando's design for the Maritime Museum planned for Saadiyat Island in Abu Dhabi. art, artists, and tourists flown into what nobody dares call a cultural mecca. The details are vintage Krens, only grander and more refined. The four pillars are a museum-village Guggenheim Abu Dhabi (GAD) by Gehry, a Gulf-view spaceship of a performing arts center by Zaha Hadid, a dhowshaped maritime museum by Tadao Ando, and a domed micro continued on page 10



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But one recent sale price gave many in the the city a jolt: On February 8, a group called Clipper Equity made a winning \$1.3 billion bid for Starrett City, the 5,881-unit affordable housing complex in Brooklyn. People ranging from the community organizers at ACORN to Governor Eliot Spitzer and Alphonso Jackson, who is President Bush's secretary of Housing and Urban Development, raised concerns about the potential loss of desperately needed affordable housing in New York. Representatives for Clipper Equity have said they would remove the development from the Mitchell-Lama program, which provides landlords with tax abatements in exchange for maintaining belowmarket rents. When the program was launched in 1955, the guarantee of a 6 percent return on equity that landlords received may have seemed like a good deal; today, the upward trend in rents makes it seem like peanuts.

According to a May 2006 study prepared by the Community Service Society, a not-for-profit research and advocacy group, New York City has lost almost a quarter of its 120,000 subsidized apartments since 1990. Owners of Mitchell-Lama buildings, who can opt out after 20 years, are leaving the program at an even faster rate: almost 23,000 units (or 34 percent) have given up their subsidies in the same time period. Due to a quirk of the original legislation, Mitchell-Lama buildings that opened before 1974 become rent-stabilized when landlords opt out, while post-1974 projects float with the market. While an important element of Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's New Housing Marketplace initiative is the preservation of 73,000 affordable units, primarily by keeping them in programs like Mitchell-Lama, that achievement will sadly do little more than offset the number already lost.

One way of staunching the flow is a bill that has passed the State Assembly and is now before the State Assembly Senate. Assemblyman Vito Lopez, who is the chair of the housing committee, introduced legislation that would extend rent stabilization to any building whose owner opts out of Mitchell-Lama, regardless of its vintage. According to a spokesperson in Lopez's office, however, the bill passes the Assembly every year, only to die quietly in the State Senate. We hope that the outcry over Starrett City's pending sale will convince state senators to do the right thing, which is to extend rent stabilization to all ex-Mitchell-Lama buildings, and help preserve affordable housing in New York City. Its loss doesn't have to seem inevitable.

CORRECTIONS

In our "Favorite Sources" feature (AN 1_01.17.2007), we misspelled the names of SANAA's architects, who are quoted in the Curtain Wall section of the feature: They are Florian Idenburg and Toshihiro Oki. V. J. Murray, listed in the General Contractor section, is listed with the wrong telephone number; the correct number is 516-349-1334. The general contractor Pier Head Associates is reachable at 212-966-2234. Kalwall Corporation was listed in the

Plastics category when it should have been listed under Curtain Wall, and its address is 1111 Candia (not Canadia) Road. Milder Office was listed in the Wood category, when Fittings and Furnishings would be a more accurate category. Viridian, in the environmental consultant category, is listed with its fax number rather than its phone number; the phone number is 203-299-1411. Nat Oppenheimer, principal at RSA, would like to give proper credit to Eytan Solomon, the project manager for LOT-EK's building made of shipping containers for Metal Management. We regret the errors.

The article "Progress at Ground Zero," *AN* 2_02.01.2007, should have specified that Davis Brody Bond is the associate architect of the World Trade Center Memorial and is the design architect of the Memorial Museum, which is the underground component of the memorial. Snøhetta is designing the entrance pavilion and visitors' information center.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS TO UNDERWRITE RANDALL'S ISLAND SPORTS FIELDS

FOUL BALL?

On February 14, New York City's Franchise Review Committee gave the go-ahead to plans that would put the future of Randall's Island ball fields in the hands of 20 private schools. The 20-year contract guarantees prep students school-day playtime from 3 to 6 p.m. on most of the city-owned fields. For this privilege, the schools will pay \$52.4 million, which will go a long way toward providing the \$70 million required for the renovation and new construction of the sports areas.

The island is home to a jumble of municipal buildings as well as 400 acres of greenspace. In 1998, the Randall's Island Sports Foundation developed a masterplan to make better use of the land. "Full realization of the island as a park never took place," explained city parks commissioner Adrian Benepe. "When landlocked private schools first started to go out to the fields, they were almost all unused." He lauded the new proposal as an enterprising public-private partnership that not only maintains, but also expands the number of baseball, softball, football, soccer, cricket, and rugby fields on the island, bringing the total from 36 to 63. Currently at peak usage times, the private schools' athletics programs occupy two-thirds of the fields: the remainder is shared between public school kids and adult leagues; all fields are open at off-peak hours. The plan has raised hackles because some see it as a step towards the privatization of public space. Manhattan borough president Scott M. Stringer was the sole vote against the project, and city councilor Melissa Mark Viverito is also opposed.

Access to the island has long been an issue. Comptroller William C. Thompson, Jr., resisted the proposal last year when it came before the committee, but was swayed in favor when bus service for public schoolers (with the Department of Education) was added. Benepe believes the underwriting is an opportunity and not precedent for funding the rest of the city's parkland. **MINI ZEIGER**

In Michael Webb's review "The Old New Order," AN 2_02.01.2007, reference is made to Mies' Berlin *Siedlungen*. This was an editing error. The author was actually referring to the housing projects designed by Hans Scharoun, Bruno Taut, Hugo Haring, and other architects.

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NEWS 05

> Robert A.M. Stern's 800-pound gorilla (actually, 11 pounds) of a book, *New* York 2000, was the topic of a discussion at Columbia that turned out to be a cross between a roast and a fest. Tom Wolfe shocked everyone in the audience (including Suzanne Stephens, Mike Wallace, and Kenneth Jackson) by proclaiming that the Whitney should move "out of the Breuer Bunker and into the Huntington Hartford Building. Then you could demolish the Brutalist, WWI machine-gun turret and sell the land to a developer!" This, from the man who wrote despairingly of the alleged death of the Landmarks Commission in a recent *New York Times* Op-ed, lamented ripping the face off Edward Durell Stone's 2 Columbus Circle for the Museum of Arts & Design (MAD). Little did Wolfe know that one of the "walking dead," landmarks commissioner Margery Perlmutter, was very much alive a few rows away, listening with rapt attention and taking careful notes.

> Speaking of the devil, MAD architect **Brad Cloepfil**, who was allowed to brazenly demolish Ed Stone's facade without so much as a hearing at the LPC, was seen at the **Pentagram** party for new partner **Luke Hayman**, with friend, Pentagramist **Lisa Strausfeld**...or was that her twin sister **Laura**?

Talk is going around that Columbia dean Mark Wigley is being considered as chairman of Harvard's GSD. Leave New York for Boston? He must be mad too!

Up the Hudson, at down-in-the-dumps Newburgh, a week-long charrette to resurrect the city, led by DPZ's **Andres Duany** and developer **Steve Maun** of Leyland, uncovered that the culprit behind the razing of a major part of the city's historic waterfront was none other than our very own **Frank O. Gehry**! The architect signed the order in 1966 as part of what was then known as "urban renewal." Can we chalk it up to youthful indiscretion, or is his Atlantic Yards project in Brooklyn just another case of, as the French say, *plus ça change*?

Rumor has it that *Architectural Record* still has NO plan to redesign its magazine, despite universal agreement that it needs a major facelift. I mean, it doesn't even have any competition. You would think editor-in-chief **Robert Ivy** would take a chance!

Finally, a mysterious gift arrived without a note from Tsao & McKown: a flimsy cotton tote bag. When questioned, their office said it was a very, very late Christmas gift, now coming for the Year of the Pig. Thanks Calvin, Zak, and...!

At press time, yours truly was in a stylish car crash, right in front of Mies' Seagrams Building! I knew it was a mistake to meet a client on Presidents Day, and all of a sudden there was a car making an unexpected left hand turn directly onto our path on Park Avenue. Luckily, we all walked away unharmed (if dazed), save for broken front lights and bumper. Just then, I noticed that we were exactly at the southwest corner of the plaza, where Audrey Hepburn and George Peppard had a *tete-a-tete* in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*! *C'est la vie*!

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STARRETT CITY SALE UNDER FIRE continued from front page would lead to inevitable and steep rent hikes. But Starrett City may be just the first salvo in a much bigger fight over the future of the Mitchell-Lama affordable housing program. Federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) secretary Alphonso Jackson, summed up the consensus in a February 16 visit to New York when he said, "When affordable housing was first debated in Albany and Washington decades ago, this development is what legislators had in mind." His words have particular force because the sale must be approved by HUD.

The opposition to the proposed sale centers around the widespread sense that affordable housing is vanishing across the city, and that David Bistricer, the lead investor in winning bidder Clipper Equity, is a landlord with thousands of violations at another complex he owns called Flatbush Gardens. Bistricer has vowed that the rents at Starrett City will not rise, but did say that he would remove the complex from the Mitchell-Lama program, another underlying reason for the fight.

The 52-year-old program gives developers mortgage help and tax abatements in exchange for maintaining low rents. After 20 years, an owner can leave the program "as of right." A state law also lets the projects escape rent regulations after they leave the program if they opened in 1974 or later. According to Legal Aid Society lawyer Ellen Davidson, three apartment complexes have left Mitchell-Lama since December. A Community Service Society survey in 2006 says 47 complexes with nearly 26,000 units could do so in coming years. Since 2004, City Hall has sought to bring these complexes under rent regulation, but doing so requires a change in state law. Assemblyman Vito Lopez, a powerful Bushwick Democrat, recently introduced such a law and got it into the full Assembly in short order, but it faces an uncertain future in the Republicancontrolled State Senate.

The immediate fate of Starrett City (now formally known as Spring Creek Towers) depends on how Clipper Equity weathers the political fallout. If HUD refuses to approve the sale, the complex's 1974 opening date could attract a market-rate strategy from another buyer. "My concern is a more respectable actor will bid \$900 million," said Brad Lander, a former affordable housing developer who now runs the Pratt Center for Community Development. "Then maybe it takes a little longer for it to become unaffordable, but it's no less certain."

The never-ending boom in New York's real estate market may make this seem inevitable, but the city's affordable housing crisis could change the dynamic. Jonathan Rosen of Berlin Rosen is helping organize tenants at Starrett and elsewhere. He said that the city could stall other sales in Starrett's area of eastern Brooklyn. "Most of that part of Brooklyn falls under a masterplan that would require [city] ULURP review." What's more, state lawmakers of both parties may want to keep Mitchell-Lama developments in their districts free from turmoil. ALEC APPELBAUM



Just in time for its 90th anniversary next year, the Manhattan School of Music completed an expansion adjacent to its current facilities in the old Julliard building on Broadway. The 19-story "vertical campus," as Beyer Blinder Belle partner-in-charge Richard Southwick described it, was built in two phases. The first included a dormitory with 550 beds and 58 practice rooms, which opened in 2001; and a state-of-the-art music, print, and recording library, completed in 2004. The section from the second phase, which just opened, includes two performance spaces on the building's ground floor. The larger of the two is Miller Recital Hall, a 153-seat jewel box theater that provides an intimacy uncommon to other performance spaces. "It fits a niche between a recital hall and a chamber," Southwick said. Down the hall is the Ades Performance Space, a bright, gallery-like room that can be configured for performances, practices, recording, and parties. It is lined with orange acoustic panels, which conceal storage closets and add color. The school is so proud of its new spaces that it has planned a special series of concerts throughout 2007 to introduce them to the public. "They're the ace up our sleeve," said Manhattan School of Music president Robert Sirota.



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continued from front page in sustainable wood from Ghana. The facade's trapezoidal windows are divided by bronze- painted aluminum mullions and mimic a weave pattern common to many kinds of African art.

The museum is subject to a Special Park Improvement District zoning regulation that requires the street-facing facade of all new construction to follow the full length of the street line and rise a minimum of 85 feet without setbacks. The resulting wall risks being dominant, so the architects punctured the lobby with windows to create a feeling of openness. Additionally, in order to draw a visual connection between the museum and the tower, Stern designed the latter's cladding to pick up the pattern of what he refers to as the dancing mullions. Although his firm produced the overall massing and cladding schemes, New York-based SLCE will serve as the architects of record and will be responsible for most of the residential tower's design.

Currently located in Long Island City, Queens, the Museum for African Art has occupied several rented buildings in New York since it was founded as the Center for African Art in 1984. The first of the six lots needed for the new project was purchased in 2000 and a second was acquired in 2003. Recently, the city negotiated the sale of four more parcels to the museum and its current partners: Sidney Fetner Associates, for the museum, and Brickman Associates for the condominium tower.

The project first began as a design competition for a museum and adjacent headguarters for the Edison Schools company. Bernard Tschumi Architects won the competition, but the scheme was scrapped in 2003 after Edison pulled out because of

MUSEUM FOR AFRICAN ART'S HARLEM HOME financial difficulties. The same year, the museum assembled a new development team and asked Tschumi's office to come up with a fresh scheme featuring a residential tower. In his book Event Cities 3, Tschumi wrote that as negotiations proceeded, "The developers insisted on separating the design of the tower from that of the museum, and imposed aesthetic decisions we found incompatible with the museum base." The firm withdrew from the project in 2004. When asked to elaborate in a recent conversation, Tschumi said, "While I really enjoyed my relationship with the museum, the developer had a very commercial attitude. I am very happy working with a developer downtown for [the Lower East Side condominium tower] Blue, so in other words, sometimes it can really work and other times they have their own ideas.

Margot Streeter, the museum's director of external affairs explained that the museum considered running a second competition, but following a conversation with Stern about the museum's needs and those of its new partners, president Elsie McCabe and the building committee asked his office to design the project.

Stern sees the building as a hinge between two neighborhoods: Harlem and Museum Mile. With hopes that the project will revitalize the area in the same way that recent development around Columbus Circle has, he said, "This is an important project for me, the city, and the museum, which will finally be able to realize its potential and mount the kind of exhibitions that it wants to. The development at the upper end of the park from 5th to 8th avenues will finally redevelop Harlem as the type of neighborhood that it should be." SARAH F. COX

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JAMAICA GETS REZONED continued from front page

NEWS 07

Under the new plan, a high-density commercial and mixed-use zone will replace the industrial zone surrounding Jamaica Station. One-story repair shops and warehouses create a barrier between it and downtown Jamaica. Any displaced businesses will relocate to industrial zones in eastern and southern Jamaica, which will increase in density so as not to threaten business investment in the rezoned areas.

City planners also hope Jamaica's access to John F. Kennedy Airport will attract corporations. "It will facilitate business centers from all over the world," Burden said. "Travel-related, shipping-related—it can be anything that has to do with global business." She added that the downtown area has potential for four million square feet of office space along with hotels and apartments.

The suburban streets that are so quintessentially Queens will be down-zoned to protect their character. The current zoning allows multistory apartments, which John Young, director of the DCP Queens office, described as backwards. "It actually encourages tear-down and build-up instead of preservation." The new zoning will lower the densities to protect the detached and semidetached one- and two-family houses typical in the area.

To offset the loss of housing potential in these down-zoned neighborhoods, and again emphasize mass transit, densities have been increased as high as 12 stories along the major thoroughfares of Jamaica and Hillside avenues and Sutphin and Merrick boulevards. Limits have been placed on the maximum floor area ratio (FAR) along these corridors to encourage affordable housing for those who might be priced out the new development. Developers can only build out to the maximum FAR if they make 20 percent of units affordable or subsidize equivalent housing within a half-mile.

Planners have also tried to address the increased activity generated by new houses and businesses. In addition to the masstransit focus, some streets and sidewalks will be widened, new interchanges will be created, and below-grade parking will be required in the densest areas.

Local politicians familiar with the plan expressed a range of opinions on it. Councilor Leroy Comrie said, "We have to ensure that whatever plan is final protects whatever residential community it abuts." He also raised concerns about flooding, given a high water table, but expressed general optimism toward the project.

Queens Borough President Helen Marshall was more skeptical. When asked what concerned her most about the plan, she said three things: "Traffic, traffic, and traffic. Not to mention parking."

"We're concerned about the little guy," she added. "I'm not opposed to it, I'm just worried about overdevelopment. People come to Queens for the serenity and the backyards, for its calm nature."





When **Foster Partners** imagined the fabled Icefall—an installation of water flowing around escalators—for the **Hearst Tower** lobby, the big question was how to implement their design without creating a maintenance nuisance. The answer came in the choice of materials glass and stainless steel—and in the skill of the ornamental ironworkers who performed the work, ensuring that the Icefall will continue to shine for years to come.

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NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNOUNCES RENOVATION AND PUSHES RESIDENTIAL TOWER PLANS TO SECOND PHASE

REVISIONIST HIST

room-only crowd of 450 New Yorkers filled the Fourth Universalist Society at 76th Street and Central Park West on February 1. But the gathering was decidedly secular: The New-York Historical Society (NYHS) invited its Upper West Side neighbors to the official unveiling of its renovation and expansion plans, which have already sparked some controversy. Though most of the renovations are meant to address access and circulation issues in NYHS's landmarked neoclassical building at 170 Central Park West, a November 1 article in The New York Times also detailed plans to add a fifth floor to the existing build-

Despite subfreezing temperatures, a standing- ing and construct a five-story annex and a 23story glass residential tower. It is this last element that has neighbors up in arms, and so many in the audience were eager to hear what society president Louise Mirrer and architect Paul Byard, a principal at Platt Byard Dovell White Architects, had to offer.

Mirrer spoke passionately about the constraints the current facilities place on the society, which prevent it from hosting bigger exhibitions and showing a larger percentage of its permanent collection, one of the oldest and most comprehensive of its kind. (The NYHS was established in 1804 as a private club for the city's elite to showcase their his-

torical treasures; it is now a public trust with a museum and library.) Byard explained the space constraints on a more technical level and outlined the proposal. The original building was built in two stages, and separate entrances on 77th Street and Central Park West required mazelike corridors to connect them, with the result that half of the first floor is consumed by circulation. It was not designed to accommodate a large number of people, so the size of the entrances also needed consideration. Byard summarized the attitude of the society's founders, as evidenced by the single front entrance: "History is inside, but it's not for you."

Byard proposed a new entrance on Central Park West that would add two doors on either side of the existing bronze portal, which will be replaced with glass. The entrance on 77th Street will be minimized to help redirect visitors to the new main entrance. The only other by Platt Byard Dovell White Architects' (right).

exterior changes, such as wheelchair access ramps, will bring the building up to code.

Inside, the narrow entrance corridors will give way to a large orientation and gallery space. The café will move from the basement to the first floor and will house Keith Haring's Pop Shop ceiling, recently acquired by the NYHS on the condition that it be shown in the cafe.

Mirrer did acknowledge that a request for proposals had been issued to develop the back portion of the building but stressed that until a developer was selected, she did not intend to discuss any details. This led many residents and preservationists to conclude that the first phase of the project is a Trojan horse for the more dramatic second phase tower and annex construction, which they

The existing NYHS (left) will feature new windows and a broad, welcoming glass entry on its landmark facade after renovations proposed





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www.fsbusa.com info@fsbusa.com claimed would create a dangerous precedent for height on the neighborhood skyline. Their feelings on the matter are strong: A moderator from the church had to repeatedly ask vitriolic neighbors to refrain from shouting down Mirrer during the question-and-answer period. (This is not the first time the society had attempted such a project to the chagrin of the neighbors: In 1984, NYHS pursued a 23-story limestone tower design by Hugh Hardy. The plan was voted down by the Landmarks Preservation Commission.)

Last to speak (though he seemed to be an unofficial spokesman for the crowd) was noted documentarian Bill Movers. a nearby resident who said he visits the society at least twice a week. "I came prepared to support the main renovation of the building," he said. "I support it and you need it. But this meeting has changed my mind, because I can't support phase one if it will lead to the implementation of phase two-that we will see a highrise building destroy the character of a historic building." Moyers received a standing ovation. MC

PROSPECT PARK'S NEW RINKS

On February 20, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg announced that Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects will design an expanded ice skating rink and recreation facility in Prospect Park. The Lakeside Center will be open year-round and includes two outdoor skating rinks and a 38,000-square-foot building housing a café, visitors center, and space for education programming. The existing rink on the edge of the lake will be taken down once the center is completed in what is currently a traffic circle nearby.

The center is part of a broader overhaul of the park Prospect Park Alliance (PPA) in partnership with the city. Landscape architect Christian Zimmerman and PPA's Design and Construction office are working on a masterplan that involves returning to Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux's original design for Concert Grove and Music Island while adding a few new elements. When the new rink is built. the area of the shoreline that was filled in with concrete to build the old rink will be restored along with the island where musicians once performed for revelers on the shoreline. SAMANTHA TOPOL

Overlaid on Olmsted and Vaux's original plan, the blue dot indicates the location of TWBT's Lakeside Center.



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but sometimes it can be.





ning Arts Center, Zaha Hadid Architect



TREMBLING BEFORE GAD continued from front page environment devoted to "classical" art by Jean Nouvel. In a quasi-Venetian masterplan of canals from Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, a Biennial Park of 19 art pavilions will be designed by younger stars, all handpicked by Krens, among them Khalid Al Najjar, Yuri Avvakumov, Hani Rashid, and Greg Lynn. A competition will to the father of the United Arab Emirates, Sheik Zayed.

Gehry explained that this project could not be built in the United States or Europe. One difference is the client, Crown Prince Mohammad bin Zaved al-Nahyan, who hopes to turn the deep-pocketed country into a cultural destination, and not the Vegas/ Disneyland of nearby Dubai. If this plan has

local opposition, you won't hear about it. The other difference is that Sheik Mohammad appears to have handed authority over the project to Krens.

Krens foresees something of a perfect storm. The Gulf States are richer than ever, thanks to oil prices, and Abu Dhabi is now in the race to upgrade from Prada to Pollock. It is not alone. The Kuwait National Museum determine the designer of a museum devoted is under restoration, and a new art museum is rising in Qatar. The ruling families in both of those countries are collecting aggressively. So are locals, and the Gulf's wealthy Indians, Russians, and Chinese, who empty the shelves at Dubai's annual art fair. Abu Dhabi will have to play catch-up (and pay high prices) to acquire objects for its future museums that won't be stocked by deals with the Guggenheim and the Louvre, which

LUISA KREISBERG, 1935-2007

Luisa Kreisberg was a force of nature. She was an imposing woman with a signature style and a memorable hat. She would stride into a room in midsentence and keep people riveted for astonishingly long periods of time, because everyone was so curious to see what would come next. Her ideas-sometimes wacky, often inspired, always unexpected-would roll off her tongue in multiples, defying one's ability to catalogue them, never mind deduce the connective tissue.

Luisa left the communications department at the Museum of Modern Art to create The Kreisberg Group in 1984 with the intention of offering a new kind of public relations counsel to cultural institutions. Like Luisa, The Kreisberg Group's approach to PR was often unconventional, and those who joined her, as I did in 1990, generally had backgrounds in the arts and learned her unique brand of PR on the job.

To work with Luisa was a rollercoaster of exhilaration and exhaustion. How to keep up, how to hold your own, how to put all that input to productive use !?! I suspect that no one who ever worked with heras a colleague, client, or hapless journalist on the receiving end of a pitch-could be



Classical Arts Museum, Ateliers Jean Nouve



could each get as much as \$1 billion. Krens even has plans to turn some of the 19 pavilions from Kunsthalles into commercial art spaces for part of the year.

At 320,000 square feet, GAD will be the world's largest Guggenheim outpost, although Gehry's now-scrapped Downtown Guggenheim in Lower Manhattan was to be 520,000 square feet. GAD's size, Krens said, will accommodate contemporary works on a grander scale than ever before.

Critics already charge that Abu Dhabi is simply throwing money at big names to buy prestige. With more than 9 percent of the world's proven oil reserves, Abu Dhabi has the money to throw. When it is complete in 2018, planners hope Saadiyat will be home to 150,000 permanent residents and have 29 hotels for 3.5 million annual tourists.

unaffected by her intelligence, her passion, or the panoramic range of her interests and imagination.

Luisa cared intensely about important things. About the arts, about the role of the arts in making cities more livable and lively, and about the dimension and drive they could add to individual lives. Not only did she apply her considerable energy on behalf of more than 75 museums around the world, the performing arts, cultural policy, and philanthropy, she helped to redefine shopping as a cultural experience at places like Henri Bendel and Takashimava, and in the Art Matters Catalog, Even when she seemed obsessed by her work as a "cultural advocate" (as she called it), she was devoted to and intensely proud of her family-her husband Barry, her sons, her grandchildren and even, despite the stereotype, her daughtersin-law. She was a generous and demanding mentor, frequently drawing out more in us than we knew we had, and then ultimately



Two ten-lane highways will link it to Abu Dhabi, which is on an island 1,500 feet away. According to a spokesperson from Siemens, which is building the island's electric power substation (to open in 2008), the total cost of Saadivat's infrastructure is \$1.5 billion. The entire plan, with museums, a Ferrari theme park, and golf courses, is estimated to cost \$27 billion.

Security is always a concern in this volatile region, although Bilbao, now the template for urban makeovers, was once a crucible for terrorism. Saadiyat's cultural district will be a gleaming outpost of the West in the Islamic world, with French paintings and daring contemporary art, and, as hoped, beachgoers in bikinis by the millions. Will it be a slam dunk, as Krens suggests? Some neighbors might not think so. DAVID D'ARCY

cutting us adrift, sometimes painfully, but in our own best interests. She was an openminded and openhearted liberal who embraced diverse causes and ideas, provided the objectives were worth fighting for.

She addressed her diagnosis of inoperable cancer seven years ago with the same intelligence and energy that characterized her professional life. She studied the medical research, explored unconventional treatments, and searched for meaning at every turn.

Luisa was so vividly alive every moment she was present that it is impossible to imagine her absent. To remember her is to feel her right there with you, engaging your imagination, keeping you on your toes, and maybe driving you a little bit crazy. What more could anyone ask for?

CLAIRE WHITTAKER WAS THE PRESIDENT OF THE KREISBERG GROUP FROM THE TIME OF LUISA KREISBERG'S RETIREMENT IN 2002 UNTIL THE COMPANY DISBANDED IN 2007. SHE IS NOW CONSULTING EXCLUSIVELY FOR SANTIAGO CALATRAVA.

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LANDMARKS MAKING A SPLASH continued from front page conferred grandeur, even nobility, on their neighborhoods... a few, like the Crotona Pool, in East Tremont, and the McCarren Pool, in Greenpoint, were masterworks of modernist public architecture."

Built in poor or workingclass neighborhoods, the pools offer more than just recreation to residents. "They are irreplaceable," noted Adrian Benepe, commissioner

of the Department of Parks and Recreation. Benepe spoke in favor of designation before the LPC at the January 30 public hearing. "Our administration tries to be very design-oriented," he said. "This offers extra protection for the future, in case future administrations are less sympathetic." Benepe insisted that the timing of the nomination has nothing to do with the recent interest in

Moses, though he conceded

that the attention is welcome.

"It's a happy coincidence." Nominated structures include the Crotona Pool in the Bronx; the Betsy Head, McCarren, Sunset Pools and the Sol Goldman Recreation Center and Pool in Brooklyn; the Highbridge Pool and Bathhouse, Thomas Jefferson Pool and Bathhouse, and the Jackie Robinson Pool and Recreation Center in Manhattan; the Joseph H. Lyons Pool in Tompkinsville, Staten Island, and encompasses all pool-associated

structures. Each of the 11 WPA pools opened in what Benepe calls the "miracle summer" of 1936, with a new facility debuting each week. "Some of the pools themselves are somewhat unremarkable, but the bathhouses are where the architects really had fun," he said. 'They were built in a variety of styles but all with a sense of grandeur. They are recreational palaces."

Except for McCarren Pool, all the facilities remain in

use and attract up to 50,000 people a day in the summer. Benepe said that there is broad political and community consensus to reopen McCarren, provided agreement on a plan and secure funding. Landmark designation will help to protect the pool in the meantime, though it has already found new life under the Bloomberg administration as a summertime performance venue.

Benepe believes the reconsideration of Moses is important, at least as it relates to parks: "The legacy of highways I cannot comment on, but his record on parks stands on its own."

The LPC is expected to vote on designation by the end of the year. Benepe is confident that the pools will be granted landmark status. "We haven't heard any significant objections," he said. ALAN G. BRAKE



Crotona Pool

East Tremont, Bronx; renovated 1984

The bathhouse at the only public pool built in the Bronx during the New Deal features exceptionally dynamic architecture: Broad, semicircular arches span the locker rooms, brick towers topped with glass-block skylights flank the entrances, and concrete stanchions carved to look like animals encircle the wading pool.



McCarren Pool

Greenpoint-Williamsburg, Brooklyn; closed 1984 At the peak of its popularity, attendance exceeded 14,000 people a day at McCarren Pool, the largest and most monumental of the WPA era. It shut down in 1984 for renovations but never reopened. It has since found a second life as a summertime performance venue.



Jackie Robinson Pool and Recreation Center Harlem, Manhattan

Located on the south end of a long, narrow park, the brick bathhouse for the Jackie Robinson Pool features vaguely medieval entry turrets, an arched facade, and vaulted lobby. To encourage activities for adults as well as children. Moses used WPA money to add a nearby band shell and dance floor as part of the park improvements



Highbridge Pool and Bathhouse

Washington Heights, Manhattan; renovated 1985, 1996, and 2001 The Parks Department appropriated an unused water reservoir to build the Highbridge Pool, and the 1872 stone water tower still stands on the site. Its classical portico entry centers on 173rd Street, the bathhouse and pool sits on a bluff overlooking the Harlem River and the 1848 High Bridge.



Sol Goldman Pool

Red Hook, Brooklyn; renovated 1990s The Sol Goldman Pool opened in Red Hook on August 17, the last of the new pools that summer. It is bracketed by two L-shaped brick buildings-one housing the men's locker rooms, the other the women's-which are separated by an open courtyard that was later covered over



Thomas Jefferson Pool and Bathhouse East Harlem, Manhattan; renovated 1992

In 1936, New Yorker architecture critic Lewis Mumford praised the vernacular modernism of the low-slung brick bathhouse in Thomas Jefferson Park. Unlike most of the others, the entrance looks right out onto the main street, which in this case is 1st Avenue



Sunset Pool

Sunset Park, Brooklyn; renovated 1984

A two-story rotunda welcomes bathers to Sunset Pool, the first WPA pool in Brooklyn. The rotunda is decorated with geometric motifs, and is capped by a shallow dome supported at its center by an octagonal brick column.



Joseph H. Lyons Pool

Tompkinsville, Staten Island; renovated 1984-86 One of the few complexes not arranged along a central axis, the Joseph H. Lyons pool was built on a tight lot bordered by Victory Boulevard and the Staten Island Railroad. An L-shaped bathhouse cradles the pool and shelters swimmers from the transportation arteries while opening up views of the harbor.



Betsy Head Pool

Brownsville, Brooklyn; renovated 1936, 1939, and 1983 The 1915 Betsy Head Bathhouse and Pool was renovated in 1936 as a part of Moses' pool initiative but it burned down the very next summer. When it reopened in 1939 (dropping "bathhouse" from its name), it was a fully modern building with a striking rooftop terrace shaded by a steel canopy.



For more than 30 years. Seattle has been quietly redefining our ideas about public space. In 1973, the city created a preservation and development authority to save the hundred-year-old Pike Place Market. Above the food stalls, the authority created apartments that are reserved for low-income tenants, though they could easily be rented to a gentrifying population eager to live on the waterfront. In 2004 Seattle opened its main public library, a brilliant design by Rem Koolhaas that reinvigorates the heart of the city. And now, the Seattle Art Museum (SAM), together with the Trust for Public Land (and with considerable financial help from several Microsoft executives) has created the Olympic Sculpture Park, which spans transportation infrastructure and reconnects the city to its shoreline, which has long been dominated by industry.

The New York architecture firm Weiss/ Manfredi won a competition in 2000 to transform a brownfield—a fuel oil station and trolley garage had occupied the site—into a 9-acre park. A bit like Chicago's Millennium Park, the park is a plinth that sits atop infrastructure, in this case, the busy four-lane Elliot Avenue, and active train tracks. The site slopes down over 40 feet, ultimately reaching a newly created rocky beach that serves as a habitat for salmon in Puget Sound.

On its upland side, bordering a new residential neighborhood, a stainless steel and glass pavilion housing a cafe, information booth, and art gallery serves as the park's formal entranceway. The glazed pavilion, which sits above a parking garage, is a simple and elegantly detailed barnlike backdrop for art, glowing at night and in gray rainy weather. A terrace under the pavilion's expansive steel roof spills into the sculpture garden, which leads into the park.

Visitors traverse the multilevel park via a walkway that zigzags back and forth and up and down across the sloping, rectangular site. Triangles of terraced grass between the paths provide elevated settings for the museum's sculpture, some of which were already owned by SAM and several pieces that were commissioned for the park. At the point where the park crosses over the train tracks is Miami-born artist Teresita Fernández's colorful laminated glass bridge canopy. The site-specific commission has a seating area that looks toward Puget

Sound and down along the tracks. Weiss/ Manfredi made the strategic decision not to bury the road and tracks entirely, and instead created partial cuts that make the existing infrastructure visible from the park above, without impacting the quiet and solitary pathway through the park.

The art is sometimes lost against its spectacular backdrop, but in a few places, it clearly comes before nature. The most prominent example of this is where a path of steps leads from the entrance to a landing below. The steps double as amphitheater seating, framing a view of Richard Serra's immense CorTen steel sculpture *Wake* (2004).

Another of the park's best art-viewing spaces is a valley discreetly hidden by the terraces that slope down from the walking path to meet Elliot Avenue. One side contains Mark Dion's *Neukom Vivarium* (2004–06), a greenhouse commissioned by SAM covering a 60-foot-long decaying nurse log that was pulled from the floor of a local forest. Across the avenue another terrace doubles as a ramp for Claes Oldenburg's iconic rolling *Type Writer Eraser Scale 10* (1998) and a newly planted forest with two Tony Smith steel pieces called *Wandering Rocks* (1967–74) and *Stringer* (1967–1968 and 1999).

Recently, many architectural works have been described as merging with landscape, evoked by terms like "landarchitecture" or as collected in Aaron Betsky's book *Landscrapers: Building with the Land* (Thames & Hudson, 2002). In projects like the Museum of the Earth in Ithaca, New York (2004), Weiss/Manfredi proved its deftness with working with the land. The Olympic Sculpture Park is an example of how small set pieces can change an entire city's relationship to the land and sea. WILLIAM MENKING

The park bridges the edge of the city and the waterfront, which has been cut off by a busy roadway and train tracks (above). The information center, cafe, and art gallery, near the entrance, picks up the zigzag motif that defines movement through the park (below).



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DIALOGUE:



The artist Dan Graham's work has long been influenced by architecture, and his photographs of New Jersey capture an essential beauty of that state's vernacular landscape. (*Dan Graham's New Jersey* is up at Columbia University's Arthur Ross Architecture Gallery through March 23.) His love of both high and low architecture is shared by Bebet Ventus and Devise Seatt Pasue and

by Robert Venturi and Denise Scott Brown, and Graham has written about the couple's American Pop Art approach in his essay "The City as Museum." *The Architect's Newspaper* went along

to listen in on a conversation between the three in the offices of Venturi, Scott Brown and Associates in Manayunk, Pennsylvania.

Dan Graham: I want to talk about humor: I think your work is very funny, poetic, and humorous at the same time. Denise Scott Brown: Architecture tends toward the monumental because of its size, and we use humor to tone that down. If you are a little selfdeprecating, you take the wind out of your monumental sails.

Eero Saarinen also had a tremendous sense of humor, and you worked with him.

Robert Venturi: I don't see humor in his work. I'm talking about the dormitory Hill College House (1960) at the University of Pennsylvania. DSB: People say the alternating vertical and horizontal windows across the faces are like girls that nod and shake their heads. But I don't think

that came from Saarinen. [When it opened, Hill College House was a women's dormitory.] RV: I think the humor comes from other people. Saarinen merely meant his work to be an architectural expression; I've never been sympathetic to

Row of Tract Houses, Bayonne, NJ (2006) is part of the show Dan Graham's New Jersey, on view at Columbia through March 23.

that idea. There was a major conference organized on Saarinen two years ago by Robert Stern at Yale. He was furious because I am so ambivalent about Saarinen. I worked for him for 2½ years the GM Tech Center (1946–1955): Louis Kahn told me to do it, and I was young at the time, and so I did it. I did not like the St. Louis Arch (1966) when it was built, though now I do. I think architecture should connect with its context and should not be limited to one vocabulary. Although each of his jobs had a different vocabulary, he didn't particularly connect with place.

But Stiles and Morse colleges at Yale relate to the horrible kitschy Gothic of the campus. RV: I love that Gothic!

DSB: Yale Gothic is interesting. It's smaller in scale and more suburban than the Princeton Gothic and has lovely Arts and Crafts elements to it. I love the [Dixwell] fire station (1974) in New Haven, but unfortunately the firemen don't.

DSB: The firemen liked it well enough when we designed it, but 30 years later, there are new firemen with different needs, so they're changing it. Things change over time, and users need to change their buildings, but if the change is clumsy, some relationships will no longer make sense, and people blame the architect.

I love the linoleum flooring in the station—[Josep Lluis] Sert also used it in his early buildings. DSB: We love that too! We like using these types of materials but we can't do it very often, because some member of the client group says, "You can't use linoleum in my building." But the people in the fire station now say that they are not going to consult with any architects and make the changes themselves. If you have carefully planned the relationships in a building, and someone changes one basic element...At the Seattle Art Museum, they closed the school entryway and then had a congested lobby. They said this was the architect's fault, but it was because they changed the way the building was used. Change is understandable, but you should try to ask, "What was the intention here?" RV: This is a problem with institutional buildings, which last a long while. When you design according to the needs of the original users, later administrators may change the program.

I once wrote an article on your architecture and mentioned Aldo Rossi for contrast, but now I think Rossi is also a vernacular architect.

RV: Yes, but I think he had a more literal connection with history than we did. Rossi's vernacular is Italian, and because Italian architecture has been a source for American architects, we interpret the Italian vernacular as historical—it's part of our history.

But since your work is American, it is immediate and present with historic echoes. This is the American way. Have you had any chance to see any new Japanese architecture? I love the work of Itsuko Hasagawa, for example.

RV: I do not keep up with current architecture because it generally does not interest me. I keep up with everyday architecture. But we have written about how we love the architecture of Japan and how much we have learned from and been inspired by it. We traveled there in the 1990s, but no longer have work there. I loved three things in Japan: the everyday of now—like the great eclectic mess of signage on the Ginza—and the historical architecture and gardens of Kyoto. Thirdly, I love the Buddhist architecture of Nikko. We still celebrate the first day we went to Japan as we celebrate the first day I went to Rome.

DSB: We knew about Japanese historical and modern architecture before we went there, but when we arrived, we discovered the urbanism from the 1950s and 1960s. It is exuberant, impolite, funny, and wonderful, and has a kind of naïve, semimodernist influence from American magazines, but done much better.

There are always signs is English! RV: I love the signs!

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DSB: There was one that read, "Bake My Day!" RV: God I love it! I just love the complexity and contradiction. We were in heaven.

DSB: Someone should write about the words in signs in the old Las Vegas. They were as poetic as the architecture.

What I love about Las Vegas is Dean Martin. There is a Billy Wilder film called *Kiss Me Stupid* where Martin is driving from Las Vegas and his car breaks down in Climax, Nevada. His car is deliberately not fixed by the mechanic because he and his partner are songwriters, and they want to push their songs on Martin. Martin has to stay with the mechanic, and the mechanic's wife is Kim Novak. He makes sure the two go to bed together and then serenades them in the morning. There was a romance to Las Vegas in the late 1950s and 1960s. RV: The Las Vegas we loved is gone. Today's Las Vegas is Disneyland for adults; today it is boring in its excitement.

DSB: There is an irony now in that it is simulating civic public space. All the public spaces of Europe are right there. Why go to Italy when it's in Nevada. The irony is that the more it looks like a public space the more private it is. If you try to exercise your constitutional rights to gather on a public space in Las Vegas you will soon realize that any public space is only 18 inches wide. Everything else is private. I want to talk about what is happening in New

York now.

RV: Over the span of 25 years we have designed perhaps 10 waterfront projects for Manhattan, including Battery Park, the Whitehall ferry terminal, and Peter Minuit Park. They were all shut

down by politicians.

Let's face it—New York does not have much good architecture. But I love the Pier Luigi Nervi terminal at the George Washington Bridge and the Daily News building on 42nd Street. RV: My two favorite plazas are Piazza San Marco and Times Square. We did a scheme for Times Square and a hotel nearby, but they were all shot down. It was [Staten Island Borough President and U.S. Representative] Guy Molinari from Staten Island who stopped the ferry terminal building. I love Staten Island, with its beautiful views of Manhattan, and I want to go back and visit. Denise, we should retire and move to Staten Island. I love it! DSB: This is a pipe dream of yours that could

become a hellish reality! I also want to talk about your monkey cage at the Philadelphia Zoo, though I never saw it, and I heard it burned down. It had two-way mirrored glass, which I work with too. I saw an imitation of it at the Antwerp Zoo: Reflections are superimposed on the monkey's faces, so the monkeys seem to become humans and the humans become monkeys.

DSB: I don't think we had two-way mirror glass, but the building did burn, and it was traumatic. What do you think about corporate versus non-

corporate architecture? Yours isn't corporate. RV: We work for institutions and universities but not for corporations. We are not against corporate jobs, but they don't come to us. Companies seem to feel that we are highfalutin because we write books, and so we wouldn't come in on budget and on time. In fact, we are practical and efficient about budgets and time. When we interviewed for Dumbarton Oaks Library in Georgetown, I told the client that while we had a reputation for being arty, we are actually good at getting the job done. He said, "That means you are arty and crafty." I loved that guy.

Thinking about Dumbarton Oaks reminds me of Eleanor Roosevelt, who had a house there. What is the situation of women in architecture today? Do they have to be married to a male partner? DSB: It's still dreadful. Whatever my actual role, I am seen willy-nilly as a thinker or a preservationist or some kind of helper to Bob. It's killer for a woman. Bob's work is critically considered and either loved or hated, but I am only allowed to be something the critic is not interested in, like a preservationist or planner. In fact, I have an important design role to play in our firm. But for complex reasons architects find this hard to recognize.

In an article I wrote, "Room at the Top? Sexism and the Star System in Architecture," I suggested that one reason may be that the only thing architects think is worth considering is design. They stand and fall in the job market through their reputation as designers. But you cannot become a good designer by merely working hard. You need some kind of extra indefinable something called talent. So architects have to rely on an ability they cannot control. They find this scary so they turn to magic for help—to architectural gurus.

There are great women architects like Lina Bo Bardi, who is absolutely amazing. DSB: Most are not American.

Or Eileen Gray, who worked with Le Corbusier. DSB: He tried hard to suppress her and took a lot from her.

RV: Today architecture is more of a team effort. It is complex. And several people can be designers They wanted to give me the AIA Gold Medal, and I would not accept it if Denise was not allowed to share it. They said they could only give to one person. But I did accept the Pritzker Prize. DSB: Bob tried to get the Pritzker to recognize both of us. They said no. We have submitted for the AIA several times, but they refuse to open the submission because it is from two people When Enric Miralles was with Pinos they did great work together. Their cemetery outside of Barcelona is absolutely amazing. When he divorced Pinos, I think his work got very boring. DSB: In America, the notion that an idea can grow within two creative minds is unacceptable.



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AIA NEW YORK CHAPTER'S 2007 DESIGN AWARDS

NEWS

On February 12, the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects announced the winners of its 2007 Design Awards, which recognizes outstanding work by New York City architects or located in New York City. The 21 winners were selected from more than 400 submissions, which came from all 50 states and 12 foreign countries.

ARCHITECTURE HONOR AWARDS Jurors: David Adjaye, Adjaye/Associates; Jeanne Gang, Studio Gang Architects; Dan Hanganu, Dan S. Hanganu Architects; Debra Lehman-Smith, Lehman Smith McLeish; Benjamin Gianni, School of Architecture, Carleton University, Ottawa; Matthias Sauerbruch, Sauerbruch Hutton; Piero Sartogo, Sartogo Architetti Associati; Massimiliano Fuksas, Massimiliano Fuksas Architetto; and Peter Waldman, University of Virginia, Charlottesville

Olympic Sculpture Park Seattle, Washington Weiss/Manfredi

Institute of Contemporary Art Boston, Massachusetts Diller Scofidio + Renfro

Higgins Hall Center Section/Pratt Institute Brooklyn, New York Steven Holl Architects

New Residence at the Swiss Embassy Washington, D.C. Steven Holl Architects

92 Jane Street New York, New York Steven Harris Architects Hearst Tower New York, New York Foster and Partners

ARCHITECTURE MERIT AWARD WINNERS Affordable Housing Aspen, Colorado Peter L. Gluck and Partners

School of Art and Art History, University of Iowa Iowa City, Iowa Steven Holl Architects

Slot House Brooklyn, New York noroof architects

United States Census Bureau Headquarters Suitland, Maryland Skidmore, Owings & Merrill

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE HONOR AWARDS Operable Boundary Townhouse Garden Brooklyn, New York Dean/Wolf Architects

United States Census Bureau Headquarters Suitland, Maryland Skidmore, Owings & Merrill

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE MERIT AWARD WINNERS Bloomberg LP Expansion Floors 17-20 New York, New York Studios Architecture

Heckscher Foundation for Children New York, New York Christoff:Finio Architecture Alessi Flagship Store New York New York, New York Asymptote: Hani Rashid and Lise Anne Couture

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE OF INTEREST TO THE PUBLIC REALM AWARD New York Public Library Fort Washington Branch Children's Room New York, New York Sage and Coombe Architects

United States Census Bureau Headquarters Suitland, Maryland Skidmore, Owings & Merrill

PROJECT HONOR AWARDS North Carolina Museum of Art Raleigh, North Carolina Thomas Phifer and Partners

Windshape Lacoste, France nArchitects

PROJECT MERIT AWARD Zuccotti Park New York, New York Cooper Robertson & Partners

City Lights New York, New York Thomas Phifer and Partners, Office for Visual Interaction, Werner Sobek Engineering

Weeksville Heritage Center New York, New York Caples Jefferson Architects

2

1 New residence at the Swiss Embassy, Steven Holl Architects; 2 Operable Boundary Townhouse Garden, Dean/Wolf Architects; 3 92 Jane Street, Steven Harris Architects; 4 Alessi Flagship Store New York, Asymptote: Hani Rashidand Lise Anne Couture; 5 Pier 62 Carousel Shed, CR Studio Architects; 6 Heckscher Foundation for Children, Christoff: Finio Architecture; 7 United States Land Port of Entry, Robert Siegel Architects; 8 Sheila C. Johnson Design Center, Lyn Rice Architects; 9 Red Hook Workspace, Ogawa/Depardon Architects

3









ANDY RYAN; 2 PETER AARON / ESTO; 3 SCOTT FRANCIS; 4 + 6 ELIZABETH FELICELLA; ALL OTHERS COURTESY OF THE ARCHITECTS



405 West 53rd Street New York, New York Smith-Miller + Hawkinson Architects

Red Hook Workspace New York, New York Ogawa/Depardon Architects

Pier 62 Carousel Shed New York, New York CR Studio Architects

Sheila C. Johnson Design Center New York, New York Lyn Rice Architects

Park Fifth Los Angeles, California Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates

55 Water Street Plaza, The Elevated Acre New York, New York Rogers Marvel Architects

Battery Park City Streetscapes New York, New York Rogers Marvel Architects

New Orleans ShotgunLOFT Affordable Housing New Orleans, Louisiana Frederic Schwartz Architects TWO BILLS TIGHTEN REINS ON SELF-CERTIFIED PLANS

CITY COUNCIL TO ARCHITECTS: WE'RE WATCHING

Believe it or not, the Department of Buildings (DOB) trusts you. Since 1995, when the city was in the throes of a budget crunch and the department was hard up for manpower, DOB has granted architects and engineers the privilege to self-certify their own projects. This means they need only prove to examiners that their plans are complete before receiving building permits; it is up to the designers to vouch that their plans comply with the city's zoning and building codes. But with only 20 percent of all self-certified plans being audited, violations have been sneaking through, and the City Council is fed up.

The council has complained almost since the program went live that some designers were certifying illegal designs, particularly in the outer boroughs. They blame the DOB. Councilman Michael Nelson called their punishment toothless and would like to see the program eliminated, a view he shares with many of his colleagues. Because some councillors feared the prodevelopment Bloomberg administration would veto a bill eliminating self-certification, the council unanimously passed two bills on February 1 to empower the DOB's prosecution of duplicitous designers.

"I think our history in the city has shown that for safety and zoning purposes, review is a good thing," said Councilperson James Vacca during a Housing and Buildings Committee meeting on January 29. "Buildings need to be reviewed, and certainly those with a history of filing inaccurate

plans need to be sent a message."

Vacca, who represents District 13 in the Bronx and cosponsored both bills, acknowledged that the majority of architects play by the rules. "But," he added, "for those that think self-certification is a way to avoid mandated zoning requirements, these two bills address a problem that has long cried out for attention."

The first bill sets the punitive framework. Any registered architect or professional engineer found to have filed a self-certified building application that does not adhere to code three times in a 12-month period has his or her self-certification privileges suspended. The offending designer must then have all plans reviewed by the DOB prior to receiving building permits. After a year, he or she may apply for the reinstatement of privileges. If the designer passes, a six-month probation period ensues wherein he or she can self-certify again. Should their plans be found in violation during this period, privileges are revoked permanently. The second bill requires that designers on probation still submit to a full review. (The legislation is packaged as two bills instead of one for strictly procedural reasons, a Vacca staffer explained.)

The first bill also establishes a database of engineers and architects who have filed false plans. The DOB is required to prepare an annual report of this information for review by city officials.

The DOB still lacks enough plan examiners or inspectors to examine plans and work sites. The council, while still complaining about the department's performance, acknowledged this shortcoming last September when it allocated \$2.5 million to the department to train and hire ten more plan examiners who have joined a pilot program that reviews all new building plans and major renovations in Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Staten Island. Whether or not the council further funds this program as it continues to dismantle the self-certification program remains to be seen. **Mc**

COUNCILMEMBER JIMMY VACCA WANTS TO SHAPE UP THE DOB THE CRUSADER

Almost every night around 10:00 p.m., councilmember Jimmy Vacca checks his email and then logs onto the Building Information System (BIS), or "biss system" as zoning-savvy New Yorkers call the Department of Buildings (DOB) database.

Vacca is looking for zoning and building code violations in his district, the 13th, which encompasses the Bronx neighborhoods of Morris Park, Throgs Neck, and Pelham Bay, where he was born and has lived his entire life. He feels that he must patrol the streets, both electronically and on foot, because the DOB cannot or will not prosecute violators. "The DOB has always been a stepchild agency," Vacca said. "It's never had adequate resources, and has always been viewed negatively by the public. No one believed the building inspectors were doing their job as best they could."

Vacca, who spent 19 years as the district manager for Bronx Community Board 12 before joining City Council last year, has made reforming the DOB his calling. "It's been driving me for three years now," he said, a timeline that fits with the recent real estate boom. Vacca said what had once been a nonissue has become the number one concern of his constituents, who are seriously concerned about what many see as unchecked development that threatens the identity of their neighborhoods.

Vacca does not entirely blame the DOB because he understands how understaffed the department is. For this reason, Vacca joined Erik Martin Dilan, chair of the council's Housing and Buildings Committee, in sponsoring a bill last year to give the DOB an additional \$2.5 million. The money is targeted to hiring more inspectors, and cracking down on night and weekend work, illegal signs, and the self-certification program.

DOB spokesperson Kate Lindquist said that the department supports the legislation and appreciates the continued efforts of Vacca and other council members to further empower the DOB.

Vacca sees hope for the future and the future of his efforts. "If people are going around saying, 'We have to worry about this Jimmy Vacca,' that's my accomplishment," he said. "Not to sound prideful." **MC**

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AMERICAN SCHOLAR DONATES RARE MIDCENTURY PREFAB TO FRENCH MUSEUM PROUVÉ PERCHED ON POMPIDOU

The fifth-floor outdoor terrace of the Centre Georges Pompidou is currently a temporary home to Jean Prouvé's Maison Tropicale, a prefabricated house designed by the French architect in 1951. Three prototypes of the steel and aluminum structure were built in Prouvé's workshop in Nancy; one was erected in Niamey, Niger, and two in Brazzaville in the Republic of the Congo. The latter two were linked by a walkway; one served as a residence while the other was the office of a marketing executive for a French aluminum manufacturer. American architecture scholar and philanthropist Robert M. Rubin financed the rescue mission of the only surviving structure from Brazzaville, which was endangered by the country's civil war. The structure arrived in Presles, France, in 2000, where it was restored by Rubin, along with Alain Banneel, an architect who specializes in metal structures, and Christian Enjolras,

an architect who studied with Prouvé. The Maison Tropicale is part of a larger exhibition devoted to masterpieces from the museum's modern collections and new acquisitions. The show, which remains on view until April 2, includes a selection of including original plans, sketches, models, said Rubin. "Prouvé was the cochair, with photographs, and letters, much of it drawn from Prouvé's archives, which the museum recently acquired.

Rubin has donated Maison Tropicale to

Jean Prouvé's 1951 pre-fab Maison Tropicale has been restored and installed on the fifthfloor terrace of the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris.

the Georges Pompidou Art & Culture Foundation, a U.S.-based nonprofit devoted to building support for the museum. It was founded in 1978 by Dominique de Menil but had been stagnant since her death in 1997. Rubin, a former commodities and currency trader who is now completing his PhD in architectural history at Columbia University GSAPP, was elected president of the foundation a year ago and has already reinvigorated the organization by sponsoring an exhibition devoted to French modern design, called French Modern Sources, held in Miami during the Art Basel Fair in December. The show presented the extraordinary designs of Prouvé, Robert Mallet-Stevens, Le Corbusier, and Pierre Chareau. Rubin has also demonstrated his commitment to preserving France's legacy of modern design with his purchase last year of Pierre Chareau and Bernard Bijvoet's 1932 Maison de Verre, which he has been restoring and has pledged to make accessible to visitors in some manner. Appropriately, Rubin's thesis topic is prefabrication in France between the wars, and encompasses the work of Chareau, Prouvé, Paul Nelson, and Buckminster Fuller.

This is the third time the Maison Tropicale has been installed for public viewing: It was erected at Yale University in 2005 and at the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles in 2006.

The house looks at home nestled within the industrial exoskeleton of the Pompidou. "It's always been my dream to have this building end up at the Pompidou, and the way it has been installed, in a 'constructive con Prouve's furniture and architectural designs, sation' with its host structure, is wonderful," Philip Johnson, of the jury that selected Renzo Piano and Richard Rogers as the architects of the Centre Pompidou, so there is a poetic justice in this gesture." CATHY LANG HO

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NEWS

SPITZER STOPS SPITTING ON TOWER

Though he has been a vocal critic of the Freedom Tower, having placed it "under review" at the outset of his term, Governor Eliot Spitzer finally lent his support to the 1,776-foot, \$3 billion tower now under construction at Ground Zero, Joined at a February 20 press conference by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and New Jersey Governor Jon Corzine, Spitzer said he had been persuaded to support the project considering the continued strength of the commercial real estate market, a pending lease for one million of the 2.2 million square feet of office space in the tower. and rumors that a private developer may be interested in purchasing the building. Spitzer said that he had no "opposition, on a philosophical level, to selling the tower."

ATLANTIC YARDS BREAKS GROUND

By the time you read this, a bus depot on Pacific Street in Brooklyn will have been demolished. Initiated February 21, the demolition is the first step toward construction of Forest City Ratner's \$4 billion Atlantic Yards project. The developers are moving ahead after having secured local and state approval; however, two cases are pending in federal court fighting the use of eminent domain to seize the property of several residents and business owners on the 22-acre site.

CUOMO SUITING UP FOR GREENPOINT OIL CLEAN UP

Attorney General Andrew Cuomo announced on February 8 that he will pursue lawsuits against ExxonMobil and four other companies-EP, Chevron, Keyspan, and Phelps Dodge-for extensive soil and water contamination in Greenpoint. "The toxic footprint of ExxonMobil is found all over this area," Cuomo said in a statement. In 1978, oil was found to be leaking from an Exxon refinery along Newtown Creek, which separates Brooklyn from Queens. Cuomo's office estimates that a total of 17 million gallons contaminated 100 acres in Greenpoint; today, the air and soil of 55 acres are still contaminated.

SCI-ARC'S NEW NEW MEDIA

Citing the need for architects to respond not only rapidly, but also critically to new media and technological advances, the avant-educators at Los Angeles' SCI-Arc rolled out another postgraduate program entitled MediaSCAPES. A sibling to the existing, urban-oriented SCIFI (Southern California Institute for Future Initiatives) program, the one-year course offers students a nonprofessional Master of Architecture degree and is directed by a|Um Studio's Ed Keller. Influenced by the worlds of software, film, and gaming, the program promises a think-tank curriculum of architectural design remixed with multidisciplinary theory.

WHEN IT COMES TO ARCHITECTURE, CLEVELAND ROCKS

Cleveland has added another big-name architecture project to University Circle, the neighborhood linking Case Western Reserve University and downtown. Dutch firm MVRDV will design a \$40 million expansion to The Cleveland Institute of Art scheduled to open within the next four years. University Circle is home to a number of Cleveland's cultural, educational, and architectural landmarks. The institute will be the firm's first built project in the United States and will be joined by Gehry's Weatherhead School of Management at Case and Foreign Office Architecture's new building for the Museum of Contemporary Art, among others.

HERZOG & DE MEURON WIN GOLD IN BRITAIN Basel-based architects Jacques Herzog

and Pierre de Meuron received the Royal

Gold Medal from the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) on February 21. "Their career has seen them move painlessly from being an experimental studio to a big practice without the work being diluted in any way," RIBA President Jack Pringle said in a statement. "They reinvent everything with each new project and do it with such vigor." The architects are best known in the UK for the Tate Modern.

COLUMBIA STUDENTS FIGHT GENTRIFICATION

On February 20, a group of Columbia University students, joined by local residents and politicians, held a rally on the university campus where they declared the snow-encrusted South Lawn "blighted." The rally, led by the Student Coalition on Expansion and Gentrification, was a sly critique of Columbia's efforts to annex Manhattanville, the West Harlem neighborhood running from 125th to 134th streets. The Empire State Development Corporation is currently studying the area to determine its condition, which could lead to an eminent domain decision allowing the transfer of the land to Columbia.

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Emerging Voices—

The Architectural League's Emerging Voices program is now in its 25th year and going stronger than ever.

In the 25 years of the Emerging Voices lecture series, the jurors have proven remarkably adept at picking men and women who have gone on to wide acclaim. It would be tempting to see it as a concise picture of the profession at a given moment, or an indicator of stylistic trends and preoccupations, but the reality is happily more complex. The list of past winners shows extraordinary diversity. Among the architects then-League president Emilio Ambasz selected in the inaugural year, 1982, were Tod Williams, Steven Holl, and Laurinda Spear of Arquitectonica. The following year's group included both Morphosis, and Andres Duany and Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk. All of these architects have been influential, but in very-distinct ways. That they can share a platform makes the program perhaps a truer reflection of the state of architecture. As program director Anne Reiselbach explained. "When the selection committee is looking at portfolios, the most important criterion is how singular the voice is. The question they always ask is, 'Is this a voice, or is it just really good work? Can they speak about their work in a consistent way?'"

This year's Emerging Voices continue the tradition: There is enormous variety both in the kinds of work and in the ways they go about it. Jared Della Valle and Andrew Bernheimer are bringing vertical integration to their practice—on a current project, their firm is acting as the developer and the architect, and has even designed most of the kitchen and bathroom fixtures, many of which will go into production—while An Te Liu is showing his installations "as an artist, among artists." What they do share with each other and the six other winners is that they have something to say about architecture right now.

Lecture Series:

Thursday, March 1 J. Meejin Yoon and Eric Höweler, Höweler + Yoon Architecture/ MY Studio Sharon Johnston and Mark Lee, Johnston Marklee & Associates Thursday, March 8 Ammar Eloueini, AEDS Mark Anderson and Peter Anderson, Anderson Anderson Architecture

Thursday, March 15 Trey Trahan, Trahan Architects Lisa Iwamoto and Craig Scott, IwamotoScott Architecture

Thursday, March 22 Jared Della Valle and Andy Bernheimer, Della Valle Bernheimer An Te Liu, University of Toronto

The March 1 lecture will be held at the Scholastic Auditorium, 557 Broadway. All subsequent lectures will be held at the Urban Center, 457 Madison Avenue.

All lectures begin

at 6:30.





Ammar Eloueini got his first and most traditional architecture training in Paris, but when dean Bernard Tschumi launched his "paperless studio" at Columbia University, Eloueini realized that he wanted to be there. In the mid-1990s, Columbia was at the forefront of the move to incorporate computers into architecture in a way that went far beyond the translation drawings from trace paper to CAD file, and it was an exciting place to be, though many onlookers wondered if the blobby projects that dominated the studios would have lasting impact. And if the early results of the Columbia experiment tended toward a "Look Ma, no hands!" approach to formmaking, Eloueini's practice today, called

AEDS, could represent one aspect of its maturity. "There are some architects who just use the computer to generate amazing forms and then think about how it will be put together later on, but I don't believe in that," said Floueini, "What I am interested in pursuing is the relationship between a concept and its representation and fabrication. I want the materiality of a design and the way it will be produced to influence the design itself." According to Eloueini, one

outcome of digital design and fabrication's development is that it has ushered in the return of ornament in architecture. "It is almost more efficient to integrate ornamental elements to a piece that is fabricated that way-for

example, if you are using a CNC routing machine, a smooth surface is more difficult and time-consuming to make than something with a pattern integrated into the surface," he said. You can also begin to integrate structural qualities into the pattern." His honeycomb chair was fabricated on a 3D printer, and so while at the moment, the scale at which he can design such projects is limited by the existing technologies, it will undoubtedly keep developing, and Eloueini's work with it. ANNE GUINEY

Eloueini designed the honey comb chair (top, left) to be fabricated entirely by a 3D printer. He has also designed three boutiques for the clothing designer Issey Miyake, one each in Berlin (bottom right), Paris (top right), and Perpignan, France



Anderson Anderson Architecture

San Francisco, California / Seattle, Washington

Prefabricated building systems are an ever-more important part of Anderson Anderson Architecture's thinking and have become a constant in the firm's current work. Both the Abiquiu House

(above) in New Mexico and the Chameleon House (right) overlooking Lake Michigan consist almost entirely of components that were fabricated elsewhere but assembled on-site



When brothers Mark and Peter Anderson were at Harvard's Graduate School of Design in the late 1980s, the idea that architects might actually make things was not in vogue: "It was the tail end of the postmodernism-influenced, theory-driven period, so much so that at the GSD, they had just finished ripping out all of the shops on the first floor! There was one grouchy guy running a small shop in the basement." During the summertime, however, the two went home to Seattle to work as carpenters. According to Peter Anderson, going back and forth between reading cultural theory and building cabinetry makes for a great education.

It also proved to be an influence on the work they do at Anderson Anderson Architecture, which is based in San Francisco. "Our early work was really focused on craft," said Anderson, "not only because of our own backgrounds, but because in Washington state at

that time, the boatbuilding industry was winding down, so there was an enormous pool of highly skilled labor to draw from." This started to change when the firm began to build in Japan. The craftsmanship there is legendary, and as they thought about Japanese building systems, said Anderson, they began to wonder about American ones. "That, and the high cost of labor there, led us towards prefabricated elements," he said. "It was a total shift in viewpoint."

The shift is almost complete: Most of the firm's work now makes heavy use of prefabricated pieces that are put together on-site, and they have also begun to extend this into multifamily, mixed-use projects. But Anderson is clear that the buildings they do will always be site-specific. "We're not offering a catalogue house," he said. "Prefab doesn't have to mean a box that rolls off a truck." AG



When Jared Della Valle described the founding of his firm Della Valle Bernheimer, he didn't get romantic: "It was a shotgun wedding," he said, explaining that when he and Andy Bernheimer won a competition to design the plaza of a federal building in San Francisco in 1996, they figured that they'd better start a firm. In the decade since then, the firm has grown to a staff of 10, but the pace of change is even more evident in the scale of work they

Höweler + Yoon

Architecture / MY Studio

are taking on now and the way they are approaching it.

The firm currently has two large condominium projects in Manhattan under construction, and on one of these, Della Valle is acting as the developer. As he explained it, "There is a whole different level of control we can achieve. Provided we meet our own budget and don't do something insensitive to the market, we can move faster and gain a level of rigor which would be



tough otherwise." They are also designing the interiors for both buildings, and have entered into a partnership with an Italian manufacturer to produce the kitchen and bath fixtures. Their practice is clearly a diversified one, and while it may seem like an enviable position to be in-and it surely is-they developed the firm that way in order to keep themselves busy. The two decided early on that in order to stay afloat, they would have to create

projects for themselves. "We had never done a house, and we wanted to, so we put in a bid on some land being auctioned off by HPD [the Department of Housing Preservation and Development], said Della Valle. It is an affordable housing project in Brooklyn that is just finishing up now. And a few years back, they decided to put the money they had allocated for office furniture toward a CNC machine and build it themselves That let them explore industrial

design, which in turn led to the plumbing fixtures that are now going into production. AG

Bernheimer's work right now is residential, but it is at widely varying scales. Two recently finished projects are a copper-clad house (left) in Columbia County, New York, and the restoration and renovation of Paul Rudolph's famed penthouse apartment (center) on Beekman Place in Manhattan. They are developing and designing a condo (right) on West 18th Street.

Most of Della Valle



For the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, the Boston-based Höwele + Yoon Architecture/MY Studio created White Noise/White Light, an installation of 8,000 slender, fiberoptic reeds that emitted light from LEDs on their tips and sound when people brushed past. "I had in mind a very poetic experience," says firm co-founder J. Meejin Yoon of her expectations for the installation. Instead, she found "people were jumping, running, playing games, even dancing,"

Yoon created this installation with Eric Höweler, firm cofounder and her collaborator since both were architecture students at Cornell, where they met in 1990. After graduation, Höweler worked for Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates and then Diller + Scofidio in New

York, while Yoon went to Dean/ Wolf Architects. Yoon started her design firm MY Studio in 2001, and she has continued to develop this practice even after Höweler + Yoon was established in April 2004.

Most of the pair's more traditional architecture projects are designed under this joint partnership. For Building 2345, a mixed-use project in Washington, D.C., they stacked interlocking, staggered floors around a central service core in order to pack five double-height floors into a 50-foot height restriction.

But their definition of architecture expands to include anything designable, from landscape and clothing to furniture-even the psychological effects that can be created with interactive tech-

nology. They point to the Athens installation and to Lo Rez/Hi Fi, a storefront and sidewalk installation in Washington, D.C., where passersby can walk through a grove of blue LED light poles and touch them to produce musical tones and lighting effects. CARL YOST

> Four distinct segments in the middle of each light pole in the Lo Rez/Hi Fi installation (left) emit a different tone when touched. The LED light board (above) alternately flickers the building address 1110 Vermont Avenue-and a digital "shadow" of passersby, their movements captured on camera and translated onto the board.

FEATURE



Lisa Iwamoto and Craig Scott have been successfully pairing teaching and practice for almost ten years. Before the two founded their firm in 1998 in San Francisco, they taught at the University of Michigan, and academia is still an important part of their practice, which is based on combining conceptual design to fabrication

by using new technologies. According to Iwamoto, they develop their designs by exploring digital processes like laser cutting and combining material studies "with investigations into perceptual and experiential phenomena." She is now a full-time professor at University of California, Berkeley, and said that teaching allows them to experiment with materials, fabrication techniques, and even extreme sites: "Teaching creates a dynamic interchange between the practice and the experimental nature of our work." Their portfolio contains a mix of conceptual installations, competition work, and furniture design. The Jellyfish House (2005-2006)

h is the product of research into es, responsive technologies for reclaimed land. Its systems, structure, and skin are one and the same, serving as a water filter rk." and reservoir, which incorporates of heating and cooling. Such systems

and reservoir, which incorporates heating and cooling. Such systems don't yet exist, and are probably 10 or 20 years off, but the project anticipates future "calm" technology that is less intrusive in our lives.

The partners are finalists for the eighth annual Young

Architects Program selected by P.S.1 and the Museum of Modern Art, and now the design for the completion (due in March) is their main focus.

Mocean (left) was designed for the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art Contemporary Extension's 2004 summer event Diamond Dust. The inflatable glowing one-night installation attempted to capture ephemeral movement as visitors navigated their way through it. The conceptual Jellyfish House (center) would coexist with the environment and respond to its changes. IN-OUT Curtain (2005) was based on the Origami principle and made up of cut, perforated, folded, and interlocked laser cut sheets (right).



When people first visit the Sale House in Venice, California, their first impression is typically that the house has no architecture at all, or certainly not the capital-A kind. "We have always been inter ested in things that are provocatively banal," says the house's designer, Mark Lee of Johnston Marklee & Associates. "We're interested in mundane, 'nothing-

to-write-home-about' beauty." Built adjacent to Morphosis'

2-4-6-8 Studio after the original house on the site burned to the ground, the Sale House features windows of the same proportions as the studio's (the 2-4-6-8 refers to the size, in feet, of the progressively-larger square windows), set just a bit too close to the corners of the house. With this awkward

placement and the plain gray exterior walls, Lee says he hopes to unsettle a viewer's expectations of what residential architecture should be.

Lee, with partner Sharon Johnston, founded the eightperson Los Angeles-based firm Johnston Marklee & Associates in December 1998. Their first commissions were for institutional

projects in Marfa, Texas, where they most recently completed a masterplan for the Marfa Public Library.

Johnston Marklee's interest in structure appears in another residential project, the Hill House in Pacific Palisades, California, whose blocky shape results from fitting the form to the zoning envelope. Erected on only nine steel caissons set into a steeplysloped site, the design minimizes cost and opens up the floor plan. Most of the budget and effort went into engineering the structure: According to Lee, "We'd much rather put our budget in great structural solutions and apertures than in great materials." **cy** Johnston Marklee derived the massing and colors of the Sale House (left) from Morphosis' 2-4-6-8 Studio, which stands on the same site. The Hill House (right top and bottom) features expansive views of the nearby canyon, but turns a blank wall to the street for extra privacy.



Although he has had stints working in the studios of Frank Gehry and George Yu in Los Angeles, the architect An Te Liu has been focusing his energy on gallerybased installations. According to Liu, "My work represents research ture program at the University that addresses contemporary and historical cultural issues, not

architecture per se. I feel lucky to exhibit almost exclusively as an

artist and among artists-however, ically allows my work to be more I'm an advocate of architectural practice by all means and in a way my work complements practice." Since 1999, Liu has been director of the graduate architecof Toronto. Teaching gives him a freedom that would never have been possible in traditional

experimental and speculative," he said. Working on both urban and domestic scales, Liu tries to give everyday objects new meaning through repetition and reconstitution-such as his wallpaper based on aerial photographs of Levittown, called Pattern Language-and comment practice. "Being engaged academ- on the contemporary mass-

produced design aesthetics and functionality. In his own words, his art is an "oscillation between object and model, reality and representation." Liu's work is in the permanent collection at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

In Pattern Language I (1999), Liu took an aerial photograph of Levittown and transformed it into wallpaper (left). He is interested in using the repeating pattern to draw the viewers' attention to the issues of mass production in contemporary design and architecture. Exchange (2001) consists of 56 stacked air

purifiers (right) that simulate a sterile environment, which reflects Liu's belief that we have an unhealthy obsession with hygiene.





The Holy Rosary Church Complex (left) was completed in 2004, and includes the traditional formal elements of a monastery, such as a cloistered walk and chapel. A skylight (above) illuminates the small central chapel.

Trahan Architects is best known for two building types: churches and athletic facilities. This may seem like a head-scratcher at first, but for principal Trey Trahan, the logic is clear. "In Louisiana, college sports are such a big deal that people think that if you can do a stadium, you can do anything," he said, "so we have been able to parlay our athletics projects into different kinds of work." This attitude has meant that along with Tiger Stadium and an academic center for student-athletes at Louisiana State University, the firm has also designed St. Jean Vianney Church and the Holy Rosary Church complex, both in the Baton Rouge area.

Different as they may be in program, the LSU academic center and the churches have a shared continued on page 26





Trahan wanted the Student-Athlete Academic Center (above left and right) to be a refuge from all of the activity typical on the LSU campus. The Fifth Third Arena (left) at the University of Cincinnati, which is still in design, is part of an architecturally ambitious Varsity Village with buildings by Bernard Tschumi, Peter Eisenman, and Henry Cobb, among many others.



TRAHAN ARCHITECTS continued from page 25 sensibility. In those three projects, Trahan uses natural light and simple but strong forms to bring a simplicity and sense of quiet to what in other hands might seem austere. At Holy Rosary, sunlight enters the small central chapel through several irregularly shaped apertures and washes over the unfinished concrete walls: The patterns of the formwork and rough texture of

the glass are the room's primary decoration. The academic center is similarly restrained, which is more surprising, but according to Trahan, "These kids move fast, and so many of the ones we interviewed spoke of all the distractions around them. We wanted

Holy Rosary, sunlight enters the small central chapel through several irregularly shaped apertures and washes over the unfinished concrete walls: The patterns of the formwork and rough texture of

a coffered ceiling magnifies the sunlight coming in the windows.

Although the firm is currently working on both another church and another stadium, Trahan doesn't want to be typecast. The office is taking on as many different types of projects as possible, including designing a house and a series of five facilities for a local pipe manufacturing company. Ac





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MARCH

WEDNESDAY 7

ARCH 200

LECTURES Markku Siiskonen Green Design: The Myth and the Reality 6:30 p.m. National Building Museum 401 F St. NW, Washington, D.C. www.nbm.org

Guy Nordenson Rhetoric and Empiricism in Engineering and Architecture 6:30 p.m. Princeton School of Architecture Betts Auditorium, Princeton www.princeton.edu/~soa

EXHIBITION OPENING **Barcelona and Modernity:** Gaudí to Dalí Metropolitan Museum of Art 1000 5th Ave. www.metmuseum.org

THURSDAY 8

LECTURE Anne Whiston Spirn **One with Nature** 6:00 p.m. **City College** Shepard Hall Convent Ave. and 138th St. www.ccny.cuny.edu

Ammar Eloueini, Mark Anderson, Peter Anderson **Emerging Voices** 6:30 p.m. Urban Center 457 Madison Ave. www.archleague.org

EVENT **Architectural Digest Home Design Show** Pier 94 12th Ave. and 55th St. www.archdigesthome show.com

EXHIBITION OPENINGS Darren Bader **Rivington Arms** 4 East 2nd St. www.rivingtonarms.com

From Macro to Micro: Grimshaw in New York Queens Museum of Art **Flushing Meadows** Corona Park, Queens www.queensmuseum.org

Jolynn Krystosek Lucas Shoormans Gallery 508 West 26th St. www.lucasschoormans.com

Optical Edge Pratt Manhattan Gallery 144 West 14th St. www.pratt.edu

Takashi Yasumura **Domestic Scandals** Yossi Milo Gallery 525 West 25th St. www.yossimilo.com

Wilhelm Sasnal Anton Kern Gallery 532 West 20th St. www.antonkerngallery.com

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FRIDAY 9 EXHIBITION OPENINGS Anish Kapoor Works on Paper Gladstone Gallery

515 West 24th St.

www.gladstonegallery.com **Beatriz Milhazes** James Cohan Gallery 533 West 26th St. www.jamescohan.com

Taryn Simon An American Index of the Hidden and Unfamiliar Whitney Museum of American Art 945 Madison Ave. www.whitney.org

SYMPOSIUM Next Stop: Kumasi Jo Addo, Stan Allen, K. Anthony Appiah, Felecia Davis, et al. Princeton School of Architecture

SATURDAY 10 EXHIBITION OPENING **Mitch Epstein** Sikkema Jenkins & Co. 530 West 22nd St. www.sikkemajenkinsco.com

Betts Auditorium, Princeton

www.princeton.edu

SUNDAY 11 I FCTURE Dan Graham, Bertje van der Haak 3:00 p.m. SculptureCenter 44-19 Purves St. Long Island City www.sculpture-center.org

MONDAY 12 LECTURE Soyoung Lee From the Golden Kingdom: Korean Art and the Silk Road 6:30 p.m. Asia Society 725 Park Ave. www.asiasociety.org

TUESDAY 13 LECTURE

James Carpenter, Sandro Marpillero, Kenneth Frampton, et al. **Environmental Refractions** 6:30 p.m. Architectural League 457 Madison Ave.

www.archleague.org

EXHIBITION OPENING Incisive Images: Ivory and Boxwood Carvings from the **Renaissance and Baroque** Metropolitan Museum of Art 1000 5th Ave. www.metmuseum.org

WEDNESDAY 14 LECTURES

Frances Richard Gordon Matta-Clark 3:15 p.m. Parsons the New School for Design Swayduck Auditorium 65 5th Ave. www.parsons.edu

VISIT

WWW.ARCHPAPER.COM FOR COMPETITION LISTINGS

Dan Wood, Amale Andraos **Greening Cities:** Eco-Urbanism 6:30 p.m.

Pratt Institute Manhattan 144 West 14th St. www.pratt.edu

Aric Chen **Collecting Limited Edition** Design 7:00 p.m. **Riverhouse Sales and Discovery** Center 250 Vessey St. 212-587-1200

THURSDAY 15

LECTURES Dana Gumb The Staten Island Bluebelt: **Putting Wetlands to** Work for Floor Control 10:00 a.m LaGuardia Community College The Little Theater 31-10 Thomson Ave., Long Island City www.aiany.org

Trey Trahan, Lisa Iwamoto, **Craig Scott Emerging Voices** 6:30 p.m. Urban Center 457 Madison Ave.

www.archleague.org

Helmut Jahn **Mixed Greens** 6:30 p.m. The New York Academy of Sciences 7 World Trade Center www.skyscraper.org

Gordon Bruce, Fred Noyes Eliot Noyes: Pioneer of **Design and Architecture** 6:30 p.m. Knoll Showroom 76 9th Ave. www.docomomo-us.org

Russell Shorto Greetings from New Amsterdam: How Manhattan Became the Island at the Center of the World 7:00 p.m. Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian

1 Bowling Green www.downtownny.com

EXHIBITION OPENINGS Lee Bontecou Vacuum Formed Sculptures and Related Drawings Knoedler & Company 19 East 70th St. www.knoedlergallery.com

Tanyth Berkeley The Muse, The Fugitive, and the Frequency Bellwether Gallery 134 10th Ave. www.bellwethergallery.com

FRIDAY 16 EXHIBITION OPENINGS **Daniel Dove Tim Bavington**

Jack Shainman Gallery 513 West 20th St. www.jackshainman.com

Elliot Hundley Andrea Rosen Gallery 525 West 24th St. www.andrearosengallery.com

Rebecca Warren Matthew Marks Gallery 526 West 22nd St. www.matthewmarks.com

SATURDAY 17 EXHIBITION OPENING

Modernism: **Designing a New World** 1914-1939 Corcoran Gallery of Art 500 17th St., NW, Washington, D.C.

www.corcoran.org MONDAY 19 LECTURE Benjamin Aranda,

Chris Lasch Color Shift 6:00 p.m. Columbia GSAPP Wood Auditorium 113 Avery Hall www.arch.columbia.edu

TUESDAY 20 EVENT

The Real Deal: The Science of Real Estate Forum 5:00 p.m. Lincoln Center

Avery Fisher Hall 10 Lincoln Center Plz. www.lincolncenter.org/ therealdeal

WEDNESDAY 21 LECTURES

Bjarke Ingels Big Ideas 6:00 p.m. Columbia GSAPP Wood Auditorium 113 Avery Hall www.arch.columbia.edu

Stephen Valentine Timeship: The Architecture of Immortality 6:30 p.m. Pratt Institute Manhattan 144 West 14th St. www.aiany.org

EXHIBITION OPENING

Georg Gatsas The Process VI Swiss Institute 495 Broadway, 3rd Fl. www.swissinstitute.net

THURSDAY 22 LECTURE Jared Della Valle, Andy Bernheimer, An Te Liu **Emerging Voices**

6:30 p.m. Urban Center 457 Madison Ave. www.archleague.org

EXHIBITION OPENINGS Bruno Mathsson: Architect and Designer Bard Graduate Center 18 West 86th St. www.bgc.bard.edu

Lee Stoetzel Mixed Greens 531 West 26th St. www.mixedgreens.com

Power House: **New Housing New York** Center for Architecture 536 LaGuardia Pl. www.aiany.org

Van Gogh and Expressionism Neue Galerie New York 1048 5th Ave. www.neuegalerie.org



BARCELONA AND MODERNITY: GAUDÍ TO DAL Metropolitan Museum of Art 1000 5th Avenue March 7 to June 3

Barcelona and Modernity: Gaudí to Dalí gathers work generated in the city between 1888, the first year Barcelona hosted the World's Fair, and 1939, the year Francisco Franco was elected the head of state and began his Fascist regime. During those 51 years, Barcelona strove to be a modern metropolis and became a hub for artistic and intellectual thought where architecture, art, and design flourished. The show will exhibit some 300 works from a variety of genres, from paintings by Dalí and Miró to furniture designs by Gaudí (Double Screen from the Casa Mila, 1909, pictured above) and architectural models by Josep Lluis Sert and Mies van der Rohe. Each of nine sections of the exhibition focuses on specific moments in this energetic time. For example, Els Quatre Gats, the name of a famous café and meeting place for artists, shows work produced there like Casas' Pere Romeu on a Tandem (1897) or Picasso's portraits of fellow artists (1899-1900) he met there. A lavish catalogue published by Yale University Press accompanies the show.



NEXT STOP: KUMASI Princeton University School of Architecture **Betts Auditorium** Princeton, New Jersey March 9 and 10

At a time when the world's attention is turning increasingly toward development in Africa, Princeton University is hosting a two-day symposium to look at architecture and the urban environment in the West African cities of Lagos (intersection in Lagos pictured above) and Accra. A joint effort of the university's Center for Human Values and Center for Architecture, Urbanism and Infrastructure, along with MUD, an Africa-based research firm specializing in urban regeneration, the symposium will bring together architects, scholars, and artists from West Africa and the United States to discuss how universities on both continents can address urban issues in Africa. Conference director Felecia Davis explained that though Africa is most often cited in terms of disaster and crisis, she hopes the conference will show how much it has to teach American architects and urban theorists. "I think the ways [African] cities operate are very different from American cities," she said, "particularly in terms of growth and sprawl." The ideas generated at Princeton will be taken to another conference in Kumasi, Ghana, hosted by the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology on June 5.

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tion that opened at the Museum of Finnish Architecture in Helsinki last October is a significant sign of revived interest in an architect There was plenty of material to work with. who was almost forgotten after his untimely death in 1961. Eero Saarinen was the most successful American architect of his generation when he died at 51 with nine major works spirit of the postwar period that it was out of underway (including the TWA Terminal, Dulles tune with the turbulent 1960s and '70s, and Airport, St. Louis Arch, and the headquarters for CBS and John Deere). In 1962, two books on him appeared. Then, after a small photographic study in 1968 and an issue of a+u in 1984, there wasn't a monograph until 2003. And there was little mention of Saarinen in the press until the 1990s, when his furniture began to come back into vogue.

Although his varied, difficult-to-classify body of work was clearly a factor in Saarinen's eclipse, people often attributed the neglect to the fact that his firm's archive, promised to an architect working on a book, was inaccessible to researchers. But there was already a significant Eero Saarinen archive at Yale, however, and a major archive chronicling both Eliel and Eero Saarinen's careers at

This hefty catalogue for the traveling exhibi- the 1930s and '40s, and where Eero grew up and later taught. Almost all their buildings had been published, most many times: More likely, interest in Saarinen disappeared because his exuberant, technologically adventurous work so fully expressed the was a victim of the virulent antimodernism that accompanied the postmodern movement in architecture. Also, much of it was hidden away on exurban corporate compounds or college campuses.

When Kevin Roche, the head of Saarinen's successor firm, donated the Eero Saarinen and Associates archive to Yale in 2002 and the working drawings suddenly became available, it was a catalyst to Saarinen scholarship, as this book makes clear. It came at just the right time, when interest in his work had reappeared. Although the exhibition was already being planned in Finland, this gift was an enormous boon, and the support that Yale architecture dean Robert A. M. Stern generated was invaluable. (One of Stern's Cranbrook, where Eliel served as president in most important legacies will be the research

The unbuilt Greenwich Station project, for the Greenwich, Connecticut, Metro North station. designed by Eero Saarinen, Marcel Breuer, Minoru Yamasaki, Herbert Matter, and Florence Knoll, 1955. This was one of Saarinen's last unbuilt projects.

he encourages on architects associated with Yale at midcentury by sponsoring weekendlong symposia, for example, on Louis I. Kahn, Philip Johnson, and Saarinen.) Many of the essays in Eero Saarinen: Shaping the Future were first presented as drafts at the Saarinen symposium, Eero Saarinen, Form-giver of the "American Century," sponsored by the Yale School of Architecture, April 1 and 2, 2005, in New Haven.

Roche's gift has added 16 projects to the known list of Eero Saarinen's unbuilt works, and though records of a few more are still missing, the new and almost-complete annotated Inventory of Buildings and Projects is the centerpiece of this book. Not all the works are illustrated, but the numerous, beautifully reproduced new images make this an especially valuable contribution to the literature. Like the proceedings of a conference, the text consists of a collection continued on page 31

Schuster Performing Arts Center in Dayton, Ohio, by Cesar Pelli & Associates. Though the entire curtain wall suggests a curving structure, the mullions are straight but angled to give it a bowed appearance.

Peter Zumthor's frosty double skin for the prismatic Kunsthaus Bregenz (1991) to Steven Holl's luminous Chapel of St. Ignatius in Seattle (1997), Frank Gehry's voluptuous glass drapery for the Condé Nast Cafe in New York (2001), and the complex curvatures of Norman Fosters' eco-tech (better known as the Gherkin) 30 St. Mary Axe in London. a Richards' essay frames this diverse array s of architectural experimentation within the long history of secularizing sacred themes 5 of dematerialization, light, spatiality, and alchemical transformation.

In contrast, Michael J. Crosbie takes a more of focused subject and perspective in Curtain Walls: Recent Developments by Cesar Pelli & Associates, using the eclectic oeuvre of one of the world's most prolific skyscraper architects to demonstrate the material and technical innovations in curtain wall construction over the past 30 years. Crosbie shows how Pelli's buildings achieve greater energy performance, integration of decorative pattern and lighting, employ continued on page 30

LET THERE BE LIFE

Interactive Architecture Symposium Evebeam 540 West 21st Street January 26

Once the reigning buzzword of the Internet, the term "interactive" is now popping up ever more frequently in the realm of architecture. But what exactly does it mean to call architecture interactive? A recent Eyebeam symposium shed some light on the topic, as six leading figures in the field discussed their methodologies and projects; the event was moderated by Stephen Gage, a professor and director of design and technical teaching at London's Bartlett School of Architecture.

The tech-savvy group of presenters revealed how they imbue buildings and other environments with various interactive abilities, using sensors and software of the sort usually found in digital art installations in galleries. One high point was a talk by David Benjamin and Soo-in Yang of up-and-coming New York architecture firm The Living, whose mantra is to make visible the invisible. The duo discussed projects such as Living Glass (2006), which was designed to answer the question, "What if architecture responded to you?" Their transparent, kinetic window senses the carbon dioxide from human breath and gracefully bends open to allow the gas to escape through slits. Another project, River Glow (2006), was spurred by the question, "What if architecture could create its own energy?" Powered by a self-sufficient photovoltaic system, River Glow is a network of pods that float on urban waterways and signal water quality via fiberoptics that glow green or red, depending on the water's pH level. Equally interesting is the methodology behind such projects: The duo offered a detailed deconstruction of their "flash research" technique, in which they create a full-scale functioning prototype within three months, on a budget of only \$1,000.

Two of their protégés, Carmen Trudell and Jenny Broutin of the design studio FLUXXIab, presented their own approach to sustainable energy, harvesting power not from the sun but from Homo sapiens. First developed in Benjamin and Yang's Living Architecture class at Columbia University last year, continued on page 31

Soo-in Yang and David Benjamin's nonmechanical Living Glass is silent, transparent, lightweight, and thin (the surface is only 1/16 inch thick).



The (Glass) Medium is the Message

New Glass Architecture Brent Richards, photographs by Dennis Gilbert, Yale University Press, \$45.00

Curtain Walls: Recent Developments by Cesar Pelli & Associates Michael J. Crosbie, Birkhäuser, \$79.95

James Carpenter: Environmental Refractions Sandro Marpillero, preface by Jörg Schlaich, essay by Kenneth Frampton, Princeton Architectural Press, \$55.00

In his brief introduction to Glas (1926), German architect Arthur Korn observed that while an architecture of glass had been but a dream only a decade earlier-a utopian dream at that-by 1926 it had become a reality. Little did he know just how pervasive it would become, expanding ever more after



World War II in Europe, America, and around the world. Three new books testify to the persistence of glass as a material of choice for contemporary buildings, particularly for enclosures. Brent Richards' New Glass Architecture surveys 25 familiar works of the last 15 years, largely in Europe, from



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THE (GLASS) MEDIUM IS THE MESSAGE continued from page 29 specialist consultants, use mock-ups, and depend on a consolidated manufacturing industry. Dividing Pelli's skins by material-glass, metal, and stone-reminds us that the poet and fantasist Paul Scheerbart invented the term "glass architecture" (which was also the title of his 1914 treatise) to include all manner of technological marvels: electric lighting, heating, steel frames, reinforced concrete, and vacuum cleaners, along with thermally improved glass and glass mosaics. He embraced the prospect of a technologized world of synthetic materials for its potential to transform the planet into a fully humanized environment of sensory delights and dazzling distractions.

Sandro Marpillero's James Carpenter: Environmental Refractions is another monograph whose protagonist has made sustained contributions to the subject of glass architecture, but from the perspective of an artist rather than an architect. Carpenter's filmic installations of the late 1970s presented interactions between people and animals (birds, snakes, and fish), and human technologies and natural phenomena (flight, swimming, and migration). Employing projections on tables and floors, these works paved the way for his approach to designing building elements as optical instruments rather than forms to be appreciated as such. Carpenter treats windows, ceilings, walls, and more recently entire envelopes as lenses or media that, like film, are capable of mediating, informing, and heightening awareness of our relationship to the environments we inhabit. Over the past 20 years, Carpenter has collaborated with architects, engineers, and fabricators to create a vast and heterogeneous body of fact that Carpenter's works engender reflecwork that is equal parts installation art and design. He has effectively extended trajecto- staging experiences that inform and take ries within the history of modern art that have sought to integrate art, architecture, technology, and media in both discrete works DETLEF MERTINS IS THE CHAIR OF THE and immersive environments, and in the service of cognitive as well aesthetic aims. Continually expanding his technical expertise, he now practices through a multidisci-

OURTESY James Carpenter's Dichroic Light Field, an installation of glass fins on the Millennium Tower at 101 West 67th Street, New York (1994-95). Meant to break down the monolithic

brick facade, the piece traces the movement of the sun (top). Carpenter's proposal for the new Dey Street Tunnel (linking the Fulton Street Transit Center to the WTC Transportation Hub) would use a light source tucked behind a layer of slotted and perforated steel to reflect pedestrian movement (left and right).

plinary studio that works as artist-designerinventor on large-scale projects, such as the recently completed 7 World Trade Center where he collaborated with Skidmore, Owings & Merrill on the curtain wall, entry screen, and security wall in the lobby.

While high-tech architecture parades technical prowess as content, Carpenter makes his techniques all but invisible, allowing its effects to take center stage. Marpillero's beautifully conceived and designed book presents exquisite snapshots of these effects while revealing the magician's tricks. It carefully interweaves diagrams, texts, and documents of the design process to guide us into understanding how Carpenter's spatio-temporal thresholds, solar reflectors, luminous-lens ceilings, retracting screens, glass tube fields, dichroic light fields, moiré towers, and periscopic viewing rooms actually operate. Marpillero draws on a broad field of cultural references in presenting Carpenter's work as examinations of the interrelated themes of refraction and construction, and as an apparatus through which environmental events become perceivable and the conditions of visibility are themselves made palpable and knowable. At a time when architecture is preoccupied with the production of phenomenal effects, it is worth pausing on the tion in both the optical and cognitive sense measure, surprise and estrange.

ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT AT PENN DESIGN. HIS WRITING HAS APPEARED IN NUMEROUS SCHOLARLY JOURNALS AND ANTHOLOGIES, AND HE EDITED THE BOOK THE PRESENCE OF MIES (PRINCETON ARCHITECTURAL PRESS, 1996).



Ink sketch on Saarinen firm stationery for the University of Chicago Law School entrance, 1955-60. This was among the drawings that Kevin Roche donated to the Yale archive in 2002.

SPOTLIGHT ON SAARINEN continued from page 29 of 18 essays by various scholars on different topics. Some contributors (Vincent Scully, Mark Coir, Will Miller, Reinhold Martin, and Sandy Isenstadt) are named as coauthors; others, including the Finnish collaborators, inexplicably are not.

Because of the book's format, there are some unavoidable redundancies, and some important connections between findings are never made, such as the similarity between the courtyard plans for a suburban Time, Inc. headquarters and for a new North Campus at the University of Michigan.

The book is more likely to appeal to aficionados than the general public. It focuses on specific issues instead of surveying the architect's life and work, though there is a useful chronology of his life in the back, and a fine essay by Cranbrook archivist Mark Coir, "The Cranbrook Factor," which discusses Eero's early work and its relation to his father's very clearly.

The most enticing essay is the first one, "Rethinking Saarinen," by veteran Yale architectural historian Vincent Scully. It engages the reader with lively descriptions, witty criticism, and some apologies for his earlier dismissals of the architect's work. No apology is necessary (except perhaps for confusing Saarinen's two IBM buildings here). It is no wonder that he turned generaitions of Yale-trained architects into history buffs. Will Miller's essay on the buildings Eero did for his father in Columbus, Indiana, and Alexandra Lange's on houses and corporate campuses are also particularly good, The editors, Eeva-Liisa Pelkonen and Donald Albrecht, who wrote the introduction together, each contributed thoughtful essays. Pelkonen also coordinated the research effort, and Albrecht served as show's curator.

The exhibition will travel through Europe and the United States, ending up at Yale in 2010 on the hundredth anniversary of the architect's birth.

JAYNE MERKEL IS THE AUTHOR OF EERO SAARINEN (PHAIDON PRESS, 2005) AND A CONTRIBUTING EDITOR OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN MAGAZINE IN LONDON.

LET THERE BE LIFE continued from page 29 Trudell and Broutin's Revolution Door generates electricity from the human energy expended to move it. It's a work in progress, but in the future, the architects hope to use energy from the revolving door to supplement a building's power supply.

Marek Walczak's talk revealed an artier bent. His Podium Light Wall (2006-2007) at 7 WTC, created in collaboration with several other artists, plays with the concepts of performance and awareness: The building's facade reacts to a passerby's presence by casting columns of blue LED light that are imperceptible to the passerby himself but clearly visible to distant observers. Walczak's design company, Kinecity, created the interactivity using a proprietary video-based motion tracking system. "If you stretched [the concept] really far, you could do energy-efficient street lighting by tracking movement to the position of people...but the reality is, we never thought of it purely on that basis," the architect-trained artist said. "It's much more about that relationship between the individual and the building."

While such projects probed relationships between people and their environments, others seemed more obscure. When Phil Ayres of the London-based research group sixteen*(makers) described a project in which robotic contraptions react to variations in microclimates by opening and closing like flowers, some in the audience were left baffled as to its purpose. Overall, though, the symposium provided an interesting snapshot of interactive architecture in its nascent phase, as slowly but surely, buildings are starting to stir and show signs of (artificial) life. LISA DELGADO IS THE COPY EDITOR AT AN





Marek Walczak's Podium Light Wall (above) is a seven-story interactive installation on the south and north facades of 7 WTC. When a pedestrian walks by, a tall column of LED lights follows him, like a bright shadow. The Revolution Door designed by architects Carmen Trudell and Jenny Broutin gathers the energy used to turn it and converts it to electricity (below).

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Performance Space (p. 5): Acoustic design by SIA Acoustics, 257 Park Ave. South, New York, NY 10010, 212-387-9105, www.siaacoustics.com. The audio-visual components were designed by Sound Associates, 424 West 45th St., New York, NY 10036, 212-757-5679,

www.soundsassociates.com. Acoustic paneling supplied by Longbow Acoustics, 349 Washington St., Malden, MA 02148, 781-324-4446

IWAMOTOSCOTT Architecture (p. 24): The Jellyfish House model was fabricated by Materialise, 6111 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103, 734-662-5057, www.materialise.com. *The In-Out Curtain* was made from PaperWood by Lenderink, 1271 House Rd., Belmont, MI 49306, 616-887-8257, www.lenderink.com. The mOCEAN installation used plastic inflatable sleeves from Inflatable Packaging, PO Box 40, Newtown, CT, 06470,

www.inflatablepackaging.com.

Höweler + Yoon Architecture/My Studio (p. 23): *Hi Fi* included soundscapes recorded by AREA C, www.areacmusic.com. *Low Res* utilized an LED net created by Parallel Development, 51 Ainslie St., Brooklyn, NY 11211, 718-599-0037

Renew Fabrics Knoll Textiles

203-426-2900.

www.knoll.com

Knoll's newest environmentally conscious fabric Renew is an upholstery line made of 100 percent recycled polyester. The upholstery has no added backings or finishes, which ensures that the products can be recycled at the end of its lifespan. Three patterns are available: Spark, a woven dot pattern that comes in twelve earthy tones; Prep (pictured) is a stripped pattern that mixes shiny and matte finishes available in eight colors; and Betwixt, a pattern combining blocks of circles and rectangles, is also available in eight colors.

Panel Mobile

Karkula Showroom www.karkula.com

Miranda Watkins, who designed metal products for Calvin Klein until last year, has designed a new geometrically shaped kinetic sculpture called *Panel Mobile*. The mobile is made up of high-grade stainless steel with nine rectangular panels balanced off of a single steel rod. Until May 15, an exhibition of her work is on display at the Karkula Showroom, located at 68 Gansevoort Street in the Meatpacking district. *Panel Mobile* and many of her designs are permanently displayed in the showroom, and reproductions are for sale.

The Dynamics

Transformit Design

www.transformitdesign.com Recently awarded with the Good Design Award from the Chicago Anthenaeum, The Dynamics is a tension-based fabric wall created by Transformit Design. An extruded aluminum frame supports three semi-transparent screens. Images can be applied to each screen and lighting incorporated in between each one to create a layered image on a well-lit, semi-transparent wall.

ZIP Lighting Controls Lutron Electronics

www.lutron.com Lutron's newest lighting control ZIP is their first architectural touch dimmer. Mounted on a traditional wall plate, the thin touch-sensitive vertical bar is illuminated from within by small LEDs that correspond to the light levels in the room. Metal and plastic wall plates are available in 21 different colors, and there are three choices of LED colors: white, blue, and green.



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 JUNIOR DESIGNERS with 3-6 years experience. Should be proficient with 3D Studio Max Photoshop and AutoCAD. Knowledge of Revit, Sketchup and other digital design and production tools a plus.

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ARCHITECTSNEWSPAPER

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Contrary to popular belief, love touches the lives even of architects. But knowing how to make the HVAC mesh with the electrical doesn't always translate: Our resident expert Pat answers your questions about romance, architecture, and their inter-relationship. Email questions to askpat@archpaper.com

Dear Pat:

Is it OK to fall in love with an architect? at all. Mr. Bill, Great Neck, NY

Dear Mr. Bill Do not be afraid, it is quite all right to be nervous about loving an architect. They can be too much to love sometimes. The love you feel depends on whether you are actually in love with the architect, or simply the work of the architect. You must determine this first; if you are in love with the work of the architect, this is what is commonly referred to as misplaced love, and can lead to misplaced idol worship, as opposed to pure, unadulterated idol worship. This is akin to loving the sin, but not the sinner.

Dear Pat;

Is it OK for one architect to fall in love with another architect?

Pat Trick, Orchard Street, NYC Dear Mr. or Ms. Trick; While there is nothing genetically

wrong with one architect loving another architect (after all they are the same species, and if they mate, the offspring would most likely be architects, albeit, junior architects), it is important to try to make certain that each architect works at the same firm. Architects are competitive types and if working at two different firms, they will be locked into a "I love you, but I cannot tell you what I am working on in the office" type of relationship, which just isn't healthy

Dear Pat;

Is it OK for architects to fall in love

with themselves? Georgie O., Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn

Dear Georgie O., While this might seem, at first, hard to believe, the truth is that most architects have already fallen in love with themselves and generally have a very hard time hiding this love affair from their significant others.

Dear Pat;

My cousin lives in New Jersey and says that all architects are gay. Is this true? Ester Long, Rahway, NJ Dear Ester: That is only true of the most talented

architects. All of the others are most definitely "missionary position" architects.

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