Today's News - October 13, 2003

Stirling Prize winner has the "X" factor, and "will anger those who think the architectural establishment...cannot bring itself to give its Oscar to buildings that look relatively ordinary." -- Architect/LMDC member quits board, but still has high hopes for Ground Zero. -- China tries to balance its future with its past. -- Iraqi architect struggles with his past and is pragmatic about his future. -- A riveting two-part Op-Ed takes on Modernism, Ephemeralism, Blobism, Infrastructuralism, theoryspeak, and the "Museum Formerly Known as Craft" at 2 Columbus Circle: "One of the most important buildings in the history of 20th-century architecture will soon be vaporized." -- Racing car HQ is a whiz. -- Urban dwellers in Vancouver offer a civics lesson. -- In Seattle: "Where is that next generation of architects who will design our city when the current reign of dinosaurs ends?" -- Two thumbs-up for Baltimore's new art college center. -- Moving away from cookie-cutter school design. -- A "remarkable" winning design for a nature center in Hawaii. -- Ottawa airport: doggy grass included. -- Roche returns to Oakland to give his 1969 masterpiece a facelift. -- Museum show about museum design moves to Miami.

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Laban Dance Centre wins 2003 Stirling Prize: That 'Wow' factor means the skyline of Deptford steps into class of its own. By Jay Merrick - Herzog & de Meuron - Independent (UK)

LMDC Member Quits, Foresees Survival of [Libeskind's] Plan...for WTC site - Billie Tsien - NY Newsday

Building Up: China’s biggest cities are struggling to balance modern design with their historical structures - Kohn Pedersen Fox Li Chung (Sandi) Pei: Rem Koolhaas; Herzog & de Meuron; Antonio Ochoa - Newsweek

The Battle Within: For nearly 20 years, the architect Mowfaq al-Taey built palaces and homes for Saddam Hussein and his circle. Now he’s trying to figure out what — if anything — he’s guilty of. - New York Times Magazine

Op-Ed (part1): The Building That Isn't There: ...Brad Cloepfil, the architect about to transform Edward Durell Stone's historic white marble Huntington Hartford museum on Columbus Circle... By Tom Wolfe - New York Times

Op-Ed (part 2): The Building That Isn't There, Cont'd: Well... one can always hope the Museum of Arts and Design's retro trek back to Ephemeralism will be "fun" at least. By Tom Wolfe - Edward Durell Stone; Brad Cloepfil/Allied Works Architecture - New York Times

Built to win: Foster & Partners' new HQ for McLaren racing cars is so whizzy, its staff will never go home. Count me in, says Jonathan Glancey - Guardian (UK)

Meet the Space Gang: A high-tech presentation by a group of talented and energetic condo owners may forever change how downtown developers choose to encroach on others' views. - Vancouver Sun

Young Seattle architects are making their mark in tough times: Even in a profession that tends to eat its young...we have far fewer than normal up-and-coming architects. By Sheri Olson, AIA - Lead Pencil Studio; PLACE - Seattle Post-Intelligencer

Baltimore’s Beacon of Design: Art College Center Stands Out While Fitting In. By Benjamin Forgey - Charles Brickbauer; Ziger/Snead - Baltimore Sun

From any angle: MICA’s new Brown Center shines with geometric precision...that rare work of architecture that lives up to its billing. - By Edward Gunts - Ziger/Snead; Charles Brickbauer - Baltimore Sun


Learning from Nature: a remarkably original, "green" design for the Malama Learning Center, chosen from 236 submissions. - Eight Inc; [images & link to other winners] - Honolulu Star-Bulletin

New terminal now boarding: Ottawa airport design a family affair: Key elements were inspired by the designer's family - Brisbin Brook Beynon Architects; Michael Green Architecture/Startec - Ottawa Citizen (Canada)

Oakland Museum to get $34.8 million face-lift...building's original architect, Kevin Roche - Oakland Tribune (California)

Exhibition Review: Miami Art Museum takes a look at...museums: "Museums for a New Millennium Concepts Projects Buildings" By Beth Dunlop - Miami Herald

In Full Bloom: San Francisco’s Conservatory of Flowers - Architectural Resources Group; Tennebaum-Manheim Engineers [images] - ArchNewsNow

-- In construction: Enric Miralles, Emtil Arquitectes Associats SL: Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, Scotland
-- In construction: Renzo Piano Workshop: Pierpont Morgan Library, New York City
-- Hodgetts + Fung: Sinclair Garden Pavilion, Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, California
-- Book: The Villas of Palladio By Giovanni Giacoli, Text by Kim Williams;