Today's News - August 27, 2004

Huxtable (eloquent, as always) on tall buildings: they "aspire to the sublime" (but often leave us humans "in the dust"). – U.K. architects plot a coup; these "predators" may be doing the right thing. – Ikea joins Philadelphia’s urban "archipelago of big-box retailers" (but that doesn’t make it urban). – Big plans for corporate HQ in Dublin. – Forget McMansions: it’s McPalaces for the rich in a development outside of St. Petersburg, Russia. – A call to pay more attention to landscape architecture in Bangladesh. – A British architect agonizes over folding her firm, but has high hopes for the future. – A former mayor now leading New Urbanists calls for architects to "come down off their lofty perches and design some houses for ordinary people." – Weekend diversions: Calatrava show in Seattle is "brilliant," and "Tall Buildings" in New York.

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WTC Events Didn’t Cloud Skyscraper Construction: The tall building is a gigantic instrument of market economics, but it still aspires to the sublime. By Ada Louise Huxtable - Wall Street Journal

Farrell plots Royal coup: Terry Farrell has launched a controversial bid to oust HOK International from Britain’s biggest-ever hospital scheme....wants health bosses to hire his firm and Nightingale Associates [images] - BD/Building Design (UK)

Comment: Predators step into Royal London ring: are right to put professional niceties to one side when the success of the UK’s most ambitious urban hospital in decades is at stake. - HOK; Farrell/Nightingale - BD/Building Design (UK)

Address alone does not make Philadelphia’s Ikea ‘urban’: ...a member of an exclusive ‘power center’ that features an archipelago of big-box retailers...You call that urban? By Inga Saffron [images] - Philadelphia Inquirer

ABB gets permission for large HQ extension: ...56,834 sq m (611,755 sq ft) office scheme on the 14-acre grounds. - RKD architects - Irish Times

Russian super-rich turn back the clock in palatial fashion: work has begun on 50 miniature palaces, each modelled on a famous residence of British, French or Russian monarchs. - Guardian (UK)

A breath of fresh air: Our home-grown rural architecture...so obsessed...with imitating the alien that we have ignored...taking into account the outdoors. [a public works landscaping project] demonstrating that the outside is equally important. - Interdec Systems - Daily Star (Bangladesh)

Landscape architecture through the ages - Daily Star (Bangladesh)

Kathryn Findlay admits the agony of folding her practice, but vows she will bounce back - Ushida Findlay Architects - BD/Building Design (UK)


The man behind the Athens Olympics architecture: “Santiago Calatrava: The Architect’s Studio” [at Henry Art Gallery] brilliantly captures the essence of perhaps the hottest architect in the world today. - Seattle Times

The shape of things to come: With the new skyscrapers, size isn’t everything: "Tall Buildings" at MoMA - Chicago Tribune


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