Today's News - September 16, 2004

Observations from Venice by an architect and a journalist. – European architects lead the way in "harmoniously juxtaposing the antique and the new." – Lessons from Holyrood: civil servants should not be project managers? – A massive brownfield redevelopment project in Atlanta shows promise, but needs a bit more daring. – A standing ovation (with reservations) for Madison, Wisconsin's new arts center. – Green schools the wave of the future - with the caveat: LEED "doesn't guarantee good architecture." – More than the plants will be green at new Queens Botanical Garden in New York. – Seattle Art Museum's sculpture park fills up with Olympians from the art world. – "MoMA: Tall Buildings" web site may be better than the show itself. – An impressive gathering of American and Cuban architects gathers at Cornell this weekend. – Jane Jacobs latest book punctures pomposity; one chapter that "butchers, skins and barbecues the traffic engineering profession is worth the price of admission alone."

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Metamorphosis and Transcending Hype: Observations from the Field: The Venice Biennale offers a message of optimism and exuberant anticipation for architecture in a post-9/11 world -- for the most part. By Margaret Helfand, FAIA

In Venice, the future takes a twist: ...the race to scrape the sky with ever-higher buildings is all but irrelevant to the new generation of architects coming into their own. By Julie V. Irvine [slide show] - New York Times

Dresden architects perfect art of restoring without replicating: When it comes to preserving, restoring or rebuilding historic architecture, and then harmoniously juxtaposing the antique and the new, Europeans continue to show the way. By Roger K. Lewis - Washington Post

Civil servants take the blame for spiralling cost of Holyrood: The complex design of the flamboyant Catalan...also blamed for the soaring costs... "Nobody tells Enric [Miralles] to think about economy with any seriousness" - Telegraph (UK)

The shape of things to come: Atlantic Steel [138-acre brownfield] site shows promise, but burst of daring needed. If Atlantic Station is to be a model for future brownfield development, the quality of its architecture must equal the ambition of its vision. - Smallwood, Reynolds, Stewart, Stewart & Associates; EDAW - Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Madison's new arts center deserves applause: Almost everything about the new Overture Center for the Arts is a winner. By Whitney Gould - Cesar Pelli; Potter Lawson Flad & Associates; J.H. Findorff & Son [images] - Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Sustaining learning in Green Schools: With 6,000 new schools on the boards for 2007, now's our best chance in a generation to better the learning environment. "LEED is a rating system, not a design tool. It doesn't guarantee good architecture." - The Green Guide Institute

A Queens Garden Gives New Meaning to 'Green': Flushing Meadows-Corona Park in Queens has broken ground for a $12 million renovation featuring geothermal energy and recycled rainwater. - BKS4 Architects; Conservation Design Forum; Atelier Dreiseitl [images] - New York Times

Seattle Art Museum rounds up impressive art to launch Olympic Sculpture Park - Weiss/Manfredi [images] - Seattle Post-Intelligencer

Skyscrapers, up close and personal: "MoMA: Tall Buildings" may be one of those few exhibits which is actually better surveyed on the web. - Christian Science Monitor

"Havana and Miami: Modernism and the City": Conference to attract artists, designers, scholars to Cornell this Friday and Saturday, Sept. 17-18 [link to program] - Cornell Chronicle

Book Review: "Dark Age Ahead": Puncturing pomposity, and other social criticism: At 88, Jane Jacobs isn't coy in this quirky examination of our culture - Charlotte Observer

Chic and Green: A conversation with the architect at the forefront of moving modular prefab (and green) houses into the mainstream with Glidehouse. - Michelle Kaufmann [images] - ArchNewsNow

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