Today's News - December 10, 2004

Back from the Black Forest (and a very slim Starck...we'll tell you all about it shortly)...there's much to catch up with... Los Angeles loses a maker of its skyline. -- A new design organization in Scotland wants to raise the bar in architectural standards. -- Cambridge architecture department wins a temporary stay of execution. -- Chicago could be in for some breathtaking bridges. -- Shortlist selected for redevelopment of London's Jubilee Gardens. -- Starchitects designing everywhere in Israel, but is it such a good thing? -- Design for another Melbourne cultural complex sure to stir debate. -- Predock wins new museum in Taiwan. -- Praise for L.A.'s Caltrans headquarters (so high, the adjectives almost ran out). -- Fate of L.A.'s (sort of) historic Ambassador Hotel causing civic calamity. -- An architect creates a catalog of house designs to bring high design to the masses. -- Europeans have a better handle on perfecting prefab. -- In the Swedish woods, a house expands and contracts. -- A sneak-peek at the best U.S. architecture and design schools (you have to pay for the whole list). -- Weekend diversions: an exhibition started in 1927 wows them in Haifa; books on Brazil's Modernism and American suburbs worth curling up with; movies with architects as psychos and saints.

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Building on Scotland's heritage: It's time to recreate glory days, says new design body - Architecture and Design Scotland (A+DS)- Guardian (UK)

Cambridge University Architecture faculty wins stay of execution- Independent (UK)

City of Chicago announces finalists in "Bridge The Drive" competition - Annex 5; Cordogan, Clark & Associates; Lohan Caprile Goettsch; Murphy/Jahn; OWP/P; Philip Swager Associates; Richard Rogers Partnership; Teng; 3d Design Studio; Wight and Company/Edward Windhorst Architects- Chicago Architecture Foundation

Shortlist Announced For Jubilee Gardens Redevelopment in Waterloo, London - EDAW; Gross Max; Land Use Consultants/Thomas Heatherwick Studio/Dan Pearson Studio; West 8- Open South Bank and Waterloo

Building Israel: Libeskind, Botta and Gehry are among the master builders reimagining the landscape of Jerusalem and other Israeli cities. But should the country be importing these design stars? By Esther Hecht- Calatava, Lepomata, Diamond and Schmitt/Kolker (Israel)

Another bold step on Melbourne's arts stage: ...rush to shed its demure image as a grand Victorian city... $91 million project... likely to prompt public debate... - Ashton Raggatt McDougall Image- The Age (Australia)

New art museum to grace southern Taiwan - Antoine Predock- Taiwan Journal

Building as a Beacon for a City's Plans: ...Caltrans headquarters holds out the promise that downtown Los Angeles could reclaim its stature as one of the most original and vibrant urban experiments in America. By Nicolai Ourousoff- Thom Mayne/Morphosis images/slideshow- New York Times

Civic Calamity on the Horizon: Conservancy's Lawsuit Sets Up a Nasty, and Unnecessary, Battle: The fate of the former Ambassador Hotel...involving schools and special interests. By Sam Hall Kaplan- Myron Hunt; Paul Williams- LA Downtown News

Ilan Pivko plans to bring architecture to the masses- Ha'arets (Israel)

The incredible shrinking house: It grows in summer and retreats into its shell in winter; Jonathan Glancey visits Sweden's 'accordion' cabin - Lammers-Zeisser/24H Architecture image- Guardian (UK)

Sneak-peek: "America's Best Architecture & Design Schools," published by DesignIntelligence- ArchVoices


Book Review: "Thomas Church, Landscape Architect: Designing a Modern California Landscape"; "The Ranch House": Let city dwellers sneer -- the suburbs did, and do, cast a spell. By John King- San Francisco Chronicle

Architects as saints or psychos: On film... By Arrol Gellner- San Francisco Chronicle


Launch: The Image Library: Herzog & de Meuron, Daniel Libeskind, Ren Koolhaas, Frank...