

Today's News - February 7, 2005

This week ArcSpace takes us to waterfront housing in Amsterdam and Cirque du Soleil's new extravaganza in Las Vegas. – 9/11 Flight 93 memorial competition down to five finalists. – In Toronto, public spaces being made less hospitable while three unsung projects hit all the right notes. – "Philadelphia's condo fever also has design ambitions": some inspired and others insipid. – A California city changes its tune about affordable housing and urban sprawl. – New stadium plans for Washington, DC raise high hopes, along with a lot of questions about high design. – A library's soaring wing and a museum's glass lenses raise eyebrows in Minneapolis and Kansas City. – London's new Home Office is a lesson in urban repair. – Finland's new parliament building lifts the spirits. – UCLA award-winning project: "Think urban design on steroids..." – "Sixteen Acres..." wickedly written, well-reported..." – Not such high praise for Libeskind's book: "...with the selection of Daniel Libeskind as the designer of the site's "master plan," New York lost whatever chance it had to honor its dead properly." – Designers look back (and forward) to the future, sometimes with wit, sometimes not.

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[-- MVRDV: Silodam Housing, Amsterdam, The Netherlands](#)
[-- Mark Fisher: KÀ/Cirque du Soleil, Las Vegas, Nevada](#)

[5 designs shine for Flight 93 memorial: Winner will be chosen by panel in August - Levor Lovinger and Gilat Lovinger; Ken Lum; Laurel McSherry/Terry Surjan; Paul Murdoch Architects; Frederic Steiner/Jason Kentner/Karen Lewis/E. Lynn Miller \[images\]- Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)

[You're not welcome: Have you noticed? Our urban planners are subtly making the downtown core a less hospitable place: ...everyone who loiters or plays is being kept away, by design. By Christopher Hume- Toronto Star](#)

[Unsung projects the true measure of a city: Shining examples rising on Jarvis St...the best architects are those who understand their work is always a part of something larger... By Christopher Hume - Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg; architectsAlliance; Goldsmith Borgal- Toronto Star](#)

[Designs on the high life: Philadelphia goes vertical again...taller, fatter skyscrapers, some stylish, others insipid. By Inga Saffron - Richard Meier & Partners; Laurie Olin; Bower Lewis Thrower; Robert A.M. Stern Architects; Cope Linder- Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

[In Santa Cruz. Affordable Housing Without the Sprawl: ...an innovative plan...to create more housing without constructing more buildings...permit the construction of so-called accessory dwelling units \(or A.D.U.'s\) but also to encourage it. By Fred A. Bernstein - Mark Primack; Peterson Architects; SixEight Design- New York Times](#)

[Getting Good Designers To Swing at D.C.'s Pitch: ...there is a tremendous gap between the architectural ambitions stated in the RFP and the potential foul-ups built into the system. By Benjamin Forgey- Washington Post](#)

[D.C. Seeks 'Signature' Ballpark: Stadium May Depart From Orioles Model as Innovation Encouraged: At least 75 representatives for 35 firms...have obtained the city's 28-page packet of instructions. - Washington Post](#)

[Library takes wing: A flight of architectural fancy — and a surefire attention-getter — is emerging in the airspace over downtown Minneapolis.- Cesar Pelli & Associates- Pioneer Press \(Minnesota\)](#)

[Critics cast verbal stones at Nelson-Atkins Museum's glass house: ...new glass-covered building is the talk of the town, but not in the way museum leaders had hoped. By Steve Paul - Steven Holl Architects \[images\]- Kansas City Star](#)

[An artistic bargain at £311 million: The new Home Office building has hit the headlines for its supposed extravagance with public money...Farrell...has successfully healed the damage done to the urban fabric in the 1960s, delivering an efficient, practical building on budget and on time. . By Giles Worsley- Telegraph \(UK\)](#)


[The eyes have it: There's no room for secrets in Finland's new parliament building...a structure with the power to surprise and lift the spirits. By Jonathan Glancey - Johan Sigrid Siren \(1924\); Pekka Helin- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Downtown, Meet Shibuya: Tokyo Dreams Impact Students' Designs for the Central City: ...Think urban design on steroids...singled out for the 2005 P/A \(Progressive Architecture\) Award... By Sam Hall Kaplan - UCLA Department of Architecture and Urban Design; Thom Mayne/Morphosis- LA Downtown News](#)

[Book Review: The architecture we deserve: "Sixteen Acres..." by Philip Nobel...a wickedly written, well-reported...in which the author strikes a tone somewhere between "How could they?" and "What did you expect?" By Justin Davidson- NY Newsday](#)

[Book Review: Mr. Memory: "Breaking Ground: Adventures in Life and Architecture" By Daniel Libeskind: ...Libeskind cannot be called an architect so much as a mnemonic engineer...- The New Republic](#)

[Form follows fiction: Designers have crossed the next frontier - and it's not life as we know it. - Lee McCormack; m3 Architects; Zaha Hadid; etc. \[links\]- Sydney Morning Herald](#)



[Monuments Of Wit: A museum in Tokyo \[Mori Art Museum\] showcases a half-century of ingenious and whimsical architectural visions: What is it with architects? They all think they're specialists in the future. "Archilab..."](#)- Time Magazine

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