Today's News - May 4, 2005

We're b-a-a-a-c-k (with lots of catching up to do)! — Ground Zero back in the headlines, with suggestion that architects and planners actually talk to each other (what a concept!). LMDC president's resignation adds to the uncertainty. — New studies look at affordable housing for working families. — New urbanism and a Miami community "built by design" bring on the TOD NMIBY's (traditional neighborhood development not-in-my-back yard). — Somebody's doing something right in Minneapolis. — Chicago exhibition shows off prefab housing that "escapes the stigma of the tacky double-wide in the trailer park." — Yale architecture students get a dose of reality as developers are added to the review process (and ask questions like "Where's the door"). — Cubicles with Bunsen burners no longer the norm in lab designs. — Swanky gas stations a new trend in India (will that make high gas prices easier to take?). — Caltech taps Koolhaas and Gruen for new tech center. — Shuttleworth's new small firm takes on a giant. — A thoughtful slide show essay by Rybczynski offers lessons to ponder for Barnes museum makeover. — Gehry wants to buy a Chicago landmark. — Architect urges prison design boycott. — An in-depth look at the Diana Fountain, "a truly British fiasco." — Just for fun: What the Hell Does the Walker Look Like Contest Winners.

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At Ground Zero, Disarray Reigns, and an Opportunity Awaits: The master plan for ground zero is unraveling, which is not necessarily bad news. But what are the odds that planners will see this as an opportunity to save it? By Nicolai Ouroussoff -- Libeskind; Gehry; Calatrava; Childs; Arad; Snohetta- New York Times

Head of Rebuilding Effort at Ground Zero to Resign -- Kevin M. Rampe/Lower Manhattan Development Corporation (LMDC)- New York Times


Developers want community feeling - built by design: Doral is set for a spate of new construction that bids to remake the city, including the county's biggest example of old-style residential development. — Zyscovich; Erick Valle; Duany Pieter-Zyberk- Miami Herald

Great architecture, clean streets, culture -- it must be Minneapolis…When a city feels safe enough that a woman jogs along, alone, at dusk…somebody is doing something right. By John King- San Francisco Chronicle

Field Museum prefab housing show is timely and provocative: It slams door on stereotype, but is short on specifics. By Blair Kamin — Michael Graves; Taylor & Burns Architects; Ali Tajer; Douglas Ganfalo; Charlie Laxor- Chicago Tribune

Commerce Joins Art to Train Yale Architects: …a dose of reality [in] students' architectural design education by inviting developers into the classroom. — Stern; Virkoly; Cobb; Hines; Behnisch; Dochantschi; Pelli; etc.- New York Times

Better science through building design: Open spaces bring people, and ideas, together. By Robert Campbell -- Winter Street Architects; Stubbs Associates; Tsoi, Kobus- Boston Globe

Coming soon: a trendy, sleek and swanky fuel outlet: Designed by NID [National Institute of Design], OVAL has special dispensing unit and modular architecture- Express Newsline (India)

Caltech names design team for Annenberg Center for Information Science and Technology -- Koolhaas/Ramus/Office of Metropolitan Architects (OMA); Gruen Associates- Pasadena Star News (California)

'I want this to be the best studio in the world': How does a tiny architecture practice take on the might of Foster's? -- Shuttleworth/Make [image]- Guardian (UK)

Extreme Museum Makeover: How do you create a new home for the Barnes Foundation? By Witold Rybczynski [slide-show essay]- Slate

Gehry bidder for Inland Steel tower: He's a member of offering group: "I love the building." By Thomas A. Corfman and Blair Kamin -- Skidmore Owings & Merill (1957)- Chicago Tribune

Just say no to prison jobs, architect urges colleagues: He says ethics demand jail-design boycott -- Raphael Sperry- San Francisco Chronicle

Troubled waters: Mired in controversy, beset by safety problems and plagued by 'the wrong kind of leaves' - the ill-fated Diana Memorial Fountain is now set to reopen, again. Adrian Turpin investigates a truly British fiasco -- Kathryn Gustafson/Neil Porter- Independent (UK)

What the Hell Does the Walker Look Like Contest Winners: The Walker Art Center's addition inspired lunchboxes, stormtroopers, transformers, and more -- Herzog + de Meuron [images]- City Pages (Minneapolis/St. Paul)


-- Escher GuneWardena: Jamie Residence, Pasadena, California
-- Olafur Eliasson: Jamie Residence Meant To Be Lived In