

Today's News - August 5, 2005

Eminent domain ruling: backlash has some developers reeling. – Five futuristic designs make shortlist for Sydney's East Darling Harbour \$1 billion re-do. – London seeing a "surge of phallic architectural abandon" - but not paying enough attention to what goes on at ground-level. – A guide to some of Moscow's hidden (and possibly soon-to-be-lost) Soviet constructivist treasures. – In Prague, Wenceslas Square may soon be more pedestrian-friendly; and a housing complex inspired by NYC's Central Park. – Is 1980s architecture due for a revival? (yikes!) – A data center is first to be LEED green. – Manhattan's Columbus Circle finally has a center. – Heat taking its toll on Chicago's Millennium Park. – Sydney Design 05 includes "Sydney designers unplugged." – Touring rock concert "a node of mobile architecture" and "ambitious nomadic design erecting itself nightly."

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[Eminent-Domain Uproar Imperils Projects: Real-estate and economic-development officials are growing increasingly concerned that the backlash will block more projects, potentially causing big losses for developers and canceling long-planned projects.](#)- Wall Street Journal

[Planners with designs on Harbour's darling: ...futuristic designs short-listed for a \\$1 billion waterside CBD development site. Five designs for the 22 ha East Darling Harbour site on public display... -- Lippmann Associates/Lend Lease/Martha Schwartz/Richard Rogers; Lend Lease Design Group; Peddle Thorp Walker; Project Architecture; Hill Thalix Architects \[slide show\]](#)- Daily Telegraph (Australia)

[London does not need more skyscrapers: ...success of Lord Foster's Swiss Re Tower has encouraged this surge of phallic architectural abandon...I have no problem with skyscrapers, only with what happens at their feet. By Edwin Heathcote](#)- Financial Times (UK)

[Faded Dreams: Soviet constructivism...was seen by its adherents as a method, not a style...Sadly, many of Moscow's constructivist treasures have already been sharply altered, are currently undergoing ill-advised "reconstruction" or are simply falling into ever-greater disrepair...a guide... -- Mikhail Okhitovich; Konstantin Melnikov; Le Corbusier](#)- Moscow Times (Russia)

[Square to be hip? Fed up with crime and grime, politicians plan overhaul of city center...Wenceslas Square may soon be more pedestrian-friendly](#)- The Prague Post

[Aiming high in Zizkov: An ambitious residential complex brings a new look to the old neighborhood... Central Park Praha complex will become a new model for a planned urban community. -- Atelier 69 \[image\]](#)- The Prague Post

[Mullets. White jeans. Architecture? As with fashion, styles come and go in buildings. With the haircuts, clothes and music of the 1980s making a comeback, is its architecture due a revival?](#)- BBC News

[Fannie Mae Cuts Ribbon on Green Data Center: ...the first of this type of facility in the country to obtain a LEED rating. -- Gensler](#)- GreenBiz.com

[An Island of Sanctuary in the Traffic Stream: At last, the circle has a center: Columbus Circle...a surprisingly generous sanctuary at the heart of a busy traffic rotary, cocooned inside a wrap-around fountain with 99 jets... -- Olin Partnership; Vollmer Associates; Wet Design \[images\]](#)- New York Times

[Millennium Park Has Broke Its Crown: A long, hot summer overheats one of the Crown Jewels of Chicago's Millennium Park. By Lynn Becker -- Kapoor; Plensa \[images\]](#)- Repeat (Chicago)

[Sydney Design 05: 9th International Design Festival August 6 -21...includes "Sydney designers unplugged: people, process, product" at Powerhouse Museum](#)- Powerhouse Museum (Australia)

[U2's City of Blinding Lights: The Vertigo tour is a monster concert machine... Architect Mark Fisher...introduced me to the intricacies of how a rock concert, a node of mobile architecture, can inhabit a sports arena...ambitious nomadic design erecting itself nightly... \[images\]](#)- Wired magazine

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[-- Moshe Safdie: Yad Vashem Holocaust History Museum, Jerusalem](#)
[-- Pugh + Scarpa: Solar Umbrella, Venice, California](#)

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