Today's News - October 21, 2005

Critics (and some supporters) say USGBC LEED green building rating system needs fixing. -- It's day of stellar shortlists for projects in Abu Dhabi, Orlando, and Denver. -- Chicago's newest skyscraper adds an "energetic but civilized skyline presence" but lacks the black-tie elegance. -- Several scenarios for New York's Governors Island, but not much of a rush. -- Rome's Ara Pacis opens doors for sneak-peeks. -- A British firm that "goes against the grain," offering "an escape from the dead hand of modernist theory." -- National Design Awards handed out. -- In Mauritius, an attempt to show the value of "good architecture." -- Nominations sought for 11 Most Endangered Historic Places in the U.S. -- Weekend diversions: On view: the nuts and bolts of the Denver Art Museum expansion. -- Audio/video: the first in a series of lectures on "Inventioneering Architecture." -- Readings: "The University as Urban Developer" and "Delhi, a Thousand Years of Building." -- Coming soon to the small screen: "In Search of a Soul - Building the Canadian War Museum." -- One we couldn't resist: Berlin's trash cans now say "vielen danke" (many thanks) - what a concept!

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Is It Too Easy Being Green? Eco-Friendly Certification Is Big With Builders, Tenants; Critics See a "Broken" System. By Alex Frangos - Wall Street Journal

Abu Dhabi to select airport terminal design: ...four US firms have entered into a competition and a jury comprising international architects and aviation experts will select the best design on December 5. -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Hellmuth, Obata+Kassabaum (HOK); Fentress Bradburn Architects; Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates - TradeArabia News Service

Backers of Orlando Performing Arts Center think big on design: ...a handful of possible architects for the job. -- Barton Myers Associates; Pei Cobb Freed & Partners; Rafael Viñoly Architects; Robert AM Stern; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill - Orlando Sentinel

Denver Justice Center field narrowed...short lists...for new courthouse and jail...By Mary Voelz Chandler -- David Owen Tribba; Foster & Partners; Kallman McKinnell & Wood; Koetter Kim & Associates; Richard Meier & Partners; Robert A M. Stern Architects; Steven Holl Architects; Hartman-Cox Architects; HOK; TEN Arquitectos (RNL) Design/Durant; Valerio Dewalt Train Associates - Rocky Mountain News (Denver)

Power tower: With or without Daley as a tenant, new skyscraper is an impact player on Loop skyline...The tower's primary urban design strength is that it forms a hinge, a visual transition between the two scales (and two eras) of skyscrapers. -- By Blair Kamin -- Solomon, Cordwell Buenz & Associates [image]- Chicago Tribune

Isle of Wight: Manhattan's West Side stadium is dead, Ground Zero is in shambles, it must be time to take on scenic Governors Island...several scenarios for the redevelopment...But there's no rush. -- The Slatin Report

Ara Pacis Opens Doors: It split critics, some of whom hailed it as a welcome piece of understated modernism in a florid baroque city, and others as wholly out of step with its surroundings. -- Richard Meier - ANSA (Italy)

The odd couple: There are two accepted modes of designing a building at the moment, And Canaso St John chooses to ignore both. By Giles Worsley - New Statesman (UK)

'Oscars' of Design Awarded in New York: National Design Awards -- a kind of Oscars of design announced Thursday at Manhattan's Cooper-Hewitt Museum of Design (AP) -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Gluckman Mayner Architects; Neel Kashy; Stefan Sagmeister; Katherine and Michael McCoy; Eva Zeisel; etc. - New York Times

Past and present meet: The Mauritius Association of Architects provided a unique opportunity to consider the values of "good architecture" through a display of...new and ancient buildings, as subjects of two public contests. -- L'Express.mu (Mauritius)

National Trust for Historic Preservation is accepting nominations for the 2006 America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places; deadline: January 18, 2006. -- National Trust for Historic Preservation

Exhibit "pulls the curtain back" on nuts and bolts of [Denver Art Museum] addition; "Building out of the Box" By Kyle MacMillan -- Gio Ponti (1971); Daniel Libeskind - Denver Post


Book Guides Urban Universities in Neighborhood Development: "The University as Urban Developer" - Newswise

Endless city: British architect Lucy Peck's book on the buildings of Delhi captures a city that's forever on the move - "Delhi, a Thousand Years of Building" - Indian Express

"In Search of a Soul - Building the Canadian War Museum" premieres November 6 on Bravo! -- Raymond Moriyama - Canada News Wire

Talking trash cans keep Berlin clean: The talking bins, powered by solar cells, say thank you when you put rubbish in them. -- CNN

Oct '05 Build Business: The International Development Scene: What's Hot for the A/E/C Industry?

--- Antoine Predock: National Palace Museum Southern Branch, Taibo City, Taiwan
--- Exhibition: "Jean Prouvé: Three Nomadic Structures," MOCA, Pacific Design Center, Los Angeles
--- Book: "Architecture Now! 3" by Philip Jodidio

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