

Today's News - February 8, 2006

Head of U.K.'s Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (Cabe) says good affordable housing is not a question of aesthetics or style; "What a lot of rot," says Glancey. – New Urbanist plans to rebuild the Gulf Coast is not about creating a playground for the rich. – A Florida city "has the potential to be a New Urbanist paradise, then opts for too-tall condos, ignoring Duany master plan. – A Montreal symposium examines how cities are defining themselves as "design destinations." – Chicago architects start a movement to present alternatives to Navy Pier plans. – Four stellar teams shortlisted for Pittsburgh's riverfront cultural district. – Kansas City's Nelson-Atkins Museum almost ready for its close-up. – New memorial museum to rise in Berlin. – Moscow slowly learning to re-use its industrial bones as "machines for art." – Is cable car plan for Dublin's waterfront a pointless gimmick or a good idea? – A "precious bit of paradise" in Rome is in crisis. – Standing ovation for a chair: "the most original furniture designs in a century." – Architecture students build machines (some even work).

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[Poor people, poor homes: We are told that good mass housing is not a question of aesthetics or style. What a lot of rot.](#) By Jonathan Glancey- Guardian (UK)

[Op-Ed: New Urbanist Planning Essential To Gulf Rebuilding: Many of us...were especially offended at the suggestion their agenda was to create a playground for the rich at the expense of cultural diversity, regional tradition, and working class neighborhoods.](#) By Ricky Mathews, Publisher, Biloxi Sun Herald, Vice-Chairman, Governor's Commission on Recovery, Rebuilding, and Renewal- PLANetizen

[A Florida City Awaits the Payoff From Its Bet on Condos: With low-rise buildings dating back to the 1800's, Fort Myers has the potential to be a New Urbanist paradise...Some people...are concerned that wealthy condo dwellers might not save the city after all.](#) – Andrés Duany- New York Times

[The Next Design City: Bilbao Effect: As cities worldwide increasingly count on art and architecture to draw sophisticated travelers, some are defining themselves as "design destinations."](#) Karrie Jacobs reports from Montreal..."New Design Cities" held at the Canadian Centre for Architecture – Commerce Design Montreal- Travel + Leisure

[For Navy Pier, more thinking to be done: Fortunately, there appears to be widespread disappointment in the Chicago architecture community over the plan...and a burgeoning movement toward presenting alternatives.](#) By Blair Kamin – Forrec Ltd.; Chicago Architecture Foundation; RTKL- Chicago Tribune

[Developer/architect teams chosen to design a riverfront neighborhood within Downtown's Cultural District.](#) – Koning Eizenberg Architecture/Antunovich Associates/Bower Lewis Throver/Perkins Eastman; MVRDV/Leeser Architecture/JSA Architects; Behnisch, Behnisch & Partner/Alliance/Gehl Architects/WTW Architects; Steven Holl Architects/Field Operations/EDGE Studio- Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

[Museum's 'lenses' are slowly coming into focus: Through trial and error, Nelson-Atkins is cast in a whole new light.](#) By Steve Paul – Steven Holl Architects; BNIM Architects; Renfro Design Group [slide show]- Kansas City Star

[Finally Filling a Vacant Lot Ravaged by Tides of Terror: The former site of Gestapo headquarters will host a memorial \[Topography of Terror\] examining the methods used by the Nazis to enforce their rule.](#) – Ursula Wilms/Heinle, Wischer und Partner- New York Times

[Welcome to the machine: Moscow's construction boom has seen industrial architecture earmarked for demolition, but exciting new initiatives are bringing the city's Soviet buildings back to life \[as\] "machine for the arts"](#) – Nikita Shangin; Mikhail Khazanov; Sergei Desyatov- Guardian (UK)

[Liffey \[Dublin\] Cable Cars - Pointless Gimmick or.... \[image, articles\]](#)- Archiseek (Ireland)

[A Cemetery of Poets Is in Crisis in Rome: Protestant Cemetery/Cimitero acattolico...precious bit of paradise is decaying and in financial crisis, recently added to the World Monument Fund's 2006 Watch List of the 100 most endangered sites on earth.](#)- New York Times

[A Chair That Knocks You Off Your Feet: ...this museum masterpiece – which ranks among the most original furniture designs in a century – on the basement level of a Washington office building...at the Japan Information and Culture Center..."Japanese Design Today 100"...](#) By Linda Hales – Tokujin Yoshioka- Washington Post

[Iowa State University class creative — by design: Architecture students build machines, learn about the possibilities of materials \[images\]](#)- Des Moines Register

[Good Neighbor: Hyde Park Miriam Matthews Branch Library: A new library adds to the revitalization of a once riot-torn Los Angeles community.](#) – Hodgetts + Fung Design and Architecture [images]- ArchNewsNow

[Also Architect: Sharp Centre for Design, Toronto, Canada](#)

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