
Top 10 list of planning issues of 2005. -- Controversy about aesthetics and tolerance in spate of new mosque construction across Europe. -- Louisville's OMA-designed Museum Plaza called "an anvil on stilts" just waiting to tip over. -- Moscow is optimistic about its Foster-designed 118-story tower (and sustainable elements). -- Demolition begins on Philadelphia's Liberty Pavilion, with pieces being sent to Anchorage for 9/11 memorial park. -- Chicago's coolest offices. -- Donald Judd's Manhattan loft building to be reborn. -- An oasis of privacy to arrive on NYC streets - but it will cost you a quarter. -- A different NYC design trend: damn privacy - show off your bathtub! -- A Chicago initiative to preserve and improve its bungalow neighborhoods. -- A panel of researchers to explore the impact of architectural lighting on cancer. -- All Light & Architecture Design Awards call for entries. -- Another thumbs-up for MoMA's take on Spain's new architecture.

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Top Ten Planning Issues Of 2005: Eminent domain; Hurricane Katrina; The McMansion Backlash "Condofication", New Suburbanism and Creative Class Debates; etc.

PLANetizen

Culture Clash: All across Europe, the controversial construction of new mosques is raising questions about aesthetics and assimilation, faith and tolerance—and liberal democracy itself. -- Wilfried van Winden; Juliette Bekkerling; Paolo Portoquesi; Marc and Nadia Breitman - Travel + Leisure

Architecture in the era of terror: Call me a nervous Nelly, but I wouldn't want to walk under or even near [Louisville's] Museum Plaza...an anvil on stilts. By David Brussat -- Koolhaas/Prince-Ramus/Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) - Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

Foster wins deal for a vertical city: 118-storey Moscow City Tower...is expected to be the tallest in Europe when it is completed in 2010. [Image] - The Times (UK)

Without its bell, Liberty Pavilion awaits the wrecking crew: Now a relic of the bicentennial, the structure will be razed to clear the view on the mall...pieces are being shipped to a memorial "Unity Park" in Anchorage, Alaska... -- Mitchell/Giurgola Associates - Philadelphia Inquirer

Chicago's Coolest Offices -- Dirk Denison Architects/Leslie Jones Interiors; OWP&P; Gensler; Lohan Anderson; Perkins & Will [images] - Crain's Chicago Business

The Proto-Loft, Reborn: Donald Judd, the artist, turned a factory building into a new way of living. His heirs want to make it come alive again. -- Architectural Research Office (ARO) [slide show] - New York Times

Retooling form and function: Houses? Apprenticeships with big firms? For a crop of young designers, the way of the future is something more amorphous: fabrication. -- Benjamin Ball/Gaston Nogues; Heather Roberge/Lason Payne/Gruf:form; David Erdman/servo; Herman Diaz Alonso; Marcelo Spina; Greg Lynn - Los Angeles Times

A 25¢ Pedestrian Rest Stop, but Wait, It's a Model: After months of secrecy, city officials unveiled a prototype for the new street toilet. -- Nicholas Grimshaw and Associates [image] - New York Times

Let in the Light. Show Off the Tub. Who Needs Privacy? As attitudes toward privacy change, the American bathroom is shedding its old skin. By Fred A. Bernstein -- Marpillero Pollak Architects; Joel Sanders; David Hacin; Desai/Chia Architecture; Gary White; Clodagh; Paul Rudolph; Alexander Gorlin [images] - New York Times

Revising Chicago's Bungalow Neighborhoods:...a business professor and an architect teamed up to preserve—and improve— historic neighborhoods. -- Historic Chicago Bungalow Initiative (HCBII); Sonoc Architects & Associates [images, links] - Cottage Living magazine

Researchers Examine the Impact of Architectural Lighting on Breast Cancer: April 17 panel at Rensselaer Lighting Research Center in Troy, NY - Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Call for entries: 3rd Annual All Light & Architecture Design Awards; deadline: May 2 [pdf] - Architectural Lighting magazine

Beyond Bilbao: New York MoMA show of new and recent projects examines flowering of architecture in Spain after Franco -- Miralles/Tagliabue/EMBT; Gehry; Hadid; Herzog & de Meuron; Koolhaas; Moneo; Mario Corral; Lluís Morán; Vicente Guallart; Emilio Tuñon; Luis M. Mansilla; José Antonio Martinez Lapeña/Elías Torres Tur; Sol Madridejos/J.C. Sancho Osinaga; Mies van der Rohe - San Francisco Chronicle

Second Look: Pavilion and Colonnade Apartments by Mies van der Rohe, 1960: Current news about "starchitects" designing high-rise housing in New York is at an all-time high, but Mies did it across the Hudson River 46 years ago. By Fred Bernstein [image] - ArchNewsNow

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