Today's News - September 14, 2006

Field notes from the Venice Biennale, Part 2. — Ouroussoff sees Biennale as "a window on a dystopian future" instead of inspired architecture. — Five reasons to visit Ground Zero now. — Two big projects in Edinburgh: a garage site to become "Little Venice," and two new villages for Leith Docks. — Auckland trying to decide where the 2011 Rugby World Cup should be played. — MIT's building boom. — New park plans for Dallas Arts District doesn't live up to the buildings going up around it. — New York's largest green roof is a breath of fresh air. — UCLA celebrates its new arts center. — Washington, DC, may not be ready for a Holl, but he does have a Swiss party pad on foreign soil. — Goldberger offers an interesting take on Hadid at the Guggenheim: a battle of the stars. — A new bridge in Providence spans the river with flair. — The glass ceiling for British women in architecture (never mind engineering). — California's "Fantasy Islands" are as intriguing as ever.

To subscribe to the free daily newsletter click here

Sex and the City Part 2: Field Notes from the 10th Venice Architecture Biennale: The message seems to be that...we might have half a chance to thrive as a species several generations hence. By Margaret Helfand, FAIA [images]- ArchNewsNow

Inside the Urban Crunch, and Its Global Implications: At the Venice Biennale...What the show provides, in place of inspired architecture, is a window on a dystopian future. By Nicolai Ouroussoff [images]- New York Times

Five reasons to see the WTC site: At the World Trade Center site itself, the past is prologue. Come see it now. By Fredric Bell -- Robert Davidson; Calatrava; David Childs; James Carpenter; Daniel Libeskind- Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

New look for garage site as £35m revamp gets into gear...will be transformed to become part of Edinburgh's Little Venice district...more than 130 new homes built around a new mini-canal basin. -- Michael Laird Architects- The Scotsman (UK)

Forth Port names firm to plan Leith Docks project...masterplanners for the first two of its proposed villages. -- RTKL; RMJM; Robert Adam- The Herald (UK)

Support growing for new stadium on the Auckland waterfront for the 2011 Rugby World Cup but serious practical and economic hurdles are likely to keep the centrepiece of the tournament at Eden Park. -- HOK Sport- New Zealand Herald

MIT will accelerate its building boom: $750m expansion to add 4 facilities -- Fumihiko Maki; William Rawn Associates- Boston Globe

Room to Grow: Performance Park doesn't measure up to ambitions of performing arts center's buildings...more miniature golf course than grand civic space. Arts District could have one of the great collections of contemporary architecture in the world. Park should be every bit as good as the buildings. By David Dillon -- Michel Desvigne; JJR- Dallas Morning News

View From the Bridge: A slice of Hollywood East set amid the industrial squaror of Queens, Silvercup Studios plays host to a new featured performer: New York's largest green roof. -- Diana Balmori [images]- Metropolis Magazine

UCLA Celebrates Its New Eli and Edythe Broad Art Center Art Center...$52-million adaptive reuse of the old, unlovely Dickson Art Center...includes exhibition galleries for the departments of art and design/media arts... -- Michael Palladino/Meier & Partners- Los Angeles Times

An Ambassador’s Stone-Cold Party Pad: The Swiss got their $10 million, nearly 14,000-square-foot party house...mimics the colors of the Alps. -- Steven Holt; Justin Ruessli- New York Times

Challenging the Master: The recent Zaha Hadid retrospective at the Guggenheim in New York became a battle of architectural wills...Perhaps the show was mounted at the Guggenheim so that Hadid could take on Frank Lloyd Wright. By Paul Goldberger- Metropolis Magazine

Spanning the river with some flair:...new arch bridge that was installed across the Providence River...turned engineering complications into aesthetic advantages. -- William D. Warner; Patricia D. Steere/Maguire Group- Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

Women work their way to the top: Although women represent approximately half of the total workforce across the UK, in 2005 they made up only 11 per cent of architects, as revealed by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). -- Yorkshire Post Today (UK)

Toasting industry as art: A Cal State Long Beach exhibit celebrates the four "Fantasy Islands" in the city's harbor that disguise 1,100 active oil wells...Designed by prominent theme park architect Joseph H. Linesch, the island landmarks are part Disney, part Jetsons, part Swiss Family Robinson. -- Los Angeles Times

Sex and the City: Field Notes from the 10th Venice Architecture Biennale - Part 1: Libidos on fire in Venice: Urbanism may not be sexy, but our lives may depend on it. By Margaret Helfand, FAIA [images]- ArchNewsNow

INSIGHT: Sounding Good: Inspired by the classics: Nashville’s new Schermerhorn Symphony Center. By Paul Scarbrough -- David M. Schwarz; Akustiks; Fisher Dachs- ArchNewsNow