Today's News - December 12, 2006

What constitutes good or bad "messy" urban vitality. - EcoDensity: affordable, sustainable housing based on wise land use. - One of Canada's smartest buildings is a hospital aiming for LEED silver. - A British architect designs his own green home to "prove that you don't have to suffer to be green." - Three new Toronto towers may not be cutting-edge design, but at least they will "rebalance the mix of uses in the wake of a condo boom downtown." - E.T. lands in Texas? No, it's a new billion-dollar stadium for Dallas Cowboys. - Gehry's Miami concert hall is a gutsy high-wire act that makes one building beautiful and another hideous. - Three new Toronto towers do not challenge the city's architectural fabric because "after a long drought in office buildings, neither Toronto developers nor the market can make a big statement about design.," will rebalance the mix of uses in the wake of a condo boom downtown. - Retro takes a hike in design for a colossal glass house: You may think you've seen the new Dallas Cowboys stadium before...It is highly cinematic and futuristic; it is also a serious piece of contemporary architecture, a rarity in a design-challenged field. - Gehry's See-Through, Online Miami Beach Hall Can Woo Audience: This architectural "power to dream: The almost impossible structures of Antonio Gaudi, in the Sagrada Familia Cathedral and other projects he undertook, are inspired by nature."

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Which has more "messy vitality," Reston Town Center or Tysons Corner? And what kind of "messy vitality" do we want?...flawed design theories, or ill-conceived public policies regulating land use and urban design, can impede achievement of desired vitality, messy or otherwise. By Roger K. Lewis - Jane Jacobs; Venturi/berengo/Scott-Brown- Washington Post

Green design: just what the doctor ordered: When the 360,000-square-foot Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute opens in Edmonton in the fall of 2007, it will be one of the smartest of Canada's smart buildings...poised to become the first Canadian hospital of its kind to achieve silver LEED...--Stantec; Kaplan McLaughlin Diaz (KMD); Globe and Mail (Canada)

A green house you grow things on: A roof made of plants is just one unusual feature of Jerry Harratt's mould-breaking home..."I want to prove that you don't have to suffer to be green"...-- Search- Observer (UK)

A Conservative Outlook for Toronto Offices: Tall, sleek, and sedate...the three new towers do not challenge the city's architectural fabric because "after a long drought in office buildings, neither Toronto developers nor the market can make a big statement about design," will rebalance the mix of uses in the wake of a condo boom downtown... -- WZMH; Adamson Associates/Sweeney Sterling Fintison; Kohn Pedersen Fox; Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg; Architectural Record

Cowy new Dallas Cowboys stadium before...It is highly cinematic and futuristic; it is also a serious piece of contemporary architecture, a rarity in a design-challenged field. - Gehry's See-Through, Online Miami Beach Hall Can Woo Audience: This architectural "power to dream: The almost impossible structures of Antonio Gaudi, in the Sagrada Familia Cathedral and other projects he undertook, are inspired by nature."

Call for entries: 2nd International Living Steel Architecture Competition for Sustainable Housing; €300,000 prize fund along with contracts to complete designs for construction; Expressions of Interest (EOI) due January 12, 2007; Living Steel
-- Exhibition: Racing Cars, The Art Dimension, ARoS Aarhus, Denmark

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