

Today's News - March 22, 2007

The bad logic and failed policies of transportation planners - and some suggestions to make things better. - Plans for San Francisco's Octavia Blvd. offer fresh takes on urban housing; King hopes they don't get bogged down in politics. - Ourossoff gives (mostly) thumbs-up to Gehry's first Manhattan project. - Can New York's historic places survive the city's thirst for development? - A Mies masterpiece deteriorating and in dispute in the Czech Republic. - Barnes Foundation reaches out to architects (we'll know who makes the shortlist soon). - MIT conference tackles why architecture has such a bad track record in attracting minority practitioners. - New urbanism + Galveston Island = the Hamptons, Texas style. - New urbanism + wellness = a new spa-centered community in Tennessee. - An eyeeful of new and notable college and university design. - A Dallas middle school galvanizes a neighborhood. - An Imax documentary reduces Katrina "to corporate-sponsored entertainment." - Chicago celebrates Mies; Kamin praises and pans some of the city's buildings by Pritzker winners. - Call for presentations for international conference on courthouse design.

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[How Traffic Jams Are Made In City Hall: The bad logic and failed policies of transportation planners. Believe it or not, there are ways to reduce traffic congestion, even if most politicians and planners haven't been eager to adopt them. Here are five potent suggestions...](#) - Reason

[Creativity marks plan for Octavia: Architects' visions contain fresh takes on urban housing...show that San Francisco can still produce innovative architecture and urban design. The bickering over the larger plan shows how difficult such innovation can be. By John King -- Jon Worden Architects; Stanley Saitowitz/Natoma Architects; Douglas Burnham/envelope Architecture+Design \[images\]](#)- San Francisco Chronicle

[Gehry's New York Debut: Subdued Tower of Light: Are the curvaceous glass forms of the IAC headquarters building...a bold departure from Manhattan's hard-edged corporate towers? Or are they proof that Mr. Gehry's radical days are behind him? Well, both. By Nicolai Ouroussoff \[images\]](#)- New York Times

[The Price of Progress: Can New York's historical places withstand the city's thirst for development? Q&A with Kevin Walsh and Roberta Gratz \[images\]](#)- Gotham Gazette (NYC)

[A Mies Masterwork, Deteriorating and in Dispute: From the outside, the Tugendhat House doesn't look like one of the most important residential buildings of the 20th century, but the house is the subject of a bitter custody battle. -- Mies van der Rohe \[images\]](#)- New York Times

[Barnes Foundation Searches For Architect: ...has issued a request for qualifications to an extensive group of leading national and international architecture firms.](#)- Art Daily

[MIT conference portrays black architects' journey: Architecture has one of the worst track records for attracting minority practitioners. \[links\]](#)- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

[A Texas-Size Hunger for Gulf Coast Condos: Houston residents, eager for a second home and flush with cash from the oil boom, have made Galveston Island an emerging Lone Star equivalent of the Hamptons. -- Andrés Duany](#)- New York Times

[Spa-centered community offers new breed of amenities: Specialized retail, revamped historic home all part of vision for Thompson's Station development...Roderick Place, a planned 180-home community... -- Robert D. Henry; Suttle Mindlin \[images\]](#)- The Tennessean

[2007 Notable Projects: College + University -- Steven Holl; Rafael Viñoly; Morphosis; Mack Scogin Merrill Elam Architects; Ann Beha Architects; Joel Sanders Architect; Polshek Partnership; NBBJ \[images\]](#)- Architype

["Education is Freedom and Freedom is Everybody's Business": Hector Garcia Middle School: A school's design aspires to live up to its name. By Peter Brown, AIA, LEED AP -- Perkins+Will \[images, links\]](#)- DesignShare

[Rose-Colored Lens: In Louisiana, Environmental Destruction Never Looked So Pretty: "Hurricane on the Bayou"...if Katrina can be reduced to corporate-sponsored entertainment...if environmentalists sit through it without any outrage, then there's nothing in America that can't be Imaxed into saccharine meaninglessness. By Philip Kennicott](#)- Washington Post

[IIT the site of Mies celebration; And the Pritzker winner is ...Chicago has buildings by several Pritzker winners, yet not all of them live up to their designers' stellar reputation. By Blair Kamin -- Philip Johnson; Kevin Roche; I.M. Pei; Kenzo Tange; Ando; Koolhaas; Gehry](#)- Chicago Tribune

[Call for Presentations: Sustainable Excellence: AIA Academy of Architecture for Justice \(AAJ\) 6th International Conference on Courthouse Design in NYC in September; deadline: April 6](#)- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

[Sacred Simplicity: Park East Synagogue, Pepper Pike, Ohio: Age-old materials and a](#)

[straightforward design fulfill a growing congregation's vision of a sacred place.--
Centerbrook Architects and Planners \[images\]- ArchNewsNow](#)



[-- Mecanoo architects: La Llotja Theatre and Congress Center, Lleida, Spain](#)

[-- Michael Maltzan Architecture: Rainbow Apartments, Skid Row Housing, Los Angeles](#)

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