

Today's News - April 2, 2007

ArcSpace brings us Nouvel in Manhattan, Calatrava in Rome, and Predock in Austin. -- Ouroussoff ogle's Nouvel's two Manhattan projects that "raise the possibility that hedonistic materialism is good for the soul." -- We lose a pioneer of the low-cost, eco-friendly housing. -- RFQ for Santa Rosa Courthouse Square. -- Two more interesting takes on AIA's list of America's favorite buildings (not for architects who bruise easily). -- Ikea's BoKlok housing has a promising future in the U.K. (or is it a trend in social engineering?). -- A very promising future for London's King's Cross. -- A Toronto planner who sees how the city can grow "without paving over another acre of farmland." -- The urbanization of the senior living market. -- An architect finds design solutions on an impoverished hillside in Lebanon. -- The de Young "brilliantly shows how potent and inspirational architecture can be when structure and landscape are beautifully fused." -- A "brilliantly constructed" cultural center in British Columbia "captures the Essence of the mystical desert landscape." -- Moneo's Prado expansion getting ready for its close-up. -- Kaplicky's Czech library design proves his firm's work "is never meek, moderate or deferential." -- Architecture according to Holl. -- PPS annual April Fool's issue (how could we resist?).

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-- [Ateliers Jean Nouvel: 100 11th Avenue, New York, NY](#)
-- [Santiago Calatrava: Tor Vergata University \(Roma II\), Rome, Italy](#)
-- [Antoine Predock: Austin City Hall & Public Plaza, Austin, Texas](#)

[Seductive Machines for City Living: Two new residential buildings designed by the French architect Jean Nouvel raise the possibility that hedonistic materialism is good for the soul. By Nicolai Ouroussoff \[images\]](#)- New York Times

[Obituary: Laurie Baker, 90, pioneer of low-cost houses: His approach to architecture redefined the concept of housing for the masses...pioneer of the low-cost, eco-friendly housing technology...](#)- The Hindu (India)

[Request for Qualifications \(RFQ\): Santa Rosa \(California\) Courthouse Square Design Competition: deadline: May 2](#)- City of Santa Rosa (California)

[Op-Ed: The Quiet Evils Of America's 'Favorite' Buildings: Before we go romping through architecture's greatest hits, the better question is, why do we recognize individual architects and individual works? And why do it in a country so awash in mediocrity? By Josh Stephens](#)- PLANetizen

[Triumph Of The Familiar: America's Architectural Faves: The AIA's list of America's favorite buildings should remind architects that making a place for something memorable to happen...can earn you a place in the hearts of those who use a building, if not in the minds of other architects. By Michael J. Crosbie](#)- Hartford Courant (Connecticut)

[Welcome to Ikeatown: \[Ikea has\] already built some 3,500 BoKlok dwellings across Scandinavia - and now they're coming to the UK...it sounds crudely straightforward, but the underlying design principles appear rock solid. By Steve Rose -- Skanska; Live Smart@Home \[image\]](#)- Guardian (UK)

[Grand central station...The dramatic regeneration of London's King's Cross St Pancras is being trumpeted as 'a British engineering feat second to none'. Adam Edwards licks his lips and ponders the friendly fallout for the surrounding area. -- Lewis Cubitt \(1852\); William Barlow/George Gilbert Scott \(1868\); Norman Foster; Richard Griffiths Associates](#)- Telegraph (UK)

[Former top planner sees plenty of housing space in Toronto: Paul Bedford isn't just a man with a plan -- he wrote the plan. By Dave LeBlanc](#)- Globe and Mail (Canada)

[Retirement Homes Go High-Rise and Urban: ...continuing-care retirement communities \(C.C.R.C.\)...the urbanization of the senior living market is redefining both cities and the people who move there. -- SLCE Architects; Paul Donaldson/Perkins + Will \[images\]](#)- New York Times

[An Architect Strikes \(Olive\) Oil In The Middle East: Hashim Sarkis finds design solutions on an impoverished hillside in Lebanon. \[images\]](#)- 02138

[On San Francisco Skyline, Architecture Worthy of the Art Inside: The de Young brilliantly shows how potent and inspirational architecture can be, no matter what the building type, when structure and landscape are beautifully fused. By Roger K. Lewis -- Herzog & de Meuron; Walter Hood](#)- Washington Post

[Earth and Sky: A Brilliantly Constructed Building Captures the Essence of the Mystical Desert Landscape and the Culture of the First Nations People of the Okanagan Region...Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre, Osoyoos, British Columbia -- Hotson Bakker Boniface Haden Architects + Urbanistes \[images\]](#)- Canadian Architect

[Spain's Prado museum unveils spacious new extension: Extension work began in 2001 with a budget of €42.6 million, or US\\$56.7 million, and was scheduled to be finished in 23 months. The building, however, took more than five years and €152 million \(US\\$202 million\) to complete. -- Rafael Moneo \(AP\)- International Herald Tribune](#)

[Prado Museum expansion slide show -- Raphael Moneo- El Pais \(Madrid\)](#)

[The library has landed: Jan Kaplický...has returned to his birthplace to design his most futuristic building yet...Future Systems' work is never meek, moderate or deferential. It is a celebration of the fact that it doesn't have to be. By Ellis Woodman- Telegraph \(UK\)](#)

[Architecture According to Holl: Stephen Holl may be known for his innovative use of materials, but his award-winning designs have deliberately avoided a signature style \[slide show\]- BusinessWeek](#)

[Faking Places April 1, 2007: 2017 - The Year of the Place: cover stories in Time and the Atlantic Monthly, to Hollywood gossip in the Tattler Online and how-to coverage in Better Homes and 'Hoods.- Project for Public Spaces \(PPS\)](#)

[INSIGHT: Searching for Architectural Excellence and Ready to be Bold: Arlington County, Virginia, launches community discussions on the elements of great design. By Roberto Moranchel- ArchNewsNow](#)

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