

Today's News - Monday, September 10, 2007

Saffron and Pogrebin offer two interesting takes on team picked for Barnes Museum pick. – Farrelly minces no words on "our ongoing failure to treat nature with understanding or respect." – Though biomimicry could make Mother Nature the next superstar in architecture and design. – A call for L.A. to use technology to mitigate urban heat island effect in its quest for density. – Kaplan on the "Manhattanization" of Los Angeles and "urbanphobia." – Boddy on Vancouver's need to join the international "gab-fest" about civic improvement. – A call to save Kampala's architectural heritage in the face of rampant development. – A master from Pune, India, calls for vision in building a decentralized city. – Founder of a furniture empire vows to build schools where most needed. – Wal-Mart spawns eco-friendly start-ups. – Saffron and Dobrin wax (mostly) poetic about Gluckman Mayner's addition to Philadelphia Museum of Art (no "peacock architecture" here). – Ouroussoff says we'll need track shoes to keep up with the "globetrotting needed to keep up with the new museums." – Boddy is left breathless after five days on the Japanese island of Naoshima. – New art center in Tempe, AZ, is "a triumph in aural architecture." – Time to add women's names to "Great Builders of Toronto."

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[Barnes chooses design team for its new gallery: Barnes Foundation...has found architects especially skilled at marrying poetic modernist spaces and hands-on craftsmanship, with floor plans of Escher-like complexity. That makes them a good fit...](#)
[By Inga Saffron -- Tod Williams Billie Tsien](#)- Philadelphia Inquirer

[Barnes Museum Chooses Architects: Lifting a bit of suspense over one of the museum world's most controversial architecture commissions..."It's both incredibly exciting and really sort of frightening because it's such a loaded package"...](#) – [Tod Williams Billie Tsien; Diller Scofidio & Renfro; Thom Mayne; Morphosis; Rafael Moneo; Tadao Ando; Kengo Kuma](#)- New York Times

[Nature: a case of nurture or annihilate: ...the question about our relationship with nature is bleeping red. Morality has always had survival as a main ingredient...our ongoing failure to treat nature with understanding or respect may yet unsaddle us.](#) [By Elizabeth Farrelly](#)- Sydney Morning Herald

[Imitation of Life: Biomimicry, or the imitation of nature's functions and systems, is helping push the boundaries of structure and sustainability.](#) – [Janine Benyus/Dayna Baumeister/Biomimicry Guild; Mick Pearce; Arup; Eugene Tsui; Grimshaw; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill \(SOM\); Grant Associates; Kevin Stack/Northeast Natural Homes \[images\]](#)- The Architect's Newspaper (NYC)

[Op-Ed: Developing a hotter L.A.: High-density development can create 'urban heat islands' that may add to global warming...We have the technological know-how to mitigate the problem...Los Angeles can be in the forefront of California's campaign to promote the ideals of sustainable development and smart growth.](#) [By Ali Modarres](#)- Los Angeles Times

[Suck it Up, L.A.: The Trouble With Defining Our City in Comparison to New York: ...the current squabble over the so-called "Manhattanization" of Los Angeles...It has a long, long way to go before it achieves a cosmopolitan urbanity..."urbanphobia."](#) [By Sam Hall Kaplan](#)- LA Downtown News

[A muted conversation about city growth: Led by London, Paris and even Copenhagen, the world's leading cities are having gab-fests about their towns. Vancouver, one of the urban world's great hotbeds of civic improvement, needs to start talking — and listening, too.](#) [By Trevor Boddy](#)- Globe and Mail (Canada)

[Kampala's old charm, beauty ravaged by new buildings: As much as the change is welcome and vital to the city's future, the Historic Buildings Conservation Trust of Uganda \(HBCT\) has expressed concern about the threat the rapid development is posing to the country's architectural heritage.](#) – [William G. Katatumba](#)- The EastAfrican

[No vision in building decentralised city: Born and brought up in Pune, B V Doshi reminisced about his memories of the city, which he said needed to create adequate decentralised settlements in such a way that they eased tension on the infrastructure instead of adding to it.](#) - Express Newsline (India)

[One mission: Thomas Lundgren...the founder of The One furniture empire has decided to gradually start giving all his money away, channelled into a new company which will build schools in remote parts of the globe.](#) - ArabianBusiness.com

[Green Valley In Wal-Mart's Back Yard: Start-Ups Set Out to Sustain Giant's Eco-Friendly Focus](#) - Washington Post

[An art palace well suited to Philadelphia: The Perelman addition...takes modesty and restraint to a level rarely seen in major art venues...a modern civic building that is a true Philadelphian.](#)
[By Inga Saffron -- Gluckman Mayner Architects; Kelly/Maiello \[images\]](#)- Philadelphia Inquirer

[An architect who designs so the art can shine: Through all the recent style wars, the designer of the Philadelphia Museum of Art's new Perelman building has held fast to the notion that a museum's architecture shouldn't upstage its art. And the people who run the art world...adore him for it.](#) [By Inga Saffron -- Richard Gluckman/Gluckman Mayner Architects \[slide show\]](#)- Philadelphia Inquirer

[Art comes down to earth: ...Philadelphia Museum of Art...Perelman Building...represents the museum's only suggestion in decades that its art is not necessarily tied to a building, and that it is ready to come down off its pedestal, literally and figuratively, to become part of a city neighborhood. By Peter Dobrin -- Gluckman Mayner Architects; Kelly/Maiello Architects \[slide show\]- Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

[Architectural Shifts, Global and Local: From Athens to Washington, museums jostle one another for a place in the sun...New Yorkers will see several major nonmuseum projects getting under way this season... By Nicolai Ouroussoff -- Bernard Tschumi; Norman Foster; Renzo Piano; SANAA; Frank Gehry; Jean Nouvel; Richard Meier- New York Times](#)

[Five Nights at the Museum: One famous architect, three luxury hotels and a whole lot of Monet: How a yen for art transformed the Japanese island of Naoshima...Had I finally found...my desired union of art with architecture, high style with everyday life, abstract ideas with life lived through the senses? Yes. By Trevor Boddy -- Tadao Ando; Hiroshi Sugimoto; Shoji Sadao \[images\]- enRoute \(Canada\)](#)

[New arts venue a triumph in aural architecture: Native American baskets, tapestries, blankets and jewelry all helped influence the texture of the Tempe Center for the Arts inside and out. -- Barton Myers Associates; Architekton; Arup Acoustics \[slide shows, videos\]- Arizona Republic](#)

[Male by design? ...you may notice something missing in the portrait of "Great Builders of Toronto." Women. Many would argue it's about time they be included in such a portrait. -- Esther Marjorie Hill \(1920s\); Blanche van Ginkel; Carol Kleinfeldt/Kleinfeldt Mychajlowycz Architects \(KMA\); Kim Storey/Brown & Storey Architects- Toronto Star](#)

[INSIGHT: The Cultural and Environmental Differences of Global Project Types: As the world's economy becomes more global, western developers, designers, and engineers must keep developing innovative ideas for efficiency improvement if they want to keep ahead. By Reg Monteyne, P.E., and Gary H. Pomerantz, P.E./Flack + Kurtz \[images\]- ArchNewsNow](#)

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