Today's News - Thursday, November 1, 2007

Is the U.K. heading for "dog's dinner" design in plans for eco-towns? -- Tee takes on the future of building green. With costs coming down, a smarter image and legislation pushing through, the future looks good - in Europe, at least. -- But in the U.S., while we may have "gone past the granola-crunching perception of green build," there's still some convincing to do. -- Garden, garden on the roof, who has the greenest office of all? -- A really, really in-depth look (right down the glass molecules) at who really designed Gehry's IAC. -- More on the Prado and why Spain has become the center of avant-garde design. -- Price wins out over prestige (so they say) in winning design for new Berlin kunsthalle. -- Trumpets will sound at new Louis Armstrong House Museum visitors center. -- When new condo project is "surrounded by serious starchitecture," bring in Ban. -- Washington preservationists pray for landmark status for Brutalist church two blocks from the White House, but church parishioners pray for something else. -- Shigeru Ban -- A thumbs-up for the parishioners: just why does the District want to "declare this atrocity a historic landmark?" -- A tribute to NYC's "design revolutionaries." -- Q&A with Beverly Willis: "don't call her a female architect. Architect and activist, influential and improbable, is fine." -- 1% Program -- Architecture firms that build these edifices have the greenest offices of all. -- Cook + Fox - New York Times

Yvette Cooper pledges range of styles for eco-towns: Housing minister's rejection of a single grand vision sparks fears among architects of "dog's dinner" design. "You need a plan - at some point someone has to hold it all together." -- Robert Adam; Piers Gough/HCWGW- BD/Building Design (UK)

Building the future: With costs coming down, a smarter image and legislation pushing through, the future of our towns and cities may be taking on a different form. Yet on the outside, they may not look different at all. -- Dunster?/ZEDfactory; USGBC/LEED; World Conservation Union/IUCN; MINERGIE-ECO; AGPS Architects

Developers skeptical of benefits to going green -- advocates for green building -- perhaps the hottest trend in the construction industry -- still have some convincing to do. -- Mazria/Architecture 2030- San Diego Union-Tribune

Architects Go Green at the Office: As environmentally friendly buildings grow in popularity, it is no surprise that the architecture firms that build these edifices have the greenest offices of all. -- Cook + Fox - New York Times

The Crystal World: Frank Gehry's IAC: The ice-cold curtain-walled office building, still a fixture in New York's skyscraper forest (think of Norman Foster's recent Hearst Building), is melting. Or maybe it is coming to life...if the resulting effect can be called meaning, then this is a meaningful building, if not, then all the better. By Reinhold Martin- Harvard Design Magazine

New Prado Reveals Spain's Architectural Renaissance: ...impressive ultra-modern wing...marks the highpoint in a renaissance of architecture in Spain, which has become the center of avant-garde design...now in demand across the world. -- Rafael Moneo, Santiago Calatrava; Frank Gehry; Emilio Tuñón/Luis Mansilla; Enric Miralles/Benedetta Tagliabue/EMBT (slide show)- Der Spiegel (Germany)

Berlin Gets a Kunsthalle "Cube":...senate opted for the "cube" over the "cloud"...price won out over prestige. -- Adolf Krischenitz; Graft [link to image]- Artforum

Officials trumpet $10M center for Louis Armstrong fans: Jazz fans who love the "Heebie Jeebies" got a treat on Halloween, when officials announced plans to build a new visitors center for the Louis Armstrong House Museum in Corona. -- Caples Jefferson Architects - NY Daily News

Shutter to Think: Far West Chelsea Tests Its Metal: When your new boutique condo project is surrounded by serious starchitecture, including buildings by Frank Gehry, Annabelle Selldorf and Jean Nouvel, how do you make it stand out? Easy. Hire an architect who's used to thinking out of the box - and then let him. -- Shigeru Ban [image]- New York Post

Church fights landmark status: Historic preservationists are trying to grant landmark status to the Third Church of Christ, Scientist's building. One thing in their way? The church's members...they want the freedom to possibly tear it down and replace it. -- I.M. Pei & Partners (1970) [image]- Washington Times

A Place Unfit for a Congregation, Much Less a Historic Designation: Two blocks from the White House, there is a concrete fortress that looks like a top-secret government installation...probably the city's most unfriendly and depressing piece of spiritual architecture. The District government proposes to declare this atrocity a historic landmark. -- I.M. Pei (1970) [image]- Washington Post

Design Revolutionaries: ...tribute to nine New Yorkers who changed—and are still changing—the way we look at our world...in brief, another 25 crucial names. -- Zeisel; Vignelli; D'Urso; Beyeler; Chermayeff; Gluckman; Meier; Pesce; Elizabeth Barlow Rogers; Robert A. M. Stern; etc [links to articles, images]- New York Magazine

Design Revolutionaries: Skyline Innovator Santiago Calatrava: Whether they're built or not (and at least one will be), his designs imagine our city in gloriously exuberant terms. By Justin Davidson [slide show]- New York Magazine
The ArchRecord Interview: Beverly Willis, FAIA: ...don't call her a female architect. Architect and activist, influential and improbable, is fine. - Architectural Record

Phase II of The 1% Program Announced: ...centerpiece of the program is... “match-making” website that connects nonprofit organizations in need of design assistance with architecture and design firms willing to give of their time on a pro bono basis. - Public Architecture

Call for Entries: EDRA/Places/Metropolis Awards for Place Design, Planning and Research to recognize professional and scholarly excellence in environmental design; deadline: February 7, 2008 - Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA)

Reminder (site launched today): Call for entries: Berkeley Prize 2007 International Essay Competition; Stage 1 proposals due November 1-December 10 - Berkeley Prize

Modern Focus on the Patient: Intermountain Medical Center in Murray, Utah, gives form to a parallel shift in medicine that emphasizes the art of healing rather than the mere administration of scientific procedures. -- Anshen+Allen [images] - ArchNewsNow

-- Morphosis/Thom Mayne: Phare Tower, Paris
-- The Camera: Paul Raftery: Church of Saint-Pierre de Firminy by Le Corbusier 1954-67

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