
ArcSpace brings us OMA in Berlin. – We love a master/inventor of Earth Architecture and Super Adobe, and an author/critic known for his unsentimental, sometimes cantankerous demeanor.” – Sudjic on his/Burdett’s “The Endless City”: “is a powerful affirmation of the city as mankind’s greatest single invention.” – Hume on the “apostle of sprawl” (could O’Toole have a point?) – Plan to spend some time with one of the most comprehensive overviews of development in Abu Dhabi. – And an eyeful of about 60 of the fantastic (and sometimes phantasmagorical) buildings in Dubai (some are only proposed - whooof). – An in-depth look at the infrastructure project that’s making it all possible. – Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for phase one of the redevelopment of the New Orleans Riverfront. – Waterfront Toronto about to issue its own RFQ for two sites. – Finding the balance between openness and security remains an ongoing challenge. – It certainly will be with plans to bring a slice of Poundbury to a Jamaican ghetto. – Seattle should not start gerrymertifying its new skyscrapers just yet: the eco-density coalition is beginning to feel some internal splits. – Heathcote gives a (mostly) hearty thumbs-up to NYC’s New Museum. – Finding the balance between openness and security remains an ongoing challenge. – There may be a silver lining for Pei’s Silver Towers if NYU does the right thing. – It’s a shame that architecture students “learn the best practices of their discipline in some of the worst buildings on their campuses.” – Parsons step in the right direction with an “adorable makeover” combining “style and even wit.” – Kolkata Airport taps RMJM. – A Spanish firm flies in to “shake up” design for Heathrow’s east terminal. – Kamin finds Blackstone’s grand restoration “miraculous” (except for the melting-lollipop carpet). – Almost ripe for landmarking, a San Jose’s worst buildings on their campuses. – A Spanish firm flies in to “shake up” design for Heathrow’s east terminal. – Kann finds Blackstone’s grand restoration “miraculous” (except for the melting-lollipop carpet). – Almost ripe for landmarking, a San Jose’s worst buildings on their campuses. – OMA/Office for Metropolitan Architecture: Netherlands Embassy in Berlin

Obituary: Nader Khalili, 72, founder of California Institute of Earth Art and Architecture (Cal-Earth) [and] Ceramic Houses and the Earthbag Construction technique called Super Adobe, [images, links]- Architect

Obituary: Martin Pawley, 69, architecture critic, author, academic and columnist, known for his unsentimental, sometimes cantankerous demeanour.- The Architects’ Journal (UK)

Cities on the edge of chaos: ..will citizens - and cities - cope with the fierce pressures of this new urban age? Dewan Sudjic asks if the city of the future will be a vision of hell or a force for civilised living? “The Endless City”...I edited with Ricky Burdett...doesn’t shrink from the darker aspects of city life, it is also a powerful affirmation of the city as mankind’s greatest single invention.- Guardian (UK)

The Apostle of Sprawl: A libertarian advocate of the suburbs argues they speak to our deep need for privacy, space and security. Might he have a point? ...Canadian Mental Health Association has started to examine the effect of architecture and planning on psychological well being. By Christopher Hume – Randal O’Toole- Toronto Star

Abu Dhabi:...now rivals Dubai in projects of scale and vision as it pursues its vision for the future. Gulf Construction presents an overview of this construction hotspot in the...- Gulf

The Future in Dubai: a small portion of the buildings that are being proposed, constructed or developed in Dubai and its surrounding region. – Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Atelier Hapsitus; Studio Nova; Hadid; Koolhaas/OMA; Resler/Unemoto/RUR; Sanjay Puri & Mimish Shah; Claudio Catalano; TVS; RMJM; David Fisher; YOO/philippe Starck; Q-Cero Architects; Light Architecture; Atkins; Nouvel; Snhetta; Gehry; Make; Nihon; Gesers; Royal Haskoning; Sybarite UK; Andrew Bromberg; Sunland; Sanjay Puri [images, links]- Gulf Construction

Green Line: ...the largest infrastructure project in the world is the Dubai Metro.- Atkins has been on a steep but satisfying learning curve managing this mega-project in a city-state full of mega-projects. ...– Anup- New Civil Engineer (UK)

Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for phase one of the redevelopment of the New Orleans Riverfront “Reinventing the Crescent”; Part One deadline: April 07 - New Orleans Building Corporation (NOBC)
for so many other civic buildings, public venues, and iconic structures around the world.
By Barbara A. Nadel, FAIA- Buildings.com

Genuflecting to the high rises: Let's not get too giddy and forget to examine these
supposed architectural marvels — before they're built...there is some sign that the
ecodensity coalition is beginning to feel some internal splits. -- Ishmael Leyva
Architects, Zimmer Gunsul Frasca (ZGF) [images, links]- Crosscut (Seattle)

The ascent of Manhattan: ...all the action so far has taken place in the rarefied, super-
rich world of architect-branded condos. So the opening of an important public building,
the New Museum, has caused a bigger stir in the city than any building I can
remember...a striking and serene addition to the rough and ragged profile of the
Bowery...By Edwin Heathcote -- Seijma/Nishizawa/SANAA- Financial Times (UK)

Silver Lining for Pei Towers: NYU space crunch clouds future of superblock: Silver
Towers debate unfolds against the university's Brobdinogian plans to add 6,000,000
square feet over the next 25 years. -- SMWM; Grimshaw, Toshiko Mori Architect; Olkin
Partnership -- I.M. Pei & Partners (1986)- The Architect's Newspaper (NYC)

Some Schools of Architecture Could Use a Good Architect: ...many architecture
students learn the best practices of their discipline in some of the worst buildings on
their campuses. - The Chronicle of Higher Education

At Parsons, an Adroit Makeover: ...In the new...Sheila C. Johnson Design Center, Lyn
Rice Architects has undertaken a task that is both Herculean and largely
thankless...with considerable style and even wit. By James Gardner- New York Sun

RMJM wins competition to design Kolkata Airport scheme: ...beats HOK and
Aéroports de Paris to design India's new domestic terminal. -- Sikka Associates
[images]- Building (UK)

Spanish firm flies in to work with Foster on Heathrow: Vidal Arquitectos, close
associate of Richard Rogers, to 'shake up' design of £1.5bn east terminal [images]-
Building (UK)

Garish accents mar Blackstone's grand restoration: Renovation adds a new jolt of
vitality to a reviving South Michigan Avenue...The imperfect resurrection...is
nonetheless miraculous...it's a blessing that hotels redo their interiors every five years
or so. By Blair Kamin -- Marshall & Fox (1910); Lucien Lagrange; Wiss, Janney, Elstner
Associates; Gettys- Chicago Tribune

Fire guts historic IBM building in San Jose:...was at least the fourth historic building to
go up in flames since last summer. -- John Bolles (1957)- San Francisco Chronicle

Cyclists race against time to raise £500,000 for charity: With only two days left until the
charity Cycle to Cannes reaches the Mipim property fair and the riders still have some
way to go to meet their £500,000 target. Sponsor the cyclists and follow their progress
as they blog along the route. [images, links]- BD/Building Design (UK)