

Today's News - Tuesday, July 22, 2008

- Carson's "Bowling Alone in Urbanistaville" (on ANN) draws sharp words from New Urban News editor Steuteville (we do like to ruffle feathers!).
- In Vietnam, a new draft Law on Urban Planning proposes to reinstate a chief architect - could he/she be foreign - or even need to be an architect?
- SOM to make over Bombay slums for 125,000 people: "the world's most extreme property makeover."
- Risen raises questions re: plans for Vietnam Memorial interpretive center: what does it say about our "unease with abstraction?"
- Gehry's Serpentine Pavilion raises deeper questions: "We need irony here, Frank!"
- Architects present alternatives to massive (some say mediocre) plans for development in Lexington, KY.
- Foster/Nouvel plans for London's Walbrook Square may be value engineered (a.k.a. "dumbed down") to the point that developer "may have to think about new architects." - But Foster scores a big one in Budapest.
- New Harley-Davidson Museum in Milwaukee is an industrial-chic imaginary factory.
- Q&A with design-business guru Reigle offers tips for turning a slowdown to your firm's advantage.
- Kapoor and Balmond team up again for one of the Tees Valley Giants: a bridge "resembling an outer-space wormhole." - Or maybe not.
- Water, water everywhere: Do plans to build floating cities hold water? - An eyeful of one such plan: "a prototypical auto-sufficient amphibious city" for 50,000. - A flotilla of Noah's Arks make up the festival of landscape objects, Archstoyanie, outside of Moscow.
- The saga of creating one of the prefabs for MoMA's "Home Delivery" (a few hairy moments for Edmiston and Gauthier).
- Rose goes in search of Corbu, "the man who designed the 20th century" - and who will get his due this fall in Liverpool.
- Call for entries/nominations: 2009 Richard H. Driehaus Prize for Classical Architecture.
- We couldn't resist: two British revive grazing in their urban parks (ah...the "feel-good factor" of it all!).

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[Op-Ed: Debunking Connections Between Urbanism and Alienation: In response to Richard Carson's recent essay \[in ArchNewsNow\] about an apparent relationship between urbanism and social alienation. Robert Steuteville/New Urban News argues that the study in question - and its press - twists the facts.- PLANetizen](#)

[Foreign chief architect - why not? Chief architect - no need to be an architect? The position of chief architect in Hanoi and HCM City existed for over 9 years before it was discontinued. The draft Law on Urban Planning proposes the resumption of this position.- VietNamNet Bridge](#)

[Bombay slum dwellers' makeover by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill \(SOM\): It may just be the world's most extreme property makeover: 125,000 Bombay slum dwellers are about to have their homes rebuilt by one of the world's hippest architects.- The Times \(UK\)](#)

[Speak \(Louder\). Memory: Plans to add an interpretive center to Maya Lin's Vietnam veterans memorial betray a nation's unease with abstraction...why does the memorial need enhancing in the first place? Asked more directly, is the center an indictment of "the wall" itself? By Clay Risen - Polshak Partnership; Ralph Appelbaum Associates \[images\]- Architect Magazine](#)

[Gehry's Serpentine Pavilion raises deeper questions: ...combines grandeur with history, but Tony McIntyre has issues with its structural honesty...We need irony here, Frank! \[images\]- BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[CentrePointe alternatives unveiled: University of Kentucky College of Design invited young architects to take a crack at coming up with concepts that would show what is possible outside the much-criticized Webb Companies design, which some say is too large and mediocre. - Heather Flood/Ramirez Diaz-Granados/F-Lab; Liz Swanson/Michael McKay; Paul Preissner/Qua'Virarch \[images\]- Lexington Herald-Leader \(Kentucky\)](#)

[Outlook bad for Walbrook Square 'clouds': ...may be cut back or even axed to save costs..."It is possible that they will dumb down the scheme. A consequence is that they may have to think about new architects"... - Atelier Foster/Nouvel \[image\]- The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Budapest Development Hires Foster + Partners: 240,000 square meter mixed-use project on the Pest side of the Danube River will be an eco-friendly project and a prime example of sustainable](#)

[building design](#).- Homesgofast.com

[Elvis, Evel Star in Harley's Industrial-Chic Milwaukee Museum: Rising from reclaimed industrial land in Milwaukee's Menomonee Valley, the new Harley-Davidson Museum is an imaginary factory clad in black brick and an exposed, galvanized-steel skeleton. -- Pentagram \[slide show\]](#)- Bloomberg News

[Tales From the Downturn: Jack Reigle: ...design-business adviser and author of 'Silver Bullets: Strategic Intelligence for Better Design Firm Management' offers tips for turning a slowdown to your firm's advantage. The upshot? Focus on your strengths.](#)- Architect Magazine

['Space bridge' puts Hartlepool on map: The tubular steel structure, resembling an outer-space wormhole, will span 520ft and is expected to have a polished surface that reflects its bleak surroundings. -- Anish Kapoor; Cecil Balmond- The Times \(UK\)](#)

[Bridge claims denied: The group behind the massive Tees Valley Giants project today dismissed reports of a Hartlepool "space bridge" as pure speculation...did concede the Hartlepool structure is likely to be a bridge. -- Anish Kapoor; Cecil Balmond- Evening Gazette \(Teeside, UK\)](#)

[Fantasy islands: Cities at sea have long been a libertarian dream, but concerns over climate change have now pushed the idea on to the environmental agenda. Do they hold water? -- Vincent Callebaut; Julien de Smedt- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[LILYPAD. A Floating Ecopolis for Ecological Refugees: ...a prototypical auto-sufficient amphibious city... a tenable solution to the rising water levels...able to accommodate 50,000 inhabitants... -- Vincent Callebaut \[images\]](#)- Archinect

[21st century Noah arks on display: The festival of landscape objects, Archstoyanie, has taken place in the Kaluga region, south-west of Moscow. The event's theme was 'Noah's Ark' and designer rafts were in the spotlight. -- Vladimir Plotkin; Totan Kuzenbaev \[video link\]- Russia Today](#)

[New House, Available for Delivery, Convenient to Museum: Burst* 008, a full-scale house for the Museum of Modern Art, was a photo finish for its two architects, Jeremy Edmiston and Douglas Gauthier.](#)- New York Times

[The many contradictions of Le Corbusier: An urbanist who lived in a fishing cottage, an iconoclast who invented the highrise, an architect who wanted to be a painter ... Steve Rose goes in search of the man who designed the 20th century \[slide show\]](#)- Guardian (UK)

[Liverpool plans major design show on Le Corbusier: ...as part of Liverpool's year as European Capital of Culture...will explore a little-known dialogue between the arch-modernist and the great classical English architect Sir Edwin Lutyens... - Building \(UK\)](#)

[Call for entries/nominations: 2009 Richard H. Driehaus Prize for Classical Architecture \(international\): \\$200,000 prize to an outstanding architect or firm whose work applies the principles of classicism, with respect to sustainability, to the built and natural environment; deadline: September 15- University of Notre Dame School of Architecture](#)

[The rise of the urban shepherd: ...volunteer shepherds recruited by Brighton and Hove city council as part of an initiative to reintroduce grazing](#)

[to its urban parks...](#)- Guardian (UK)

[Classic Nuance: Simon Hall at Indiana University: A new research facility fits harmoniously with neighboring historic campus structures. -- Flad Architects \[images\]](#)- ArchNewsNow



[-- Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects: Visitor Center at Lincoln Center, New York, NY](#)

[-- Santiago Calatrava: Light Rail Train Bridge, Jerusalem, Israel](#)

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