
- L.A. River regulations may affect waterway and riverfront developments everywhere.
- More on Kuwait's mega-Silk City (though money numbers are a bit confusing - £132 or $132 billion).
- Ouroussoff offers a must-read look (one of the best we've seen) at what Beijing is losing in the midst of its building boom (it's not just the hutongs).
- Russell minces no words about why foreign investors love American landmark buildings (someone has to).
- Rybczynski is more than riled about Mayne's U.S. Federal Building in San Francisco: it's "about as interesting as walking beside a boarded-up store."
- Shigeru Ban wins his first U.S. museum - in Aspen.
- Ireland unveils its teams and plans for Venice Biennale.
- Macau Pavilion design picked for 2010 Shanghai Expo ("Lantern of the Little Bunny").
- Anderton talks Launfer and the aesthetics and politics of Beijing architecture with Hawthorne, Escher, et. al.
- A temporary reprieve for a Neutra in Orange County.
- A Modernist marvel in Edinburgh - it's for sale.
- Cramer is exasperated by the "hyperactive market" for modern design: "When architecture is sold as art, the profession runs the risk of losing its sense of responsibility to its clientele - that is, to humanity."
- In Australia, Queensland gets a Government Architect (it's a good thing, but similar posts needed elsewhere as well).
- In the Philippines, a law creates a "clear dividing line" between the functions of civil engineers and architects (the engineers aren't all that happy).
- Gehry's Serpentine is "the summer's most enjoyable architectural excursion" (before it goes back into the toy box).
- Saffron on Philly's new "light fantastic."
DnA/Frances Anderton: Landmark Architecture of LA’s Past and China’s Present: “Between Earth and Heavens: The Architecture of John Lauffer” and the aesthetics and politics of new buildings in Beijing. -- Nicholas Olsberg; Anne Phibin/Hammer Museum; Frank Escher/Escher GuneWardena; Christopher Hawthorne - KCRW.org (Los Angeles)

Fighting for Neutra in the O.C.: Temporary reprieve for Newport Beach Neutra...the Mariners Medical Arts Center...historical assessment, it turns out, had never been submitted. - The Architect’s Newspaper (Los Angeles)

Modernist marvel: Robert Steedman’s 1961 home [in Edinburgh] exemplified his principles. Half a century on, it is still a remarkable design for living [images] - The Times (UK)

Eine Kleine Schadenfreude: I’ll admit to exhaustion, even exasperation, when it comes to the hyperactive market for contemporary and modern design. When architects think like artists, and when architecture is sold as art, the profession runs the risk of losing its sense of responsibility to its clientele—that is, to humanity. By Ned Cramer - Architect Magazine

Queensland Government Architect an essential move for the State: Australian Institute of Architects says: ...appointment of Philip Follent...with expanded roles and responsibilities. AIA is continuing to lobby for similar positions in those states currently without the benefit of similar expertise... - Selector.com (Australia)

Architects note violations of law defining profession’s functions: ...Republic Act (RA) 9266 has created a “landmark change” by providing a “clear dividing line” between the functions of civil engineers and architects... -- United Architects of the Philippines (UAP) - SunStar (Philippines)

In the Park: Serpentine Pavilion...the reality is much more effective than the photographs of models suggest – large, active and unresolved...It seems proper that Gehry’s pavilion will, later in the year, go back into the toy box. In the meantime, it is the summer’s most enjoyable architectural excursion. - London Review of Books

Philly’s light Fantastic: ...next time you find yourself walking up Third Street in Northern Liberties, be prepared to get drenched in a shower of reflected light...giant reflector is meant to help Philadelphians see their city, and its light, in a whole new way. By Inga Saffron -- Ray King [images] - Philadelphia Inquirer

Nesting in Tokyo: Woven into a rare stand of trees, Hiroshi Nakamura’s apartment building offers business travelers a place to land... Dancing Trees, Singing Birds...9 “human bird nests” cantilever out from the south facade, jutting between trunks and branches. – Hiroshi Nakamura & NAP Architects [images] - Metropolis Magazine

Call for entries: 56th Annual P/A Awards 2009 (open to U.S., Canada, Mexico); deadline: September 19 - Architect Magazine

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