

Today's News - Thursday, July 31, 2008

- Litt lauds Cleveland developers who see the value of good design as an encouraging sign for the struggling city.
- Are Thames Gateway plans "a curate's egg or as a series of eggs in a poorly constructed basket"?
- Turning San Francisco's Market Street into a pedestrian mall is not a bad idea (unless it's 2 miles long).
- Wondering where to Winnipeg's new stadium (downtown not such a good idea).
- London's 100 Public Spaces program axed.
- Toronto's waterfront is a game of checkers - and the city just might win.
- The re-do of "a frequent flyer on lists of the NYC's worst skyscrapers" will be more than skin-deep.
- Six shortlisted for Macau's Old Lisboa offer plans just as 'mammoth' as Grand Lisboa.
- Debate brews over plans for a Jewish Museum in Cologne - now that winning design selected.
- Urban Splash belly-flops with plans to demolish restored Midland Hotel's Art Deco wall.
- A 1970s Connecticut library saved from the wrecker's ball (but for the right reasons?).
- A new museum near the German-Dutch border immerses visitors in the in the architecture, sounds, and smells of a Roman settlement.
- A movement to revive Vienna's flak towers as cultural centers.

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[Strong design of Uptown project bodes well for Cleveland's future: Plans for the \\$300 million Uptown development...are deeply encouraging for a city struggling with a slow economy and a history of decline. By Steven Litt -- Office dA; Stanley Saitowitz/Natoma Architects; Moussavi/Foreign Office Architects \(FOA\); MVRDV; City Architecture; Westlake Reed Leskosky; Forum Architect-](#)
Cleveland Plain Dealer

[Is the gateway to the future coming off its hinges? Whether you see the Thames Gateway as a curate's egg or as a series of eggs in a poorly constructed basket, "good in parts" may be all that can be said about it just now.](#)- Public Servant Daily (UK)

[Auto free Market Street? While Europe has examples of fine, working auto-free areas, for the most part pedestrian malls in the United States have been a flop...proposal is to close off over two miles of Market Street. No pedestrian mall of that length has been successful. By George Calys-](#) San Francisco Examiner

[Where to build stadium? Best bet -- where not many people usually go...What kinds of development really are destructive to the economic and social health of our cities' downtowns?...It is a truism in city planning that there is a significant difference between arenas...and stadiums...in relation to their impact on urban surroundings.](#)- Winnipeg Free Press (Canada)

[100 Public Spaces axed in London design shake-up: Flagship programme abandoned as Design for London subsumed into development agency-](#)
BD/Building Design (UK)

[A giant waterfront game of checkers: I'd always hoped a saviour would ride in from out of town armed with that most valuable asset, objectivity, but I was afraid to dream that big. Now, combined with WaterfrontToronto's other projects...dreams are becoming realities. By Dave LeBlanc -- Field Operations; West 8/du Toit Allsopp Hillier \[slide show\]-](#) Globe and Mail (Canada)

[Verizon's New Clothes: Old waterfront switching station to get high-performance shell: The tower at 375 Pearl Street hovers ominously above its waterfront neighborhood...This is one reskinning that will extend well beyond skin deep. By Bill Millard -- Cook + Fox \[images\]-](#) The Architect's Newspaper

[Old Lisboa to become just as big a 'mammoth' as Grand Lisboa: The six proposals...all feature enormous sized buildings, some of which resemble the lotus flower or a ship. -- Progetto CMR; Dennis Lau and Ng Chun Man Architects; Steelman Architecture; Leigh & Orange; Simon Kwan & Associates; Paul Andreu-](#) Macau Daily Times

[Cologne Debates Building Jewish Museum in City Center: ...mayor is now not so certain any more that the winning design is the best one to build. -- Wandel Hoefer Lorch \[images\]- Deutsche Welle \(Germany\)](#)

[Protesters vow to protect wall from Urban Splash: ...Grade II-listed wall outside the recently refurbished Midland Hotel in Morecambe -- Oliver Hill \(1933\): FLACQ \[image\]- The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Vote Saves Modern Library in Connecticut: CT Trust for Historic Preservation intends to keep the Kent Memorial Library on its list of most endangered historic structures. -- Warren Platner \(1972\) \[image, video\]- Preservation magazine](#)

[New German Museum Offers Sensual Take on Roman Era: Archaeological Park at Xanten/RömerMuseum set to open at the site of Roman baths at Xanten near the German-Dutch border...visitors immerse themselves in the architecture, sounds and smells of the Roman settlement. -- Gatermann + Schossig \[images\]- Deutsche Welle \(Germany\)](#)

[Secret history: Vienna's flak towers have long been abandoned - they are too painful a reminder of the city's Nazi past. Now a group of students is campaigning to get them reopened..."these towers can be seen as surrealist concrete architecture"- New Statesman \(UK\)](#)



[-- John McAslan + Partners: Stanislavsky Center, Stanislavsky Theater, Moscow, Russia](#)
[-- Book: Writing and Seeing Architecture by Christian de Portzamparc & Philippe Sollers](#)

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