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What is the Future of Suburbia? A Freakonomics Quorum: ...a group of smart people — James Kunstler, Thomas Antis, Jan Brueckner, Gary Gates, John Archer, Alan Berube, and Lawrence Levy — asked the following: What will U.S. suburbs look like in 40 years?- New York Times

Liverpool Council refutes 'barmy' claims that it's grim up North: Policy Exchange think tank said regeneration projects should be abandoned and Northerners should be encouraged to move south... [link to report]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Why leave a city's designs in one man's hands? Edinburgh's celebrated skyline is threatened by a planning policy that puts mediocrity before imagination or beauty...That so many precious sites have been assigned to just one architect...is a remarkable commentary...Here, the developer, and the architect of his choice, is king. -- Allan Murray- The Times (UK)

Design exchange: Rethinking the architecture of Canadian cities: Nine prominent Canadians critique the architecture of the cities they live in -- Martha Sturdy; Phyllis Lambert; Victor Syperek; etc.- National Post (Canada)

Skyscraper wars, part three: A gong sounds. The fluttering melody of the shamisen...the sweet strains of the koto...This is the beginning of a 14-minute video, produced at a cost of $5,000, that Skidmore submitted to the consortium of foreign trade companies...as part of the competition to design the Jin Mao Building. By Blair Kamin (1994) -- Adrian Smith; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum (HOK); John Portman; Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF)- Chicago Tribune

Reason to be Cheerful: Jean Nouvel...has developed a singular approach to contextualizing architectural form that sets the stage for aesthetic and social transformation...Still, what Nouvel will accomplish in these new towers is an open question. By Sarah Williams Goldhagen- The New Republic

Q&A: Robert A.M. Stern: Affable, with moments of mischievous wit, Stern talks about the Scully Prize and its personal significance [and] a few of his current projects.- Architectural Record

Local plot thickens and leaves planners for dust: Chippendale is revolting. With luck, it’ll spread. Food for the Future will turn grungy, working-class Chippo into a model of urban feeding. By Elizabeth Farrelly- Sydney Morning Herald

Design for Royal Canal Linear Park [Dublin] Unveiled: ...will feature floating gardens, playgrounds, pavilions, new bridges and sporting facilities. -- Agence Ter [images]- Archiseek (Ireland)

A Season for Change: No Matter the Market Woes, Some Just Keep Smiling: ...thanks to the urbane design by Aleks Istanbulu and the street savvy landscaping of Yael Lir, Bixel at Fifth is a welcomed improvement, and hopefully a harbinger of sensitive urban infill projects of the future. By Sam Hall Kaplan- LA Downtown News

Museum of History Unveils Its Future: Museum of the City of New York...
cutting the ribbon on Wednesday on the first completed phase of a building project intended to give the institution more space and greater visibility. It is also a symbol of its renewal. By Robin Pogrebin – Joseph H. Freedlander (1932); Polshek Partnership [image]- New York Times

Renowned architects seek to design University of Baltimore law school: represents the sort of design challenge they like to tackle – a sizable building, a fairly substantial budget (more than $400 per square foot), and a client that wants world-class architecture. By Edward Gunts – Foster + Partners/Cho Bynn Holback; Dominique Perrault/Ziger Sned; Behnisch Architekten/Avens Saint Gross; Diamond + Schmitt/Design Collective; David Chipperfield Architects/GWWO; RMJM Hillier; RTKL; FXFOWLE/McKissack & McKissack; Moshe Safdie/Hord Coplan Macht; Pelli Clarke Pelli/RCC; Cooper, Robertson & Partners- Baltimore Sun

Pendulum Studio’s two young architects step to the plate and take their swings: Devan Case and Jonathan O’Neil Cole have a clear view of their role in the design landscape...each found his way to architecture school and became a certified rarity, an architect who happens to be African-American. By Steve Paul- Kansas City Star

Lucas Oil Stadium captures Indy’s conservative character and reflects its architectural history...at first glance resembles a 19th-century factory on steroids...The art in this stadium may be in the architects’ willingness to defy the ethic of it-could-be-anywhere modernism...and try to make a building that Indianapolis will treasure. By Lawrence Cheek – Bryan Trubey/HKS [images, links] - Indianapolis Star

Houston Ballet will grow by leaps, bounds with $53 million move: company raising funds to build 120,000-square-foot studio and office space downtown – Gerster- Houston Chronicle

Spooky Waverly Hills may return as hotel: Old Waverly Hills Sanatorium could become Louisville’s next luxe lodging...former hospital already is a mecca for ghost hunters, who come by the thousands each year. – Kevin Milburn/Urban Designz [images]- Courier-Journal (Louisville, KY)

Commission reinstates Boyd Theater’s historic status: ending two decades of rancorous debate...Preservationists would still have to submit a separate nominating petition for the theater’s interior... By Inga Saffron – Hoffmann-Henon Co. (1928); National Trust for Historic Preservation- Philadelphia Inquirer

Book review: Two different architects with much in common: “Art Deco San Francisco: The Architecture of Timothy Pflueger” by Therese Poletti [and] “Le Corbusier Le Grand”...after plunging into new monographs on each architect...They’re more alike than you’d expect. By John King [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

Competition Winners for 5,12 Sichuan Earthquake Memorial Landscape Announced: Winners from U.S., Canada, U.K., The Netherlands, and China – Wang Li Fang/Hein-Kiin Lu; Abdul Abdullah/Sandipan Aritya/Emran Hosain; Van Thi Diep/Zhi Xue; Fei Duan/ Xinyu Wan; Qizhi Li; Martin Knuit; Shujie Chen [link to images]- LAND Online (ASLA)

-- architecture53seven: Egan’s Coffee Bar & Roof terrace, Portlaoise, Ireland
-- Book: Olympic Architecture 2008, Introduction by Guoxin Ma

Yesterday’s News

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