

Today's News - Wednesday, October 22, 2008

- Bangladeshi architect-turned-activist envisions floating villages to survive climate change (floating schools already creating waves).
- Landscape architecture grows in stature as developers seek the next new edge.
- The basics principles behind what is rapidly growing as a standard for low energy design: Passivhaus.
- A nuanced, difficult portrait of the godfather of green design godfather: is McDonough paralyzing his own design revolution?
- New Urbanism taking root in Baton Rouge; not all are convinced it's the way to go.
- Is London, Canada, becoming a more creative city? The city's Creative City task force takes stock: yes, no, and maybe.
- AIA's September ABI report: U.S. demand for architects drops for eighth month.
- How are you going to get through the meltdown? (and a test to see if you can survive the "Dubai diet").
- Impressive international shortlists for two cultural projects on Oslo.
- Kaplický turns down award: "I want to wait for the time when I really achieve something for the Czech architecture and culture. I haven't been very successful in the past 18 months."
- Russell rather overwhelmed by JetBlue's new JFK terminal (not all in a good way).
- Campbell on a new Boston development: "as a chunk of urbanism" it's a winner; "If the designers got so many things right, why couldn't the architecture be better?"
- British architecture was more open to influences from abroad two centuries ago.
- Meier's Weill Hall at Cornell lands LEED Gold.
- Portsmouth, NH, gets first look at planned African-American Burying Ground.
- Call for entries: international open ideas competition to replace burned-down Faculty of Architecture at the Technical University of Delft.
- Bentel Associates International in South Africa's Steel Construction Building Design Awards.
- World Architecture Festival offers presentations by 224 shortlisted architects.

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[Bangladesh: A floating future: Architect-turned-activist Mohammed Rezwan is determined to prove that Bangladeshis can survive the climate change scenario...boats equipped with computers have opened a new world to at least 90,000 families in the region...are solar-powered floating villages the future? \[images\]- IRIN News](#)

[Wrapped in green: ...developers are having to work even harder. And many are turning to an area that once received only perfunctory attention: landscape design. -- Bill Bensley; Henry Steed; Field Operations; Piet Oudolf; Frank Gehry; Howard Abel/Abel Bainnson and Butz; Hariri & Hariri- Financial Times \(UK\)](#)

[A case for Passivhaus: ...sustainability expert Henrietta Lynch runs through the basics principles behind what is rapidly growing as a standard for low energy design for all types of buildings... \[links\]- BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Green Guru Gone Wrong: William McDonough: No one has migrated from the fringes of enviro-geek design to the soft spotlight of pop culture as gracefully...he is the paralyzing agent, unable to capitalize on his brilliant, crucial idea, but unwilling to set it free. By: Danielle Sacks - Fast Company](#)

[Something old, something new: Neotraditionalist, or "New Urbanist," architecture is popping up in Baton Rouge...not universally loved...has more to do with commerce than creativity, according to critics. -- Andrés Duany; Peter Calthorpe; Tipton Associates; Dover Kohl & Partners; Antunovich Associates; Michael Desmond; Robert Zwirn/Metro Studio; Allan Greenberg - BusinessReport.com \(Louisiana\)](#)

[Creative city? There are positive signs of progress: Almost half of the ideas proposed by a task force have been implemented. Is London \[Canada\] becoming a more creative city? ...the answer seems to be yes, no and maybe. -- Malhotra Nicholson Sheffield Architects - The Londoner \(Canada\)](#)

[U.S. Demand for Architects Drops for Eighth Month on Financing: ...as developers delayed or canceled projects amid a lack of financing...Architecture Billings Index \(ABI\) registered 41.4 in September, down from 47.6 the month before... -- American Institute of Architects/AIA- Bloomberg News](#)

[What now – the bunker or the bike? Never mind weeping and wailing — how are you going to get through the meltdown? ...now the destination will be the emerging markets, or the Gulf...Of course, if you have a weak stomach or a strong conscience, the Dubai diet may be a bit rich for you, so here is a good test. By Paul Morrell - BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Fretton, Hadid and FOA/Foreign Office Architects on stellar Norway shortlist...to design the new Munch Museum in Oslo...as well as Heneghan Peng, Tadao Ando and Sauerbruch Hutton...David Chipperfield has been invited to join the shortlist for the new Diechmanske library on the nextdoor plot. He faces competition from the likes of Schmidt Hammer Lassen, Japan's Toyo Ito and homegrown practice Snohetta. - The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Kaplický turns down award over library dispute: Czech-born, UK-based architect says the Czech government is hampering his library project..."I want to wait for the time when I really achieve something for the Czech architecture and culture. I haven't been very successful in the past 18 months" -- Future Systems - CzechNews/Aktuálne.cz](#)

[JetBlue's New Terminal at JFK Offers Huge Capacity, No Charm: ...as welcoming as what you would find at a million-square-foot warehouse along the New Jersey Turnpike...Most of what's best about the terminal is service-driven. If JetBlue can keep that up, few will worry that this monument to human throughput...resigns itself to the increasingly grueling experience of flying rather than enlivening it. By James S. Russell -- Gensler; David Rockwell \[images\]- Bloomberg News](#)

[Filling a gap on Boylston: The new Mandarin Oriental does a lot of things well, but size isn't one of them...As a chunk of urbanism, the Mandarin is a winner. The architecture is less successful...If the designers got so many things right, why couldn't the architecture be better? By Robert Campbell -- CBT \[image\]- Boston Globe](#)

[The past is a foreign country: Today we congratulate ourselves on our multicultural society - yet British architecture was more open to influences from abroad two centuries ago...it is this same, strange openness to foreignness - the waves of different styles all slapped on top of and mixed up with each other - that makes them unique, and British, too. By Harry Mount - New Statesman \(UK\)](#)

[Richard Meier's Cornell Research Center Lands LEED Gold: A living roof designed to absorb rainwater and provide insulation covers over 50 percent of the \\$162 million Weill Hall. \[images\]- Interior Design magazine](#)

[African-American Burying Ground plan unveiled: "The idea is to make this first and foremost about Portsmouth and those individuals that labored here and helped build this community ... those individuals buried here and unfortunately forgotten, now remembered..." -- Meadowlark Studios; Woodburn & Company Landscape Architecture \[image\]- Seacoast Online \(New](#)

Hampshire)

Call for entries: Building for Bouwkunde international open ideas competition - Faculty of Architecture of the Technical University of Delft; €60,000 total prizes; registration deadline: November 6- Faculty of Architecture, Urbanism and Building Sciences of Delft University of Technology

Steel Construction Building Design Awards: Several buildings designed by Bentel Associates International (BAI), have been awarded prestigious accolades by the Southern Africa Institute of Steel Construction (SAISC)...Overall Winner for Structural Steelwork category and the winner of the Tubular Structural Steelwork category was Maponya Mall, Soweto's first up-market regional shopping complex. - eProp (South Africa)

Shortlist Presentations: 224 shortlisted architects will present their work...Spend all day listening to the shortlisted buildings in your field being presented and keep up to speed with how your competitors are working... [links]- World Architecture Festival



-- LAVA: Michael Schumacher Tower, Abu Dhabi, UAE
-- Snøhetta: Petter Dass Museum, Alstahaug, Norway

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