

Today's News - Monday, October 27, 2008

- ArcSpace brings us an eyeful of Moneo's Prado Museum in Madrid.
- For the construction industry, the worst may be over (but good news won't kick in for awhile); the economy is testing Chicago's skyscraper optimism.
- Flores is an architect, translator, educator, peacemaker "trying to bring order and understanding to chaos" in San Ysidro.
- Rawsthorn has high praise for social design group Participle using "designers' skills to tackle the urgent social problems."
- Glancey ponders the future of U.K. housing, wondering if new housing minister is a "style icon or menace."
- Bayley sees a big future in small designs: "disciplines of pod design gets architecture back to the essence."
- Adaptable houses should be the wave of the future - if architects and builders can change the way they think about their jobs.
- Saffron gives thumbs-up to "free-spirited" design of Philadelphia condo project: "It's rare to get such devout environmentalism [LEED Platinum] and good looks in the same package."
- Gehry gets his Signature Theater (just not at Ground Zero).
- Montreal looks forward to some "wow" from Andreu; will be "a breath of fresh air for the city's stuffy, insular architectural establishment."
- KPF and Viñoly take on two medical facilities for Stanford University.
- Goettsch Partners to design green building for beautiful music at Northwestern University.
- A few of NYC's most notable architects and their protégés, the "next generation of structural superstars."
- Dublin firm scoops first World Building of the Year for Milan project.
- Campbell on the unsung heroes of architectural illustration, and the 2008 Hugh Ferriss Memorial Prize winner.
- A good reason to head to Philly next week: Re-imagining Cities: Urban Design After the Age of Oil conference.

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Rafael Moneo: Prado Museum Extension, Madrid, Spain

The Worst Declines May Be Over If Government Rescue Succeeds: Construction activity is falling fast and will head down again next year at a slower pace, but only if the government bank rescue and planned economic stimulus work..."it's clearly in retrenchment"... - Engineering News-Record (ENR)

Lending Freeze Tests Skyscraper Optimism: Chicago just got a little colder...two supertall residential projects may be on hold until the market rebounds, but industry observers believe the buildings will not be left out in the cold forever. -- Teng & Associates; Calatrava; Perkins + Will; Skidmore Owings & Merrill (SOM) - Architectural Record

Confronting a Neighborhood's Challenges: The Architect of a Community Conversation in San Ysidro: ...has become a translator, an educator, a peacemaker, a dreamer and a promoter...trying to bring order and understanding to chaos. -- David Flores; Teddy Cruz - Voice of San Diego

A new design concept: Creating social solutions for old age...social design group Participle [is] among the pioneers of one of the most dynamic areas of contemporary design...universal aim is to use designers' skills to tackle the urgent social problems of our time. By Alice Rawsthorn - International Herald Tribune

Mrs Beckett: style icon or menace? Margaret Beckett is back in government, this time as housing minister, but will her love of caravanning lead to more flexible attitudes on how to address the UK's housing needs? By Jonathan Glancey - BD/Building Design (UK)

Why small is the next big thing: From the Yorkshire Dales to New York's Central Park, elegant one-man 'eco pods' are inspiring architects across the globe...disciplines of pod design gets architecture back to the essence: providing pleasing and efficient shelter. By Stephen Bayley -- Buckminster Fuller; Jan Kaplicky/Future Systems; Feilden Clegg Bradley; Aidan Quinn/Eco Hab; Front Architects; Zaha Hadid - Guardian (UK)

The incredible, flexible, movable house: How we could save money, time, and the environment...For all the advantages they offer, adaptable houses also make some demands. They require that we change the way...architects and builders think about their jobs...the moment has arrived for adaptable housing to take root. -- KieranTimberlake; MIT Open Source Building Alliance; John Habraken; Avi Friedman; Bensonwood; HyBrid; Owen Richards Architects; Witold Rybczynski - Boston Globe

Taking liberties with design: Improvising architect creates vibrant rowhouse condos...rewards of his free-spirited approach are now on stunning display in Northern Liberties...an eight-unit condo project...called Thin Flats...It's rare to get such devout environmentalism and good looks in the same package... By Inga Saffron -- Tim McDonald/Onion Flats [image] - Philadelphia Inquirer

Signature Theater Plans Move to Space in Midtown: ...to be designed by Frank Gehry, would be at the base of a 58-story, 1.2-million-square-foot hotel and residential building...designed by Arquitectonica.- New York Times

Architect's work has plenty of 'wow': Whatever Paul Andreu designs for Montreal's new Quartier des spectacles, you can be sure of one thing: It won't be dull...[his] arrival here will be a breath of fresh air for the city's stuffy, insular architectural establishment. -- Aedifica - Montreal Gazette

Stanford's New Hospitals: Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF) and Rafael Viñoly design two facilities for the Stanford University Medical Center in Palo Alto, California. [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Goettsch Partners Will Design New Music Building: Northwestern University...Henry and Leigh Bienen School of Music...will emphasize a sustainable design approach throughout, with a minimum of achieving LEED Silver... - Media Newswire

Meet the City's Hottest Architects: Manhattan's most notable architects—men who have left powerful impressions on the city's skyline and legacy—are ready to pass the torch to their protégés. Introducing the next generation of structural superstars. -- Bruce Fowle/Dan Kaplan/FX Fowle Architects; Jeffrey Beers/Nora Kanter/Jeffrey Beers International (JBI); Richard Gluckman/Gluckman Mayner/Steven Learner/Steven Learner Studio - New York Post

Milan university building beats Hadid and Foster to top prize: ...new faculty building at Luigi Bocconi University...has scooped first World Building of the Year at the inaugural World Architecture Festival [image, link]- Guardian (UK)

Illustrator's vision lets him see what's not yet built: Frank Costantino is a distinguished Boston artist in a field most people don't know exists...a world-class figure in his specialty....one of the great architectural illustrators...2008 winner [of] Hugh Ferriss Memorial Prize... By Robert Campbell -- American Society of Architectural Illustrators [image]- Boston Globe

Conference: Re-imagining Cities: Urban Design After the Age of Oil: 70 scholars and practitioners drawn from around the world will discuss how to achieve the new sustainable urban world we all seek; University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, November 6-8- University of Pennsylvania School of Design / Penn Institute for Urban Research

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