Today's News - Tuesday, October 28, 2008

- A credit crunch and a presidential election: How is the financial crisis impacting urban planning policy; and an in-depth look at the presidential candidates' very different positions on urban issues.
- U.K.'s building regulations chief says sustainable design will go into hibernation because there won't be any profit in it for awhile (let's hope he's wrong).
- Q&A with Kongjian Yu about the environmental crisis facing China, and what landscape architects can do.
- Rowan Moore tells London mayor "it's time for some blue sky thinking": he has great opportunities to make the city "a genuinely better more beautiful, more civil, better functioning place."
- Preservationists fire first volley in battle for NYC's historic South Street Seaport.
- A high-tech makeover of Rome's Mind's Museum overturns preconceptions about mental illness.
- Istanbul's newest mosque is the first in Turkey to be designed by women.
- Thompson admires the 9/11 Pentagon Memorial for its "restraint and extremely elegant" design, but "can even the most elegant design succeed in a place that's no place at all?"
- Davidson says new JetBlue terminal at JFK takes care not to overwhelm Saarinen, but it's certainly not "dainty."
- Merrick marvels at Viñoly's "coup de théâtre" in Leicester: "this is beam-me-down-Scotty architecture; a 21st-century building that challenges the city's unfortunate motto, Semper eadem – "always the same."
- Behrang Behin uses his strong understanding of technology to enter the problem of the zero carbon city from a pragmatic point of view, but ends up asking us whether we're ready to re-engage utopia.
- An explanation of how Montreal managed to snag Andreu for a "tout petit" project.
- King finds "a fresh twist on preservation" on San Francisco's Union Square: "like nothing that we've seen before, here or anywhere else" (even though he liked Koolhaas's "cheese grater" that never happened).
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- Istanbul's newest mosque is the first in Turkey to be designed by women.
- A high-tech makeover of Rome's Mind's Museum overturns preconceptions about mental illness.
- An impressive shortlist for Lea River Park scheme.
- We couldn't resist: a leaning tower of Abu Dhabi seeks Guinness Book of Records as the "most inclined in the world." - A gallery of 10 of "the world's ugliest buildings for your viewing displeasure."
In Rome, a New Museum Invites a Hands-On Approach to Insanity: Overturning preconceptions about mental illness is the leitmotif of the eight-year-old Mind's Museum, which reopened after a high-tech overhaul. -- Studio Azzurro - New York Times

Five landscape designers shortlisted for Lea River Park scheme: ...will connect the Olympic Park to the Thames at the East India Dock Basin. -- Agence Ter; Field Operations; Gardner Stewart Architects; Latz and Partners; PROAP - HorticultureWeek (UK)

Abu Dhabi tower leans towards the record books: ...to be built at an angle of 18 degrees...Developers...have submitted a joint application to the Guinness Book of Records to recognise the tower as the “most inclined in the world” -- RMJM [image] - Building (UK)

The world's ugliest buildings: ...you cannot simply define one category of hideous architecture. There is ugly, and then there is Ugly...a gallery of ten of the world's ugliest buildings for your viewing displeasure. [slide show] - CNN International

Rafael Moneo: Prado Museum Extention, Madrid, Spain

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