

Today's News - Monday, November 10, 2008

- ArcSpace brings us an eyeful of RPI's stunning new EMPAC.
- A delightful Q&A with Huxtable (she's fed up with critics treating architecture like "eye candy," and MoMA's new Nouvel tower is the "last destructive nail" on what was once "one of the best streets in New York").
- How did Italy get so ugly? (hint: urban sprawl and mega-highways).
- Bristol named Britain's most sustainable city: "It doesn't mean that it's a genuinely sustainable city. It's just faring better across the board than others in the UK."
- Why town centers are the new catalyst for small cities.
- Greensburg completes its 5.4.7 Arts Center, the first LEED Platinum in Kansas (now it just has to be paid for).
- A call for Malaysian architects to take up two neglected areas of architectural study.
- Campbell pulls out all the stops for Safdie's Springfield federal courthouse: "it breaks all those rules, remarkable, impeccable, a winner, a deferential dance of architecture with nature."
- Another thumbs-up review of SOM's Cathedral of Light (and great pix).
- Stern talks about the Bush library: "...we want to make it presidential without making it look as if you're supposed to fall down dead in awe in front of it."
- Gehry's "wonky towers" King Alfred scheme finally bites the dust.
- But in Philadelphia, he talks "rectilinear" to "goeey-foeey" design as he picks up another award.
- Hess recommends Viñoly and KPF go back to their drawing boards for Stanford hospital plans (and please don't demolish the Stone!).
- Harmon tapped for University of North Carolina Craft Campus - a sustainable complex build on old landfill.
- Israel picks Haim Dotan for Shanghai Expo 2010 pavilion.
- A weekend of winners: Egyptian architect takes \$200,000 Driehaus Prize. - United States Artists awards \$50,000 grants to 5 architects. - Scotland's RIAS Andrew Doolan Award splits £25,000 prize (for the first time). - Emirates Glass Leaf Awards handed out.
- Call for entries: 2009 IALD International Lighting Design Awards.

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[Grimshaw Architects / Davis Brody Bond Aedas: EMPAC \(Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center\), Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY](#)

[Ada Louise Huxtable's New York: The nation's premier architecture critic talks about "wow" buildings, ground zero and why bad economic times might not be so bad for the city..."I am not happy with a lot of what is going on, and I am not happy with the way the critics are assessing it." By Phillip Lopate -- Gehry; Portzamparc; Nouvel; Foster - New York Times](#)

[How did Italy get so ugly? While the art world celebrates Palladio's quincentenary, no-one is pointing out that his famous villas and the sublime countryside around them have been wrecked by hideous urban sprawl - The Art Newspaper \(UK\)](#)

[Bristol labelled Britain's most sustainable city: Birmingham, Liverpool and Hull at bottom of Forum for the Future survey which ranks cities according to social, economic and environmental performance - Building \(UK\)](#)

[Town centers are a new catalyst for small cities: The U.S. is reaching the end of a chapter ruled by cars, cheap energy and wasteful land-use patterns and a demographically monolithic suburbia...most important component of a town center is the public realm. By Dan Bertolet/GGLO - Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce](#)

[The greening of Greensburg: ...the first major building to be completed in Greensburg, and the first structure in the entire state of Kansas to receive the USGBC's highest sustainability rating, LEED Platinum. That building, the 5.4.7 Arts Center... - Dan Rockhill/Studio 804 \[video link\]- Kansas City Star](#)

[Vital fields of study: There are two areas of architectural study that are neglected locally, to the detriment of all who use the services of an architect, from town planners to the individual planning a home...indispensable subjects that must be cultivated in Malaysia: Architectural Theory and History and the Environment Behavioural Studies. By Mohamad Tajuddin Mohamad Rasdi - The Star \(Malaysia\)](#)

[A case for light and order: New federal courthouse in Springfield sets a new standard for public buildings...one of the most inviting public buildings I've ever seen...a deferential dance of architecture with nature. By Robert Campbell -- Moshe Safdie \[image\]- Boston Globe](#)

[Cathedral of Light: The sensuous quality of basic concrete, wood, and glass pervades, as does exquisite craftsmanship and the abstract play of light. By Lauri Puchall -- Craig Hartman/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill \(SOM\); Kendall/Heaton Associates \[images, links\]- ArchitectureWeek](#)

[Robert A.M. Stern: designing Dubya's library: The joke going around, of course, is that it must be a fairly small building. Dan Stewart found out..."we want to make it presidential without making it look as if you're supposed to fall down dead in awe in front of it." - Building \(UK\)](#)

[Frank Gehry's King Alfred scheme scrapped: Brighton project is finally dropped...ending a five-year rollercoaster ride for the troubled £290 million 'wonky towers' scheme...designed with HOK and Piers Gough's practice CZWG - The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[From 'rectilinear' to 'goeey-foeey,' Frank Gehry speaks at the Philadelphia Museum of Art: ...Collab Foundation awarding Gehry its 2008 Excellence in Design Award. - Daily Pennsylvanian](#)

[Preliminary designs for Stanford hospitals need more work: ...may be sleek and shiny, but they still have a long way to go to become welcome additions to a campus blessed with some of America's most humane architecture...intention to replace \[Edward Durrell Stone 1958\] distinguished structure eventually with the new hospital is ill-conceived. By Alan Hess -- Rafael Viñoly; Kohn Pedersen Fox \(KPF\) - Mercury News \(California\)](#)

[UNC-Asheville Selects Frank Harmon as Architect for Craft Campus: The site, once a Buncombe County landfill...will be a complex of environmentally friendly classrooms and studios for the teaching and learning of the region's renowned studio](#)

craft traditions.- Art Daily

Ministry of Foreign Affairs determines design for the Israeli pavilion at EXPO 2010 in Shanghai -- Haim Dotan Architects
[image]- Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Driehaus Prize goes to Egyptian architect Abdel-Wahed El-Wakil: ...comes with a grant of \$200,000... "one of the leading voices in contemporary Islamic architecture." ...jury gave the 2009 Henry Hope Reed Award [\$50,000] to Fabio Grementieri, an Argentine scholar and preservationist.- Chicago Tribune

A Prize Surprise: When the latest winner of the Driehaus Prize was announced, my initial thought was, "Who?" Abdel-Wahed El-Wakil was a name I had never come across during my architectural career.- Stressed Elements/University of Notre Dame

United States Artists Announces 3rd Annual USA Fellowships: awarding fifty unrestricted grants of \$50,000 to artists of all disciplines...USA Fellowships for 2008 include five in Architecture and Design -- Julie Bargmann/D.I.R.T.; Stephen Burks/Readymade Projects; Douglas Garofalo/Garofalo Architects; J. Meejin Yoon/MY Studio/Höweler + Yoon Architecture; Andrew Zago/Zago Architecture [links]- United States Artists

Two firms share RIAS Andrew Doolan Award: £25,000 prize...the first time the award has been given to two separate buildings in its six year history. -- Bennetts Associates; Elder & Cannon [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Emirates Glass Leaf (Leading European Architects Forum) awards presented -- Schmidt Hammer Lassen; CKO Architects; bop architectura; John McAslan; Kengo Kuma; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Xavier Vilata Studio; LSI Architects; WSP Architectural Design Consulting; Foster + Partners- TradeArabia Business News

Call for entries: 2009 IALD International Lighting Design Awards; deadline: November 17- International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD)

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