

Today's News - Wednesday, November 26, 2008

EDITOR'S NOTE: We're taking a Thanksgiving Day break, and will return Monday, December 1.

- Outcries continue as New Orleans moves ahead with hospital plans; question: why here "when so much of the city lies empty and unused?" (answer: it's too bad, but it's "just the reality of life" - bah humbug, we say).
- If Boston allows a gem to be demolished, at least replace it with something other than banal corporate glass and stone.
- In Melbourne, the financial crisis could actually herald a "golden era" for architecture (along with some tough times).
- Greer takes on Homes for the Future: zero carbon? Maybe. gracious? No. "Wow factor"? Hardly. - It took us a while, but we found an eyeeful of the shortlisted - you decide.
- Woodman is wowed by Pei's Museum of Islamic Art: "the handsome building offers a clear rebuke to flamboyant architecture elsewhere in the Gulf."
- Rose on five new arts venues in the East Midlands, U.K.: too many, the beginning of a golden age?
- Noah's Ark at L.A.'s Skirball is a hit on many levels.
- Stern's Harvard Law project: "Getting it built may require the vision of a lawyer."
- Q&A with NOMA's Lewis re: his plans for reversing the low number of minority architects.
- An eyeeful of Rockwell's Nobu in Dubai.
- Lots of diversions for the long holiday weekend: NYC's Center for Architecture: "it's hard to believe a resource like this exists without everyone in the city knowing about it."
- Road trip! Kentucky and Ohio have a wealth of architectural treasures to explore.
- Gehry, the artist, on view at Princeton.
- Rawsthorn on Ron Arad retrospective at the Centre Pompidou: "purists may sneer at his showmanship, but collectors love it."
- Pearman highly recommends a visit to "England's seaside favela" and it's newest "enigmatic object."
- Page turners: Glazer's latest is the "story of modern architecture's willingness to subjugate people to its utopian fantasies" (Atlantic Yards, for example).
- Saving Modernist landscapes, in pictures at least.
- Paul picks "a handful of small-but-beautiful books...mostly about reading, rather than looking."
- King crowns his holiday list.
- PLANetizen's Top 10 Books in the planning field.
- Best Real Estate Books of the Year include a lot about architecture and planning.
- We couldn't resist: an eyeeful of a £250,000 doghouse (we kid you not).
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- - Happy Thanksgiving!

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[Plan for New Orleans Hospitals Draws Outcry: Preservationists and neighborhood activists oppose a plan that would lead to demolitions in a historic district...](#) "That some will lose their homes as a result" is "just the reality of life."...So why get rid of a neighborhood that is functioning...when so much of the city lies empty and unused? -- Moe/National Trust for Historic Preservation; Edward J. Blakely- New York Times

[Smashing a jewel: It looks as if the old Shreve, Crump & Low building is history...in favor of nine stories of corporate glass and stone...](#)If you're going to break people's hearts by erasing a beloved building rather than incorporating it into a new development, then for heaven's sake, propose something truly spectacular in its place. -- Cesar Pelli- Boston Globe

[Melbourne crunch brings golden architecture era: ...in which those projects that do go ahead are of a higher quality than those of the recent boom period...](#)Architects have confirmed times are tough, and many are not expecting much new work after March next year. -- NH Architecture; Billard Leece Partnership- Architecture & Design (Australia)

[Germaine Greer on Barratt's Home for the Future: The first person to design a gracious zero carbon home will have to be a genius at least as innovative and epoch-making as Brunelleschi....](#)The shortlist of nine designs displayed all the usual shifts adopted by the eco-architect...The public was...to respond to what the judges called the 'wow factor'. -- Gaunt Francis Architects- The Architects' Journal (UK)

[The house you built: the property awards: ...nine shortlisted entries for the 'Zero Carbon Home for the Future'...](#)Mail on Sunday British Homes Awards... -- Gaunt Francis Architects; HTA Architects; Stride Treglown; 56.46 Design Group; AEW Architects; Avanti Architects; SMAL; Bell Phillips Architects; Grafik Architects; ECD Architects; Richardson Architecture [images]- Mail on Sunday (UK)

[Ellis Woodman on I.M. Pei's Museum of Islamic Art in Doha and suggests the handsome building offers a clear rebuke to flamboyant architecture elsewhere in the Gulf.](#) [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

[The theatre that's inside-out: Leicester's £61m Curve is a revolution in the world of stage - and it's just one of five new arts venues in the East Midlands.](#) How much art can the country take? It could be that the golden age has just begun. By Steve Rose -- Rafael Viñoly; Foreign Office Architects (FOA); Caruso St John; Fielden Clegg Bradley; Peter Clash- Guardian (UK)

[OSKA's Noah's Ark exhibit huge hit in LA: The exhibit at Los Angeles' Skirball Cultural Center uses found materials, a clean design and a sophisticated palette to teach children lessons on diversity and cooperation.](#) -- Olson Sundberg Kundig Allen [images]- Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce

[Northwest Passage: A great building begins as a gleam in the eye of an architect.](#) Getting it built may require the vision of a lawyer...despite the success of the campaign, the school is still in search of more major support for the project... -- Robert A.M. Stern Architects [images]- Harvard Law Bulletin

[Q&A: The Mentor: R. Steven Lewis: Reversing the low number of minority architects, says NOMA's new president, requires addressing future generations through nationwide community efforts and institutional partnerships.](#) By Edward Keegan -- National Organization of Minority Architects- Architect Magazine

[Rockwell Follows Nobu to Dubai](#) [images]- Metropolis Magazine

[Public Good: Architect clubhouse introduces everyday citizens to good design: So much educational design activity surrounds the Center for Architecture...](#)it's hard to believe a resource like this exists without everyone in the city knowing about it. - NY Daily News

[Architectural Magnets: Build It \(Boldly\) And They Will Come: ...we drove up through Kentucky and Ohio and witnessed the Bilbao effect emerging in several of their respective cities.](#) -- Libeskind; Gehry; Moore Ruble Yudell; Bernard Tschumi; Mack

Scogin Merrill Elam; Antoine Predock; Coop Himmelb(l)au; Pei Cobb Freed; Sejima/Nishizawa/Sanaa- Bristol Herald Courier (Virginia)

Architect as Artist: "Frank Gehry: On Line" at the Princeton University Art Museum...As a study of architectural process, this show is fascinating. [images]- New York Times

Revisiting Ron Arad and his spirited showmanship: The furniture designer and star of "design-art" ...is the subject of a retrospective at the Centre Pompidou in Paris...is now regarded as a design grandee, not a subversive...purists may sneer at his showmanship, but collectors love it. By Alice Rawsthorn [slide show]- International Herald Tribune

Faith, hope and sub-prime: Nathan Coley reveals England's seaside favela...Brooklands Estate. This 1930s bungalow colony is, let's not beat about the bush, a slum, a favela. Just the place for a Turner-shortlisted artist to insert an enigmatic object. A sculpture generated by its flaky surroundings, a house that is not a house. By Hugh Pearman [images]- HughPearman.com

Book review: A Wrench in the Machine for Living: Frank Gehry Comes to Brooklyn: "From a Cause to a Style: Modernist Architecture's Encounter with the American City" by Nathan Glazer...story of modern architecture's willingness to subjugate people to its utopian fantasies...how a style that had aspirations to represent a populist vision became an elitist one. By Charles Taylor -- Koolhaas; Ouroussoff; Serra; Maya Lin; Jane Jacobs; Robert Moses - Dissent Magazine

Saving That Landscape, in Pictures at Least: Cultural Landscape Foundation has commissioned photographers to capture for posterity significant landscapes at risk of being lost..."Marvels of Modernism"... -- Charles A. Birnbaum; Lawrence Halprin; Tom Fox/SWA Group; I.M. Pei; Dan Kiley; John Ormsbee Simonds; Edward L. Daugherty; M. Paul Friedberg; Minoru Yamasaki; Thomas D. Church/Robert Royston - New York Times

Designing for simplicity: Architecture books don't have to be big to be bold: ...a handful of small-but-beautiful (well, sort of) books...mostly about reading, rather than looking... By Steve Paul -- Ada Louise Huxtable; William J. Mitchell; William S. Saunders; Jennifer Siegal; Anthony Vidler - Kansas City Star

Holiday books: Architecture. By John King -- Joseph Esherick; Cliff May; Julia Christensen; Daniel Libeskind; Paul Goldberger; Le Corbusier; Deborah Berke; Thomas J. Campanella; etc. - San Francisco Chronicle

Top 10 Books - 2009: ...best books in the planning field. With titles covering some of the most timely issues in planning -- from form-based codes to exploding growth in China... -- Ricky Burdett/Deyan Sudjic; Thomas J. Campanella; Richard Florida; Michael Kwartler/Gianni Longo; etc. - PLANetizen

NAREE Names Best Real Estate Books of the Year in Robert Bruss Book Competition -- "Prefabulous: The House of Your Dreams Delivered Fresh from the Factory"; "Creating Value - Smart Development and Green Design" by Vernon Swaback; etc. - National Association of Real Estate Editors (NAREE)

World's most expensive kennel: Great Dane owner shells out £250,000 for doghouse complete with spa and plasma TV -- Andy Ramus [images]- Mail on Sunday (UK)



-- Weiss/Manfredi: Taekwondo Park: Ascending Passages, Muju, Korea  
-- Renovation & extension: Erick van Egeraat: Municipal Theatre, Haarlem, The Netherlands

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