

Today's News - Friday, January 23, 2009

- We'll get through the bad news first: Yale shelves multiple plans for new buildings and renovations.
- van Egeraat goes into receivership.
- Foster's five-story (instead of 22-story) addition to 980 Madison still too tall.
- Saffron bemoans Temple University's "artless" new Tyler School of Art and the "morbidly obese Alter Hall" (it's not the very fine architects' fault). cheers.
- Will RIBA really axe £20,000 purse attached to the Stirling Prize? (and using "too many parties" as an excuse?)
- Baillieu begs to differ: dropping the prize money "sends out the wrong message both to architects and the wider world."
- On brighter notes: Queensland, Australia, and the AIA launch a new initiative to help bring Queensland architectural expertise to the USA (perhaps not all will consider that good news).
- Ethiopian ministry highlights role of architects to develop construction industry; they're "fundamental for the healthy growth of towns" (what a concept!).
- Weekend diversions: The permanent exhibition at the new Bergen-Belsen Memorial is a model of its kind.
- Sydney Customs House fills its atrium with "Green Void," a 20m-high architectural installation of green Lycra (worth a look!).
- Rio de Janeiro celebrates landscape architect Roberto Burle Marx, who has "emerged as 'something of a hero' to a new generation of American landscape architects" (terrific slide show!).
- A Hollywood ending for an architectural gem in New Orleans (Brad Pitt included).
- Page turners: Q&A with Libeskind about "Counterpoint: Daniel Libeskind."
- Rywkwert revels in the re-release of Giedion's 1946 "Space, Time and Architecture."
- Volume 2 of Koolhaas's "Al Manakh" updates and expands his survey of Arabian architecture, design, and urban planning.
- "The Art Of Fortress Building In Hospitaller Malta" draws attention to the uniqueness and importance of this heritage and a growing concern about its preservation.
- "Architecture Uncooked" is an architect's take on the good, the bad, and the ugly in New Zealand holiday homes.
- We needed a chuckle today: For sale: 1970s Minneapolis skyway (perfect for a holiday home or wine bar?); and a delightful stroll through some very British and very embarrassing place names.

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[Recession Halts Yale Construction Projects: ...has shelved multiple plans for new buildings and renovations, many involving brand-name architects. -- Foster + Partners; Cesar Pelli; Robert A.M. Stern - Architectural Record](#)

[Erick van Egeraat goes into receivership: Frozen projects blamed after Dutch star architect declares his practice insolvent. - BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Hold the Champagne: Landmarks Preservation Commission wants more concessions from Rosen and Foster's 980 Madison...the commissioners roundly agreed that the proposal was too tall. Still. -- Foster + Partners \[images, links\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Temple University's artless new building: ...keeps squandering opportunities to use architecture to give them a gracious campus....new Tyler School of Art is the latest, most frustrating demonstration of Temple's cluelessness...same incoherence is evident in the morbidly obese Alter Hall... By Inga Saffron -- Carlos Jiménez; H2L2; Michael Graves \[images\]- Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

[Stirling to drop prize money: RIBA set to axe £20,000 award claiming winners use it for parties...economic downturn and a reduction in sponsorship has put the cash prize...in serious doubt...sparked protests from former Stirling Prize winners Will Alsop and Stephen Hodder and the RIAS. - BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Op-Ed: Awards need a proper prize: Removing the cash reward from the Stirling Prize sends out the wrong message both to architects and the wider world...about how architecture is valued alongside similar prizes for art and literature. By Amanda Baillieu - BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Queensland architects to take Manhattan: A meeting in New York...between Queensland Governor...and representatives of the American Institute of Architects unveiled a new initiative to assist in bringing Queensland architectural expertise to the USA...an opportunity to present "HEAT, Queensland's new wave of environmental architects," a major marketing initiative...- Australia.TO](#)

[Ministry of Works and Urban Development highlights role of architects to develop construction industry: ...concerted efforts of architects in the construction sector are fundamental for the healthy growth of towns. -- Association of Ethiopian Architects \(AEA\) - Walta Info \(Addis Ababa, Ethiopia\)](#)

[The Holocaust, Viewed Not From Then but From the Here and Now: The permanent exhibition at the new Bergen-Belsen Memorial is a model of its kind, focused on the meticulous and sober reconstruction of the past. By Michael Kimmelman -- KSP Engel; Zimmermann Architects \[slide show\]- New York Times](#)

[Lava's Green Void fills Sydney Customs House: 20m-high architectural installation of green Lycra — inspired by the geometrics of plants, spider webs and soap bubbles... -- Laboratory for Visionary Architects \(LAVA\) \[images\]- BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[A New Look at the Multitalented Man Who Made Tropical Landscaping an Art: An exhibition in Rio de Janeiro celebrates the Brazilian landscape architect Roberto Burle Marx...he regarded landscape design as an equal partner with architecture, not as a backdrop or decoration, and elevated it to that level." \[slide show\]- New York Times](#)

[A Hollywood Ending in New Orleans: Paramount Spiffs up a House for Brad Pitt's Movie "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"..."it's one of the characters in the story." - Preservation magazine](#)

[Q&A with Daniel Libeskind: ...about "Counterpoint: Daniel Libeskind," a recently published monograph chronicling his work...as well as the state of architecture at the time of its release. - Architectural Record](#)

[Book review: Siegfried Giedion gave my generation a place in history: Joesph Rywkwert on "Space, Time and Architecture" \(1946\), a masterful history of the modern urge...didn't just justify the way things were now, as Pevsner had done, but gave many of my generation the dignity of a place in an evolving history - and it invited his readers to innovate bravely. - The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Book review: New book to encompass more urban Arabian architecture: A second volume of Al Manakh, a survey of architecture, design, and urban planning in the Gulf produced by Rem Koolhaas..."It's really an engagement with the world of Islam ... by looking wider it has a scope really beyond urbanism of cities and architecture." -- Office for Metropolitan Architecture \(OMA\) - The National \(Abu Dhabi\)](#)

Book review: How do you build a fortress? ...highly-illustrated..."The Art Of Fortress Building In Hospitaller Malta" by Stephen C. Spiteri...draws attention to the uniqueness and importance of this heritage and a growing concern about its preservation.- Times of Malta

Book review: Bach to basics: "Architecture Uncooked: NZ Holiday House Through Architect's Eyes" by Pip Cheshire...explores the notions of holiday and what a building should provide..."People are too concerned with style and the fashion of architecture..."- New Zealand Herald

For sale: 1970s Minneapolis skyway: Architecture firm using Craigslist to find owner for iconic Minneapolis structure...lists a number of uses...including a cabin, wine bar, yoga studio or park building. -- Ed Baker (1978); CITYDESKSTUDIO [image, link]- Minneapolis Star Tribune

No Snickering: That Road Sign Means Something Else: In the scale of embarrassing place names, Crapstone ranks pretty high. But Britain is full of them. Ask the residents of Titty Ho, North Piddle, Spanker Lane or Penistone.- New York Times



Jean Nouvel: DR Concert Hall, Copenhagen, Denmark

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