EDITOR'S NOTE: Early morning travel plans tomorrow, so there will be no newsletter - heading to San Fran for AIA conference...we may - or may not - be able to post news the rest of this week. But we'll definitely be back Monday, May 4.

- Shipping containers stylishly stacked for an apartment complex near a Salt Lake City commuter rail station (very TOD).
- National Trust for Historic Preservation names its 2009 roster of America's most endangered historic places (Modernism included).
- This should add ammunition to Los Angeles Conservancy's battle to save the Century Plaza Hotel.
- Hume hopes NYC's transportation commissioner's pedestrian point of view will inspire Toronto to value the public realm more than it does.
- In St. Louis, a call "to look at the same kind of independent, open process that yielded Saarinen's masterpiece" to see how the city should move forward with the Arch grounds' next phase.
- In L.A., revised design for Grand Avenue's Civic Park "adds more softscape to a project whose earlier iteration had been criticized for preserving too much paving" (now all it needs is the money).
- Developer denies Viñoly being sidelined on Battersea Power Station plans.
- CABLE trounces London 2012 Olympics media center: "awkward and unresolved" and "extraordinary banality" (ouch!).
- King welcomes AA conventioners to his city with "7 misconceptions to toss into the recycling bin" (no, San Franciscans don't hate everything new; and no, big-name outsiders don't have all the fun).
- Q&A with Saunders re: "Urban Design" and his take on the complex issues presented in the book.
- Iovine interviews Polshek re: his recession tales, survival, and success.
- The "cunning and humanistic architect" behind Turkey's Building Information Center/YEM, and his hope that urban planning is gaining importance.
- "Shrinking Cities: Growing Communities": ACD's 2009 Annual Conference coming up.
- Heathcote gives a hearty thumbs-up to Sorkin's "delightful" new book: "Quirky, erudite and occasionally frustrating...every city should have its Sorkin."
- Campbell finds Breuer show at RISD "a rich education in 50 years of modern architecture and design."
- Fluxxlab wants to organize a community of designers and inventors to bring innovative ideas to life.
- Former U.S. Chief Architect Feiner makes a move (again).
- Iovine's take on the Milan furniture fair: "offered derring-do design, along with a yearning for the comfortably clunky."
- Sudjic and Hall on how the recently-deceased author JG Ballard "cast his shadow right across the arts" - including architecture.
the field of urban design—how it’s evolved, where it’s fallen short, and what its purpose should be...his take on the complex issues presented in the book.- Metropolis Magazine

Recession Tales: James Polshek: The founder of Polshek Partnership Architects discusses his early successes, how he weathered the nightmarish 1972 crash, and survival strategies that gave rise to a storied career in preservation. By Julie V. Iovine- The Architect's Newspaper

“Architecture: Turkey’s recognized art branch”: Dogan Hosal, a cunning and humanistic architect...is the chairman of the Building Information Center, or YEM...there is a lack of urban planning in Turkey that could prevent uncontrolled growth...just gaining importance...Before urban planners the job was trying to be handled by architects. -- Has Mimarlık- Hürriyet Daily News (Turkey)

Shrinking Cities: Growing Communities: Association for Community Design 2009 Annual Conference Rochester, NY, June 4-7 (hotel booking deadline: May 4)- Association for Community Design (ACD)

“Twenty Minutes in Manhattan”: In his delightful book, Michael Sorkin writes about New York from a flaneur’s perspective...one of architecture’s most consistent and consistently interesting critical voices – meanders through architecture, urbanism, sociology, politics and history...Quirky, erudite and occasionally frustrating...every city should have its Sorkin. By Edwin Heathcote- Financial Times (UK)

Breuer brand of modernism: "Marcel Breuer: Design and Architecture" at the Rhode Island School of Design Museum...was a major furniture designer but as an architect he fell a little short of the top rank. Nevertheless, a visit to this show is a rich education in 50 years of modern architecture and design. By Robert Campbell- Boston Globe

Fluxlab: Making ideas Happen: The Revolution Door is a simple idea that can have a great impact...How can we organize as a community of designers and inventors to bring our ideas forward, sharing resources, ideas and feedback in order to bring these ideas to life? By Jennifer Broutin and Carmen Trudell [Images]- Urban Omnibus

Edward Feiner, Former U.S. Chief Architect, Joins Perkins+Will as Principal- BusinessWire

Into the Woods: This week’s Milan furniture fair offered derring-do design, along with a yearning for the comfortably clunky..."It's easy to do great work when the resources are plentiful. It will be interesting to see what designers can do with just a little. It's a benchmark time." By Julie V. Iovine [Images]- The Architect's Newspaper

How JG Ballard cast his shadow right across the arts: Ballard's influence on culture went far beyond literature...his lasting impact on film, pop, architecture, TV and visual art -- Deyan Sudjic- Guardian (UK)

J.G. Ballard's architectural inspiration: ...a writer whose controversial work drew inspiration from the built environment in its many forms; multi-storey car parks, busy highways and giant shopping malls. Ballard expert Chris Hall picks five "Ballard buildings"- The Architects' Journal (UK)

-- Massimiliano & Doriana Fuksas: Parish Church and Complex, Foligno, Italy -- Under construction: Kevin Roche John Dinkeloo & Assoc.: Convention Centre, Dublin, Ireland

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