Today's News - Tuesday, May 26, 2009

- ArcSpace brings eyefuls of Asymptote in Abu Dhabi, and FLW at the Guggenheim.
- The Climate Positive Development Program for 14 cities to set a "compelling environmental and economic example" for other cities to follow.
- King doesn't seem to hold much hope that San Francisco's Downtown Plan will mark its 25th anniversary "by crafting fresh guidelines for the commercial core...count on the process to grow more strident and cynical.
- Hume's ironically humorous take on why "some Torontonians will have to endure the pain of a new narrower Jarvis St." to make more room for cyclists and pedestrians - "who are they, after all, but people without cars?"
- "One in six architects in Europe is now unemployed." (Both cities are among the 14 cited above.)
- "A source close to the developers" says Chelsea Barracks plan is "dead in the water" (does this mean Prince Charles wins?).
- In Oregon, is the "beautiful Williamette bridge design" by Rosales dead in the water
- In the U.K., a notable roundtable discusses if supportive housing is a neglected sector.
- An impressive shortlist for Glasgow School of Art (and nary a starchitect among them).
- "pedestrians - "who are they, after all, but people without cars?"...More of a pain than some airy-fairy notion of an efficient and civilized city. By Christopher Hume
- Clinton Climate Initiative, USGBC set Climate Positive Development Program for 14 cities on six continents: ...will support the development of large-scale urban projects...will strive to reduce the amount of on-site CO2 emissions to below zero...setting a compelling environmental and economic example for cities to follow. - Building Design & Construction (BD&C)
- Signs of tarnish as Downtown Plan nears 25...one era's innovation is the next generation's dated rulebook...as long as downtown, in effect, is up for grabs, count on the process to grow more strident and cynical. The rest of us will lose out. Because in this atmosphere, there won't be the far-sighted attention to architecture and urban design that San Francisco deserves. By John King - San Francisco Chronicle
- Better Living: As funding gets tight, supportive housing attracts creative architects...Is there a silver lining to the budget crisis for affordable and supportive housing? -- Michael Maltzan; Killefer Flammang Architects; Koning Eizenberg; Pugh + Scarpa; Lorcan O’Herlihy [images, links]- Portland Mercury (Oregon)
- One small lane for mankind: ...some Torontonians will have to endure the pain of a new narrower Jarvis St...just because one less lane would mean more room for cyclists, pedestrians and trees...Cyclists, pedestrians – who are they, after all, but people without cars?...More of a pain than some airy-fairy notion of an efficient and civilized city. By Christopher Hume - Toronto Star
- "The Brunswick Association, a group of architects together to discuss the complexities of designing supported housing...an edited transcript of the two-hour discussion. -- Duggan Morris Architects; BPTW Partnership; Quattro Design Architects; Walter Menteth Architects; Herman Hertzberger - The Architects' Journal (UK)
- European survey reveals worrying unemployment trend: Latest results show 'one in six architects in Europe are now unemployed...not optimistic that the number of new project enquiries will improve until much later this year. -- Architects' Council of Europe - The Architects' Journal (UK)
A look at the hub of early moderns: Bauhaus design found a following in Greater Boston...turns out to have been, along with greater Los Angeles, the center of early modernism in this country. Who knew? -- Gropius; The Architects Collaborative; Samuel Glazer; Carl Koch - Boston Globe

Op-Ed: Celebrating and preserving modernism in Muncie: ...many significant American residences that were designed in the modernist tradition...continue to be demolished or threatened with demolition. By Tony Costello/Costello + Associates -- Fred Graham/Hamilton & Graham (1947); George W. "Bill" Cox (1964); Lustron; Edward Durell Stone (1960s) [images]- The Star Press (Muncie, Indiana)

A Takapuna school for special-needs children and its chapel scoop the country's top national architectural awards. -- Haughey & Fox and Partners (1965); Opus Architecture [image]- New Zealand Herald

Obituary: Arthur Erickson a modern master of architecture: His death this week at the age of 84 marks the end of an era...saw himself not as an entertainer but poet. As well as being one Canada's first modernists, he was one of the country's last romantics. By Christopher Hume [slide show]- Toronto Star

Arthur Erickson's Plea for Economic and Environmental Responsibility: ...an amazing speech to a group of bankers in 1972...warned about the dangers of Western arrogance, the threat posed by global tourism, the importance of native cultures, and the stress all this was placing on the limited resources of planet Earth. Reading the speech today is thrilling...and depressing (the same speech could be given today, almost word for word). By Martin C. Pedersen [link to speech]- Metropolis Magazine

Obituary: Arthur Erickson, 84; architect of California Plaza towers in L.A.: ...a Vancouver architect whose buildings tend to look terrible in the rain. Nonetheless...deserved to be better known than he was...His highly inventive, often fearless work...which young designers have begun to rediscover...offers clues about how to solve some of contemporary architecture's most pressing challenges. By Christopher Hawthorne [slide show]- Los Angeles Times

Arthur Erickson and the limits of architectural labels: Was he a modernist? A post-modernist? A Brutalist? The answer...is all of the above -- and none of the above. By Christopher Hawthorne [links]- Los Angeles Times

Call for entries: Building Re-Skinning International Competition: Addressing an Urgent Global Need...re-skinning existing infrastructure to increase energy efficiency and reduce environmental impact...designs submitted must be pre-funded and will actually be executed; deadline: September 1 - Zerofootprint

Note: Pages will open in a new browser window.
External news links are not endorsed by ArchNewsNow.com.
Free registration may be required on some sites.
Some pages may expire after a few days.

© 2009 ArchNewsNow.com