Today's News - Friday, June 5, 2009

- Weinstein reviews a "subversive book every architect needs."
- Gehry's out, Ellerbe Becket's in for Atlantic Yards' Nets Arena (though the master retains master planner title).
- Stem heads to Oxford to end a competition deadlock over whether to choose a modern or classical architect (which will the "modern traditionalist" pick, we wonder).
- Glancy bemoans a "bland serving of spectacle": the "less we make, the more museums we build, so that we can gurn at what we are no longer capable of making."
- Ouroossoff finds mostly marvels (and a few shortfalls) in Mayne's new Cooper Union building that proves "a brash, rebellious attitude can be a legitimate form of civic pride."
- Gordon Murray + Alan Dunlop to make their debut Down Under.
- Fast Company's Fast Cities 2009, where "exemplary initiatives are improving neighborhoods, transforming lives, and helping build better, faster cities for the future": an interesting mix; Seattle takes City of the Year.
- On view in La Jolla, 9 San Diego designers make their mark by redefining housing, development, and urban design.
- U.S.S. Enterprise lands at the Franklin Institute: "make sure your transporter is in working order" (o.k., so it's not all that architectural, but we're ready to beam up).
extraordinarily remarkable practice... Despite the differences in style, common themes at the heart of current architecture emerge... By David Leatherbarrow - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Book review: "Arata Isozaki" edited by Arata Isozaki and Ken Tadashi Oshima... is a true tour de force... one finds that a much deeper, more erratic — and more interesting — creative process has taken place, characterised by personal crises and deep questioning of the forces underpinning our modern Western and Eastern societies. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Book review: Lightning Rods and Sideshows: In “Eiffel’s Tower: And the World’s Fair Where Buffalo Bill Beguiled Paris, the Artists Quarreled, and Thomas Edison Became a Count,” Jill Jonnes examines — with splendid attention to detail, if not always with writerly finesse — the importance the tower... “Paris From the Ground Up” by James H. S. McGregor... offers an informative history of the city’s art and architecture... - New York Times

Paul Smith Designs Bunny-Shaped Trash Cans to Clean Up London: ... part of the “Super Contemporary” show at London’s Design Museum... 5-foot (1.52-meter) green rabbit standing on its hind legs and clutching a large trash bag. Every time someone throws litter in, the bunny’s tall, perky ears beam on... through Oct. 4 [image, links] - Bloomberg News

In Her Shoes: Zaha Hadid’s latest project explores futuristic vessels of movement in relation to the human body, or in non-archispeak she’s designed a pair of shoes! [images] - The Architect’s Newspaper

WORDS THAT BUILD: Translate Images Into Touching Performances: Tip#15: Cultivate communication with clients that translates architectural imagery into experience at their fingertips. By Norman Weinstein - ArchNewsNow

-- Pugh + Scarpas: Step Up on Fifth, Santa Monica, California
-- Morphosis: NOAA Satellite Operations Facility, Suitland, Maryland

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