

Today's News - Wednesday, July 15, 2009

- Pearman and Etherington-Smith offer pro-Rogers and pro-Prince arguments re: Chelsea Barracks (per Pearman: "being anti-Charles does not mean that I am full of praise for the Rogers design").
- The prince and the SPAB preface: read what he wrote and what replaced it.
- Gallagher on the preservation war in Detroit: "the debate over saving or razing historic buildings is reaching a new pitch."
- Very good news (hopefully) for the Richardson Olmsted Complex in Buffalo.
- Piano's plans for the entrance of Valletta are "a great improvement" over those he presented 20 years ago - from a heritage point of view.
- A movement brewing to preserve Paul R. Williams' Rancho Palos Verdes neighborhood.
- Saffron cheers replacing highway cobra lights with the "cozy luster of pedestrian-scaled sidewalk lamps" on some Philly streets, but "in these hard times, it's not getting any easier for neighborhoods to rage against the darkness."
- Public art along Seattle's new Link Light Rail is making a big splash (with only "one or two misfires").
- King on the Rising Tide competition winners: "the jury favored large concepts over focused responses"; the problem: they're "not likely to appear on any state agency's line-item budget anytime soon" + an eyeful of the winning proposals.
- H+deMs bird's nest wins Lubetkin Prize as the best building outside Europe.
- U.Va. students design and build the "Learning Barge," a floating environmental classroom for the Elizabeth River in eastern Virginia.
- Rose and Hodder talk salaries (or lack thereof) and skylines with Manchester School of Architecture students.
- Memphis Regional Design Center is on a mission to curb sprawl.
- Spillis Candela, "once the mightiest name in Miami architecture," changes its moniker - but the talent remains (we just thought this was sorta sad).
- Call for presentations/sessions for next May's CNU 18: "New Urbanism: Rx for Healthy Places."
- We couldn't resist: an eyeful of the Top 10 comic book cities, where "Mister X looks like Le Corbusier on crack."

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[Two Views: Lord Rogers vs. Prince Charles: two prominent U.K. critics share their views on the controversy: Pro Prince by Meredith Etherington-Smith: "Lord Rogers? A bad loser."; Pro Rogers by Hugh Pearman: "...more about density than style. And now that the brief has changed, Rogers deserves a second chance."](#) - Architectural Record

[Prince and SPAB: The controversial views on restoration put forward by Prince Charles which led him to fall out with the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings revealed...See the Prince of Wales' foreword and the replacement foreword, by SPAB secretary, Philip Venning...- BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Preservation war rages on in Detroit: Once-doomed Lafayette Building may yet be saved: With Tiger Stadium now rubble and the Lafayette Building slated to fall, the debate over saving or razing historic buildings is reaching a new pitch in Detroit. By John Gallagher -- C. Howard Crane \(1923\)- Detroit Free Press](#)

[Richardson Olmsted Complex plan is unveiled: would boost architectural and cultural tourism...first stage of redevelopment anticipates an architecture center, visitor center, boutique hotel and events/conference center...master plan would breathe new life into the former Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane... -- H. H. Richardson/Frederick Law Olmsted/Calvert Vaux \(1890s\); Chan Krieger Sieniewicz- Buffalo News](#)

[Renzo Piano project: ...plans for the entrance of Valletta were a great improvement on those presented some 20 years ago by the same architect...from a heritage point of view. \[image\]- Times of Malta](#)

[Worth preserving for Rancho Palos Verdes posterity? The majority of the neighborhood's 262 houses were planned in the late 1950s by Paul R. Williams, a pioneering black designer who became known during a prolific Los Angeles-centered career as the "architect to the stars." \[images\]- Daily Breeze \(California\)](#)

[Let there be pedestrian light: Baltimore Avenue is the latest of Philadelphia's traditional shopping streets to win the battle with the automobile by ripping out the harsh highway cobra lights and replacing them with the cozy luster of pedestrian-scaled sidewalk lamps...But in these hard times, it's not getting any easier for neighborhoods to rage against the darkness. By Inga Saffron- Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

[Sound Transit light rail's public art makes a big splash: New public art installed along Seattle's new Link Light Rail includes a number of little things — a water-drop, a magnifying glass, a dragonfly — made big. \[slide show\]- Seattle Times](#)

[Designers answer call to fight rising seas: ...the \[Rising Tides\] jury favored large concepts over focused responses...The danger in thinking big is that the most captivating notions are also the ones that are the most difficult to implement...not likely to appear on any state agency's line-item budget anytime soon. By John King -- Wright Huaiche Yang/J. Lee Stickles/SWA; Derek Hoeflerlin/Ian Caine; Faulders Studio; SOM/Moffatt + Nichol; Kuth/Ranieri Architects; Yumi Lee/Yeon Tae Kim \[images, links\]- San Francisco Chronicle](#)

[Winners announced: Rising Tides International Competition for Ideas Responding to Sea Level Rise in San Francisco Bay and Beyond -- Wright Huaiche Yang/J. Lee Stickles/SWA; Derek Hoeflerlin + Ian Caine; Faulders Studio; SOM \(Skidmore, Owings & Merrill\); Kuth Ranieri Architects; LANDplus Design \[images\]- San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission \(BCDC\)](#)

[Beijing 'bird's nest' stadium wins coveted Lubetkin Prize: Herzog & de Meuron's National Stadium in Beijing has been named the best building outside Europe by the RIBA \[images, links\]- The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Students build a floating classroom: About 10 University of Virginia students...prepare a floating classroom, dubbed the "Learning Barge," for its September launch date...a floating environmental classroom to educate grade-school children about the various](#)

natural and man-made processes under way on the polluted Elizabeth River in eastern Virginia. -- Skanska; Crisman+Petrus Architects - News Leader (Virginia)

Manchester's architecture students undaunted by glass ceiling: The financial crisis has pummelled architecture. But could it push young designers to new creative heights? We talk salaries and skylines with architecture students + Stephen Hodder in conversation with students. By Steve Rose - Guardian (UK)

Memphis Regional Design Center aims to prove that urban density can mean quality: ...on a mission to curb sprawl. -- Charles Pickard/CM Design - Commercial Appeal (Memphis)

Firm known for Miami Modern architecture changes name: The Spillis Candela name, once the mightiest in Miami architecture, is no more as the practice adopts its corporate parent's less-evocative name: AECOM Design. - Miami Herald

Call for Presentations/Sessions for CNU 18: "New Urbanism: Rx for Healthy Places," May 19-22, 2010, Atlanta, organized with assistance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; deadline: August 14 - Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU)

Top 10 comic book cities: From Gotham City to Mega City One...a selection of the greatest illustrated urban spaces...Mister X looks like Le Corbusier on crack. What more do you need to know? [images] - The Architects' Journal (UK)

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