

Today's News - Wednesday, August 26, 2009

- ASLA's latest handy resource guide on livable communities includes sections on: sustainable land use and housing, place making, green schools, and much more.
- Cambodia's first architects' association expected to get green light and will include a new Code of Architecture to boost professionalism and protect intellectual property rights: "We want architects to stop copying each other's plans."
- Biomimicry gaining ground: "nature has already done 3.8 billion years of research...so how can architects now say it's wrong?"
- We've reported on arbo-tecture before; now there's a "baubotanical" tower that's actually taken root.
- In Austin, huge blue sunflowers generate power, look great - and mask an unsightly loading dock (a win-win in our book).
- BIG channels Möbius to win National Library competition in Kazakhstan (lotsa pix, too).
- CCTV tower under fire once again (and once again, we couldn't resist): "Architecture is culture, we'd better talk about it with humor."
- Lincoln Center's fountain gets a major makeover (but preservationists wonder why it was needed at all).
- Glancey dismisses claims that British design is dead - it's just moved from public to commercial clients.
- Some very cool eco-designers are "crafting clever solutions that will divert tons of waste from landfills" (we'll buy!).
- Registration deadline nears for Society of Architectural Historians October study tour to examine Civil Rights Memorials and their impact on southern cities.
- RFP + Call for entries: Taipei Pop Music Center International Competition; and Human Cities: Places to Be.
- Casting call: a hunky architect to host new reality show that "takes viewers on an exploration of the world's most famous rooftops" (no fear of heights a prerequisite).
- How could we resist: Wright cemetery wants donor (an architect) to take back Borthwick gravestone (but he doesn't want it).

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[ASLA Livable Communities Resource Guide](#): ...includes sections on: sustainable land use, place making, green schools, sustainable housing, sustainable employment growth, and health, safety, and security. - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

[Architects group, code in pipeline: Cambodia's first Architects' Association is expected to be given the green light...will be responsible for ensuring compliance with a new Code of Architecture...to boost professionalism...also aimed at protecting intellectual property rights and promoting originality in design..."We want architects to stop copying each other's plans."](#) -- [Cambodian Architects Association](#)- Phnom Penh Post (Cambodia)

[Biomimicry: Architecture That Imitates Life: Nature has already done 3.8 billion years of research...so how can architects now say it's wrong? Ultimately...buildings, like nature, will react to environmental conditions and support biodiversity.](#) -- HOK; Biomimicry Guild; Buro Happold; Arup [images] - [Harvard Magazine](#)

[Arbo-architects Successful: First Tower Made Of Living Trees: "baubotanical" tower...demonstrates the architectural and ecological potentials of living plant constructions...](#) -- [Research Group Baubotanik at the Institute of Theory of Modern Architecture and Design \(University of Stuttgart\)](#) [image]- [ScienceDaily](#)

[Arty sunflowers look good and provide power, too: A boring and unattractive loading area at the rear of a retail development in Austin, Texas is now hidden...by 15 huge blue sunflowers...which collect energy from the sun to power the artwork's LED lighting and generate funds to help towards costs...an awe-inspiring panorama where art meets functionality.](#) -- [Harries/Héder Collaborative](#) [images] - [Gizmag \(Australia\)](#)

[More BIG News: Bjarke Ingels Group: ...has taken on another ambitious project...the new National Library in Kazakhstan...beat out such big guns as Zaha Hadid and Foster + Partners...](#) [images]- [Metropolis Magazine](#)

[CCTV tower under fire once again: ...criticism in Chinese media suggesting Beijing's ill-fated landmark...symbolizes...genitalia...reached a peak after the architect ruled out "any hidden meaning of the building"...China as the big experimental ground for architects from all over the world has become a main theme of discussion.](#) -- [Rem Koolhaas/Office for Metropolitan Architecture \(OMA\)](#)- [Global Times \(China\)](#)

[The Lincoln Center Fountain Is Being Taught Some New Moves: Preservationists who have voiced concern over the changes...may be alarmed to learn about one in particular: The centerpiece of the performing arts complex, its plaza fountain, is not only being replaced, but its water effects are now being "choreographed" as well.](#) By [Robin Pogrebin](#) -- [Philip Johnson \(1964\)](#); [WET](#); [Diller, Scofidio + Renfro](#); [Beyer Blinder Belle](#) [images]- [New York Times](#)

[British design is not dead – it is overlooked: The nostalgia for inspired public design ignores the fact that our contemporary designers continue to excel in the commercial world...as investment in public sector design has dropped, so retail design has enjoyed a field day.](#) By [Jonathan Glancey](#) [links]- [Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[A New Breed of Eco-Designers Reimagines the Detritus of Our Daily Lives: Eco-designers are crafting clever solutions that will divert tons of waste from landfills.](#) [images]- [Fast Company](#)

[Society of Architectural Historians study tour to examine Civil Rights Memorials and their impact on southern cities in Alabama and Georgia, October 8 - 12; registration deadline September 8-](#) [Society of Architectural Historians](#)

[Request for Proposals/RFP: Taipei Pop Music Center International Competition; cash prizes; deadline: October 19-](#) [Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government, Taiwan](#)

[Call for entries: Places to Be: any subject related to cities: architecture, landscape architecture and design, planning, urban design, lighting design, graphic design, public or urban art, sociology, anthropology and geography; deadline: October 9-](#) [Human Cities](#)

Architect as.. Indiana Jones? TV program developer William Wiegman is looking for a sexy architect...to host a new reality show...that "takes viewers on an exploration of the world's most famous rooftops." Deadline for submissions is September 20.- The Architect's Newspaper

Wright cemetery wants donor to take back gravestone: A gravestone for Frank Lloyd Wright's professional inspiration and personal sorrow...Mamah Borthwick, placed without permission in a family cemetery at Taliesin...will be returned to a well-intentioned admirer. But John Ottenheimer, an architect in Puget Sound, Wash., doesn't want the granite stone back.- Wisconsin State Journal



-- SANAA: Serpentine Pavilion 2009, London, UK
-- KK Letter: Architecture, Art and Design in London...Design Museum, The Tate, Trafalgar Square, Herzog & de Meuron, Jeff Koons, Richard Long, Antony Gormley, Futurism, Per Kirkeby, Jan Kaplicky, Javier Mariscal

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