Today's News - Monday, October 12, 2009

- ArcSpace brings us eyefuls of Morphosis/Gruzen Samton's Cooper Union building, and EASTERN design office in Kyoto.
- Dillon weighs in on the Wyly: "This is tough, take-that architecture" that "prizes provocative over pretty"; perhaps a "healthy attitude to have" (but too soon to say if it merits and "A" or an "F").
- Rosenbaum on downsizing of the "MoMA monster": Nouvel "is on the case."
- Goldberger on Arad's travels to "an obscure corner of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, where he contemplates a full-scale mockup" of the 9/11 WTC Memorial.
- King on Paolo Alto's new urban village sprouting from former Sun Microsystems HQ: "the overlap of activities" is "a welcome effort to bring the planning phrase 'mixed use' to life."
- NYC's Museum of Chinese in America "takes its story beyond Chinatown into the national realm."
- An origami-like "drive-through" car museum rises in China.
- Andrea Leers pays tribute to Joan Goody: "a generous mentor, civic leader, and public-spirited architect."
- Glancey on Amanda Levete's "going it alone" and "a new way forward in architecture": "I'm far more sociable, certainly more collaborative," says she.
- Plan to spend some time with "Architectural Criticism and Journalism: Global Perspectives" (filled with a who's-who of contributors).
- Last call for entries: 2009 Spark Design Awards; and WPA 2.0 Student Edition: Whoever rules the sewers rules the studio.
- Call for entries: 2010 Green Good Design Awards.

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-- Morphosis / Gruzen Samton: 41 Cooper Square, Cooper Union, New York, NY
-- EASTERN design office: Slit Court, Sumizome, Fushimi, Kyoto, Japan

Wyly Theatre: Top to bottom, a vertical display of industrial rawness...an unconventional plan, intriguing and high-risk...a machine for performance that will challenge directors and probably confound some patrons...This is tough, take-that architecture...prizes provocative over pretty -- and in a 21st-century arts district, that's a healthy attitude to have. By David Dillon -- Dallas Morning News

MoMA Monster Downsized: City Council Committee Approves 200-Foot Height Reduction: ...a significant redesign would now ensue...Jean Nouvel is on the case. By Lee Rosenbaum -- ArtsJournal

Test Drive: Most architects...must contend with what people think of their work only once it gets built. Michael Arad, the architect of the memorial now going up at Ground Zero, has had no such luxury...slips out every so often to an obscure corner of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, where...he contemplates a full-scale mockup... By Paul Goldberger - New Yorker

Jewish center illustrates challenges of infill: ...Taube Koret Campus for Jewish Life in southern Palo Alto has the look and feel of a lively urban village...the overlap of activities...a welcome effort to bring the planning phrase "mixed use" to life...Infill is a smart way to grow as our cities mature. The challenge for architects and planners is to make it neighborly as well. By John King -- San Francisco Chronicle

From Chinatown to Everytown: With a new design and new location, the Museum of Chinese in America takes its story beyond Chinatown into the national realm. -- Maya Lin; Matter Architecture Practice - Wall Street Journal

A "drive-through" car museum with gravity-defying exhibition spaces inspired by origami is being constructed in China. -- Francesco Gatti/3Gatti - Telegraph (UK)

Tribute: Joan Goody, 1936-2009: ...a generous mentor, civic leader, and public-spirited architect...For those of us who dreamed about creating a practice of architecture, Goody was tangible evidence it could be done. By Andrea Leers/Leers Weinzapfel Associates -- The Architect's Newspaper

Amanda Levete: to infinity and beyond: She created some of the most thrilling, space-age buildings in Britain with her husband Jan Kaplicky. Now Amanda Levete is going it alone...[her] merging of landscape, jewellery and architecture is something of a new way forward in architecture...in a world too concerned with shaping buildings by computer. By Jonathan Glancey -- Future Systems; AL_A - Guardian (UK)

Q&A with George Ranalli: an architect and Dean of The School of Architecture for City College, isn't one for chit-chat...The Saratoga Avenue Community Center in Brownsville, Brooklyn funded by the New York City Housing Authority. The center is grounded yet elegant, not just 'making do' but a building actually capable of transforming the life of the community it serves. [images] - New York Social Diary
Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture is going back to nature, by design: Wright’s passion for self-sufficiency is making a comeback in the gardens at the architecture school he founded in Spring Green, Wisconsin...the edible landscape at Taliesin West also is returning to its former vibrancy... - Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Architectural Criticism and Journalism: Global Perspectives: The Aga Khan Award for Architecture [and] the Kuwait Society of Engineers...brought together academics, architects, engineers and journalists from five continents to discuss the role of architectural journalists, critics, and media, as well as their relations with practitioners. - ArchNet

Rail-Volution 2009 Conference: Building Livable Communities with Transit: an opportunity for innovative minds to develop solutions for issues that affect livability in cities, towns and regions; Boston, October 29 – November 1 - Rail-Volution

Last call for entries: 2009 Spark Design Awards; deadline: October 15 - Spark

Last call for entries: WPA 2.0 Student Edition: Whoever rules the sewers rules the studio; registration deadline: October 16, 2009- cityLAB / UCLA Department of Architecture and Urban Design

Call for entries: 2010 Green Good Design Awards; registration deadline: November 1, 2009- Chicago Athenaeum/European Centre for Architecture, Art, Design and Urban Studies

WORDS THAT BUILD Tip #19: Choose words and phrases that depict your architecture as a mysterious promise, as well as a known product. By Norman Weinstein- ArchNewsNow

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