

Today's News - Monday, October 19, 2009

- ArcSpace brings us eyefuls of Libeskind's ROM Crystal, and house by Baeza in Garrison, New York.
- A Stirling kind of day (and sure to be many more pundits pundit-ing in the days ahead): the winner is Rogers Stirk Harbour's Maggie's Centre London.
- Merrick mourns that the "shortlists have become decent" rather than "genuinely exploratory. Where is the architectural joy - or risk?" (time for younger jurors, perhaps?)
- Liverpool One might not have won, but "it's arguably won a more important prize" - it "has more or less survived the recession."
- Pearman's amusing take on the awards event itself.
- To the video: Rogers re: Maggie's Centre "and the struggle between tradition and modernity in British architecture."
- Oh - lest we forget the Chelsea Barracks saga: RSHP wants to be paid.
- Lewis gives Chicago a "gold medal for design": the city "is already uniquely "Olympian" thanks to its soaring urban architecture and architectural legacy."
- Big plans floated to create more docks all along the Hudson River.
- Saffron cheers Philadelphia's plans to perk up its artful but all too car-centric parkway for pedestrians (she gives the Barnes plan an "A" for aesthetics, but an "F" in urbanism).
- A visit to a remote village in Colombia that is a "four-decade experiment to alter civilization's dependence on finite fossil fuels and industrial agriculture."
- In the U.K., new affordable housing is deemed "dangerous at night": now it's up to architects to change that.
- Bing Thom talks urbanism with a light touch.
- Cranbrook's ambitious plans to expand.
- HOK x 2: Big plans for 432-acre former Sun Microsystems site: a new corporate campus that will be "quiet and astonishing" (and oh so green); and on the team for new Sacramento courthouse.
- Call for entries: 2010 Ceramic Tiles of Italy Design Competition.
- Two we couldn't resist: Starck bares his soul (sort of); and an eyeful of Europe's first rotating hotel (we'll believe it when we see it).

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-- Studio Daniel Libeskind: Michael Lee-Chin Crystal, Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), Toronto, Canada
-- Alberto Campo Baeza: Olnick Spanu House, Garrison, New York

Maggie's Centre London by Rogers Stirk Harbour & Partners winw 2009 Stirling Prize. [images, links] - BD/Building Design (UK)

What a prize mess: The Stirling Prize: The most prestigious award in British architecture...It's just a shame that the buildings are so awful...shortlists have become decent, rather than battle cries for buildings whose relationships between people and places are genuinely exploratory. Where is the architectural joy - or risk? By Jay Merrick -- Tony Fretton; Rogers Stirk Harbour; BDP; ; Eric Parry; Allford Hall Monaghan Morris (AHMM) - Independent (UK)

Stirling stuff: Liverpool One didn't take the top architectural oscar at the weekend but it's arguably won a more important prize...What's quite remarkable is that [it] has more or less survived the recession. By Larry Neild - BDP - Liverpool Confidential (UK)

Stirling Quality: ...Tom Dyckhoff introduced us to his modish new black-rimmed specs, Ruth Reed was a picture of professional composure...Kieran Long dissed the shortlist again, and everybody fell in love with Benedetta Tagliabue. But this year's Stirling Prize belonged to just one person: Richard Rogers. By Hugh Pearman -- Rogers Stirk Harbour; AHMM; BDP; Eric Parry; Tony Fretton [images] - RIBA Journal (UK)

Video exclusive: Richard Rogers on his Stirling Prize victory: ...speaks about Maggie's Centre - and the struggle between tradition and modernity in British architecture - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Chelsea Barracks saga: Rogers seeks more than £1.5 million from Qataris: ...has taken the first 'legal step' in a bid to recover...unpaid fees after being kicked off the controversial project. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Chicago Gets Gold Medal for Design: 2016 Olympics bid was rejected, but the city hardly needs the Olympics. Chicago 2009 is already uniquely "Olympian" thanks to its soaring urban architecture and architectural legacy... By Roger K. Lewis - Washington Post

Vision of a Riverfront Lined With Ferry Docks: The Hudson River may no longer be the major economic and transportation artery it once was, but it is a big river...It is not, as it turns out, home to enough docks...an effort to create more docks...from New York City as far north as Lake Champlain. -- Guardia Architects; James Sanders & Associates; Bone/Levine Architects [images, links] - New York Times

Perking up the Parkway: Designers know how to make buildings that dazzle us visually. Yet...they forget about their obligations to city life. The Barnes design...gets an 'A' in aesthetics and an 'F' in urbanism...the city is preparing \$10 million in streetscape improvements aimed at restoring the primacy of the pedestrian realm along the famously car-centric parkway. By Inga Saffron -- Tod Williams Billie Tsien; Laurie D. Olin; Studio Bryan Hanes; DIGSAU architects [images] - Philadelphia Inquirer

An Isolated Village Finds the Energy to Keep Going: Visitors to a remote village in Colombia can get a glimpse into a four-decade experiment to alter civilization's dependence on finite fossil fuels and industrial agriculture...Las Gaviotas...Like an oasis amid this madness...- New York Times

Third of all new affordable housing 'dangerous at night': "The fact that so many new developments are deemed to be both badly designed and unsafe...proves that what families need are not just decent homes but also decent neighbourhoods and architects with support from communities are right at the heart of making sure that happens."- 24dash.com (UK)

Bing Thom on Building Urbanism with a Light Touch: ...his native Vancouver's success as a vibrant and sustainable city, the paradoxes of designing urban fabric from scratch in the developing world, and his latest American project, the renovation of the Arena Stage Theater in Washington, DC. [video]- AIArchitect

Cranbrook expands museum, adds middle school for girls: ...an ambitious program that will expand...the fabled campus created by Eiel Saarinen... -- SmithGroup; Rafael Moneo; David W. Osler; Lake/Flato- Daily Tribune (Michigan)

ConocoPhillips: Louisville [Colorado] campus to be 'quiet and astonishing': Company plans to take up less than half of 432-acre Sun Microsystems site...would include restoring the ecology of the surrounding area, taking steps to "optimize the land"... -- HOK- Daily Camera (Boulder, Colorado)

Architects for new Sacramento courthouse chosen -- Nacht & Lewis; HOK-Sacramento Bee (California)

Call for entries: 2010 Ceramic Tiles of Italy Design Competition; cash prizes + 5-day trip to Bologna, Italy, to attend CERSAIE 2010, no fee or limit for entries; deadline: February 19, 2010- Ceramic Tiles of Italy

Starck naked: The King of Design bares his soul: He's made millions designing chairs, hotels, yachts – and even loo brushes. But Philippe Starck reckons he's been misunderstood all these years...."I regret to not be more useful...The weapon of design is not enough of a weapon. We need to invent a better weapon."- Independent (UK)

Rotating hotel as centrepiece in Croatia: Šolta Island will be home to Europe's first rotating hotel...The full development is comprised a new build marina and resort which will include the hotel, guest pavilions and villas. -- Richard Hywel Evans/Studio RHE [images]- World Architecture News (UK)

Market Research Strategies in Uncertain Times #4: Client Research - The Secret to Turning Prospects into Clients: If you carry on a dialog from an informed position, you will project confidence and immediately earn a position of trust. By Frances Gretes- ArchNewsNow

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