

Today's News - Friday, November 13, 2009

- The "designiest dean of all the business schools" has the answer to what's thwarting innovation: "Bring in the folks whose job it is to imagine the future...That's where design thinking comes in."
- Pompidou Centre plans to hit the road with a "joyous" and "polymorphous" mobile museum.
- There might be an urban farm in London's future (sheep, goats, and one cow included?).
- Not exactly architecture, but something to keep tabs on: success looking dim for Copenhagen climate change conference (too much "distrust").
- Call for entries, RFP's, and EO's for Barangaroo Headland Park in Sydney; a sustainable replacement for a building in Toronto's historic St. Lawrence Market; and Re-envision the single family home for affordability and sustainability.
- Weekend diversions:
 - Ouroussoff finds Saarinen's "curves and glossy surfaces are as seductive as ever, but the story they tell at the Museum of the City of New York "is more conflicted."
 - McGuigan is taken by another aspect of the "fascinating exhibit": discovering Aline Saarinen, who "was a cultural force in her own right."
 - Q&A with curator Albrecht (serving double-duty) re: the effect the exhibition has/will have on Saarinen's legacy.
 - "What We Learned" at the Yale School of Architecture returns Venturi and Scott Brown for a 40-year reunion ("There is poignant ambiguity in the "We").
 - Glancey x 2: he picks his faves from BFIRIBA's "'Of Dreams and Cities - Architecture in Film" festival; and "Bauhaus Women" shows that Gropius "was keen to keep women in their place."
 - Goldberger's "Why Architecture Matters" offers "graceful explanations of the effects of architecture" on our lives.
 - Bayley's "Woman as Design": "female parts get enthusiastically ogled in this bizarre book...but where's the design?"
 - Gaia + Lovelock: "Whatever one makes of this cranky and idiosyncratic book," readers, "however skeptical, have much to gain."
 - In "Drawing for Architecture" Krier "proclaims himself an environmentalist," but is his "new faith is true, or just politically expedient"?
 - Mies's Villa Tugendhat plays a central character in "a stirring new novel."
- HAPPY FRIDAY THE 13TH!

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What's Thwarting American Innovation? Too Much Science, Says Roger Martin...the designiest dean of all the business schools...author of a new book, "The Design of Business: Why Design Thinking is the Next Competitive Advantage"...The answer? Bring in the folks whose job it is to imagine the future, and who are experts in intuitive thinking. That's where design thinking comes in... - Fast Company

The Centre that wants to reach out to the edges: Pompidou Centre to take...its art collection on the road [to] some of the more remote corners of France...Designed to be both mobile and adaptable to the wide range of environments...car parks and town squares, for example – the museum is assembled from colourful geometric shapes... "joyous" and "polymorphous"... - Patrick Bouchain - The National (UAE)

Cheese grater site set to be city farm: Mitchell Taylor Workshop has won the competition to transform Rogers Stirk Harbour's stalled site into public space...Schemes by Carmody Groarke and AY Architects also proved popular. The developer still has a veto on the judges' decision. [image]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Chances of Climate Change Summit Success Dim: ...one meeting in Copenhagen won't do the trick..."Global negotiations have been contentious because of distrust." - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Request for Proposals/RFP: Barangaroo Headland Park and Public Domain (formerly East Darling Harbour) - a search for landscape, architecture and urban design teams to help shape a new Australian landmark in Sydney; deadline: December 18, 2009- Barangaroo Delivery Authority

Call for Expression of Interest/EO: St. Lawrence Market North Building Design Competition for underused, single-storey North Market building to be replaced with a new four-storey, multi-purpose facility that will be a model for sustainable design, energy efficiency and design excellence; deadline: January 8, 2010- City of Toronto

Call for entries: Who's Next? Re-envisioning the single family house in an affordable and ecologically conscious manner; open internationally; cash prizes; registration deadline: December 31, 2009- FreeGreen

Making the Face of Modernism Familiar: "Eero Saarinen: Shaping the Future" at the Museum of the City of New York...The curves and glossy surfaces are as seductive as ever...But the story it tells is more conflicted...his buildings can be both sophisticated works of propaganda and gorgeous — and humane — architectural creations. By Nicolai Ouroussoff [slide show]- New York Times

The Purpose-Driven Wife: Eero Saarinen gets his due in a fascinating exhibit..."Eero Saarinen: Shaping the Future,"...What you don't expect is to discover the impact of a woman [who] was a cultural force in her own right...The fact that she's little-known today is a shame. Standing next to one of the giants of midcentury American culture, Aline Saarinen cast quite a shadow, too. By Cathleen McGuigan - Newsweek

Interview: Donald Albrecht, curator of architecture and design at the Museum of the City of New York...he also has served as curator of the traveling exhibition "Eero Saarinen: Shaping the Future"..."I'm basically installing my own show here." -- Wendy Evans Joseph; Michael Bierut/Pentagram - Architectural Record

Viva Vulgarity! "What We Learned: The Yale Las Vegas Studio and the Work of Venturi Scott Brown & Associates" at the Yale School of Architecture, returns [them] and their legendary 1968 Las Vegas studio to Yale for a much-

anticipated 40-year reunion...actually comprises two independent yet dialectic exhibitions...There is poignant ambiguity in the "We"... - Metropolis Magazine

From Metropolis to Blade Runner: architecture that stole the show: To mark its 175th anniversary, the Royal Institute of British Architects is holding a season of films in which buildings – fantastical or factual – take a starring role. Here are my top five. By Jonathan Glancey [slide show]- Guardian (UK)

Book review: Haus proud: The women of Bauhaus: When the Bauhaus art school opened in 1919, more women applied than men - so why have we never heard of them? "Bauhaus Women" by Ulrike Müller...Gropius's vision was, at heart, medieval...and he was keen to keep women in their place – at looms, primarily... By Jonathan Glancey- Guardian (UK)

Book review: The Whys have it: "Why Architecture Matters" by Paul Goldberger...graceful explanations of the effects of architecture...ending with a chapter on cities, community and new urbanism. - Los Angeles Times

Book review: "Woman as Design": An arsenal of arses, a bounty of breasts and a lesser number of other female parts get enthusiastically ogled by Stephen Bayley in this bizarre book. We see the women, but where's the design? Oddly, considering who the author is, there is only a short section on how female anatomy has influenced design...- Icon (UK)

Book review: "The Vanishing Face of Gaia: A Final Warning" by James Lovelock; "James Lovelock: In Search of Gaia" by John Gribbin and Mary Gribbin; "The Medea Hypothesis: Is Life on Earth Ultimately Self-Destructive?" by Peter Ward...Whatever one makes of this cranky and idiosyncratic book, one thing is clear. James Lovelock has told it as he sees it...and at 90 he has nothing to lose, while readers, however skeptical, have much to gain. - New York Review of Books

Book review: Right Krier, Right Now: A guiding light of the New Urbanism, Leon Krier proclaims himself an environmentalist in "Drawing for Architecture"...foreword by...James Howard Kunstler...It's less obvious whether [his] new faith is true, or just politically expedient. By Ned Kramer [slide show]- Architect Magazine

Book review: The windows of war: Mies van der Rohe's Villa Tugendhat...remains a masterpiece of minimalist architecture, and now it's the evocative setting for a stirring new novel..."The Glass Room" by Simon Mawer...The house endures, "plain, balanced, perfect; and indifferent"...In chapter after chapter, era after era, the house miraculously continues, working as a talisman...- Washington Post



-- Alsop Architects: Chips, New Islington, Manchester, UK
-- Exhibition: "Bits 'n Pieces," Material ConneXion, New York, NY

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