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 EOIs 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").
  - Glancy x 2: he picks his faves from BFRIBA'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.
- 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?"
- Bayley's "Woman as Design": "female parts get enthusiastically ogled in this bizarre book...but where's the design?"
- Bayley's "Woman as Design": "female parts get enthusiastically ogled in this bizarre book...but where's the design?"
- "Aline Saarinen...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, right...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 be sophisticated works of propaganda and gorgeous — and humane— architectural creations. By Nicolai Ouroussoff [slide show] - New York Times"
- "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."
- "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-

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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 Muller...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)

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