

## Today's News - Tuesday, January 12, 2010

- Dubai still making waves in the desert: a Q&A with Albert Speer Jr., who says the Burj Khalifa is "purely a vanity project" and "the emirate is an example of failed urban planning."
- Bedell calls the burj "a bleak symbol of Dubai's era of bling - irresponsible and unsustainable."
- Betsky bets on Asymptote's Yas Hotel in Abu Dhabi as "the most stunning - and most weird - building."
- Watch out Burj Khalifa: there are plans afoot for Miapolis, a 3,200-foot-high building in Miami - is it just a dream or just "ridiculous" (we don't usually link to project websites, but this one you just gotta see to believe).
- In Montreal, Cardinal Hardy is making a mark on the city with plans for the Bonaventure Expressway and a whole lot more.
- Holl's Glasgow School of Art win draws cheers - and jeers - from local talent.
- Foster's Yale School of Management plan clears one hurdle - but there are still bumps in the road to overcome (sometimes called NIMBY neighbors).
- Gallagher delivers some sad news: Yamasaki closes its HQ doors in Troy, MI: the "sorry end seemed especially tragic given the luster of the firm's legacy."
- Better news for Miami's oldest and most famous high school: a \$75 million (and much-needed) makeover.
- Ditto for a dilapidated flatiron building in Chicago - gaining new life as affordable housing and an arts center.
- Architects plan "amphibious landscapes" for NYC's waterfronts.
- Architects and planners have to deal with some thorny issues re: the implications of digital skins on buildings.
- Becker on Tokyo's N Building with a QR (Quick Response) Code that you can read with your iPhone.
- Shortlisted Australian entries for the 2010 Venice Architecture Biennale offer "Ideas for Australian cities 2050+."
- "TeachDesign" has Austin designers taking high school students through real world project: their own school.
- Call for entries: USGBC 2010 Natural Talent Design Competition: Small, Green, Affordable (in New Orleans).
- An impressive jury for St. Louis Gateway Arch competition: 90 firms already in the running (register by Jan. 26).
- V&A at Dundee finds a site; search is on for an architect (Gehry said to be an early frontrunner); deadline for expressions of interest (EOI): February 12 (sorry...we couldn't find info on OJEU site).

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[Interview with Architect Albert Speer Jr.: "The Slums of the 21st Century Are Being Built in Dubai"...says Burj Khalifa tower is purely a vanity project and argues that the emirate is an example of failed urban planning. -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill \(SOM\) - Der Spiegel \(Germany\)](#)

[Burj Khalifa – a bleak symbol of Dubai's era of bling: ...stunning 828m skyscraper is an ideal monument for an era of credit-fuelled over-consumption – irresponsible and unsustainable. By Geraldine Bedell -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill \(SOM\) \[links\] - Observer \(UK\)](#)

[Built for Speed: After the Burj Khalifa...my vote for the most stunning - and most weird - building would be the Yas Hotel: two ovoid structures straddling a Formula One track on Yas Island \[in\] Abu Dhabi... By Aaron Betsky -- Hani Rashid/Lise Anne Couture/Asymptote Architecture \[images\] - Architect Magazine](#)

[New plans floated for proposed 160-story building in Miami: A developer is still trying to build a 3,200-foot building...Miapolis...But is it more than just a dream? City officials also say there's nothing in the works..."As far as I know, it's ridiculous"... -- Kobi Karp Architecture; Thornton Tomasetti - Miami Herald](#)

[Welcome to Miapolis -- Kobi Karp Architecture; Thornton Tomasetti; EDSA - Miapolis](#)

[Rebuilding the Bonaventure: Aurèle Cardinal is leaving his mark on Montreal...preliminary proposal to replace the elevated Bonaventure expressway with a ground-level boulevard, a pedestrian-friendly streetscape for Concordia University's downtown campus, and Université de Montréal's ambitious plan to build on the Outremont railyards. -- Groupe Cardinal Hardy \[links\] - Montreal Gazette](#)

[Steven Holl's Glasgow School of Art Commission Rankles Scots: ...selection committee's decision...generated more heat than light among some Scottish architects, who saw it as another slap in the face for native talent...the issue...is not lack of talent but a lack of national self-confidence. By David Dillon -- Charles Rennie Mackintosh \(1896\); Ellis Woodman; Alan Dunlop; JM Architects \[image\] - Architectural Record](#)

[School of Management campus clears commission: Yale still faces some hurdles as its plans move closer to city approval...has faced criticism from some of its future neighbors, who called the building's scale and glass-and-steel facade out of place with its surroundings... -- Foster + Partners - Yale Daily News](#)

[Debts sink Yamasaki: Architectural work 'basically dried up' for firm: ...has folded amid a sea of bad debts...It remained unclear Friday whether Ted Ayoub would try to re-establish the firm in another location, perhaps in the Middle East, or close it permanently...The sorry end seemed especially tragic given the luster of the firm's legacy. By John Gallagher -- Minoru Yamasaki \[images, related links\] - Detroit Free Press](#)

[Miami Senior High School gets major renovations: Miami's oldest and most famous high school, known for its beautiful architecture, is getting a much-needed makeover...\\$75 million project...to bring the much beloved school into the 21st century...its historic attributes and spaces will also be restored and preserved. -- Zyscovich Architects - Miami Herald](#)

[Hairpin as Lynchpin: A dilapidated flatiron building that has stymied development in Logan Square will soon be turned into affordable housing, an arts center, and retail. -- Hartshorne Plunkard Architecture - The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Architects Plan 'Amphibious Landscape' for New York City: What would New York's waterfront look like after a sea level rise of 2 feet or more? ...propose ways for the city to make the city more resilient and to make the best out of a bad situation..."Rising Currents: Projects for New York's Waterfront" -- Team o/Adam Yarinsky/Architecture Research Office \(ARO\); Lewis.Tsurumaki.Lewis \(LTL\); Lewis.Tsurumaki.Lewis \(LTL\) - New York Times](#)

[Planners, Designers Mull Implications of Digital Surfaces: ...depending on how they're defined \(sign versus ornament, for example\) and where they're built...digital skins raise thorny regulatory questions... -- UNStudio; William Mitchell/MIT design lab; Urban Studio; Polshek Partnership - Architectural Record](#)

[Cracking the QR Code: Reading a Building with your iPhone: A new building in Tokyo lets you read the thoughts of its inhabitants from its facade...N Building...what is this building thinking?...can be applied symbolically, as in Söhne & Partner's design for a Code Unique Hotel for Dubai's Studio City. By Lynn Becker -- Teradadesign Architects; Qosmo Inc. \[images, links\] - Repeat \(Chicago\)](#)

[Living in the future, with under-harbour views: ...an architect's vision of 2070...The Australian Institute of Architects has](#)

released the shortlisted Australian entries for the 2010 Venice Architecture Biennale, based on the theme "Ideas for Australian cities 2050+"...24 short-listed entries will be whittled down to 12... -- Arup; Edmond and Corrigan Architects; HASSELL - Sydney Morning Herald

Why We Should Teach Design Early: A group of Austin designers is helping students at a local high school recreate their campus..."TeachDesign"...objective is to expose high school students to design methodologies through immersive, real-world projects that have a lasting positive impact on the participating students, school, and community. -- frog design; SHW Group - GOOD Magazine

Call for entries: USGBC 2010 Natural Talent Design Competition: Small, Green, Affordable: design an affordable, 800-square-foot green home for an elderly client in the Broadmoor, New Orleans neighborhood; open to students and emerging professionals; presented by Salvation Army's EnviRenew Initiative; early registration deadline: March 1, 2010 - Open Architecture Network

90 designers or firms want Gateway Arch project: CityArchRiver2015...announced the names of the eight jurors who will choose a winning design. -- Eero Saarinen; Dan Kiley (1965) [link to competition; registration ends Jan. 26] - St. Louis Post-Dispatch

V&A to be an icon on new Tay waterfront: The proposed £47 million branch of the Victoria and Albert Museum in Dundee will be the centrepiece of the city's redeveloped waterfront area...A worldwide competition has been launched...it was hoped the world's best architects would submit designs for the building. - The Courier (Scotland)



-- Coop Himmelb(l)au: House of Music, Aalborg, Denmark  
-- TEN Arquitectos: Xochimilco Masterplan & Aquarium, Mexico City

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