

Today's News - Thursday, January 14, 2010

- Architects and engineers who have worked in or visited Haiti say substandard design, inadequate materials and shoddy construction practices likely contributed to the collapse of many buildings + ways you can help survivors of the Haiti earthquake (at least until architects and engineers can begin helping with the rebuilding).
- Gehry withdraws from plan to build Museum of Tolerance in Jerusalem (museum website says only "please check back soon").
- Rybczynski on what the Burj Kahlifa owes to Frank Lloyd Wright.
- Forget "sustainability," the concept of "resilience" could (or should?) change the "climate change conversation altogether."
- Study shows public transportation projects create twice as many jobs as highway projects.
- The result: the Obama administration loosens purse strings for transit projects with new guidelines that take "livability" into account (what a concept!).
- "Extravagant, cutting-edge architecture" for the arts and sports is transforming Dallas (for the most part).
- Beyond the Bilbao Effect, many European cities "represent realistic models for the rescue of Detroit."
- MoMA's next new neighbor: Milan's Triennale Design Museum snags former Museum of Arts & Design space in Manhattan, slated to open in time for ICFF (no architect announced - yet).
- The next High Line (perhaps): Terry Farrell has plans for the Bishopsgate Goods Yard in Shoreditch, London.
- An eyeeful of "some simple yet radical ways to retrofit our urban building stock to address a chief cause of climate change: tropical deforestation."
- A wide range of notables pipe in with their predictions "from the wildly speculative to the intensely pragmatic" for the next 10 years.
- Merrick marvels at the "strangely glinting, zinc-clad" Salvation Army Citadel because of its "its striking simplicity - and in its sense of place" (in this case, not being a world-class building is a good thing).
- In Vietnam, the Stop and Go Café "may conjure up visions of a gas station or a convenience store - it is anything but; it's "part Gaudi with slices of Disney, Steiner and sprayed with hippie whimsy."
- Straw bale homes are incredibly energy efficient, but the cost of building one remains prohibitive.
- Rafael Manzano Martos and Vincent Scully garner major Driehaus awards.
- Call for entries: RIBA Awards - Stirling Prize, Lubetkin Prize, RIBA International Awards.
- How could we resist: turn your dog into a solar power generator (could herds of cows be far behind?).

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Flawed Building Likely a Big Element: Engineers and architects who have worked in or visited Haiti say that substandard design, inadequate materials and shoddy construction practices likely contributed to the collapse of many buildings in the earthquake... -- Cameron Sinclair/Architecture for Humanity; Alan Dooley/Dooley Associates; Appropriate Infrastructure Development Group; John McAslan [images]- New York Times

Information, resources, and ways you can help survivors of the Haiti earthquake. - Google

Unbuilt: Frank Gehry withdraws from plan to build Museum of Tolerance in Jerusalem..."We are no longer involved in it," said Craig Webb, design partner...said the Simon Wiesenthal Center...no longer had the right to use Gehry's design and was considering alternatives. The center's website currently reads "please check back soon"... - Tablet Magazine

Dubai Debt: What the Burj Kahlifa — the tallest building in the world — owes to Frank Lloyd Wright.
By Witold Rybczynski -- Adrian Smith; Bill Baker/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Walter Gropius; Alvar Aalto; Le Corbusier [slide show, links]- Slate

Forget Sustainability, It's Time to Talk Resilience: There's a new concept infiltrating the climate change conversation, and it has the potential to change the conversation altogether. - Utne Reader

Study Shows Public Transportation Projects Create Twice as Many Jobs as Highway Projects: Analysis of stimulus spending underscores opportunities for the landscape architecture profession. -- Center for Neighborhood Technology, Smart Growth America; U.S. Public Interest Research Groups (U.S. PIRG) [link to study]- LAND Online (ASLA)

Administration Loosens Purse Strings for Transit Projects: New guidelines will make it easier for cities and states to spend federal money on transit projects like light rail...take..."livability" into account — evaluating projects not only by how much they shorten commutes but also by their environmental, community and economic benefits. - New York Times

Big D's Culture Game: Can extravagant, cutting-edge art and architecture transform Dallas? The opera house and Cowboys Stadium opened at the same time, and they're both masterworks of contemporary architecture...Comparing the two illustrates how hard it will be for Dallas to change its habits, but at the same time shows how much mainstream support exists... -- I.M. Pei (1989); Spencer De Grey/Foster + Partners- The Texas Observer

The Detroit Project: A plan for solving America's greatest urban disaster: Europe is filled with cities that have risen from similarly miserable conditions...represent realistic models for the rescue of Detroit...will have to become a different kind of city, one that challenges our idea of what a city is supposed to look like, and what happens within its boundaries. By Bruce Katz and Jennifer Bradley- The New Republic

Italian design museum for NYC: Milan-based Triennale Design Museum [La Triennale di Milano] snags space on W. 53rd Street formerly occupied by the Museum of Arts & Design...has signed a 15-year lease...slated to open in May, in an effort to coincide with the International Contemporary Furniture Fair (ICFF).- Crain's New York Business

Terry Farrell to bring 'High Line Park' to Bishopsgate Goods Yard in Shoreditch, which could see up to 2,000 new homes built on the site: A high-level public park above the Braithwaite Viaduct could provide up to 1.7 hectares of open space...- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Clip-on Architecture: Reforesting Cities: ...some simple yet radical ways to retrofit our urban building stock to address a chief cause of climate change: tropical deforestation. By Vanessa Keith/StudioTEKA [images]- Urban Omnibus

What's Next: The 1-5-10 Issue: Prescriptions for the future in the form of predictions — from the wildly speculative to the intensely pragmatic. -- David Rockwell; Patrick Jouin; John Norquist; Ken Greenberg; Mark Wigley; etc. [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Tower of strength: The beauty of the new Salvation Army Citadel in Chelmsford lies in its striking simplicity — and in its sense of place...a remarkable presence specifically because it is not world class. This building is, as it should be, local class. The strangely glinting, zinc-clad building...there's absolutely no doubt that its controversial form belongs here and only here... By Jay Merrick -- Anthony Hudson/Hudson Architects [slide show]- Independent (UK)

Vietnam's coolest hill station hums with creative energy: ...Stop and Go Café...may conjure up visions of a gas station or a convenience store, it is anything but...Called "Crazy House" by locals, the swirl of building/sculptures is part Gaudi with

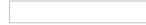
slices of Disney, Steiner and sprayed with hippie whimsy...designed to remind you of the integration of nature within a living, breathing environment. -- [Hang Viet Nga \[image\]](#)- Toronto Star

Not the last straw: Homes made from straw bales make a comeback: These homes are incredibly energy efficient, but the cost of building one may prohibit many from owning the eco-friendly abode. -- [VanMechelen Architects](#); [Josh Moore/Quantum Builders](#); [Daniel Smith and Associates](#)- Mother Nature Network

Spanish architect Rafael Manzano Martos named 2010 Richard H. Driehaus Prize laureate; Henry Hope Reed Award honors legendary Yale professor Vincent J. Scully [[links to images](#)]- University of Notre Dame School of Architecture

Call for entries: RIBA Awards - Stirling Prize, Lubetkin Prize, RIBA International Awards; deadline: February 19, 2010- Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

Turn Your Dog into a Solar Power Generator: After spending just \$60, Erik Schiegg's reports...that the dog sweater generator works in cloudy weather and "my Android-phone is charged in no time." He also suggests that farmers could strap solar panels onto their animals to collect electricity, too. [[video link](#)]- Utne Reader



-- [Coop Himmelb\(l\)au: House of Music, Aalborg, Denmark](#)

-- [TEN Arquitectos: Xochimilco Masterplan & Aquarium, Mexico City](#)

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