

Today's News - Thursday, January 28, 2010

- Steal these designs: Walker on the open-source movement in design: who's doing it, what they're doing (and links to all).
- And NYC puts its new Active Design Guidelines for creating healthier buildings, streets, and urban spaces online - available to all.
- Columbia University's eminent domain issue is not the only thing to focus on if expansion plans are to be truly successful.
- A line-up of cultural landmarks coming in the next 10 years (some are new to us).
- Lubell gives some thumbs-up and some thumbs-down to CityCenter: it promises "sophisticated urbanity" in a "land of over-the-top kitsch," but whether it's "truly cosmopolitan, or even particularly good, is another question."
- Kamin ventures to Racine and finds Foster's Fortaleza Hall "precisely-honed, spirit-lifting" and "marks a major and welcome departure from Wright's introverted, anti-urban architecture" (he really likes it!).
- High hopes that Stout's Art Gallery of Alberta will "lead to more bold visions, pushing Edmonton out of its adolescence into a more sophisticated look" + He doesn't mind that some people won't like it.
- A new children's museum in South Carolina will have lots of snap, crackle, and pop (bowl and spoon not included).
- The 2010 Olympic Games Canada Pavilion is "the latest of a string of dowdy pavilions erected to represent Canada at international events" (and not even designed by a Canadian).
- An in-depth look at how the landscape surrounding the Burj Khalifa came to be (on a very, very fast track).
- Ouroussoff pays tribute to Sarkisyan, the "keeper of Moscow's architecture" and an "improbable champion of architectural causes."
- Q&A with Bob and Denise: "You probably shouldn't be an architect unless you absolutely have to."
- Q&A with Portman ("always famous yet never in the limelight") re: his own strategies for riding out good times and bad.
- New deans of architecture at two Houston universities see collaboration in their future.
- Duke University's Dive is a 3-D virtual reality theater that could be helpful to architects when dealing with controversial projects; the problem: "educating the architecture field on technology they should already be using."
- Call for entries: 33rd Annual SMPS Marketing Communications Awards (open internationally).
- We couldn't resist: an amazing animation of SO-IL's "Pole Dance" that will be dancing at P.S.1 this summer.

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[Steal This Design: The Power of Sharing Best Practices in Moments of Disaster: How the open-source movement in design is helping in places like Haiti.](#) By Alissa Walker -- Emily Pilloton; Design Revolution Toolkit; Project H Design; Designers Accord; Aspen Design Summit; Paul Polak/book Out of Poverty; Human-Centered Design Toolkit; IDEO [links]- GOOD Magazine

[NYC Active Design Guidelines Launch: ...a manual of strategies for creating healthier buildings, streets and urban spaces, based on the latest academic research and best practices in the field.](#) [link to manual]- NYC Department of Design and Construction

[Commentary: Making the Most of Manhattanville: The battle over eminent domain has dominated discussion of Columbia's planned expansion into West Harlem, but the ultimate success...will hinge on whether it simply results in a larger campus or if, like with other recent expansion projects by U.S. universities, it triggers additional economic development for New York and the community.](#) By David Hochman- Center for an Urban Future (CUF)

[The cultural landmarks of the next 10 years: There is great public architecture and then there are cultural landmarks; the two are not quite the same.](#) -- Heneghan Peng; Zaha Hadid; Herzog & de Meuron; Rudy Ricciotti; Frank Gehry; Jean Nouvel; Diller Scofidio + Renfro- The National (UAE)

[City of the Glammed: The new CityCenter in Las Vegas: This lineup of contemporary design stars points to a sea change in the land of over-the-top kitsch, and holds out the dream of sophisticated urbanity...Whether they've created something truly cosmopolitan, or even particularly good, is another question.](#) By Sam Lubell -- Cesar Pelli; Daniel Libeskind; Rafael Viñoly; Helmut Jahn; Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF); Foster + Partners; David Rockwell; Adam Tihany; Gensler; Ehrenkrantz Eckstut & Kuhn [images, link]- The Architect's Newspaper

[Meeting Mr. Wright: Norman Foster's new Fortaleza Hall at S.C. Johnson & Son converses winningly with the old master...precisely-honed, spirit-lifting...a marvelous cross-generational dialogue with Wright...a more humane place to work...marks a major and welcome departure from Wright's introverted, anti-urban architecture.](#) By Blair Kamin -- Foster + Partners [images]- Chicago Tribune

[The Eighth Wonder of the World: Art Gallery of Alberta \(AGA\)...hopes will help city councillors, developers and investors reconnect to the ethos of quality building...stalwart effort to create a sense of place is enough to lead to more bold visions, pushing Edmonton out of its adolescence into a more sophisticated look.](#) -- Randall Stout [image]- See Magazine (Edmonton, Canada)

[New Alberta gallery design will remain 'controversial': The architect who designed the new Art Gallery of Alberta says he doesn't mind that some people won't like the new building...](#) -- Randall Stout [images]- CBC (Canada)

[Downtown children's museum plans to take different shapes: Children will not slide into a mock cereal bowl on a giant spoon at the upcoming children's museum celebrating the life of "Snap, Crackle, Pop" illustrator Vernon Grant...\[in\] an old bank lobby in downtown Rock Hill.](#) -- Liollo Architecture; Julie Snow; Argyle Design- The Herald (South Carolina)

[2010 Olympic Games Canada Pavilion called 'shameful': 'A kit building'; U.S. firm put in charge of \\$9.2M project...the latest of a string of dowdy pavilions erected to represent Canada at international events.](#) -- Giltspur Exhibits- National Post (Canada)

[An iterative pattern: When the original design did not meet with their expectations, the developer Emaar invited the international landscaping firm SWA to redesign the landscaping around the Burj Dubai \[Burj Khalifa\].](#) - Emirates Business 24|7

[The Keeper of Moscow's Architectural Conscience: David Sarkisyan, the center of Moscow's architectural world until he died on Jan. 7, was willing to stand up to the city's corrupt politicians and powerful developers...an improbable champion of architectural causes.](#) By Nicolai Ouroussoff- New York Times

[Venturi, Scott Brown reflect on Vegas: "You probably shouldn't be an architect unless you absolutely have to..."](#) - Yale Daily News

[Recession Tales: John Portman: Not everyone can be a successful architect-developer: Always famous yet never in the limelight...While other careers were launched with flamboyant cultural icons, Portman took a more entrepreneurial approach...talks about his own strategies for riding out good times and bad.](#) - The Architect's Newspaper

New deans hope to collaborate: If Houston is a laboratory for urban architecture, it can expect to receive more academic scrutiny in the coming months. New deans have started at the architecture schools at both the University of Houston and Rice University. -- Patricia Oliver; Sarah Whiting- Houston Chronicle

Virtual looks and feels almost real: ...Duke University's Pratt School of Engineering...the Dive, or Duke immersive virtual environment..."educating the architecture field on technology they should already be using"...could be helpful on controversial projects in which a number of different stakeholders are concerned about a design.- News & Observer (North Carolina)

Call for entries: 33rd Annual SMPS National Marketing Communications Awards; open to SMPS Members, Nonmembers, U.S. and International Firms; deadline: March 1, 2010- Society for Marketing Professional Services (SMPS)

Dance, Dance Architecture: ...video, part of SO-IL's presentation to the Young Architecture Program jury for their winning design, Pole Dance, which will be the pavilion for this summer's Warm Up at P.S.1...Who knew a "a metaphor for these uncertain times"...could be so much fun.- The Architect's Newspaper

Market Research Strategies in Uncertain Times #5: Market Research on Shoestring Budgets - 10 Tips for 2010: Firms operating on shoestring budgets can still create positive change if they follow the mantra of THINK. By Frances Gretes- ArchNewsNow

INSIGHT: Redeveloping Downtown Pittsburgh - The Last 20 Years: Many factors have led to an interesting take on the traditional tension between central city decline, suburban competition, and revitalization efforts to bolster Downtown's primacy in the region's economy and identity. By Michael A. Stern, ASLA, LEED AP- ArchNewsNow



-- Tabanlıoğlu Architects: Astana Arena, Astana, Kazakhstan
-- Whitearchitecture: Southport Broadwater Parklands, Southport, Australia

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