Today’s News - Thursday, May 20, 2010

- Bernstein pays tribute to Arakawa who “explored ideas about mortality by creating buildings meant to stop aging and preclude death.”
- Big plans for a big slice of Baltimore’s waterfront (and nary a NIMBY in sight).
- Yesterday it was Russians coming to the aid of Caracas; today, Japan lends a hand in India’s vision for an urban future
- “Though urbanization is not without detractors.”
- Cheers for plans to revamp London’s National Theatre so the best Thames views are no longer marred by garbage bins.
- Bellamy bemoans parking lots leaving Winnipeg’s downtown “resembling the toothless grin of hockey Hall of Famer” (never mind the historic buildings being demolished to make way).
- Applebaum takes on LEED: “It’s time to make sure that a green building doesn’t go gray after its grand opening.”
- Rapid response puts an end to plans to pink up Hejduk’s Kreuzberg Tower in Berlin.
- On a more sober note, NTHP issues its 2010 America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places annual list (great presentations).
- Russell roams around remade Lincoln Center: DS+R “have done the impossible...the changes have transformed the tired bombast of the architectural ensemble” - it’s “almost hip.”
- An impressive team behind NYC’s Museum for African Art extends Manhattan’s Museum Mile.
- Bilbao opens its newest architectural landmark: “an imposing new cultural center” by Starck.
- Hawthorne comments on the all the comments he’s getting re: his review of Gehry’s Ruvo Center.
- Kennicott gives thumbs-up and down to architects’ endeavors in stage design (great slide show).
- Q&A with Gilabert and her plans for Storefront for Art and Architecture: “I want to introduce more characters into the contemporary discussion - for highly productive disagreements.”
- Chen offers a most amusing report from the Pritzker fete for SANAA on Ellis Island (who wasn’t there - besides us?!?).
- Booth on 2010 RIBA architecture awards: “as a measure of the recession’s impact, the major museums and airports that graced the list in recent years are few” (we really like the bus driver’s loo).
- Q&A with Glenn Murcutt.- Architectural Record
- Portugal’s Bilbao opens its newest architectural landmark: “an imposing new cultural center” by Starck.
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Bilbao inaugurates new architectural landmark: ...an imposing new cultural centre...Alhondiga Bilbao...on the site of a converted wine warehouse...took eight years to build for a cost of €75 million ($92.5 million). -- Philippe Starck [image] - AFP

Frank Gehry, polarizing as ever: In response to my review of the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health...e-mailers were again out in force, and again showing evidence of dramatically split opinion. (The comments are also piling up...) By Christopher Hawthorne - Los Angeles Times

Buttressing aging art forms: Santiago Calatrava and Herzog & de Meuron design for the stage: Architects working in the theater is not unheard of...But it is a rarity for rich and famous architects...who works in a jet-set world of big budgets and tight schedules, to spend serious time designing for the ephemeral forms of theater, dance or opera. By Philip Kennicott [slide show] - Washington Post

Newsmaker: Eva Franch i Gilabert: "I want to introduce more characters into the contemporary discussion - for highly productive disagreements...For me, Storefront for Art and Architecture brings together pedagogical inquiry and architectural practice." -- OOA (office of architectural affairs) - Architectural Record

Architects at Play, Dangling Medals: Architecture's luminaries gathered at Ellis Island to bestow their version of the Nobel, the Tony, the Oscar... guests heading to the ceremony and dinner that awarded this year's Pritzker Prize...to Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa of Sanaa were greeted by an altogether different sign of the times: a line leading to airport-like security. By Aric Chen - New York Times

Schools, museums and public loo: 2010 RIBA architecture awards unveiled: ...as a measure of the recession's impact, the major museums and airports that graced the list in recent years are few. By Robert Booth -- Zaha Hadid; David Chipperfield; Rogers Stirk Harbour; Carmody Groarke; Rick Mather; Hudson Architects; Julian Cowie; dRMM; Feilden Clegg Bradley; Heatherwick Studio; Tonkin Liu; NORD; Patel Taylor; Caruso St John; Theis and Khan [slide show] - Guardian (UK)

Lisbon Architecture Triennale's A House in Luanda: Patio and Pavilion International Competition: 30 finalists selected from 588 proposals from 44 countries. - Lisbon Architecture Triennale

Call for entries: Seachange 2030+ International Urban Sea Level Rise Ideas Competition for Sydney Harbor; deadline: June 30 - Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA)

An Open Letter to Susan Szenasy re: Frank Gehry: Susan, I love and admire you. But I think you are wrong... By Fred Bernstein - ArchNewsNow

Under construction: Gehry Partners: New World Symphony, Miami, Florida