EDITOR'S NOTE: Just a reminder that we're three hours behind home base for this week and next, so newsletter will be arriving a bit later than usual.

- We lose a Denver-based master who helped transform his city.
- Ireland gets serious about planning and development that puts citizens' interests ahead of interest groups "to ensure that the right types of development are built in the right places at the right time" (what a concept! let's hope it works...)
- NYC's High Line inspires others "to consider or revisit efforts to convert relics from their own industrial pasts into potential economic engines."
- Walker x 2: LA's Civic Line could finally be "a front lawn for the city" (great pix) + an eyeful of Gensler's plans for a museum housing the world's largest collection of cars from James Bond films in a tiny Illinois town (in a former car dealership - how fittingly ironic).
- Litt on MOCA Cleveland's plan for "an architecturally spectacular building-as-logo" with Moussavi's "multi-faceted gem."
- An expansion of L.A.'s MAK Center is a nod to Schindler's landmark "without being a slavish work of architectural ventriloquism."
- Heathcote cheers Haworth Tompkins' "complex surgery" to keep London Library functioning with a "subtle, thoughtful scheme."
- Q&A with Balkany re: the Chicago Bauhaus, architectural preservation, and urban planning (the good, the bad, and the ugly).
- AIA construction forecast "sees light at end of tunnel" (our fingers crossed!).
- Heathcote cheers Haworth Tompkins' "complex surgery" to keep London Library functioning with a "subtle, thoughtful scheme."
- A bit too late for Chicago's Lucien Lagrange who's retiring - and filing for bankruptcy protection: "he doesn't see development rebounding for at least five years, when he might be too old to undertake another major project."
- But big business seems to be busting elsewhere: Aecom buys Tishman Construction + the smallest in a round-up of the world's 10 largest construction projects is worth (only!) $27 billion.
- NEA celebrates Mayors' Institute on City Design 25th Anniversary Initiative with neighborhood transformation grants for 21 projects.
- Toronto's Lateral Office wins $50,000 Prix de Rome in Architecture.
- Call for entries: 72 Hour Urban Action Project (very cool!) + 2nd Annual BrickStainable International Design Competition (both free registration).
- NEA Chairman Rocco Landesman Announces $3 Million in Grants From Mayors' Institute on City Design 25th Anniversary Initiative: Neighborhood transformation through the arts is the goal of 21 selected projects - National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)
- Toronto architecture firm Lateral Office wins $50,000 Canada Council for the Arts Prix de Rome in Architecture: ...Lola Sheppard and Mason White to study issues of note to northern communities [Emergent North] - CBC (Canada)
- Call for entries: 72 Hour Urban Action Project: international rapid architecture and design festival as part of the Bat-Yam Biennale of Landscape Urbanism (Israel); cash prizes; (free) registration deadline: August 8 - 72 Hour Urban Action Project
Call for entries: 2nd Annual BrickStainable International Design Competition: design a net zero building using brick as the primary material; cash prizes; registration deadline: November 15 - Potomac Valley Brick

Barry Elbasani, FAIA, 1941-2010: The architect known for plans and buildings that revitalized American cities passed away last week at 69. A recent conversation with the gruff optimist and realistic urbanist about his history, inspirations, and aspirations. By Kenneth Caldwell: ArchNewsNow

Mikou Design Studio: Bailly School Complex, Saint-Denis, France

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