

Today's News - Wednesday, July 21, 2010

EDITOR'S NOTE: Just a reminder that we're three hours behind home base for the rest of this week, so newsletter will post a bit later than usual.

- An architect offers up solutions to India's urban monsoon woes: given the opportunity, design professionals would be "worthy allies" to collaborate with municipal authorities to change "the ineffectual status quo" - and offers one professional who's proving it can be done.
- Jerusalem's Israel Museum - both a "crown jewel" of cultural heritage and "a bit of a mess" - has completed the "biggest cultural development project in the country's history" - on time and on budget.
- Kamin gives one thumb-up to Target's debut in urban Chicago that "does a decent job of walking the city walk" - but "but rest of the project disappoints."
- Hagberg cheers ZGF's "jaunty" new Jaqua Center for the University of Oregon that offers "the college experience writ architectural."
- Updates planned for Christian Science Church's "world renowned" Boston plaza doesn't please some architects and art historians.
- King cheers David Baker + Partners' talent to imbue buildings "with an adventurous urbanism attuned to larger social and environmental concerns - traits that should be commonplace, but instead are all too rare."
- Pickrel is pleased with Australia's Riddel Architecture project that harvested materials from one residence to build another in its place: "working with recycled materials definitely did not hinder the firm's aesthetic ambitions."
- Anderton gathers a notable crew to talk about a reinvented fan, a house made of an airplane, and new California design.
- Shepard files a post-Postopolis report: "I am at a loss as to how exactly the wealth of information and ideas I witnessed might be put to work. What comes next?" (but a good time was had by all)
- Christo is "delighted" with an environmental impact statement (perhaps the first purely about art) re: his "Over the River" project in Colorado: it "fits his vision" - but not all are convinced.
- Brito returns to SCAD as dean of the School of Building Arts.
- A good reason to head to Sydney next week: HotHouse Symposium - a "collective experiment" for architects, planners, and artists to cultivate a new cultural ecology for city spaces to address urgent environmental problems.
- An impressive shortlist listed for Emirates Glass LEAF Awards.
- SMPS announces 2010 National Marketing Communications Awards.
- Call for entries: IIDA/Metropolis Smart Environments Awards: Sustainability, Accessibility, Beauty + 3rd International Holcim Awards for Sustainable Construction (\$2 million in prizes!).

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How to End our Urban Monsoon Woes: In the absence of a system that might encourage...qualified and independent design professionals to collaboratively engage with municipal authorities, the ineffectual status quo continues...But given the opportunity...the best urban design professionals may prove themselves to be worthy allies for their much-maligned municipal counterparts. By Pankaj Vir Gupta/vir.mueller architects -- Himanshu Parikh- Wall Street Journal

Cleaning Up Intersection of Ancient and Modern: For the last 45 years, Jerusalem's Israel Museum has been both the crown jewel of this country's cultural heritage and a bit of a mess...completed, on time and on budget, the biggest cultural development project in the country's history. -- Alfred Mansfeld/Dora Gad (1950s); Anish Kapoor; James Carpenter Design Associates; Efrat-Kowalsky Architects [slide show]- New York Times

A better big-box: New Target at Wilson Yard hits the mark, but rest of city project disappoints: ...a mixed blessing, with two dreary apartment buildings and an anti-urban Aldi grocery store, its new Target store does a decent job of walking the city walk...The design's broad outlines, at least, merit praise. By Blair Kamin -- FitzGerald Associates Architects [images]- Chicago Tribune

The House that Phil Knight Built: A controversial new building on the University of Oregon campus - underwritten by Nike's deep-pocketed cofounder - wants to turn athletes into student-athletes...the Jaqua Center is a study in very good architecture...the college experience writ architectural... By Eva Hagberg -- Zimmer Gunsul Frasca/ZGF [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Updates proposed for Christian Science Church's Boston plaza: ...including constructing two new buildings and reducing the size of its reflecting pool...would add green space...Several architects and art historians are concerned...changes would...compromise a patch of urban landscape that has become world renowned for its unique blend of modern and older architectural styles and the open spaces... I.M. Pei/Araldo Cossutta (1972); Sasaki Associates; Waterarchitecture- Christian Science Monitor

David Baker + Partners serve society, environment: ...buildings are imbued with an adventurous urbanism attuned to larger social and environmental concerns - traits that should be commonplace, but instead are all too rare...shows it is possible to embrace both roles at varied scales. More firms need to take the plunge. By John King [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

Second Time Around: By dismantling one residence, Riddel Architecture harvests the materials to build another in its place...Working with recycled materials definitely did not hinder the firm's aesthetic ambitions. By Debra Pickrel [images]- Metropolis Magazine

DnA/Frances Anderton: Action/Reaction: A Reinvented Fan, A House Made of an Airplane and New California Design -- James Dyson; David Hertz/Studio of Environmental Architecture; Rose Apodaca/A+R; Alissa Walker; Stewart Reed/Transportation Design Department, Art Center College of Design- KCRW (Los Angeles)

Postopolis: Urban Portraiture: I am not clear on the outcome...I am at a loss as to how exactly the wealth of information and ideas I witnessed might be put to work. What comes next? By Cassim Shepard -- Fernando Romero; Ali Gadorki; Sam Jacob; Daniel Hernandez; Raúl Cardenas/torolab; Eduardo Terrazas; Derek Dellekamp; Jose Castillo [images, links]- Places Journal

Bureaucracy Meets Art, Delighting Christo: The artist behind "The Gates" says an environmental impact statement fits his vision for his latest proposal, draping fabric panels over 42.4 miles of river in Colorado..."Over the River"...expressed delight after the Bureau of Land Management issued what may be the first ever draft environmental impact statement purely about art. [slide show]- New York Times

Heriberto J. Brito named dean of SCAD's School of Building Arts: ...marks his return to the Savannah College of Art and Design, where he helped shape the School...replaces Brian Wishne, who now serves as chair of the SCAD urban design department. - Archinect

July 27 - 28: HotHouse Symposium: artists, designers, curators and creative thinkers in a quest to develop models for sustainable environmental change...a "collective experiment"...to cultivate a new cultural ecology in which the arts play a key role, working with the planners and users of city spaces to address urgent environmental problems. -- National Institute for Experimental Arts (NIEA)/University of New South Wales (UNSW); Object: Australian Centre for Craft and Design; the City of Sydney- National Institute for Experimental Arts (Australia)

Emirates Glass LEAF Awards Announce Shortlist -- Steven Holl; Estudi Massio-Bosch; Space Craft Architects; Brady Mallalieu Architects; Henning Larson; Iida Archship Studio; Schmidt Hammer Lassen; Isay Weinfeld Arquitectura; HASSELL/Lend Lease design; Tokihiko Takatani & Associates; dwp Cityspace; Woods Bagot; Arquitectura; Studio Gil Architects; Konkrit Blu Arquitectura; Hintan Associates; Ben Nakamura; SBA; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Estoril Open Space Strategy; Tabanlıoğlu Architects, Melkan Gürsel & Murat Tabanlıoğlu; Boogertman + Partners; Ibhola Lethu Consortium; etc. - designbuild-network.com / The LEAF Review (UK)

SMPS Announces 2010 National Marketing Communications Awards -- Gresham, Smith and Partners; Olson Kundig Architects; T.Y. Lin International; BOND; Architecture is Fun/Dianne Ludman Frank; THIEL Design; RATIO Architects; Lockwood Andrews & Newnam; Cannon Design; MulvannyG2 Architecture; EYP Architecture; AIA Dallas/TWI-PR.com; WATG; HMC Architects; Faithful+Gould; McDonough Bolyard Peck; Capelin Communications; SHP Leading Design; Hickok Cole Architects; Edifice; CBT Architects; FKP Architects; etc. [[link to list](#)] - Society for Marketing Professional Services (SMPS)

Call for entries: IIDA/Metropolis Smart Environments Awards: Sustainability, Accessibility, Beauty; deadline to request an Entry Kit: September 23 - IIDA/Metropolis

Call for entries: 3rd International Holcim Awards for Sustainable Construction: \$2 million in prizes and is open to: sustainable building and civil engineering works; landscape, urban design and infrastructure projects; and materials, products and construction technologies deadline: March 23, 2011 - Holcim Foundation

Veni, Vidi, Vici: Museo MAXXI by Zaha Hadid Architects: Rome, Italy: The ancient city's newest museum is a reminder that here is a woman at the top of the field - and a testament to the fact that women build, and build well. By Ann Lui-
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