Today’s News - Tuesday, August 10, 2010

- McDonald on Dublin’s future development plans: some fear “it could inaugurate an era of random high-rise schemes,” but well-designed tall buildings in the right place can be a good thing.
- Young architects have a plan to revitalize Sofia, Bulgaria - and the city is taking it seriously: the “most valuable contribution might be to get people talking about the city’s future.”
- King x 2: “A shot of 21st century Manhattanization is what San Francisco needs” - the “irrepressible street life” and the “sense of adventure - a willingness to explore innovations at a large scale, rather than recoil from anything ambitious or new” + S.F.’s new, temporary bus station has an “airy informality” that “is inviting, and it suits our uncertain times better than you might expect” (rescued palm trees included!).
- Kamin x 2: he reflects on Chicago’s new “glass giants” that have “layered a new generation of glass towers into the skyline” + Roosevelt University is building a glass tower of its own: not quite a “glass giant,” but it “could be one of the finest new glass-sheathed towers on Chicago’s skyline” (if it doesn’t get value-engineered to death).
- Mithun takes on two mega-urban redevelopment projects that “couldn’t possibly be more different”: one to repossess a built landscape; another to re-connect to a natural ecosystem.
- Goldberger sits down with Richard Cook to discuss sustainable architecture, the use of nature in design, and the debates over the LEED standard.
- Lifson has a lively chat with Heatherwick re: his Seed Cathedral: “I can’t say that [it] makes the world a better place. But if someone’s there saying, ‘Mummy, why?’ I’m pleased.”
- An old church “is now one of the most beautiful libraries in Ireland.”
- Sarasota’s new Police Department HQ makes a dramatic architectural statement - a veritable “urban sculpture.”
- Portland and Vancouver, Oregon mayors want an iconic bridge for the Columbia River Crossing, taking issue with a report that says an off-the-shelf design would be smarter, easier to build and less expensive.
- ASAP issues its third Sustainability Toolkit: Social Models that includes community participation and public health models...arranged from macro- to micro-scales...
MoMA/P.S.1 2010 winner: Florian Idenburg & Jing Liu POLE DANCE -- SO-IL (Solid Objectives)

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