

Today's News - Monday, August 16, 2010

- ArcSpace brings us an eyeful of Isozaki's CAFA Art Museum in Beijing.
- Novitski offers an in-depth look at different green rating systems around the world and efforts to develop common metrics.
- Farrelly doesn't hold much hope for a "plan" for Australia's regional cities: "There's no linking building projects to sustainability goals. Indeed, no goals. Just fluff"; she wonders why "we treat our cities as objects of shame" when "urbanism ought to be our baby."
- Lewis sees some hope in regional cooperation, even if "'herding cats' comes to mind."
- San Juan, Puerto Rico, has big plans to make itself into a "walkable city."
- Two AIA chapters have big plans to put their stamp on state capital malls.
- Q&A with Ingenhoven, a "cold modernist," re: his controversial plan to move Stuttgart's train station underground, his criticism of efforts to reconstruct German buildings destroyed in the war and his trouble with today's Asian mega-cities.
- BDP tapped to master plan a number of stations across the U.K.
- Morgan on Providence's plan for a pedestrian bridge: "The right design might even restore the city's image as an incubator of bold ideas - a city that honors the past by creating landmarks for the future."
- Meanwhile, it seems many places are going "back to the stone age" by ripping up paved roads and replacing asphalt with gravel (great for metallic red and windshields - not!).
- Heathcote [hearts] Carpenter's vision for the Israel Museum: "he seems to have left only the faintest traces of his own touch...It is a tough way to build a career, but he has transformed a great collection into a great museum."
- Q&A with Adjaye re: his grand African tour, its influence on his work, and the transformative power of architecture.
- A tour through Weymouth's "Glass Enigma" at the new Dali Museum in Tampa.
- A \$250,000 concrete home in Jersey City is "a true testament to both innovative design and eco-friendly technology."

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[Arata Isozaki & Associates: CAFA Art Museum \(China Central Academy of Fine Arts\), Beijing, China](#)

[It Isn't Easy Grading Green: Nations have their own shade of green embodied in their rating systems, and differences can reveal new approaches to the very concept of sustainability.](#) By B.J. Novitski - GreenSource Magazine

[Cities, like babies, cry out for loving care: "Building Better Regional Cities Fact Sheet"...There's no linking building projects to sustainability goals. Indeed, no goals. Just fluff; "good urban design, environmental improvements and . . . appropriate planning benchmarks"...we treat our cities as objects of shame...Urbanism ought to be our baby.](#) By Elizabeth Farrelly - Sydney Morning Herald

[Overcoming the obstacles to regional cooperation: The cities and counties of metropolitan Washington pay lip service to the need for regionalism, but cooperation is difficult when people don't think and act regionally..."herding cats" comes to mind...overcoming these persistent impediments will continue to be a challenge.](#) By Roger K. Lewis - Washington Post

[San Juan to Ban Cars, Make "Walkable City": The oldest city in the Americas bans cars from its colonial streets and outlines a plan to make its oldest district, Isleta, more livable...a look at this ambitious plan.](#) -- Antonio Di Mambro & Associates [images, links] - PLANetizen

[AIA Arizona's Plan to Build Urbanism Back into the Nation's Largest Capital City: AIA components are putting their stamp on state capital malls...AIA Central Valley \(Sacramento\) is launching a design competition to for the California capital mall in early fall.](#) -- Will Bruder + Partners [images] - AIArchitect

[Q&A with Christoph Ingenhoven: "Modernism Is an Attitude, Not a Style": He has been described as a "cold modernist"...discusses his highly controversial plan to move Stuttgart's train station underground, his criticism of efforts to reconstruct German buildings destroyed in the war and his trouble with today's Asian mega-cities.](#) -- Ingenhoven Architekten [slide show] - Der Spiegel (Germany)

[Arriva Trains Wales Appoints Manchester Studio For Series Of Rail Masterplans: BDP On Track For Station Success...to masterplan a number of stations across the UK, including Swansea...](#) - Rail-News.com

[New footbridge for Providence should excite: ...city's decision to hold a limited competition among local architects to select a bridge design is good news...The right design might even restore Providence's image as an incubator of bold ideas - a city that honors the past by creating landmarks for the future.](#) By William Morgan - Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

[Roads to Ruin: Towns Rip Up the Pavement: Asphalt Is Replaced By Cheaper Gravel; 'Back to Stone Age'...Paved roads, historical emblems of American achievement, are being torn up across rural America and replaced with gravel or other rough surfaces...](#) - Wall Street Journal

[The vision behind Israel Museum revamp: ...Carpenter has created a coherent institution in which he seems to have left only the faintest traces of his own touch. That the best spaces he has created are subterranean is testament to his self-effacement and his skill. It is a tough way to build a career, but he has transformed a great collection into a great museum.](#) By Edwin Heathcote -- Alfred Mansfield (1965); James Carpenter; Efrat-Kowalsky Architects; Olafur Eliasson; Anish Kapoor - Financial Times (UK)

[Developing Nations: A Q&A with David Adjaye: Best known for his innovative, sometimes controversial structures, \[he\] has for the last 10 years been photographing all of Africa's capital cities...currently on show at the Design Museum...talks about his grand African tour, its influence on his work, and the transformative power of architecture.](#) [slide show] - Artinfo UK

[Dali Museum walk-through full of surprises: Made of glass and steel, "The Glass Enigma" is the stunning surprise of the new museum that makes the structure as iconic as the artist whose works will be exhibited within.](#) -- Yann Weymouth/Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum (HOK) [images, links] - TBO.com - Tampa Bay Online

[Building an asymmetrically shaped house from an unusual material was the green thing to do for Jersey City man: ...a true testament to both innovative design and eco-friendly technology...to design a concrete home with a fixed budget of \\$250,000.](#)

– Richard Garber/Nicole Robertson/GRO Architects [image] - The Star-Ledger (New Jersey)

[Why "Greatest Hits" Lists by Architecture's Stars Should Be Mocked: Transferring the musical or cinematic "greatest hits" list mind-set to architecture is deleterious, and here's why. By Norman Weinstein - ArchNewsNow](#)

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