Today's News - Thursday, January 13, 2011

- Cross on Article 25's efforts in Haiti one year later: its "architects' focus is finding permanent solutions" that ensure "it is the people of Haiti who are becoming the authors of a safer, more sustainable future."

- An insiders' take on the NBMs Intelligent Cities initiative "to investigate the intersection of information technology and urban life and design."

- Sandberg on an initiative in Israel "to square the circle of design and social responsibility"...though the goal is "at once ambitious, pretentious, promising and at the moment a bit unclear," it holds promise.

- Dvir looks at 1960s-'70s experimental housing projects in Be'er Sheva "before green construction became a buzz word"...too bad Israeli architects "have forgotten how to make avant-garde building projects with added value for the tenants and the environment."

- Rybczynski on "how the Great Recession has changed architecture - for the better"...also, the "losers will be the current generation of young graduates."

- Farrelly minces no words about Gehry's adventure Down Under: "he could at least move us forward to greener cultural pasture, rather than pretend Sydney needs more faux-habitable sculpture" or come up with a "dull box"...there is a "third option: architecture. We deserve it."

- Score another one for DSR + R - two buildings for Columbia University: with the its Harlem neighbors "still wary of the new campus," perhaps some dynamic designs will help "smooth out some of the bumps"...to square the circle of design and social responsibility. By Elizabeth Farrelly

- Glasgow picks team for a "floating community.""Iovine gives two thumbs-up's to the new Museum of the Moving Image: "the finest recent American example of radical design" that is "bold but accessible" and "confounds expectations - in a good way."

- Roche leads a facelift for Met Museum's Costume Institute that will put part of its permanent collection in a more contemporary setting.

- Iovine gives two thumbs-up's to the new Museum of the Moving Image: "the finest recent American example of radical design" that is "bold but accessible" and "confounds expectations - in a good way."

- Diller Scofidio + Renfro Designing Kravis Business Buildings for Columbia University: The firm will have its work cut out for it, as the university's Harlem neighbors are still wary of the new campus...Perhaps Columbia...is hoping to smooth out some of the bumps with some dynamic designs. By By Matt Chaban

- The Return of Common Sense: How the Great Recession has changed architecture — for the better: The losers will be the current generation of young graduates...they will find themselves facing a world of chastened clients who demand discipline, restraint, and common sense. By Big Chill, indeed. By Witold Rybczynski..."[images] - Urban Omnibus

- Pyramid scheme: Much thought was given to experimental housing projects in Be'er Sheva, but they didn't all pan out. Before green construction became a buzz word...Israeli architects had already experienced planning for an extreme climate...and planners attributed importance to public housing..."We have forgotten how to make avant-garde buildings with added value for the tenants and the environment." By Noam Dvir -- Moshe LohenFeld/Giora Gamerman (1960s) -- Ha'aretz (Israel)

- Frank Gehry has designed a building that is more about him than us: "he could at least move us forward to greener cultural pasture, rather than pretend Sydney needs more faux-habitable sculpture. It's not a choice between the dull box and the exuberant PR-driven sculpture. There is a third option: architecture. We deserve it. By Elizabeth Farrelly - Sydney Morning Herald

- Diller Scofidio + Renfro: "Designed to Evoke the Future of Filmmaking...:" The new Museum of the Moving Image is the finest recent American example of radical design, all the more astonishing in that it was almost entirely publicly funded. Bold but accessible...will draw new audiences in without making longtime cinestases feel left behind. By Julie V. Iovine -- Thomas Leeser [image, link to slide show] - Wall Street Journal

- Face-Lift for Met's Costume Institute: "redesign will allow the Metropolitan Museum of Art to show off part of its permanent collection in a more contemporary setting." Lizzie and Jonathan Tisch Gallery follows two other major building projects under way at the museum...By Kevin Roche John Dinkeloo and Associates - New York Times

- Parachuting Into A World: Creating Jewish Architecture: The absence of pre-digested and therefore superficial symbols...signals the refreshing vision of an outsider's struggle with the real content of Jewish communal life...It turns out that parachuting is not so dangerous after all.

- Uncovering the Saw Mill River and the value (and wonder) of making our water infrastructure more visible. By Estelle Zandberg -- Yaron Turel; Carmella Jacoby-Volk; Gil Mualen Doron; Ann Lacaton/Lacaton-Vassal; Frederic Druot - Ha'aretz (Israel)

- The Return of Common Sense: How the Great Recession has changed architecture — for the better: The losers will be the current generation of young graduates...they will find themselves facing a world of chastened clients who demand discipline, restraint, and common sense. Big chill, indeed. By Witold Rybczynski..."[images] - Urban Omnibus

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"Light Hearted" by Lauren Crahan and John Hartmann Freecell Wins Times Square Alliance 3rd Annual Valentine Design Competition: Six volunteers will hold up the heart for display for 15 minutes at a time in Duffy Square from February 10th to 20th...other designs reviewed... -- B.I.G. Bjarke Ingels Group; Marc Fornes; Bade Stageberg Cox [images, links]- Times Square Alliance

U.S. Green Building Council Announces Recipients of 2010 LEED for Homes Awards: ...recognize excellence in the green residential building community. -- Postgreen/ISA; Sacramento Habitat for Humanity; Artistic Homes; Jay DeChesere; ABS Architects, etc. [links to images, info]- U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)

Q&A with James Anderson, LEED AP re: Low Impact Development: LID is an alternative, cost-effective method for those who want to be sensitive to sustainability, but lack the resources to pursue LEED certification.- ArchNewsNow

Book Review: "Cities for People" by Jan Gehl: Copenhagen's urban-space guru explains the principles, practices, and priorities that make cities more livable - beginning, but not ending, with dethroning King Car...He's clearly earned his increasing influence, which this masterful book will help spread and cement By Bill Millard- ArchNewsNow

-- Gwathmey Siegel & Associates: Teel Family Pavilion, Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, California
-- Reiser + Umemoto (RUR): Port and Cruise Service Center, Kaohsiung, Southern Taiwan, ROC

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