Today's News - Thursday, January 27, 2011

- A series of Q&A's with an interesting mix of experts re: some of the critical issues architects will face in the next 10 years, like LEED, suburbia, and criticism.
- Kolko's 3-parter re: "strategies for making ideas flow fast, after you've done your homework."
- Zandberg thoughtfully analyzes two separate plans to exhibit Jewish building and Arab history - they're really two sides of the same coin.
- Philly's new National Museum of American Jewish History: the "design philosophy here can be summed up as 'more is more.'"
- If the Mirdif City Center Mall in Dubai is green, "the emperor must have been wearing clothes..."
- Merrick gives thumbs-up to Alsop's new school in London: "resembles a jolly and rather corpulent space shuttle, or a shiny glass-and-metal contraption...in Alsopworld the artily unexpected is a given" (and the kids love the loos).
- Farrell's 120-story tower planned for Beijing is "shaped like a traditional Chinese wine vessel."
- Some of the "weirdest, ultra-futuristic urban space ideas are being tried out in Asia," putting it "at least parts of it - on the verge of a magical transformation of its urban landscape" (new urbanism included).
- India's venerable master Doshi (he "is to Indian architecture what John Lennon is to the international music world") doesn't disappoint an eager audience.
- Let's play Betaville: "A living city is always in Beta."
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- NYC's Center for Architecture hosts a 2-day film fest starting tomorrow.

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What Next: Experts... discuss some of the critical issues architects will face in the next 10 years: William F. Baker/Skidmore, Owings & Merritt (SOM) on Structures; Bob Berkebile/BNIM on LEED; Sheila Kennedy/Kennedy & Violich Architecture on Materials; June Williamson on Suburbia; Alexandra Lange on Criticism; etc. - Architectural Record

Jon Kolko's three strategies for making ideas flow fast, after you've done your homework: When Trying to Invent, Being Objective Can Cripple Your Process: Designers need to have a point of view + How Do You Transform Good Research Into Great Innovations? + Cultural Values That Will Make Your Office an Idea Factory: how a change in corporate culture can lead to better design solutions. - Fast Company

Rival archives, not arch rivals: Two separate plans to exhibit Jewish building and Arab history show different sides of Israeli architecture...archive is meant to provide a home for important collections and records of Israeli architectural history...The museum in Umm al-Fahm, on the other hand, is making a Sisyphean effort to gather evidence of a legacy that was demolished and forgotten. By Esther Zandberg -- Aryeh Sharon (1900-1984 ); Senan Abdelqader; Amnon Bar Or; Lior Zionov; Lior Vitkin- Ha`amez (Israel)

American Jews' Story Told in a New Home: Both inside and out, the National Museum of American Jewish History manifests the tension in the institution's mission...design philosophy here can be summed up as "more is more." -- Ennead Architects (formerly Polshek Partnership); Gallagher & Associates:Wall Street Journal

Justifying Dubai's Shopping Malls With LEED: If Mirdif City Center Mall is "green," the emperor must have been wearing clothes...A green mall. Hmph. -- WSP Green Technologies Sustainability Consultants- Green Prophet (Middle East)

Will Alsop: back at school: ...Michael Faraday Community School...has come to earth at the heart of the Aylesbury housing estate...the first, deliberately vivid marker for the £2.4bn regeneration scheme...resembles a jolly and rather corpulent space shuttle, or a shiny glass-and-metal contraption...in Alsopworld the artily unexpected is a given. By Jay Merrick -- Derek Winch (1977); Alsop Sparuch Architects [image]: Independent (UK)

Terry Farrell reveals Beijing's tallest tower plan: ...120-storey 'Z15' skyscraper...Shaped like a traditional Chinese wine vessel, the 500 metre-tall structure will be the centrepiece of the capital city's new 'CBD' business district. -- China Academy of Urban Planning and Design; ARUP; MVA [images]: The Architects' Journal (UK)

Asia in wonderland: Some of the weirdest, ultra-futuristic urban space ideas are being tried out in Asia for the first time...puts it -- at least parts of it -- on the verge of a magical transformation of its urban landscape. -- Moshe Safdie; Zaha Hadid; DSSBA; Reiser + Umemoto/RUR- Business Standard (India)

The build and connect theory: Building designs should make people connect to their lifestyles, advises veteran architect Balkrishna V. Doshi...The 84-year-old architect is to Indian architecture what John Lennon is to the international music world. And Doshi did not disappoint his eager audience....- The Hindu (India)

Betaville. "A living city is always in Beta. Let's Play." Carl Skelton discusses how an open source, multi-player environment for cities can expand the participatory toolkit of engaged urban citizens. - Urban Omnibus

Architecture on Screen: Highlights of the 28th International Festival of Films on Art (FIFA) at the Center for Architecture, NYC, January 28-29- MUSE Film and Television

The Ten Commandments of Architecture: Students' questions were astute and concise, including: What makes a good architect? How do I go about getting hired? I went straight to the yellowing Word document... By Jim Childress, FAA-ArchNewsNow

Gehry Partners: New World Symphony, Miami Beach, Florida