Today’s News - Thursday, March 24, 2011

- Q&A with Paulett Taggart re: a tale of two very different public pools in California.
- Chakrabarti pens a love letter to Japan: “we must learn to be more like them in their civility, to live as they do in their density...the ultimate Country of Cities.”
- Russell says “nuclear doomers should pipe down” and study two projects in Canada and Colorado.
- Bernstein says “the shock of the new...is only a pleasant shock when there is old to measure it against.”
- Glancy explores a temple of technology and art in Paris: “There is something distinctly French in this marriage between the grandly historical and the audaciously modern.”
- Plans for a Russian cathedral near the Eiffel Tower sparks “fears of cold-war style espionage in the heart of Paris” (it’s also rather bizarre looking).
- King cheers a senior living center is a good example of “thoughtful urban design” (even if he’s not particularly thrilled by the architecture).
- Q&A with Shigeru Ban re: his shelters for the quake victims: “We don’t need innovative ideas. We just need to build normal things that can be made easily and quickly.”
- Q&A with Berkebile re: designing sustainably for water: “every drop that falls from the sky is a precious resource.”
- Pedersen queries Foster re: his “his latest labor of love” - a Dymaxion car + film of the steward on the wheel.
- An eyeful of the winning design of U.K.’s Architecture Foundation’s Bankside BikeShed competition.
- Q&A with AfH “chief eternal optimist” Sinclair re: the democratization of architecture, how design is reshaping the Swat Valley, and Twitter.
- Montgomery Sisam Architects receives Architecture Canada | RAIC 2011 Firm Award.
- Australian Institute of Architects gives Gold Medal to Graeme Gunn (“part of a clutch of awards”).
- An interesting shortlist for the 2011 Mies van der Rohe Awards.
- Solar Decathlon Europe named in Communication category by European Sustainable Energy Awards.
- Chakrabarti pens a love letter to Japan: “we must learn to be more like them in their civility, to live as they do in their density...the ultimate Country of Cities.”
- More Is Less: Contemporary buildings feed on historical context. When that context is removed, even the best of the new buildings fall flat...“The shock of the new”...is only a pleasant shock when there is old to measure it against...If the trend toward placing sleek contemporary buildings cheek to jowl continues, it is the contemporary buildings that will suffer most. By Fred A. Bernstein -- Thom Mayne/Morphosis; Jean Nouvel; Frank Gehry; Shigeru Ban; Annabelle Selldorf; Delia Valle + Bernheimer; Audrey Matlock; Asymptote; Richard Meier; Mes van der Rohe; Frank Lloyd Wright; Greg Pasquarelli/ShoP; Design Observer
- Nuclear Doomers Should Pipe Down, Study Canada, Colorado: These are good places to visit if you’re worried about the cost of energy. There you’ll find successful conservation efforts using the simple option of using less energy...Manitoba Hydro Place and National Renewable Energy Laboratory. By James S. Russell [images] - Bloomberg News
- Russian cathedral plan for Paris site sparks spying fears: Sade-Arch has sparked fears of cold-war style espionage in this marriage between the grandly historical and the audaciously modern. [images] - Urban Omnibus
- Digital love: Manuelle Gautrand and the Théâtre de la Gaîté Lyrique: Paris’s newest theatre, is a marriage of past and future so bold it takes the breath away. Jonathan Glancy explores a temple of technology and art...There is something distinctly French in this marriage between the grandly historical and the audaciously modern. [images] - Guardian (UK)
- A Tale of Two Pools: Q&A with Paulett Taggart: It was the sunniest of pools, it was the foggiest of pools, but the architectural approach is similar: there is nothing unnecessary. -- Paulett Taggart Architects; Mark Cavagnero Associates [images] - ArchNewsNow
- The Coronet complex simply fits in the Richmond: Architecturally, I’m no fan of the six-story building...But here’s what I also see: a satisfying tutorial on how to add housing to neighborhoods where single-family homes are the norm...a complex with 150 senior apartments...faced too much opposition for far too long...Some locations call for Architecture with a capital A. Others are served by thoughtful urban design. The Coronet is a good example of the latter, and we need more like it. By John King -- BAR Architects; TMW Architects - San Francisco Chronicle
- Nuclear Doomers Should Pipe Down, Study Canada, Colorado: These are good places to visit if you’re worried about the cost of energy. There you’ll find successful conservation efforts using the simple option of using less energy...Manitoba Hydro Place and National Renewable Energy Laboratory. By James S. Russell [images] - Bloomberg News
- Beyond Energy: LEED co-creator Bob Berkebile discusses designing sustainably for water...“every drop that falls from the sky is a precious resource.” -- BNIM [images] - Metropolis Magazine
- A Conversation With Cameron Sinclair, CEO ["chief eternal optimist"] of Architecture for Humanity...discusses the democratization of architecture, how design is reshaping the Swat Valley, and Twitter. - The Atlantic
- Q&A: Norman Foster and the Dymaxion Car: The architect takes his latest labor of love out for a drive...talks about his relationship with Buckminster Fuller, the continued relevance of the car, and the legacy of his former mentor + a short film of Foster driving the new Dymaxion Car #4. By Martin C. Pedersen - Metropolis Magazine
- Studio Meda wins Bankside BikeShed contest: ...Architecture Foundation competition to design a £10,000 prototype bike shed...saw off shortlisted schemes by Atmos Studio, Dream Studio, Quinn Architecture and Tugheira Gino Architecture with Gabby Shawcross. [images] - The Architects’ Journal (UK)
Architecture Canada | RAIC announces 2011 Firm Award recipient: The Architectural Firm Award goes to a firm which represents the core of Canadian architectural practice. They are a balanced, well-rounded firm with excellent design and business acumen.” -- Montgomery Sisam Architects [images] - Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC)

Gold medal goes to Graeme Gunn who draws on 50 years of experience: Melbourne architect, urban designer and a former dean of architecture at RMIT University has won the Gold Medal for Architecture from the Australian Institute of Architects...part of a clutch of awards under the banner of Australian Achievement in Architecture that recognise contributions to the profession. -- Gunn Dyring; Janet Holmes a Court; Marcus White/Harrison & White; Anna Rubbo; Paul Pholeros/Healthabitat - The Australian

European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture / Mies van der Rohe Awards 2011 Finalists -- David Chipperfield; MDMA/Martine De Maeseneer Architecten; Zaha Hadid; Jean Nouvel; Bernard Tschumi; Architectenbureau Koen van Velsen [images] - Mies van der Rohe Foundation

Solar Decathlon Europe named in Communication category by European Sustainable Energy Awards - People's Daily (China)


Call for entries: AuthentiCity: The Madison Design Competition: Help Create Authentic Places for CNU 19 Host City Madison, Wisconsin; deadline: April 29 - Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU)

Deadline reminder: Call for entries: National Award for Smart Growth Achievement; deadline: April 6 - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Earth Hour 2011: 8.30pm, Saturday, March 26: ...celebrate that commitment with the people of the world by switching off your lights...From its inception as a single-city initiative – Sydney, Australia - in 2007, Earth Hour has grown into a global symbol of hope and movement for change...2010 created history as the world’s largest ever voluntary action with people, businesses and governments in 128 countries... - EarthHour.org

-- wHY Architecture: L&M Arts, Venice, California
-- KK Letter: Bjarke Ingels, Terry Allen, Dave Hickey, Tadao Ando, Marianne Stockebrand, Robert Irwin, Ed Ruscha, Craig Dykers, and Iwan Baan...10 busy days in LA.

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Yesterday's News

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