Today’s News - Monday, June 13, 2011

- ArcSpace brings us a luscious eyeful of Hadid's Riverside Museum in Glasgow (the aerials are amazing!).
- Moore has all good things to say about the transport museum, but it "would have been better still as part of a coherent Clyde regeneration plan."
- Another "swarm" of earthquakes strikes Christchurch; undoubtedly more buildings will have to come down (luckily, no loss of life this time - so far, anyway).
- Rochon rallies around Ai Weiwei with one of the most thoughtful, eloquent tributes and call for action that we've read so far ("Chinese planning visionaries were as enlightened as any hip museum director. Ai was their ace to play on the world stage.") - Your must-read for the day!
- Glancey x 2: his week in review looks at Kolkata/Calcutta eying its own London Eye, Chinese architects to transform a Covent Garden law court, and more.
- His take on the new "flatpack" Olympic basketball arena: it "might look flamboyant," but it "could democratize the Games" - it can be deconstructed and reused elsewhere (like cash-poor cities), with "the added bonus of promising to keep white elephants well at bay."
- White on Calgarians identifying with the quadrants they live in: "We are now living in a "what about me" (WAM) society; he sees Calgary "quickly evolving into five distinct "cities," each with their own economic base, amenities and culture."
- A look at Ingels' "often ingenious solutions to simple problems" and the challenge "to bring innovation 'to the spaces where we live and work'" - not just high-profile cultural projects.
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
- The challenges to LEED being the "gold standard in green": The real question "isn't which well-intentioned program does what," but "will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?"
with their own economic base, amenities and culture... By Richard White/Riddell Kurczaba Architecture - Calgary Herald (Canada)

Landmark Inflation: ...in the field of urban planning the most powerful “contemporary didacticism” is historic preservation... Santa Monica is a happening place for architecture, design and urbanism, but we have a Landmarks Commission...that wants to thwart the possibility for great design in a public place because of misplaced reverence for second-rate designs of Santa Monica’s past. By Frank Gruber -- James Corner Field Operations - The Lookout News (Santa Monica, CA)

Atlantic Yards and the Battle for Brooklyn: ...the entire process has been endlessly complicated, and eight years later construction has only just begun. The Lopate Show and WNYC have been following the story over the years...the back story...different perspectives on the topic...listen to some... – Michael Galinsky and Suki Hawley; Sharon Zukin; Witold Rybczynski; Charles V. Bagli; Municipal Arts Society-WNYC.org

New York City reclaims its ruens; High Line concepts are being considered for other cities across the country. And well they should. For the message the High Line sends is: Treat your urban ruins carefully. They may be more valuable than you think. By Nicolaus Mills - James Corner Field Operations; Diller Scofidio + Renfro- CNN

Green the Grey: Activists hold picnic on temporary grass...in Beirut's concrete Sassine Square...organized by the Beirut Green Project...they put on the event "because we feel that [green spaces are] a basic right anyone should have in a city ... and green public spaces are nonexistent in Beirut." - Daily Star (Lebanon)

Is LEED the Gold Standard in Green? A lawsuit challenges the claims of the nation’s foremost green building effort...if energy performance continues to be an Achilles’ heel for LEED, other more energy-focused green options exist, such as Energy Star...The real question...isn’t which well-intentioned program does what: “The question is: Will it happen quickly enough to avert major global issues?” -- Henry Gifford; Edward Mazria/Architecture 2030- Miller-McCune

Bjarke Ingels’s BIG Ambitions: The Copenhagen Architect Focuses on Building Community With His Modern Residential Projects: His buildings may have cutting-edge appeal, but in practice, he is trying to strip design “down to the essentials”...The challenge...is to bring innovation “to the spaces where we live and work” - what he calls “the other 99%.” -- Bjarke Ingels Group - Wall Street Journal

Cooper-Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Institute, and Ford Motor Company Announce Winning Schools in Community Design Competition: "The proposals illustrate how design can be used as a vehicle for change and civic engagement."...a carry-all design for the homeless community...a Pet Waste Station to address a huge dog waste problem next to their school sidewalks...a Kinder-Garden Memorial, honoring a kindergarten teacher who passed away. [link to images, info]- Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum

Blue Ventures Initiative Demonstrating Economic Benefits of Marine Conservation Named Winner of 2011 Buckminster Fuller Challenge: ...a project of the Rainforest Foundation UK, was named Runner-Up, and Honorable Mentions were awarded to FrontlineSMS and Tara Alokhar *.- Buckminster Fuller Institute

Call for entries: 2011 Project Spaces: The Other City: React to new challenges for urban space design of Paris (FR), Cluj (RO) and Kaiserslautern (DE)...can architects and urban planners influence an equitable and social city? What will new cross-border co-operations look like? deadline: June 26 - wonderland

New stamps emphasize Art Deco design: Muscular details of some of Canada’s most monumental works of Art Deco architecture are being downsized to fit on Canada Post stamps...emphasize the strength of Art Deco design that, during the Depression era, transformed water filtration plants and bridges into civic works of art. By Lisa Rochon – Thomas C. Pompehrey; Ernest Cormier; George Lister Thornton Sharp [slide show] - Globe and Mail (Canada)