Today’s News - Friday, July 22, 2011

- Weinstein cheers a bravura example of an architectural documentary - Wright's Guggenheim: "Frank Lloyd Wright's Guggenheim Museum": Bravura Example of an Architectural Documentary - Wright's Guggenheim Done Right: A look at great architecture as the product of the dance of the designer's intellect in an architectural film that doesn't miss a beat. By Norman Weinstein - ArchNewsNow

- 9/11 Memorial Nears Completion, Ending Complicated, Contentious Process: After an agonizing process, a memorial to victims of 9/11 is about to open on possibly the most complicated and fractious construction site on Earth + Letting History Speak for Itself: Q&A with Michael Arad: "It is a built equivalent of a moment of silence." By Nicole G. Anderson -- Peter Walker; Snøhetta; Davis Brody Bond Architects; O’Donnell & Tuomey - Guardian (UK)

- Shortlist for RIBA Lubetkin Prize for the best international building outside the EU - Foster + Partners (2); Zaha Hadid Architects WOHA; Rick Mather/SMBW - BD/Building Design (UK)

- Six finalists chosen to design new 'civic heart' for Aberdeen: ...bidding to transform Aberdeen's Union Terrace Gardens... The controversial City Gardens Project... has divided opinion with some quarters wishing to preserve the sunken Victorian gardens in its current state, -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro/Keppe Design/Olin Studio; Foster & Partners/Vladimir Djurovic Landscape Architecture; Snøhetta/Gareth Hoskins Architects/AECOM; Gustafson Porter /Niall McLellan Architects/Space Syntax/Rup; Mecanoo Architecten/Coooper Cromit/ian White; West/Skarp/Arch Group - STV News (Scotland)

- Bloated icons and dreary sheds go head to head in the race for the Carbuncle Cup: Clunky slabs and botched "landmarks" battle it out to win the coveted title of worst building of the year... nominess fall into two categories: the failed iconic, and the grimmly mundane. By Oliver Wainwright - [images] - BD/Building Design (UK)

- Simpsons Syndrome: Overused Cultural Icons Trigger a Gag Reflex: ...Marilyn Monroe's legs stood astride a plaza in Chicago... fighting a losing battle with her pleated skirt... the endless recycling of images, whether from film, photos or art, that have become — and here's that dreaded word again — iconic. What is an icon these days but a cliché on stilts? By Eric Felton - Wall Street Journal

- Ban 'awesomeness': Why are our superlatives so boring? Author says we need to pick better ones -- so try 'transcendent' on for size... Arthur Plotnik's book "Better Than Great: A Plenitudinous Compendium of Wallopingly Fresh Superlatives" is a veritable plea to the masses, especially those who make "a habit of critiquing things" - to stop using boring superlatives. By Oliver Wainwright - [images] - BD/Building Design (UK)

- Stalled HOK Project Gets a Second Wind: Work recently resumed on the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration Headquarters in Riverdale, Maryland... Construction of the $66.2 million NOAA facility resumed in April after work was halted in 2009. - [images] - Architectural Record

- Old Chicago post office redevelopment plan unveiled: ...a grandiose plan for redeveloping the long-vacant property and the area around it, including a 2,000-foot skyscraper that would dethrone the Willis Tower as the city's and North America's tallest building... promises to transform the area into an "urban mecca"... "It's a pipe dream - is it doable?"... By Alejandra Cancino and Blair Kamin - Laurence Booth/Booth Hansen - Chicago Tribune

- People Make Parks: Anoo Siddiqi of the Hester Street Collaborative and Hillary Angelo of Partnerships for Parks explore participatory design processes in New York City's public spaces and introduce the People Make Parks initiative. - [images] - Urban Omnibus

- Community gardens: ...one of the most effective ways to counter the negative impact of urbanization in...
Metro Manila...A very good project...is now being developed by Gina Lopez who heads the commission for rehabilitating the Pasig River...working in close collaboration with the Green Architecture Movement of the United Architects of the Philippines (UAP). -- Philippine Daily Inquirer

Designs that matter: A team of budding architects and design professionals picks up construction know-how and ruminates on why design matters at a design-and-build camp on Mantanani island...Arkitrek Camp 2011...provides participants with a real client and a very real design brief. Over 21 days...participants are expected to design and construct a building from scratch. -- Ian Hall [images].-- The Star (Malaysia)

Building for War: "Architecture in Uniform" marks the great strides in design that modernity has taken thanks to World War II...primarily about architects...[who] had a hand in carrying out an array of objectives both worthy and horrific...By Julie V. Iovine -- Jean-Louis Cohen; Albert Kahn; Henry Dreyfuss; Fritz Ertl; Dan Kiley; Erich Mendelsohn; Albert Speer; Walter gropius; Marcel Breuer; Louis Kahn; Eliel Saarinen; Skidmore Owings & Merrill (SOM).-- Wall Street Journal

"Housing Project" architecture exhibition opens in Melbourne: There's a new show on at what is becoming known as Australia's only dedicated architecture gallery - Pin-up Architecture & Design Project space...a thought provoking exhibition and installation engaging with issues of urban design, density and housing...part of the State of Design Festival and Melbourne Open House 2011. -- Architecture & Design (Australia)

All things FLW: Fallingwater, other Frank Lloyd Wright buildings considered for World Heritage List; SC Johnson to exhibit Wright Foundation artifacts; Wright store opening at Rookery. By Blair Kamin-- Chicago Tribune

Welcome to Cloquet, Minnesota, Home of Frank Lloyd Wright's Only Gas Station: ...still in operation...a futuristic vision of the gas station as place of community and culture with a novel waiting room... [videos].-- The Architect's Newspaper

Fresh faces in familiar places: New Practices New York and New Practices Sao Paulo at the Center for Architecture in New York City to September 10...will be exhibited at the Sao Paulo International Architecture Biennal...Both exhibitions are the result of a highly competitive process to identify the best young firms practicing today. -- EASTON + COMBS; which earned the highest honor in the competition; Archipelagos; LEONG LEONG; MANIFOLD; SOFTlab; SO-IL; Tacklebox; Metro Arquitetos Associados; Vazio S/A Arquitetura e Urbanismo; Triptyque Arquitetura; 23 Graus Sul Arquitetura; Yuri Vital Architect; PAX.ARQ; Arkiz-- World Architecture News (UK)

"4 Projects: 4 Scales - Lewis.Tsurumaki.Lewis Architects": The projects range from 69 million to 108 square feet, yet each is predicated on a strategy of optimistic opportunism; through August 28-- Los Angeles Forum for Architecture and Urban Design

2011 Rudy Bruner Award Winners Offer Innovative Models for Urban Placemaking: This year's winners reflect a common understanding of the critical role that citizens, institutions, and governments play in the creation of successful civic places. -- ArchNewsNow

3XN: Museum of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK