

Today's News - Wednesday, August 17, 2011

- Belogolovsky's Q&A with Voorsanger re: architecture of emotion and place.
- Kotkin x 2 re: boomers, how stats show that empty-nesters are not abandoning the 'burbs for bright city lights, and ageing young are "upending the predictions of most pundits, planners and development experts."
- Rosenbaum re: Nouvel's revised MoMA tower: Burden says "the top is glorious" + link to Chaban's report with lotsa pix.
- Gang invites Kentucky architects to help reboot the two-acre CentrePointe project with a series of smaller-scale interventions.
- Saffron cheers Drexel's new lab building: it "holds its own against any of the deluxe new labs" (with a wow of a vertical garden in the atrium that's also "a real-time science experiment").
- The brothers Tsao team up for "enlightened development in China."
- Adjaye shows the way for London's Africa Centre to be saved.
- McKeag marvels at four projects that prove "green ideas that were the stuff of hippie dreams 40 years ago have been given two gifts from Father Time": relevance for the money folks, and new feasibility in design circles thanks to technology.
- Vernacular architecture is finding its place in the 21st Century.
- Some fear for the future of Manhattan's storied Chelsea Hotel that is now in the hands of a "middle-brow" property developer, and "an architect responsible for the style and decor of the Holiday Inn chain" - who promises it "will be more like a restoration...it will be subtle" (what would former residents Dylan Thomas and Bob Dylan think?).
- A Stockholm firm is "making a mark on Sweden's landscape" - and making the country "home to real cutting-edge architecture" (again).
- Two Vancouver architects "are redrawing the edges of design for the public good."
- Winners all: WAF Awards shortlist announced: 284(!) projects from 59 countries + The Portal to the Point ideas competition has an impressive shortlist for Pittsburgh's most visible landmark + The Professional Prix de Rome in Architecture winner will examine the benefits of "integrating agriculture and innovative green spaces within towns and cities."
- Rawsthorn ruminates on the "Futuro: Constructing Utopia" exhibition in Rotterdam: it "offers both a whistle-stop tour of the history of form in design and an opportunity to see some intriguing objects."
- Porro ponders his project for Fidel Castro, "his vision for the building, and the story of what went wrong."
- Schumacher cheers "Architect for Art: Max Gordon": it is "both scholarly and deeply personal" and "has the potential to embed Gordon more deeply in the history of art and architecture."

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One-on-One: Architecture of Emotion and Place: Interview with Bartholomew Voorsanger, FAIA, MAIBC: The architect's aspiration to create expressive, dynamic spaces is absolutely the key to his work. By Vladimir Belogolovsky [images]- ArchNewsNow

Biggest Boomer Towns: Much has been written about where "empty nesters" might move...One longstanding favorite is the notion that...the boomers will also desert their suburban communities for the bright city lights. Unfortunately for developers — some of whom have invested heavily in high-end housing for urbanizing "empty nesters" — the actual data do not support this thesis. By Joel Kotkin and Wendell Cox- Forbes

Why America's Young And Restless Will Abandon Cities For Suburbs: Unless there has been a mind-numbing change in attitude or an unexpected return to good governance in cities, young adults entering middle age will continue their shift toward suburban and lower-density areas in the decade ahead, upending the predictions of most pundits, planners and development experts. By Joel Kotkin- Forbes

It's Ba-a-a-a-ck: Nouvel's MoMA Monster Files Revised Plans with the City: Amanda Burden pronounced herself pleased with the revisions. "The top is glorious...It's going to be a great signature addition to the skyline." By Lee Rosenbaum [images, links]- ArtsJournal

Gang of Six: Chicago firm invites Kentucky architects to reboot CentrePointe project: ...now community support for the project is on the rise thanks to the involvement of Studio Gang...Jeanne Gang approached the two-acre project site...as a series of smaller-scale interventions that could be built over time... -- David Biagi, Architect; CSC Design Group; EOP Architects; OMNI Architects; Ross Tarrant Architects/Pohl Rosa Pohl [images]- The Architect's Newspaper (Los Angeles)

Biology central: Drexel's fine new limestone-faced lab building is a paean to a burgeoning interest in biological sciences...the new Papadakis Integrated Sciences Building holds its own against any of the deluxe new labs...the atrium also serves as a real-time science experiment...with a vertical garden...the green equivalent of the fuzzy mesh filter... By Inga Saffron -- Diamond & Schmitt Architects; H2L2 [images]- Philadelphia Inquirer

Credible Utopias: New York architect aims high at enlightened development in China: The 21st Century Living development project...Octave's stated mission...responds to a perceived "malaise and anxiety" resulting from China's rapid urban growth as it cuts large portions of the population off from its rural past without cohesive alternate planning strategies. -- Calvin Tsao/Tsao & McKown; Frederick Tsao [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

How London's Africa Centre could be saved: Hadeel Ibrahim and David Adjaye challenge trustees to back £12m restoration instead of selling Covent Garden building [image]- Guardian (UK)

Four Greenhouses that Point to the Future of Urban Building: Green ideas that were the stuff of hippie dreams 40 years ago have been given two gifts from Father Time: new relevance in the centers of capital, thanks to the urgency of climate change, and new feasibility in the centers of design, thanks to our advances in technology and industry. By Tom McKeag/BioDreamMachine -- BNIM Architects; Michael Pawlyn/Exploration Architecture; Nicholas Grimshaw [images, links]- GreenerBuildings.com

Vernacular Architecture and the 21st Century: ...the simplest form of addressing human needs, is seemingly forgotten in modern architecture...there is still much to be learned from the traditional knowledge of vernacular construction. These low-tech methods...are brilliant, for the reason that these are the principles which are more often ignored by prevailing architects...are now making a return among green architecture and architects. [images]- ArchDaily

Smells like white spirit: developer tries to clean up Manhattan's artist haunt: The Hotel Chelsea...has fallen into the hands of a "middle-brow" property developer. Its renovation (or desecration, as some see it) will be carried out by an architect responsible for the style and decor of the Holiday Inn chain...the architect ...has promised that the project will be "more like a restoration"..."It will be subtle." -- Gene Kaufman Architect [from The Times (UK)]- The Australian

[Making a Mark on Sweden's Landscape: Stockholm's Bolle Tham and Martin Videgård Add Individuality to Concrete, Functional Architecture: Scandinavian architecture is all the rage these days...But until recently, the buzz...seemed to stop at the Swedish border. Now, thanks in large part to Tham & Videgård Arkitekter, Sweden is home to real cutting-edge architecture.](#) - Wall Street Journal

[Lam and Liu, Architects for Humanity: The dynamic duo are redrawing the edges of design for the public good in Vancouver, BC: It's a practice that some people call humanitarian architecture, though it's more commonly known as social architecture or architecture for public good. -- Architecture For Humanity; Peter Cardew; Edison & Sprinkles \[links\]- The Tyee \(Vancouver\)](#)

[World Architecture Festival 2011 Awards shortlist announced: ...284-strong shortlist of projects...Representing 59 different countries... \[images, links\]- The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Finalists Selected for Portal to the Point Design Ideas Exploration: Five multi-disciplinary teams have been selected to focus on public art and design in Point State Park...The most visible landmark in Pittsburgh... -- SPRINGBOARD Design; Marlon Blackwell/Guy Nordenson/dlandstudio/Renfro Design Group; MAYA Design/The Gray Circle; SCAPE / LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE/The Living; Weiss/Manfredi/Magnusson Klemencic; why Architecture; Reed Hilderbrand/WET Design- Archinect](#)

[Susan Fitzgerald Architecture explores urban landscape as winner of the Professional Prix de Rome in Architecture: "Productive Urban Landscape" will study the environmental, health and social benefits of integrating agriculture and innovative green spaces within towns and cities.](#) - Canada Council for the Arts

[A Mobile Utopian House Is Star of a Rotterdam Design Exhibition: ...at the Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen..."Futuro: Constructing Utopia"...offers both a whistlestop tour of the history of form in design and an opportunity to see some intriguing objects... By Alice Rawsthorn -- Matti Suuronen \(1964\); Konstantin Grcic; Alvar Aalto; Charles and Ray Eames; Dieter Rams; Verner Panton; Joe Colombo; Constant; Archigram - New York Times](#)

[First Drafts: Architect Ricardo Porro on His Project for Fidel Castro: ...forthcoming documentary, "Unfinished Spaces"...one of the architects shares an early sketch for the Cuba's National Arts School's School of Modern Dance in Havana, his vision for the building, and the story of what went wrong. \[image, video\]- The Atlantic](#)

[David Gordon's big brother Max: "Architect for Art: Max Gordon" is a gorgeously illustrated hardcover book that manages to be both scholarly and deeply personal, without either quality detracting from the other...has the potential to embed Max Gordon more deeply in the history of art and architecture. By Mary Louise Schumacher \[imges\]- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#)



[Book feature: Architectural Diagrams: Construction and Design Manual by Pyo Mi Young](#)

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