Today's News - Tuesday, September 27, 2011

- Gisolfi offers small-scale solutions to alternative energy resistance.
- Lubell digs deep into California’s TOD efforts: “with the high cost of TOD development and the lower incomes in many transit-oriented districts, it’s impressive when thoughtful designs emerge.” (with lots of examples).
- Gruber takes issue with some of Corner’s elements for Santa Monica’s “Town Square” - mostly that it’s more park than square.
- An eyeful of 9 cities across the globe taking advantage of the dead spaces under freeway overpasses as usable parts of the public realm.
- Plans afoot to bridge the wide divide between Philadelphia’s preservationists and contemporary architects to “give both fields new life.”
- Preservationists continue efforts to save Pei’s JFK terminal from the wrecking ball (to make way for - drum roll, please - a parking lot - what else?).
- King finds at least one bright spot among Stanford University’s new projects where “too much of what has risen is Stanford Lite.”
- Plans afoot to bridge the wide divide between Philadelphia’s preservationists and contemporary architects to “give both fields new life.”
- Cary on Gang’s “Genius Award” that “will ultimately support her community work and commitment to good design.”
- Pedersen has high hopes for MIT’s 1K House Project, even though the first prototype came in six times over budget: it’s “a devilishly difficult task that can only be achieved the hard way, through trial and error, the scientific slog.”
- An eyeful of 9 cities across the globe taking advantage of the dead spaces under freeway overpasses as usable parts of the public realm.
- A Malaysian architect bemoans the government not using design talents to improve public housing and transportation: “there are many of us who are willing to rise to this challenge, but it’s not happening.”
- Bozikovic looks at the mixed emotions being stirred by Libeskind’s soon-to-open Museum of Military History in Dresden “amid fierce debate over its content and design.”
- Grimshaw/Dattner’s Via Verde affordable housing project in the South Bronx “would fit with any of the sexy newcomers” in NYC, but it also “stands apart: green striving for gold, and accessible on many levels.”
- Q&A with Yoo’s Davison re: where and how art and architecture meet.
- Kimmel explains his mission as NYT’s architecture critic: “I'm interested in urbanism, city planning, housing and social affairs, the environment and health, politics and culture” (yay!).
- Call for entries: The Harlem Edge | Cultivating Connections - 5th ENYA international biennial ideas competition to redevelop a marine transfer station in the Hudson River (launch party tonight at NYC’s Center for Architecture - we’ll be there!)
Genius Pro Bono: The 2011 MacArthur Fellow Jeanne Gang also has an extraordinary portfolio of community work... No matter how she invests ["Genius Award"] personally, philanthropically, or into her practice... it will ultimately support her community work and commitment to good design — everything does. and that's the real genius of Jeanne Gang. By John Cary -- Studio Gang [images] - Metropolis Magazine

An architect who wants to keep designs simple: Ng Sek San plans for simple designs, better public transport and preserving heritage buildings... "The government should use our skills to serve the other 80% and there are many of us who are willing to rise to this challenge, but it's not happening. Smart housing design doesn't equate to spending a lot of money. There are some of us who are already doing this. Thinking about it is wonderful, but mobilising it is another thing altogether." — Sek San Design Landscape Architecture and Planning - Free Malaysia Today

The building as sculpture: Two different artistic mediums — art and architecture — have always functioned in their separate spaces, but there are signs of increasing dialogue between the two... we asked Mark Davison, head of design at Yoo, which works with partners such as Philippe Starck, Marcel Wanders, Jade Jagger, etc, to elaborate on where the two mediums meet. — YooPune - Livemint.com (India)

Our New Architecture Critic Talks About His Mission. It Starts in the Bronx: I'm interested in urbanism, city planning, housing and social affairs, the environment and health, politics and culture... and not just in how buildings look or who designs them, although those things are inseparable from the rest. By Michael Kimmelman - New York Times

The Vignelli Subway Map Goes Digital: The map is as handsome as ever... why has the M.T.A. decided to use the new Vignelli map solely as a weekend amenity? ... Now [they] have figured out that this map is good for things other than dresses, why don't they go the rest of the way, and bring it back as the basis for a more complete interactive map that will be kept live seven days a week? By Paul Goldberger [images, links] - New Yorker

Call for entries: The Harlem Edge | Cultivating Connections - 5th ENYA international biennial ideas competition: the redevelopment of a decommissioned Department of Sanitation marine transfer station in the Hudson River; cash prizes; deadline: December 20 - Emerging New York Architects (AIANY ENYA)

Book Review: Pencils that Refuse to Die: Meditations about New Books on Architectural Drawing: Three recent books dealing with architectural drawing by pencil you need to read. By Norman Weinstein - ArchNewsNow

Moshe Safdie: Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, Kansas City, Missouri

Note: Pages will open in a new browser window. External news links are not endorsed by ArchNewsNow.com. Free registration may be required on some sites. Some pages may expire after a few days.