

Today's News - Tuesday, January 3, 2012

EDITOR'S NOTE: Happy New Year! It's good to be back, but after a 10-day break, it's going to take us that long to catch up with all that's been going on (whoever said the holidays are a slow season for architectural news!?!). So let's get to it...

- ArcSpace welcomes in the new year with an "exuberant" series of sculptures in the Jardins des Tuileries, Paris.
- We're sad to start the year with some notable losses: Legorreta, 80, who gave San Antonio a "red splash of joy"; Bernstein pays tribute to Geller, 87, who "embodied postwar ingenuity" and "helped bring modernism to the masses"; Oehme, 81, the landscape architect who founded the New American Garden movement; and Zeisel, 105, who was so much more than a ceramic artist.
- A most interesting take on Foster's Apple campus in Cupertino: it might have "the design community a bit perplexed" and disappointed, but that's because the critics didn't connect "the design to its most obvious reference: Zen Buddhism...it's pretty glorious being on the inside of the Zen Circle of Steve."
- Rawsthorn offers up the challenges and opportunities for the design industry in 2012: "There have been few moments in history...when the rest of the world has been as amenable to allowing designers to tackle them."
- A Buildings of 2011 list is full of surprises (with very few of the expected usual suspects).
- Hume is not all that hopeful for the future of tall buildings in Toronto when "the city and its planners remain fixated on height" and not the real issue of "how our buildings behave at street level."
- Developers go into a feeding frenzy as Miami nears approving casinos, but planned mega-resorts (and we mean mega!) "could be bad news for established businesses."
- Birnbaum reflects on 2011's 10 notable developments in landscape architecture: "Modernism had an iffy year."
- Kimmelman cheers a new park in Madrid that "blooms where a freeway once blighted": Madrid Rio "is a project whose audacity and scale belongs to a larger transformation."
- King gives (mostly) thumbs-up to San Francisco's spate of parklets that are turning "parking spaces into pedestrian nooks...a design experiment being conducted before our eyes, and it's not going away."
- Van Alen and the National Park Service announce the winning schools in Stage 1 of a competition to re-imagine America's national parks.
- RMJM "has officially snapped up troubled 67-year-old" YRM.
- Mather tapped to design the extension for the Peabody Essex Museum in Massachusetts.
- Houston picks Lake|Flato and Studio Red Architects to design a new arts center with hopes it will become a catalyst for Midtown development.
- Heneghan Peng beats out some big names to win the competition to design the Palestinian Museum on the Birzeit University campus near Ramallah.
- Park City, Utah, has an impressive shortlist to choose from to design a major transformation of the Kimball Art Center.
- MoMA names Portuguese architect Pedro Gadanhos as Contemporary Architecture and Museum Design curator + Amanda Dameron moves up the masthead as Dwell's new editor-in-chief.

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[Yayoi Kusama: Flowers That Bloom at Midnight, Jardins des Tuileries, Paris, France](#)

Obituary: Ricardo Legorreta, 80: Legorreta's legacy: encladada red: Ignoring critics, he gave city red splash of "joy"...best known for his ambitious use of colors, from the 10-story purple bell tower in the middle of Pershing Square in Los Angeles to the pink and yellow walls of the Camino Real Hotel in Mexico City. And the San Antonio project was no exception. [slide show]- San Antonio Express-News (Texas)

Obituary: Andrew Geller, Modernist Architect, 87: ...an architect who embodied postwar ingenuity and optimism in a series of inexpensive beach houses in whimsical shapes...and who helped bring modernism to the masses with prefabricated cottages sold at Macy's... By Fred A. Bernstein -- Jake Gorst; Raymond Loewy; Alastair Gordon - New York Times

Obituary: Wolfgang Oehme, landscape architect, 81: ...a founder of the New American Garden movement, which incorporated windblown ornamental grasses and massed perennial plantings...[his] impact extends across generations of landscape designers. -- Oehme, van Sweden & Associates - Baltimore Sun

Zen-otaph: Steve Jobs and the Meaning Behind Apple's New Campus: ...new campus in Cupertino has left the design community a bit perplexed...most of the architectural critics who weighed in on the issue...were expecting better...With little explanation to go on, neither Hawthorne nor Goldberger connected the design to its most obvious reference: Zen Buddhism...it's pretty glorious being on the inside of the Zen Circle of Steve. By Sean Daly -- Foster + Partners [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Challenges for the Design Industry in 2012: There have been few moments in history when design has faced so many challenges and opportunities, and when the rest of the world has been as amenable to allowing designers to tackle them. By Alice Rawsthorn -- Thomas Heatherwick; Hella Jongerius/Rem Koolhaas/Imra Boom/Louise Schouwenberg; Eileen Gray; György Kepes; Architecture for Humanity; Project H [images]- New York Times

Buildings of 2011: Architecture of the Year: Architecture that stimulates, buildings that question, designs that show innovation. -- Coop Himmelb(l)au; FREE | Fernando Romero EntreprisE; J. Mayer H. Architects; Tezuka Architects; von Gerkan, Marg and Partners (gmp); BenthemCrouwel Architects; Cloud 9; molo + d/dt Arch + Frank la Rivière Architects; studio mk27, marcio kogian + mariana simas; Takeshi Hosaka architects; dEMM arquitetura; Zaha Hadid; Frank Gehry; etc. [links to images, info]- e-architect (UK)

Future looking up for tall buildings? Toronto's towers have grown up, but not its citizenry. Though the real issue is how our buildings behave at street level, the city and its planners remain fixated on height. By Christopher Hume -- Bruce Kuwabara/KPMB; Peter Clewes/architectsAlliance; Richard Witt/RAW Design- Toronto Star

South Florida Poised for Birth of Casino Gambling: Real estate developers have begun gobbling up properties in South Florida, hoping the Legislature passes a bill to allow Las Vegas-style casino resorts...But the mega-resorts could be bad news for established businesses in the Miami area... By Fred A. Bernstein -- Arquitectonica- New York Times

2011's 10 Notable Developments in Landscape Architecture: ...Modernism...had an iffy year...the future of public spaces in Fresno, Calif., and Minneapolis, Minn., is up for grabs. By Charles A. Birnbaum -- Raymond Jungles; West 8; Arnaldo Cossutta/I.M. Pei Associates; Sasaki Associates; Landscape Architecture magazine/Bradford McKee/ASLA; Dan Kiley; Eero Saarinen; Kevin Roche; Alexander Girard; Lawrence Halprin; James Corner Field Operations; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Piet Oudolf; Reed Hilderbrand; OLIN; Garrett Eckbo; M. Paul Friedberg - Huffington Post

[In Madrid's Heart, Park Blooms Where a Freeway Once Blighted: In this and other cities, parks now flourish, and neighborhoods with them, in place of aboveground highways...Madrid Río is a project whose audacity and scale...belongs to a larger transformation that includes the construction of dozens of new metro and light-rail stations that link far-flung, disconnected and often poor districts on Madrid's outskirts to downtown. By Michael Kimmelman -- Ginés Garrido; Adriaan Geuze/West 8; Dominique Perrault \[slide show\]- New York Times](#)

[S.F. parklets: a little tour of a major trend: The most significant change to San Francisco's landscape in 2011 involves a conjuring act that turns parking spaces into pedestrian nooks...It's a design experiment being conducted before our eyes, and it's not going away. John King -- Walter Hood; Rebar Group; RG-Architecture \[slide show\]- San Francisco Chronicle](#)

[Parks for the People: A Studio Competition to Re-imagine America's National Parks Stage 1 Winning Schools Announced -- Florida International University College of Architecture + the Arts; Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; University of Pennsylvania School of Design; Pratt Institute School of Art and Design; Rutgers University School of Environmental and Biological Sciences; The City College of New York The Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture; Kansas State University College of Architecture, Planning, and Design; University of Washington College of Built Environments; Rice University School of Architecture- Van Alen Institute / U.S. National Park Service / National Parks Conservation Association](#)

[YRM sold to RMJM: ...has officially snapped up troubled 67-year-old nuclear and aviation specialist...only a handful of YRMs 20-strong London-based workforce will join the architecture giant, initially working as a 'studio' under the banner YRM Lab.- The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Rick Mather to design £130 million Massachusetts museum extension: Work will form part of a £420 million investment at Peabody Essex Museum...will build on the 1977 Dodge Wing and a 2003 Moshe Safdie-designed extension.- BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Lake|Flato and Studio Red Architects selected to design Midtown arts center: The Independent Arts Collaborative's new art complex...multi-tenant performance and exhibition space will be designed with the input of nearly 40 Houston arts groups...poised to become catalyst for Midtown commercial, residential and cultural development.- CultureMap Houston](#)

[Heneghan Peng wins Palestinian Museum contest: ...has been appointed to design the Museum, near Ramallah on the West Bank...within the campus of Birzeit University...Irish stars saw off competition from Edward Cullinan Architects as well as Danish practice Henning Larsen Architects, Canadians Moriyma & Teshima and Consolidated Consultants from Jordan... \[image\]- The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Imagine the possibilities: The Kimball Art Center envisions a major transformation: Five of the nation's top architectural firms recently accepted a challenge to re-imagine the Center \[in Park City, UT\]...firms describe their approach to the assignment... -- BIG/Bjarke Ingels Group; Brooks + Scarpa; Will Bruder+Partners; Sparano + Mooney Architecture; Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects \[images\]- Park Record \(Utah\)](#)

[MoMA welcomes Portugese architect Pedro Gadanho as Contemporary Architecture and Museum Design curator: Best known for his curatorial work and jewel-colored architectural spaces, Gadanho is a prolific writer and serious thought leader in the world of contemporary urban architecture. \[images, links\]- Core77](#)

["Dwell" Names New Editor: Design mag wants to show it's not just a West Coast title: Amanda Dameron was promoted to editor in chief from executive editor.- Adweek](#)

[Good Deeds: Multi-Service Center South, St. Vincent de Paul Society, San Francisco: Q&A with Susie Jue, vice president of philanthropy for IIDA NC, about the Chapter's pro bono project to renovate the city's largest homeless shelter. By Kenneth Caldwell- ArchNewsNow](#)

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