Today's News - Tuesday, May 22, 2012

- Boley Building (1909), which featured one of the first glass curtain walls in America — he makes good on his claim that Louis Curtiss’s legacy deserves new attention.

- He gives (mostly) thumbs-up to O’Donnell + Tuomey’s transformation of London's Photographers’ Gallery into “a striking, sculptural structure.”

- A Sydney architect wins the competition "to transform a complex of London’s inner city laneways into the city’s newest park" as part of the London Festival of Architecture 2012.

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- Is Toronto having a mid-rise crisis? Beach opposition to a mid-rise condo shows Torontonians at their worst...in truth, the scheme these east-end NIMBYs hate so much is one of the finest to come along in a while. It could serve as a model for the sort of development the city badly needs. By Christopher Hume -- Roland Rom Colthoff/RAW Design- Toronto Star

- Hume x 2: he cheers the Canary District, which will house 2015 Pan Am Games’ athletes, and end up as a mixed-use residential neighborhood - it’s “a conscious attempt to halt the suburbanizing of Toronto.”

- Heeschews anything too showy...a complex and delightful plan...In a cultural landscape still devoid of real quality and depth, it is seductively lovely. By Edwin Heathcote -- Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects; Grimshaw [images]- Bloomberg News

- Modern city taking flight through Canary: ...mixed-use residential neighbourhood now under construction in the West Don Lands...Canary District is being hyped as Toronto’s first 21st-century community; that means it will be sustainable, urban, connected, transit-oriented and diverse...the temporary home of the 10,000 athletes...in 2015 for the Pan Am and Parapan Am Games. By Christopher Hume -- Bruce Kuwabara/Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects (KPMB); Peter Clewes/ArchitectsAlliance; MacLennan Jaunkalns Miller Architects; Daoust Lestage; Michael van Valkenburgh- Toronto Star

- Sydney architect Andrew Burns wins London design competition: ...to transform a complex of London’s inner city laneways into Gibbon’s Rent, the city’s newest park in collaboration with British landscape designer. Sarah Eberle...will be opened in June as part of the London Festival of Architecture 2012. [images]- Architecture & Design (Australia)

- One man’s Guggenheim, another man’s toilet: It’s natural for people to associate an unusual shape with something more familiar, and this is one reason that popular nicknames for famous buildings stick so easily...What these descriptions say about the architect’s mind probably is beyond our reach, but what they say about us is no less interesting. By Arrol Gellner -- San Francisco Chronicle

- Welcome break from glassiness: The Asia Society’s new Hong Kong outpost is an understated architectural gem that eschews anything too showy...a complex and delightful plan...In a cultural landscape still devoid of real quality and depth, it is seductively lovely. By Edwin Heathcote -- Financial Times (UK)

- Financial Times (UK)

- Canada: A New Look in the South: ...France’s first glass curtain wall building, Cite de la Mer, was completed in 1991. By Charles Jencks; Frank Lloyd Wright; Philip Johnson; Pietro Belluschi; Luigi Nervi; Jorn Utzon; Frank Gehry

- Architectural Digest: Ricciarelli "One man’s Guggenheim, another man’s toilet: It’s natural for people to associate an unusual shape with something more familiar, and this is one reason that popular nicknames for famous buildings stick so easily...What these descriptions say about the architect’s mind probably is beyond our reach, but what they say about us is no less interesting. By Arrol Gellner -- San Francisco Chronicle

- Grateful architect has grand designs in store for disaster-prone Japan: Albert Abut says tsunami-proof rebuilding of Tohoku is “not impossible or too expensive”...his plan is simple. “All towns and villages must be above 30 meters on the entire Pacific coast. There is no other solution.” - Japan Times

- The Uses of Daylight: Louis Curtiss, the Boley Building, and the Invention of the Glass Curtain Wall: Earlier this year Keith Eggener assessed the career of the now forgotten early 20th-century Kansas City architect...Here — with an analysis of the Boley Building (1909), which featured one of the first glass curtain walls in America — he makes good on his claim that...
Curtiss's legacy deserves new attention. 

NAAB Releases Study of Accredited Architectural Education: The centerpiece of the year-long study...was the collection of critical information on the educational needs and professional expectations of architecture students...No single issue garnered more attention than sustainability issues as the most significant development that will affect the profession over the next several years. - National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB)

Call for entries: European Architectural Competition "Re-think-Athens" - create a new city centre; cash prizes; 1st-stage deadline: September 7 - Onassis Foundation

Call for Entries: George Matsumoto Prize Recognizing Excellence in North Carolina Modernist Residential Design (international); cash prizes; deadline: July 1 - Triangle Modernist Houses (TMH)

-- soma: "One Ocean" Thematic Pavilion EXPO 2012, Yeosu, South Korea
-- Mecanoo architecten: Kaap Skil Maritime and Beachcombers Museum, Texel, The Netherlands

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