Today's News - Thursday, July 12, 2012

• Iconic projects, moronic rules (and a "protest award"): 2012 Olympics architects are none too pleased they're forbidden to enter projects in awards programs.

• Plan for a "gaping hole" in downtown Atlanta to become "a signature transportation hub would relegate the sunken tangle of railroads and parking lots now known as the 'Gulch' to a distant memory."

• A study highlights fears that a number of stadiums planned for Brazil's 2014 World Cup "are out of context, out of scale and at risk of becoming unsustainable 'white elephant' infrastructure pieces."

• One of China's last walled cities "is having an identity crisis": can it "pursue preservation without Disney-fication?"

• Hall Kaplan has a personal encounter with the "precarious nature of guerilla planning" (with a side trip through the "costly indulgences" that design competitions have become).

• Madrid-based architects launch the Urban Solid Waste Project in Cairo with a plastic-bag cloud for the city (not all neighborhoods were convinced).

• FAT, Wigglesworth, and others weigh in with their solutions to the affordable living dilemma in the U.K.

• Saffron x 2: cautious but high hopes for the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's "ambitious" master plan that "proposes some of the best ideas we've seen in a while for the city's ill-treated waterfronts."

• She cheers two small regional museums that are models of how design can combine art and commerce with spaces that "accommodate income generators with finesse."

• Brussat minces no words about what the critics get wrong about Stern's Museum of the American Revolution: it "will be plenty revolutionary."

• Hopes to save Johansen's Stage Center in Oklahoma City as a children's museum are dashed; needless to say, developers are already chomping at the bit.

• An impressive shortlist of three to vie for U.S. Department of State's residential annex in Paris.

• Colgate University taps Adjaye for its new Center for Art and Culture in upstate New York.

• A stellar line-up of winners in Canada's 2012 National Urban Design Awards (great presentation).

• Plans for a "gaping hole" in downtown Atlanta to become "a signature transportation hub would relegate the sunken tangle of railroads and parking lots now known as the 'Gulch' to a distant memory."

• Children's hospital group ends effort to save Oklahoma City's Stage Center as building goes up for sale: ...decided to move on because the project couldn't be funded...development community already showing signs it is eager to submit bids. By Steve Lackmeyer -- John Johansen (1970) - The Oklahoman

• Initial Design Team Shortlist Announced for Paris Residential Annex: The Department of State's Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations has shortlisted three design teams...project is the second solicited under OBO's Design Excellence program. -- Allied Works Architecture; Mack Scogin/Merrill Elam Architects; Michael Matschke Architecture-U.S. Department of State

• Colgate University chooses architect for art center project: David Adjaye will lead off the design process for planned

Architecture Canada | RAIC, Canadian Institute of Planners, and Canadian Society of Landscape Architects announce the recipients of the 2012 National Urban Design Awards -- Claude Cormier + Associés; Waterfront Toronto; The Planning Partnership; Sylvie Perrault, architectes/Atelier Urban Face; Phillips Farevaag Smollenberg; Diamond Schmitt Architects; CEI Architecture Planning Interiors; Broadway Malyan; Roland Berger Strategy Consultants; Brook McTroy/Ryan Gorrie; etc. [images] - Architecture Canada | Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC)

New York CityVision 2012 Competition Results Announced: The winners speculated on possible futures for New York while commenting on the effects of today’s development with a mix of humor, anxiety, and a bit of eccentricity. -- Eirini Giannakopoulou/Stefano Carera/Hilario Isola/Matteo Norzi; Enrico Pieracciolli/Claudio Granato; Miles Fujiki [images, links] - The Architect’s Newspaper


-- Toyo Ito & Associates: Ken Iwata Mother and Child Museum, Imabari City, Japan
-- Exhibition: “Show Me Your Model” - Danish Architecture Centre/DAC, Copenhagen, Denmark
-- Steven Holl Architects: Daeyang Gallery and House, Seoul, Korea

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