Today's News - Monday, July 16, 2012

- ArcSpace brings us a "nomadic, stateless and cosmopolitan" pavilion in London, and "a mobile, sustainable and Itinerant sculpture" in Portugal.
- Toronto's deputy mayor thinks his downtown is no place to raise a family (well, he doesn't actually live there himself).
- " thoughtfulness and intelligence."...the "Fatwalk" is in danger of foundering.
- GTA residents warning to density: Pembina/RBC report: One almost feels sorry for Doug Holyday...His ignorance and anti-urban prejudice help explain why Toronto is fast falling behind other North American cities...more families than ever do want to live downtown, and most suburbanites want their neighborhoods to be more walkable, better connected to transit, more mixed-use, in short, more urban. By Christopher Hume -- Toronto Star
- In a big-box world, can the street be saved? ...downtown Toronto is becoming: a monotone composition of lookalike glass towers and deadening streetscapes from which there is no escape...development doesn't have to be this drab. By Lisa Rochon -- Toronto Star
- He heaps high praise on Teeple's 60 Richmond: it "lifts affordable housing out of the realm of the merely useful once and for all," and "offers that rarest of luxuries: thoughtfulness and intelligence."...the area in question is "an emerging neighbourhood...it just makes for a healthier city" to have families living downtown. - Toronto Star
- Dagg and Co. -- Toronto Sun: "...forcing a condo developer to include family-friendly three-bedroom units in a proposed 47-storey building...acting chief planner, Gregg Lintern, told him that the area in question is "an emerging neighbourhood...it just makes for a healthier city to have families living downtown..." By Christopher Hume -- Toronto Star
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Largest Shopping Centre In China Shows Green Potential: Plans for Haitbang Bay International Shopping Center continue the country's ongoing emphasis on green development...it will be necessary to see how [it] performs before its true green building credentials can be justified...a visually stunning proposal...if delivered with environmental responsibility in mind. -- Valode et Pistre Architectes [images]- DesignBuild Source (Australia)

Rem Koolhaas and the Next World Wonder: When the Olympics hits the airwaves, Beijing will be broadcasting them from this new $900 million architectural masterpiece...one massive, monumental, contrarian, and controversial building: the China Central Television [CCTV] headquarters...he knew there would be political criticism. By Christopher Dickey -- OMA/Office for Metropolitan Architecture- Newsweek/Daily Beast

Do western architects disrespect eastern architecture? South Korean architect invited to his industry's biggest event, but hesitated to participate in the Venice Biennale. Seung Hye-Sang/IROJE KHM Architects - The Hankyoreh (Korea)

Examining the Bombastic Classicism of the London Bomber Command Memorial: To call this grandiose would be an understatement...commemorates an aspect of World War II fraught with ambiguity, even now, and classicism rarely serves such situations well. By Paul Goldberger -- Liam O'Connor [images]- Vanity Fair

Icon or Eyesore? Stakeholder Equilibrium: ...architecturally aggressive Brutalist style of the 1960s and '70s...battle lines have been drawn between building owners, occupant, and preservationists...architects willing to step into the fray...can be effective mediators in what is about to become a ubiquitous discussion. By Leland Cott, Bruner/Cott -- Josep Lluis Sert; Eduardo Catalano - Metropolis Magazine

Good design is just one priority at Olympic Park, says legacy chief: Daniel Moylan promises to challenge architects and developers over housing...Asked whether he would do anything to help up-and-coming practices win work in the five new neighbourhoods, he retorted: "Everyone is up-and-coming. David Chipperfield and Zaha Hadid have yet to do their best work."- BD/Building Design (UK)

The White Building/Lea River Park: Hackney Wick's offbeat White Building has all the hallmarks of a sensitive Olympic legacy, but the possible scrapping of the Lea River Park walkway suggests that petty politics not community is the driving force...the "Fatwalk" is in danger of foundering. By Rowan Moore -- David Kohn Architects; 5th Studio- Observer (UK)

M. Paul Friedberg on Change and Continuity in Landscape Architecture: I have resisted preservation for its own sake as it stymies progress and can lead to stagnation and the suppression of new ideas...it is when a thing of value is destroyed to be replaced with something of lesser value that I take issue with that change.- The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF)

A Glass Box That Nests Snugly on the Roof: Claire Tow Theater, perched on top of Eero Saarinen's Vivian Beaumont Theater...a nimble addition to Lincoln Center with architectural benefits out of proportion to its size. By Michael Kimmelman -- Hugh Hardy/Hardy Collaboration Architecture; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; FXFOWLE [image]- New York Times

Frank Gehry's contribution adds even more star power to Brad Pitt's Make It Right neighborhood: ...it may be the rosy new darling of the modernist enclave, but there's nothing fritzy or fussy...Yet there's an ineffably playful aspect to the plan...This is residential design the way Peter Pan might imagine it. By Doug MacCash [slide show]- The Times-Picayune (New Orleans)

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