

Today's News - Wednesday, August 29, 2012

- We lose Brierly, a "pioneering" woman architect who, even at 99, was "the conscience of Taliesin."
- Ah, Venezia: Rose finds "a mood of reassessment in the air... that suggests inclusivity and anti-elitism."
- Grabar is a bit more light-hearted in his assessment of Biennale, offering "The Most Intriguing Global Architecture Ideas You've Never Heard Of" (a most amusing read!).
- Issue 3 of The Architect's Newspaper/Il Giornale Dell'Architettura's coverage (Zaha goes "ballistic").
- Golden Lions, a Silver Lion, and Special Mentions handed out for best pavilions and exhibits.
- Auckland's Vinegar Lane project is "seen as shift in urban design" for the city.
- Capps reports on Washington, DC's The Wharf project: "not all waterfronts need to be harbors to be successful. And certainly not all waterfronts need to be parks."
- Webb contrasts the urbanism of the (isolated) Pacific Design Center and (user-friendly) West Hollywood Park across the street (including a new library sporting "erudite exuberance"): recent initiatives "combine to make this 25-year-old city a beacon of good design and humane urbanism."
- Berger wishes Seattle would get out of its grid mode and take cues from the Olmsted: "We're less multi-modal than we are modal-maniacs. We shouldn't be fixing the Grid but finding new, organic ways to mess with it."
- What Facebook picking Gehry for its new HQ "says about the company's hopes and dreams" - there's "evidence of a creative mind-meld."
- Szenasy queries AIANY's Bell re: "how architects and their energetic leaders are changing themselves and their world."
- Kansas State University picks an impressive shortlist of six for the renovation and expansion of its Seaton Hall.
- Winners all: ASLA announces 2012 Professional & Student Awards (great presentation!) + SANAA's Sejima the first architectural mentor in the Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts program + it's Koolhaas's year to go all Brit: he snags the 2012 Jencks Award - along with his two Stirling Prize contenders.
- Deadline looms: LFI 2013 Call for Speakers for LIGHTFAIR International 2013.

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Obituary: Pioneering architect Cornelia Brierly, 99: Believed to have been the oldest surviving member of the Taliesin Fellowship, she helped build Taliesin West in Scottsdale...joined the Frank Lloyd Wright Fellowship in 1934..."the conscience of Taliesin." - Arizona Republic

Venice's Architecture Biennale seeks common ground: Big names aplenty, but...David Chipperfield wants it to engage with world outside walls of church: Britain's place in this year's Biennale seems to be less about competing with other countries than about making connections with them... By Steve Rose - Guardian (UK)

The Most Intriguing Global Architecture Ideas You've Never Heard Of: The best (and worst) of the 13th International Architecture Exhibition in Venice...National Pavilions usually conform to one of the following story-lines: 1. The Art Project ("A Plethora of Metaphors"); 2. The Posterboard Info-Dump (If I Wanted to Read a Book, I Wouldn't Have Come to Venice); 3. The Hometown Boast (Common What?) By Henry Grabar [images, links]- The Atlantic Cities

Special Coverage from the 2012 Venice Biennale, Issue 3: ...brought to you by The Architect's Newspaper and Il Giornale Dell'Architettura. - The Architect's Newspaper

Awards of 13th International Architecture Exhibition Common Ground: Golden Lions, Silver Lion, and four Special Mentions -- Naoya Hatakeyama/Kumiko Inui/Sou Fujimoto/Akihisa Hirata/Toyo Ito; Urban-Think Tank/Justin McGuirk; Grafton Architects; Katarzyna Krakowiak; "Spontaneous Interventions"; etc. - La Biennale di Venezia/Venice Biennial

City project seen as shift in urban design: ...residential intensification in Auckland generally had a poor reputation...30 fee-simple titles are for sale at Vinegar Lane off Ponsonby Rd, and architects have been commissioned to design prototype buildings. -- Chris Kelly, Architecture Workshop; Pattersons; Bossley Architects; Athfield Architects; Chris Tate Architecture; John Sofo, ASC; Woodham Meikle Zhan; Isthmus. - New Zealand Herald

Can D.C. Lead the Way to a 21st Century Waterfront? In Washington, designers are planning a revamp that returns the city to the water's edge...master plan for The Wharf...looking backward as well as forward...not all waterfronts need to be harbors to be successful. And certainly not all waterfronts need to be parks. By Kriston Capps -- EE&K, a Perkins Eastman Company [images]- The Atlantic Cities

Comment> Face-Off in West Hollywood: Michael Webb contrasts the urbanism of the Pacific Design Center and West Hollywood Park...Rarely has a new LA library displayed such erudite exuberance...West Hollywood's more recent initiatives combine to make this 25-year-old city a beacon of good design and humane urbanism. -- Cesar Pelli; Gruen Associates; Johnson Favaro [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

The Grid vs. the Curve: Seattle's streets are not only too grid-like; they clash and create our traffic woes. Instead, we should follow the lead of the Olmsted, winding along nature's contours...We're less multi-modal than we are modal-maniacs...We shouldn't be fixing the Grid but finding new, organic ways to mess with it. By Knute Berger - Crosscut (Seattle)

What Facebook's New HQ Says About the Company's Hopes and Dreams: The social media giant is building a campus that will look more like a park than an office. Why? They picked a superstar Pritzker-winning architect -- and this starchitect in particular -- to redo their campus...evidence of a creative mind-meld... -- Frank Gehry - The Atlantic

Q&A: Rick Bell: How architects and their energetic leaders are changing themselves and their world: "...there has never been a better time for the next generation of practitioners to make a difference." By Susan S. Szenasy -- Center for Architecture; AIANY; urbanSHED; Fit City; Archtober [images, links]- Metropolis Magazine

Renovation and Expansion of Seaton Hall six finalists -- Ennead Architects (formally Polshek Partnership); i.e./studio (360 Architects/el dorado, inc); Helix/Ann Beha Architects; Overland Partners/Bowman Bowman Novick; Spillman Farmer Architects; Yazdani Studio/Cannon Design/Gould Evans - Kansas State University College of Architecture, Planning & Design (APDesign)

ASLA Announces 2012 Professional & Student Awards -- Turenscape/Peking University; Claude Cormier + Associés; Kenneth Weikal Landscape Architecture; Ten Eyck Landscape Architects;

Landworks Studio; Hood Design; EMF Landscape Architecture/Ardevols Associates Consultants; Patkau Architects; PWP Landscape Architecture; The Office of James Burnett; Andrea Cochran Landscape; ; West 8 Urban; SWA Group; WRT; Ken Smith Landscape Architect/Schwartz Smith Meyer Landscape Architects; etc. [images] - American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

It's About Time! SANAA's Kazuyo Sejima Becomes the Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative's First Architectural Mentor: ...protégé...will contribute to "Home for All," a project helmed by Sejima and other Japanese architectural luminaries in response to 2011's tsunami and the ensuing housing crisis. - Artinfo

Rem Koolhaas wins 2012 Jencks Award: ...honour is presented to an individual or practice that has recently made a major contribution internationally to both the theory and practice of architecture...His Maggie's Centre in Glasgow and the new Rothschilds Bank in London are both on this year's Stirling Prize shortlist. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Call for entries: LFI 2013 Call for Speakers for LIGHTFAIR International in Philadelphia April 21-25, 2013; deadline: September 7 - LIGHTFAIR International (LFI)



Renzo Piano Building Workshop: The Shard, London, UK

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