

## Today's News - Friday, September 7, 2012

- Nobel offers a thoughtful overview some long- in-the-making and much-anticipated projects: "Architecture is slow. But in time, and with luck, buildings do get built."
- Ammunition to argue for green architecture: a real estate report finds "green buildings outperform in vacancy, rental rates."
- Bergen reports on the "battle for Bangalore's soul" with plans to widen dozens of streets to ease traffic: "The question really is whether it actually decongests the city. It doesn't."
- Grabar looks at the pros and cons of a proposal for elevated bike lanes that has "already piqued the interest" of London's mayor: "A skyway could be seen as a concession of the road to automobiles, pushing cycling out of the mainstream."
- Chaban reports that BIG's W57 has hit an approval bump-in-the-road with its community board liking the design, but not totally convinced it will serve the nabe: "the public should benefit as well as the developer."
- Kuma's Asakusa Culture Tourist Information Center in Japan "combines old and new, functional and aesthetic, urban grit and anime-fantastic, information and relaxation in marvelous ways" (great pix!)
- A plan for a hotel made from shipping containers is one more sign Detroit's "post-industrial landscape is fertile ground for innovative design."
- A "spectacular" 74-story skyscraper, "billed as China's answer to the Arc de Triomphe," has no lack of "critics who compare it to a pair of 'giant underpants.'"
- SCI-Arc scores with a new \$100,000 Gehry Prize endowed by the man himself.
- Call for entries: 60th Annual P/A Awards for unbuilt projects.
- One we couldn't resist: Stoelker gives us an eyeful of 1WTC - from the 103rd floor: "missing are the sounds: workers shouting, metal clanging, and Queen's "We Will Rock You" playing from a radio."
- Weekend diversions: Doig parses Anasi's "The Last Bohemia": "Are urban bohemias, you know, so over?"
- "Australian Artists and The Sydney Opera House" celebrates the icon with a show in Utzon's hometown in Denmark.
- "Louis Kahn - The Power of Architecture" premieres tomorrow at Rotterdam's NAI.
- "The Housing Project," offering a "design debate and a cinematic account of Melbourne architecture practices," reopens at the city's fortyfivedownstairs.
- Toronto's DX/Design Exchange premieres Bouras and McClure's "Considering the Quake: Seismic Design on the Edge," and reprises Rappaport's "Vertical Urban Factory."
- "Digital Crystal" at London's Design Museum includes "unusually evocative" offerings in a "frenetic and dazzling exhibition that won't easily be forgotten" (great pix!).

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What Goes Up, if Only in Stages: Architecture is slow. So slow it sometimes appears not to be moving forward at all...But in time, and with luck, buildings do get built. By Philip Nobel -- SHoP Architects; Fumihiko Maki; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Mitchell/Giurgola; Louis I. Kahn; Rudy Ricciotti/Mario Bellini; SANAA; Farshid Moussavi; Zaha Hadid; Herzog & de Meuron- New York Times

'Green' buildings outperform in vacancy, rental rates: CBRE brokerage provides comparisons for LEED-certified buildings...green building tenants...also opt for the higher rate to take advantage of gyms, cafes and other amenities as well as better locations and more attractive landscaping or interior finishes. By Roger Showley- San Diego Union-Tribune

The Battle for Bangalore's Soul Comes Down to Its Streets: Proposed expansions of dozens of major arteries are threatening the Indian city's way of life...city government has coalesced around a single tactic: to ease traffic on the roads, they will add more road..."The question really is whether it actually decongests the city...It doesn't." By Mark Bergen- The Atlantic Cities

Is London Serious About Building a Network of Elevated Bike Lanes? The city is indeed mulling an elaborate plan to hitch bike lanes along elevated rail tracks...SkyCycle [has] already piqued the interest of London Mayor Boris Johnson...A skyway could be seen as a concession of the road to automobiles, pushing cycling out of the mainstream. By Henry Grabar -- Sam Martin/Exterior Architecture [images, video]- The Atlantic Cities

Community Board Spikes Durst's BIG Pyramid Over Lack of Permanent Affordable Housing, Parking Problems: "...this is a rezoning, and the public should benefit as well as the developer"...the board, which generally seems to like the design but still has too many issues with the details surrounding it to approve the project... By Matt Chaban -- Bjarke Ingels Group- New York Observer

Asakusa Gets Postmodern: The Asakusa Culture Tourist Information Center: ...combines old and new, functional and aesthetic, urban grit and anime-fantastic, information and relaxation in marvelous ways...the beauty coming not from pristine symmetry, but from being simple, natural and well worn. -- Kengo Kuma and Associates [images]- Artscape (Japan)

Hotel Made from Shipping Containers Planned for Detroit's Eastern Market: ...one gets a sense that the city's post-industrial landscape is fertile ground for innovative design. Collision Works seems to back up that trend. -- Steven Flum; Detroit Collaborative Design Center; KOOP Architects [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

British-designed skyscraper resembles big pants, say angry Chinese: It was billed as China's answer to the Arc de Triomphe -- a spectacular £445m skyscraper...74-storey Gate to the East...has come under attack from critics who compare it...to a pair of "giant underpants." -- RMJM [image]- Telegraph (UK)

Frank Gehry endows new annual prize at SCI-Arc: \$100,000 donation to the Southern California Institute of Architecture...will go toward the establishment of the Gehry Prize...will be awarded annually to the best thesis projects in the Graduate Thesis Weekend.- Los Angeles Times

Call for entries: 60th Annual P/A Awards to recognize unbuilt projects that demonstrate overall design excellence and innovation (U.S., Canada, Mexico); deadline: October 26- Architect Magazine

Slideshow> Tour One World Trade Center Looming Over Lower Manhattan: Port Authority gave AN access to the 103rd floor. In a mad dash we took a few hundred photos...What's missing are the sounds: workers shouting, metal clanging, and Queen's "We Will Rock You" playing from a radio on the ride up. By Tom Stoelker- The Architect's Newspaper

Can bohemia be saved? Trendy enclaves get discovered...Artists leave, Starbucks arrives. Let's all move to the suburbs! "The Last Bohemia: Scenes From the Life of Williamsburg" by Robert Anasi..."What made...post-World War II bohemias unique was that they took place in these

abandoned cities and let people form utopias"...An urban utopia for almost no money...But is Anasi right? Are urban bohemias, you know, so over? By Will Doig- Salon

Denmark celebrates Utzon's Sydney Opera House as muse: "Australian Artists and The Sydney Opera House"...seven Australian artists to be featured in exhibition in architect Jørn Utzon's hometown of Aalborg, Denmark, September 7 - December 2. [images]- Limerlight Magazine (Australia)

"Louis Kahn – The Power of Architecture": ...conceived by Vitra Design Museum, sees its world premiere in Rotterdam at the Netherlands Architecture Institute (NAI) on September 8 before travelling to Vitra Design Museum in 2013- Netherlands Architecture Institute (NAI)

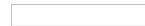
"The Housing project": Comprising an installation, performance, design debate and a cinematic account of Melbourne architecture practices...giving architecture a compelling voice on contemporary residential development; reopens at fortyfivedownstairs September 11 -- Jackson Clements Burrows; Kerstin Thompson Architects; BKK Architects; Greyspace [link to review]- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

"Considering the Quake: Seismic Design on the Edge" curated by Dr. Effie Bouras and Ghyslaine McClure, will feature recent cutting edge building projects from some of the most innovative architects and engineers, as seen through the lens of earthquake engineering; DX/Design Exchange, Toronto, September 13 - November 9 -- Office for Metropolitan Architecture/OMA; Studio SKLIM; Arup; Foster + Partners; Predock Frane Architects; Pezo von Ellrichshausen [images]- ArchDaily

"Vertical Urban Factory" curated by Nina Rappaport...exhibition and research project presents the history and provokes the future for urban factories coming to the DX from New York via Detroit; September 13 – December 9- DX/Design Exchange (Toronto)

"Digital Crystal": Swarovski at the Design Museum, London: Who would have thought a crystal exhibition could be so noisy? ...almost everywhere you turn...things are moving or whirring...Challenged to explore the notion of memory in a digital age...multi-sensory offerings are unusually evocative...this frenetic and dazzling exhibition won't easily be forgotten. -- Deyan Sudjic; Carmody Groarke; Ron Arad; Semiconductor; Fredrikson Stallard; Paul Cockledge; Philippe Malouin; Marcus Tremonto; etc. [slide show]- Wallpaper\*

The Banal: Prix takes issue with the state of the Venice Architecture Biennale, saying "architects are playing on a sinking gondola while, outside in the real world, our leaky trade is sinking into powerlessness and irrelevance." By Wolf D. Prix/COOP HIMMELB(L)AU- ArchNewsNow



-- O Studio Architects: Church of Seed, Huizhou, China  
-- Book: "Studio Olafur Eliasson: An Encyclopedia"

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