

Today's News - Monday, September 24, 2012

- ArcSpace brings us Coop Himmelb(l)au in South Korea, and Amateur Architecture Studio (of Pritzker fame) in China.
- Davidson and Lange offer very different views of Brooklyn's new Barclays Center: "a great, tough-hided beast of a building...yet somehow it's more alluring than fearsome," says he; "a designer U.F.O...its aggressive form and color, its otherworldliness, condition the rest of the development site for more of the same," says she (did they go to the same building?).
- King is a bit concerned about how architecture will fare in a larger SFMOMA: "all signs indicate that the A+D galleries will grow only slightly - even though the overall museum is doubling in size" (it doesn't help that there's been no A+D curator named since Urbach left over a year ago).
- An impressive shortlist named for the Winnipeg Art Gallery Inuit Art and Learning Centre: "Any of these firms could give us a spectacular design."
- Chaban wonders whither went de Portzamparc in an "8-acre bait and switch" going on at NYC's Riverside Center (but such "switcheroos" are nothing new).
- Holyrood architect joins the campaign against plans for a new building entrance without "prior public consultation."
- Bentley divines the future of two Chicago coal plants scheduled to be shuttered: "reuse speculation is at peak capacity," and what happens "could have nationwide implications" (that seem fairly optimistic).
- Remick cheers an initiative in San Francisco to "bring the arts to the forefront of community change."
- Meier, Spear, Brownlie, and others are on board to advise on the aesthetics of a planned overhaul of the Tappan Zee Bridge crossing the Hudson River.
- NYC is first in U.S. to publicly post its 2011 energy benchmarking results.
- Chan is enchanted by WXY's drawings of the redesign of NYC's Drawing Center.
- Genevro and Wessner discuss "their reactions and favorite moments" at the Biennale (and a lively, thoughtful discussion it is).
- An eye-ful of Park(ing) Day around the U.S.
- Two we couldn't resist: stunning images of Gaudi's Basilica Sagrada Familia lit up in spectrum of color for Barcelona's Mèrce Festival (truly stunning!) + "Hilarious" screenshots of Apple's new Maps app, "showing an apocalypse-like rendition of various parts of Earth" (very funny - and scary for so many reasons).
- Call for entries: Design Museum Boston's Street Seats Design Challenge: Design furniture for the city's Fort Point Channel.

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-- Coop Himmelb(l)au: Busan Cinema Center, Busan, South Korea
-- Amateur Architecture Studio/Wang Shu/Lu Wenyu: China Academy of Art, Zhuantang Town, Hangzhou City, China

Barclays Center Is Brooklyn's Ready-Made Monument: Anyone who feels that New York has become too shiny and seamless...should march over to...a great, tough-hided beast of a building lies defiantly curled...armored in scales of rusted steel, yet somehow it's more alluring than fearsome...an architectural chest bump: juiced, genial, and aggressive all at once...a building endowed with texture, color, and personality — rare qualities in recent New York construction. By Justin Davidson -- *Ellerbe Becket; SHoP - New York Magazine*

What Comes Second: The Lesson of the Barclays Center: ...a designer U.F.O...arena is a powerful suggestion, a building block. One that now seems so big, but may eventually be dwarfed. Its size and scalelessness, its aggressive form and color, its otherworldliness, condition the rest of the development site for more of the same. By Alexandra Lange -- *SHoP Architects; Rogers Marvel Architects; Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates; West 8 - New Yorker*

Architecture smaller in larger SFMOMA? The best moments in..."Field Conditions" feel as charged and expansive as a big city's most complex nooks...What worries me is what comes next as SFMOMA decides the importance it places on architecture as part of its ongoing mission...all signs indicate that the A+D galleries will grow only slightly - even though the overall museum is doubling in size. By John King -- *Lebbeus Woods; Stan Allen; Daniel Libeskind; Marsha Cottrell - San Francisco Chronicle*

Six design firms vying for Winnipeg Art Gallery (WAG) Inuit Art and Learning Centre: "Any of these firms could give us a spectacular design." -- *Will Bruder Architects/Peter Sampson Architecture Studio; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Kengo Kuma & Associates; Michael Maltzan Architecture; Patkau Architects/LM Architectural Group; Preston Scott Cohen/Number Ten Architectural Group - Winnipeg Free Press (Canada)*

Starchitect Switcheroo! Will the Upper West Side Get Any Pritzker-Worthy Buildings at Riverside Center? ...an eight-acre bait and switch? Neither is this switcheroo exactly new. By Matt Chaban -- *Christian de Portzamparc; SLCE; Enrique Norten; Stephen P. Jacobs and Associates; Richard Meier; SOM; Frank Gehry; Ellerbe Beckett; SHoP; Daniel Libeskind [slide show] - New York Observer*

Holyrood architect joins campaign against new building entrance: Former RMJM architect said work would increase security risk to public...spoke up for the campaign group as it launched an online petition to stop the plans going ahead without "prior public consultation". -- *John Kinsley/EMBT/RMJM; Lee Boyd Architects [image] - BD/Building Design (UK)*

New Generation: Chicago shuts two coal plants this month, but reuse speculation is at peak capacity...what happens to these 132 acres could have nationwide implications...Industrial reinvention has emerged as a guiding principal for Midwestern development...Coal plant sites have been given new life as parks, museums, and mixed-use developments from Texas to Germany. By Chris Bentley *[images] - The Architect's Newspaper*

Intersection for the Arts: How can placemaking initiatives help bring the arts to the forefront of community change? Intersection for the Arts...5M Project...brings together artists, developers, designers, entrepreneurs...and more in a shared vision for a new type of community in which each player not only complements but strengthens its counterparts...taking a lead on the placemaking component...5MPlaceWorks. By Theresa Remick- *ArtsJournal*

Famous Artist, Architect Will Weigh in on Tappan Zee Bridge Overhaul: ...artist Jeffrey Koons, architect Richard Meier...along with Metropolitan Museum of Art director Thomas Campbell, architects Alison Spear and Keith Brownlie, and Hudson River Valley Institute Director Thomas Wemuth, will advise on the

[bridge's aesthetics and its appropriateness to its surroundings...](#) - Wall Street Journal

[An Inside Look at the Luminous Redesign of NYC's Drawing Center: ..."the role of experience is important, but the role of making a spectacle of the architecture is actually less important"...This variety of architecture rarely finds its place in contemporary discourse, where spectacle and experience have become casually interchangeable. By Kelly Chan -- WXY Architecture + Urban Design \[slide show\]- Artinfo](#)

[Reflections on the Venice Architecture Biennale 2012: Rosalie Genevro, Executive Director of the Architectural League, and Gregory Wessner, the League's special projects director...discuss their reactions and favorite moments...touches on the cyclical preoccupations of architectural discourse, the discipline's ability to address urgent challenges, and design's role in responding to the shifting priorities of government. \[images\]- Urban Omnibus](#)

[New York City Sets Precedent for Energy Transparency: NYC is first in U.S. to disclose private-sector building energy data from a mandatory benchmarking policy...has publicly posted its 2011 energy benchmarking results for 2,065 large commercial properties, which together cover more than 530 million square feet. - Institute for Market Transformation \(IMT\)](#)

[Park\(ing\) Day Around the U.S. - Streetsblog](#)

[Praise Gaudi! Architect's magnificent Basilica Sagrada Familia lit up in spectrum of colour for Barcelona's Merce Festival \[images, video\] - Daily Mail \(UK\)](#)

[Hilarious Screenshots Of Apple's New 'Maps' App: ...some searches end up showing an apocalypse-like rendition of various parts of Earth. \[images\]- DesignTAXI](#)

[Call for entries: Street Seats Design Challenge: Design Furniture for Boston's Fort Point Channel; cash prizes; early registration deadline \(save money!\): November 20 - Design Museum Boston](#)

["Just Trying to Do This Jig-Saw Puzzle": How architecture's and urban design's practice can change through studying of a little-appreciated Renaissance art, intarsia. By Norman Weinstein- ArchNewsNow.com](#)

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