Today's News - Tuesday, September 25, 2012

• Moore is cheered by "two small initiatives" in Liverpool that "offer glimmers of hope where there has not been very much" in neighborhoods otherwise "blighted in the name of regeneration" (a.k.a. housing market renewal).

• A snapshot of what New Zealand could/should/might be by 2050.

• A great series of articles home in on Auckland's waterfront and its "history of missing the boat": the city "must continue to find the courage to let good architecture and urban design take the stage."

• King reports on the "revision of the revision" to San Francisco's Transbay Tower: it has been "refined to give it a more distinctive appearance on the skyline, especially at night" (with lots of pix).

• Amazon offers updated renderings of its proposed Seattle HQ (with a fuzzy, cuddly new nickname).

• More on the architectural bait-and-switch for NYC's Riverside Center and why it "irks" some city officials: "why is it that we're approving envelopes for buildings and not buildings?"

• Following an "onslaught of criticism," New York Public Library "dials back plan" to move 4.5 million books to New Jersey (now 3.3 million of them will remain on site).

• SANAA designs a serpentine "River" to grace Grace Farms in New Canaan, Connecticut (water not included).

• Two young Buffalo architects have high hopes to transform a historic Flint, Michigan, mortuary into piece of art ("working somewhat in the manner of a cross between the Rural Studio and Gordon Matta, Stephen Zacks told us.")

• Malcolm Fraser offers his pick of a wonder and a blunder in Edinburgh.

• Chipperfield "lambasts politicians for lack of interest in architecture" (along with "architects' impotence").

• Meanwhile, Libeskind "calls for greater public involvement in architecture."

• Chan reports on the recent Blouin Creative Leadership Summit, where architects and designers drew lots of lines in the sand when it came to cross-discipline collaboration, "and then proceeded to muddle them."

• Knight ponders whether "Pacific Standard Time" was worth it: "High on the list of L.A. shibboleths: The city has no history. For art, that stereotype is now as dead as a doornail - thanks to PST."

• Beijing Design Week kicks off this Friday, with the focus on highlighting design's role in society.

• World Architecture Day 2012 launches in London Oct. 1 with a "new initiative dedicated to sustainable urban development."

Top Architects and Designers Debate Forces Shaping Innovation at Blouin Creative Leadership Summit: what began as a general consensus about cross-discipline collaboration soon dissolved into a more complicated and contradictory understanding of the hybridized field of architecture and design. By Kelly Chan -- Charles Renfro/Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Mickey McManus/MAYA Design; Phillip Anzalone/Columbia University GSAPP; Gisue Hariri/Hariri & Hariri; Anne Guiney/Institute for Urban Design- Artinfo

"Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. 1945-1980" exhibitions changed a cultural stereotype: deserved recognition for its achievement. Now, imagine the future possibilities. Was it worth it? Every great city comes larded with clichés...High on the list of L.A. shibboleths: The city has no history. For art, that stereotype is now as dead as a doornail — thanks to PST. By Christopher Knight [images, links]- Los Angeles Times

Beijing Design Week Highlights Design's Role in Society: First launched in 2009, this will be the first design week after Beijing was named a "City of Design" by UNESCO this June...September 28th to October 6 -- Aric Chen- China Radio International (CRI)

World Architecture Day 2012: London: landmark summit where creativity meets commerce...including the inauguration of our World Cities Network - an exciting new initiative dedicated to sustainable urban development; October 1- World Architecture News (UK)

2012 National Design-Build Award Winners -- BBL Architects; Tetra Tech; JWDA/RJC Architects; Haskell; KPB; KSGW Architects; CDM Smith; TranSystems; Carrier Johnson + Culture; Dreyfuss & Blackford, Architects; Gulf Coast Architectural Group; Morris Architects; Fentress Architects; HMC Architects; CH2M HILL; etc. [images]- Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA)

Winners announced in SC2012 Links: Bridging Rivers Competition for students and young architects...Spanish architectural magazine future arquitecturas called for innovative ideas of how to build a habitable bridge in Chongqing (China) and Seville (Spain). [images, links]- Bustler

"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

-- 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

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