

Today's News - Monday, October 1, 2012

- ArcSpace brings us fab photos of Ricciotti and Bellini's "luminous veil for Islamic Arts at the Louvre, and a new manual for mobile architecture.
- Silk ponders whether "Modernism the last style" in architecture and art: "It's unlikely that we will ever return to those ideals shared by the proponents of classical architecture and objective art."
- Altabe cheers what seems to be Silk's "rallying cry for art in architecture" - but he drops the ball on the art part.
- The U.K. unveils new guideline for "a new generation of shrunken schools" that basically "dismisses the argument that good design can boost pupils' attainment."
- In Dallas, the glare-inducing Museum Tower launches a new "salvo" in the PR war against the Nasher Sculpture Center that "blows up an agreement for a news blackout during negotiations," and basically relegates "sunlight roasting the museum" to being part of merely "an issue or two."
- Tagliabue adds her voice to protests of plans re: security revamp of the Scottish Parliament that "is about to be ruined forever" by turning it into "Fortress Holyrood."
- Toronto's theater community is "shocked" by a "bold move to redraw the landscape of the city's entertainment district" with plans to demolish a theater to make way for three 85-story Gehry-designed condo towers (pix included).
- Feilden Clegg Bradley rises to the top of a stellar shortlist to win revamp job of London's Southbank Centre.
- Hume x 2: two thumbs-ups for Ryerson Image Centre that "itself presents an essay of sorts on light" and "will make RIC a star in the Toronto - and international - photographic firmament."
- He gives more like three thumbs-ups to Glendon College Centre of Excellence - a glass cube "of special elegance" and "an instance of utter simplicity."
- Piano's new Astrup Fearnley Museum is a "graceful new sail-like structure" that "soars over the Oslo Fjord in a combination of glass and wood meant to capture the light and the water."
- An eyeful of Studio Dror's proposal for a "hilly, floating metropolis" for 300,000 residents off the coast of Istanbul.
- Inspired by Case Study houses, the "guys at Box Living have done what others before have tried and failed": prefab homes in New Zealand that "don't compromise on aesthetics."
- Tischler reports on IDEO CEO Tim Brown's "5 reasons global firms should serve the developing world": "if we don't deeply understand the communities that we serve, we can't design for impact."
- Public Architecture's The 1% is good for nonprofits - and architects: "one pro bono project can lead to 10 paying projects because of the connections made."
- In the 2012 AIA UK Excellence in Design Awards, minimalist designs reign.
- Open House Dublin 2012: Architecture Alive! arrives Friday.
- One we couldn't resist: Moore offers his pick of the "10 best fictional architects: Visionaries, heroes and villains."
- Call for entries: 2013 Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence + Deadline reminder: EOJ for the West Kowloon Cultural District M+ museum.

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-- Rudy Ricciotti & Mario Bellini: Department of Islamic Arts, Louvre Museum, Paris, France
-- Book: "Mobile Architecture: Construction and Design Manual" by Kim Seonwook & Pyo Myoung

Modernism in architecture: No exit? Is Modernism the last style? ...nearly all new professionals are trained in one discipline, which perpetuates the universally accepted worldwide movement...Gone is the idea that accommodation and the adherence to the timeless principals of proportion are the guiding objectives of architecture. It's unlikely that we will ever return to those ideals shared by the proponents of classical architecture and objective art. By Stuart Silk/Stuart Silk Architects -- Phillip Johnson; Frank Gehry; Rem Koolhaas; Mies van der Rohe; Le Corbusier; Gropius - Crosscut (Seattle)

What's missing in modern architecture? This is a case of a good point made pointless. Stuart Silk has written that modernism in buildings is "stamping out 5,000 years of design and regional differences"...Then he said something that sounded like a rallying cry for art in architecture...Unaccountably, he failed to make any more connection...than noting that their practitioners were pals... By Joan Altabe- Examiner

New schools to be smaller after coalition cuts building budget: The government is to unveil blueprints for a new generation of shrunken schools..."Once again, the government's ideology is taking precedence over common sense and decent educational provision"...The latest policy...in effect dismisses the argument...that good design can boost pupils' attainment. - Guardian (UK)

Major salvo from Museum Tower in PR war against Nasher Sculpture Center: It blows up an agreement...for a news blackout during negotiations over sunlight that bounces...into the Nasher's garden and interior exhibit area...With these words, sunlight roasting the museum itself is relegated to the status of "an issue or two." - Dallas Morning News

Eric Miralles widow slams £6.5m revamp plan for Scottish Parliament: ...according to Benedetta Tagliabue, it is about to be ruined forever...voiced her fears that the controversial new security extension would destroy her husband's masterpiece...she tried to become involved...Critics have claimed the extension will turn the parliament into Fortress Holyrood. - Edinburgh Evening News

Princess of Wales Theatre faces curtain call if David Mirvish development becomes a reality: A bold move to redraw the landscape of Toronto's entertainment district has shocked the theatre community and is sure to crank up debate over the scale of development downtown...will add 2,600 condo units to Toronto's core in towers rising as high as 85 storeys... -- Frank Gehry [images]- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Feilden Clegg Bradley win Southbank Centre contest: ...chosen as the lead architect to refurbish the South Bank's Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and Hayward Gallery...beat OMA, Heneghan Peng, Allies & Morrison, Eric Parry, van Heyningen & Haward and Grimshaw Architects to the job...- BD/Building Design (UK)

Ryerson Image Centre focuses on photography: ...the building itself presents an essay of sorts on light...With its flowing, light-filled spaces, the new galleries will make RIC a star in the Toronto — and international — photographic firmament. By Christopher Hume -- Diamond Schmitt Architects [image]- Toronto Star

Glendon College and the 21st-century campus: ...Renée Daoust's Centre of Excellence...happily turns

the structures of academia inside out....There's nothing new about glass cubes...but [hers] is one of special elegance...it's minimalist, but relaxed, not dogmatic...an instance of utter simplicity...underline how deeply we are affected by the physical environment in which we live and work. By Christopher Hume -- Daoust Lestage [image]- Toronto Star

New landmark opens in Oslo: Astrup Fearnley Museum...stands in stark contrast to the endless delays and political quarreling that plague other museum projects...graceful new sail-like structure...soars over the Oslo Fjord in a combination of glass and wood meant to capture the light and the water. -- Renzo Piano [images]- Views and News from Norway

Envisioning The City Of The Future As A Man-Made Island: ...Dror Benshetrit's hilly, floating metropolis for 300,000 residents...HawwAda...off the coast of Istanbul, Turkey [is] nothing short of a complete re-imagining of the city as we know it. [images] -- Studio Dror- Fast Company

Winning formula for living inside the box: The guys at Box Living have done what others before have tried and failed - designed a kitset home that delivers on all levels...doesn't compromise on aesthetic...based the concepts on the mid-century "box" style of the Case Study houses... -- Tim Dorrington Architects [image]- New Zealand Herald

Ideo's CEO: 5 Reasons Global Firms Should Serve The Developing World: Wonder, "What's in it for us?" Ideo's Tim Brown says, "You'd be surprised." Speaking [at] the 2012 Clinton Global Initiative..."if we don't deeply understand the communities that we serve, we can't design for impact." By Linda Tischler- Fast Company

This '1 percent' helps nonprofits solve architectural problems: 'The 1 percent' a program of Public Architecture...connects nonprofit groups in need of design assistance with free help...more than 1,000 firms...and 600 nonprofit organizations are participating...One pro bono project can lead to 10 paying projects because of the connections made. -- John Peterson/The 1%- Christian Science Monitor

Minimalist Designs Reign in 2012 AIA UK Excellence in Design Awards: For this year's awards, the line you don't draw is more important than the one you do. -- Niall McLaughlin Architects; Stanton Williams; David Chipperfield Architects; Stephen Marshall Architects; Henley Halebrown Rorrison; Casper Mueller Kneer; Alford Hall Monaghan Morris (AHMM); Edward Cullinan Architects; Wilkinson Eyre [images]- AIArchitect

Open House Dublin 2012: Architecture Alive! October 5-7- Irish Architecture Foundation (IAF)

The 10 best fictional architects: Visionaries, heroes and villains: designers take centre stage. By Rowan Moore [slide show essay]- Observer (UK)

Call for entries: 2013 Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence: projects must be a real places located in the continental U.S.; one \$50,000 Gold Medal winner, four Silver Medals - \$10,000 each; deadline: December 10- Bruner Foundation

Deadline reminder: Call for entries/Expression of Interest/EOI: West Kowloon Cultural District M+ museum (international); deadline: October 15- West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCDA)

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