- Nobel notes "a cleansing" in architecture: "We see far less reflexive fealty to 'starchitects' now. Even that insipid term seems dated, pejorative. What changed?" (your must-read of the day).
- Saffron is quite taken by (and most eloquent about) Kahn's FDR memorial: in a world where "posthumous architecture rarely ends well," this is "as pure a distillation of his architectural philosophy as you can imagine...it expresses something few contemporary memorials would dare to suggest: confidence in the future" (great slide show, too).
- Lange lobs a few good ones re: Mayne's Cornell NYC Tech: "The metaphors are vegetal, but the concepts are digital."
- Rosenbaum is troubled by Cornell's philosophy, "Not tech for tech's sake, but tech in support of commerce." So much for pure research."
- Merrick muses on Piano's new museum in Oslo: "Welcome to the Comb-over where...mental disturbance will make you feel better."
- Long takes a long look at Fretton's new London restaurant that proves "small architecture is just as important as iconic towers when it comes to our enjoyment of urban life" (the view and food are good, too).
- On a bigger scale, NY Mag offers up eyefuls of "9 Experiments in Large."
- A 1939 WPA post office in Venice, CA, now set to be restored as new HQ for "The Matrix" producer.
- Ruin-porn fix for the day: eyefuls of abandoned mid-century modern homes by mid-century masters, from Scandinavia to Siesta Key.
- Code for America fellows have designed a new app that helps communities do their own urban planning.
- A good reason to be in NYC next week (besides Archtober): Design Management Institute's annual conference: "New Ambition: The Promise of Design" that will lead with the question: what is design today?
- The winner of NYC Best For Business Infographic Competition: "57,321,231,319 reasons to do business in NYC" (very cool!).
- Cast your vote for the inaugural Icon of the Year (a definite "fealty to 'starchitects'" here).
- Call for entries (and lots of 'em!): abstracts for the 6th Making Cities Liveable Conference in Melbourne next June + Breathe: The new urban village project in Christchurch + Cambodian Sustainable Housing International Open Design Competition + RFP for EPA 2013 Environmental Justice Small Grants + IIDA International Student Sustainable Design Competition + 3 ACSA Student Competitions.
LocalData, An App That Helps Communities Do Their Own Urban Planning:
Three young Code for America fellows have developed an app that puts expert
tools in the hands of communities, letting them control, analyze, and visualize
their own data. By Kelsey Campbell-Dollaghan - Fast Company

DMI annual conference: "New Ambition: The Promise of Design": In the last
decade, design has earned "a seat at the table" and garnered the respect of
business leaders around the globe. But what is design today? New York City,
October 23-25 - Design Management Institute (DMI)

NYCEDC Announces Winner of NYC Best For Business Infographic
Competition 2012: "57,321,231,319 reasons to do business in NYC" -- Sara
Matz/MAD Studio [image] - New York City Economic Development Corporation
(NYCEDC)

Vote now: inaugural Icon of the Year 2012; deadline: October 29 -- Barber
Osgerby; David Chipperfield; Herzog & de Meuron; Michael Hopkins; Patricia
Urquiola; Rem Koolhaas; Renzo Piano; Thomas Heatherwick; Yves Behar;
Zaha Hadid- Icon magazine (UK)

Call for entries: Call for abstracts for the 6th Making Cities Liveable
Conference in Melbourne, Australia, June 10-12, 2013; deadline: February 8,
2013- Healthy Cities

Call for entries: Breathe: The new urban village project; international 2-stage
competition to design and build a new place for living in the Central City,
Christchurch, New Zealand; no fee; cash prizes; Stage One deadline: January
15, 2013- Christchurch City Council / Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority
(CERA) / Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE)

Call for entries: Cambodian Sustainable Housing International Open Design
Competition (open to professionals and students); in partnership with Karuna
Cambodia, Habitat for Humanity & the Cambodian Society of Architects (CSA);
keep below a budget of $2000; winning design will be built by Habitat for
Humanity Cambodia as prototype; registration deadline: December 15- Building
Trust International (UK)

Call for entries/Request for Proposals/RFP: EPA 2013 Environmental Justice
Small Grants; applicants must be incorporated non-profits, federally
recognized tribal governments, or tribal organizations working to educate,
empower and enable their communities to understand and address local
environmental and public health issues; deadline: January 7, 2013- U.S.
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Call for entries: IDA Student Sustainable Design Competition (international);
cash prizes; deadline: November 15- International Interior Design Association (IDA)
/ Interface

Call for entries: 3 ACSA Student Competitions: Timber in the City: Urban
Habitats Competition; Steel Design Student Competition; and Preservation as
Provocation Ideas Competition: Castle Pinckney for the 21st Century; varying
eligibility requirements; cash prizes; registration deadline for all: March 6,
2013- Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA)

-- Grieg Architects: Oseana - Art & Culture Center, Os (Bergen), Norway
-- 3XN: The Arch, Mandal, Norway
-- Wingårdh Arkitektkontor: Spira Performing Arts Center, Jönköping, Sweden