

Today's News - Wednesday, December 19, 2012

- A tribute to recently-passed Taliesin Fellow Cornelia Brierly, 99 + Q&A with her daughter about her mother's influence on her, growing up in Taliesin, and preserving the legacy of architects.
- Pogrebin offers a peek at updated renovation plans for the 42nd Street New York Public Library: "something crucial has been missing from this debate: what the transformed library will actually look like" (now we know!); Foster "said he knew better than to desecrate a masterpiece."
- Davidson dismisses all the dread over the plans: "Now we finally have schematic drawings...it's wonderful to see intelligent architecture trump panicky rhetoric."
- Merkel marvels at Ennead's Yale University Art Gallery expansion: "Rare indeed is the renovation of three adjacent buildings" that "allows each component to shine" (great pix).
- AS+GG to make their first mark on the Manhattan skyline that could be the city's tallest tower.
- King x 2: West 8 wins Fort Mason ideas competition: "what set apart the team was its varied and often fine-grained approach to the 13-acre enclave."
- He has mixed feelings about Salesforce.com opting for San Francisco's "first new office tower to break ground in more than half a decade," but it leaves the fate of company's 14 acres in Mission Bay "murkier than ever."
- Badger cheers San Fran for completing the mapping (with annotations) of the city's privately owned public spaces (POPOS in SF, POPS in NYC).
- Russell hangs out with planner-turned-artist Theaster Gates: the artist's "latest canvas is Chicago neighborhoods given up for dead," creating "an art-driven form of urban development."
- Benfield is heartened by Nantes, France, a faded industrial city that has reinvented itself so well that the European Union has named it "Green Capital" for 2013.
- Wainwright is (mostly) heartened by new social housing in Manchester that "sheds the bombast to create practical, robust homes on a budget"; "If you're on a tight budget, don't spend it on bling, but on space," says the architect.
- Hume continues his harangue about Toronto's Gardiner Expressway: "there are smarter ways to spend half a billion dollars" on restoration - "we should be allowed to see the results of an international ideas competition organized back in 2009."
- Moore meets up with Wang Shu, "the architect challenging China's obsession with scale"; he's willing to forgo commissions "if the conditions aren't right for him."
- AIA ABI report indicates the best business conditions for all building sectors since the end of 2007 - of course, if we go over the "fiscal cliff," all bets are off + WSJ reports: "There are few professionals more hopeful for a bright future this holiday season than architects, who are finally starting to see business conditions improve."
- Hart's New Humanism Part 3: "What do our human origins have to do with the built environment?"
- AIACC hands out its Achievement Awards to individuals and organizations (our personal heartiest congrats to colleague and dear friend Julie Taylor!).

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[Obituary: Cornelia Brierly, 99, In Memoriam: Taliesin Fellow, architect, and interior and landscape designer...studied with Frank Lloyd Wright for 10 years, after which she was partner in private practice with then-husband Peter Berndtson...Indira Berndtson Q&A about her mother's influence on her, growing up in Taliesin, and preserving the legacy of architects.- Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation \(BAAF\)](#)

[After Criticism, New York Public Library Offers Peek at Renovation Plans: ...something crucial has been missing from this debate: what the transformed library will actually look like...Foster has essentially created a major new contemporary library within Carrère & Hastings's \[1911\] neo-Classical one...\[he\] said he knew better than to desecrate a masterpiece. By Robin Pogrebin -- Norman Foster/Foster + Partners \[images\]- New York Times](#)

[All the Panic Over the New York Public Library's Renovation Plan Is Overwrought: Now we finally have schematic drawings...it's wonderful to see intelligent architecture trump panicky rhetoric...design preserves, protects, and restores the library's visible areas. In exchange, it operates on the building's guts, baring a vast hidden chamber. That's a tradeoff I can happily accept. By Justin Davidson -- Foster + Partners - New York Magazine](#)

[Crit> Yale University Art Gallery: Jayne Merkel surveys Ennead Architects's museum expansion in New Haven: Rare indeed is the renovation of three adjacent buildings—from different periods and in different styles—that emphasizes their differences...allows each component to shine... -- Peter B. Wight, \(1866\); Egerton Swartwout/Tracy & Swartwout \(1928\); Louis Kahn; Joel Sanders \[images\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture's First Manhattan Skyscraper Among the City's Tallest: Extell Development made waves as when they announced their 1,004-foot-tall skyscraper One57 by Christian de Portzamparc...next project a few blocks down the street looks to climb even higher...an 88-story, 1,550-foot-tall tower on West 57th Street... \[links\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[West 8 wins Fort Mason ideas competition: ...what set apart the team...was its varied and often fine-grained approach to the 13-acre enclave, which is thronged on some days and all but empty on others. "They instinctively grasped that what's needed isn't one big idea, but a series of interventions"... By John King -- Jensen Architects; Ila Berman; Architectural Resources Group; Bruner/Cott; AMP Arquitectos \[images\]- San Francisco Chronicle](#)

[Salesforce taking all of high-rise on Mission: One more construction crane is headed to the San Francisco skyline - and the fate of 14 acres in the emerging Mission Bay neighborhood is murkier than ever...Whatever shape and form it finally takes, 350 Mission will be the first new office tower to break ground...in more than half a decade. John King -- Skidmore Owings & Merrill \(SOM\) \[images\]- San Francisco Chronicle](#)

[How to Make Privately Owned Public Spaces Truly Open to the Public: The city of San Francisco has now mapped all of its downtown POPOS, and it's ensuring for the first time that residents really have access to them. By Emily Badger \[images, links\]- The Atlantic Cities](#)

[Theaster Gates Sells Fire Hoses to Rebuild Chicago Slums: \[artist's\] latest canvas is neighborhoods given up for dead...He wants to help artists from these tough blocks to work and address "the need for culture where it doesn't exist." He undertakes what he calls "development that thinks like an artist"...Artist, developer, planner...an art-driven form of urban development. By James S. Russell -- Rebuild Foundation; Landon Bone Baker; Charles Vinz \[slide show\]- Bloomberg News](#)

[How an Industrial City Reinvented Itself as a Sustainability Hub: France's Nantes has a powerful plan to cut carbon, eliminate cars, and redevelop the city's heart: The proud city needed a new identity...first, culture and then, sustainability...the two have come together in some highly innovative ways that have led the European Union to designate Nantes as its "Green Capital" for 2013. By Kaid Benfield \[images\]- The Atlantic Cities](#)

[How social housing in Manchester has reinvented the back-to-back: The latest phase of the New Islington development sheds the bombast to create practical, robust homes on a budget..."If you're on a tight budget, don't spend it on bling, but on space"...cocktail of rules and regulations has led to some eccentric outcomes...the Guts points to a promising way forward... By Oliver Wainwright -- Will Alsop; FAT Architecture; Mae Architects; de Metz Forbes Knight \(dMFK\) \[images\]- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Toronto and Gardiner on crash course: It's time for a full discussion about the future of the Gardiner Expressway...restoring the elevated highway to structural soundness will cost \\$505 million...there are smarter ways to spend half a billion dollars...we should be allowed to see the results of an international ideas competition organized back in 2009... By](#)

[Christopher Hume](#)- Toronto Star

[Wang Shu: the architect challenging China's obsession with scale: China's massive building projects will not last, says Wang Shu, who is on a quest for 'reality' in architecture...is prepared not to work at all, if the conditions aren't right for him.](#)
By Rowan Moore -- Lu Wenyu/Amateur Architecture Studio- [Observer \(UK\)](#)

[Architecture Billings Index Signaling Gains for Fourth Straight Month: Positive business conditions for all building sectors: "These are the strongest business conditions we have seen since the end of 2007...if we do end up going off the 'fiscal cliff' then we can expect a significant setback for the entire design and construction industry."](#) -- Kermit Baker- [American Institute of Architects \(AIA\)](#)

[Demand for Architects Builds Momentum: There are few professionals more hopeful for a bright future this holiday season than architects, who are finally starting to see business conditions improve...Architecture firms getting the most business...cater to institutions rather than to private companies developing speculative office buildings...](#) -- Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects (ZGF); Legat Architects; A. Zahner Co.; Neil Denari- [Wall Street Journal](#)

[A New Humanism: Part 3: What do our human origins have to do with the built environment? ...concepts and words...that we use when analyzing or judging human qualities and person-to-person relationships are paralleled in our responses to architecture, landscapes, and urban places.](#) By Robert Lamb Hart/Hart Howerton; illustrations by Albrecht Pichler- [Metropolis Magazine](#)

[AIACC Achievement Awards recognize special accomplishments and contributions to the profession by individuals and organizations.](#) --Kimon Onuma; H. Kit Miyamoto/Miyamoto International; Julie D. Taylor/Taylor & Company; etc.- [American Institute of Architects California Council \(AIACC\)](#)

[Best Architecture Books of 2012: 10 books reflect the changing climate - in every sense - of the profession.](#) By Norman Weinstein- [ArchNewsNow](#)



-- Daniel Libeskind: [Academy of the Jewish Museum, Berlin](#)
-- "[Coop Himmelb\(l\)au: 7+ Projects](#)," [Aedes Gallery, Berlin.](#), through January 24, 2013

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