

Today's News - Thursday, January 3, 2013

- Bernstein has some issues with Libeskind's "Libo" style, but in the case of his Academy of the Jewish Museum Berlin: here, "he has once again played to his strengths."
- Bozikovic explains why Toronto's soon-to-open Don River Park will be "the meadows that will save downtown Toronto" from sharing Lower Manhattan's Superstorm Sandy fate: "The wiser heads in landscape architecture are ahead of the rest of us."
- Ban's cardboard cathedral in Christchurch is "taking shape on the quake-scarred city's skyline" as even initially skeptical locals "have been won over."
- The first "hurricane dome" in Texas will serve as a gym and a shelter: "We expect it'll look more appealing once the gale-force winds start blowing."
- Q&A with Denari re: his "mid-life burst of high-profile projects leaving a distinct mark on the urban landscape."
- Q&A with Speck re: why "walkability is exactly what all cities should be aiming for."
- Lamb Hart's New Humanism: Part 4: "Natural selection: the 'pleasure' of winning, surviving, prospering."
- Brazilian architect/photographer Clemence offers an appreciation - with some of his stunning pix - of Niemeyer (he didn't start out appreciating the master).
- Arch Record picks its Best Architecture of 2012 (some surprises!).
- Murg on H&deM's Parrish Art Museum: the "stealth beauty" is Unbeige's Building of the Year.
- Vietnam names its very first Architect of the Year.
- An eye-ful of Winnipeg's Warming Hut winners: "one is so Canadian, so vernacular, so theatrical."
- Call for entries: Lowering the Cost of Housing Competition (deadline looms!) + Harvard GSD \$100,000 traveling fellowship (now open to all).

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Working All the Angles: Daniel Libeskind adds to his Jewish Museum Berlin: He seems determined to create a global brand of trademark architectural moves—a kind of off-kilter Lego set that could be called Libo—whether they fit the program, ignore the program, or in some cases seem almost to mock it. But he will always have Berlin, and it is here that he has once again played to his strengths. By Fred A. Bernstein- *Architectural Record*

Don River Park, Hurricane Sandy and the meadows that will save downtown Toronto: ...all the chaos that was visible in Lower Manhattan this fall could happen on Bay Street. But it won't, thanks to the opening in 2013 of [the park]...The wiser heads in landscape architecture are ahead of the rest of us.... By Alex Bozikovic -- *Adriaan Geuze/West 8; James Corner Field Operations; Michael van Valkenburgh Associates [images]- No Mean City (Toronto)*

New Zealand quake city puts faith in cardboard cathedral: Ban sees the cathedral as a way his profession can help Christchurch's shattered community recover from the quake...Building authorities...declared they fully meet earthquake standards, while even locals initially sceptical about the cardboard concept have been won over. -- *Shigeru Ban (AFP)- Discovery News*

It's a sports dome and a hurricane shelter all in one: There's a lot of talk these days about the need to become more resilient and ruggedize our systems in order to better cope in a climate-changed world. It's nice to actually see a little action on this front — in Texas, of all places...first "hurricane dome" in Woodsboro will do double duty as a gym and a shelter. We expect it'll look more appealing once the gale-force winds start blowing. - *Grist Magazine*

Where Are They Now: Neil Denari: The Los Angeles-based architect has been a career academic and author. But in a mid-life burst of high-profile projects such as 2011's HL23 residential tower in New York, his firm, Neil M Denari Architects, is now leaving a distinct mark on the urban landscape. (Q&A) - *Interior Design magazine*

Why Walkability Is Key To A City's Vitality: Boston is famed for being a walkable city. One urban planner says that walkability is exactly what all cities should be aiming for. -- *Jeff Speck/"Walkable City: How Downtown Can Save America, One Step At A Time"- WBUR Boston Public Radio*

A New Humanism: Part 4: Natural selection: the "pleasure" of winning, surviving, prospering. By Robert Lamb Hart/Hart Howerton; illustrations by Albrecht Pichler - *Metropolis Magazine*

An Appreciation of Oscar Niemeyer: Looking at genius creation through the eyes of a Brazilian architect/photographer...his career is synonymous with the Modern Movement. Yet no other modernist made such a conscious commitment to focus on beauty as a fundamental element of architecture. By Paul Clemence [images] - *Metropolis Magazine*

Editor's Picks: Best Architecture of 2012: ...the projects that defined the year in design. -- *HWKN; Doug Aitken; Freecell; Peter Zellner/ZELLNERPLUS; Louis I. Kahn; Robert Grace; Govaert and Vanhoutte Architects; Studio MK27; Fuse Architects + Builders; 3XN Architects; Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects; Herzog & de Meuron; Renzo Piano; MASS Design Group; Solid Objectives — Idenburg Liu (SO-IL); SHoP Architects; Adjaye Associates [images, info]- Architectural Record*

Building of the Year: Herzog & de Meuron's New Parrish Art Museum: ...building is a stealth beauty, an extruded artist's studio... By Stephanie Murg -- *Reed Hilderbrand; Arup- UnBeige*

Vietnam chooses an 'architect of the year' for the first time: ...Architectural Record awarded Nghia with its Design Vanguard prize for 2012...Ashui.com also handed out three other awards..."Best Young Architect"..."Architect of the Community"...and "Architect Critic"... -- *Vo Trong Nghia; Vo Cao Thang; Hoang Thuc Hao; Hoang Dao Kinh- Thanh Nien News (Vietnam)*

Warming Hut Winners Chosen in Design Competition: The River Trail in Winnipeg [The Forks]...you get the best of both worlds: a long skate and a series of warming huts...one is so Canadian, so vernacular, so theatrical. -- *Atelier Big City; aamodt/plumb architects; Myung kweon Park; Plain Projects/Urbanink/Pike Projects; University of Manitoba [images]- TreeHugger.com*

Call for entries: Lowering the Cost of Housing Competition: provide a new model for conceiving, siting, financing, building and sustaining, affordable housing; any project in the U.S. is eligible; no entry fee; Grand Prize: \$250,000; initial submission deadline: January 15 - *Enterprise Community Partners / Deutsche Bank*

Call for entries: Harvard Graduate School of Design announces the launch of the Wheelwright Prize: \$100,000 traveling fellowship awarded annually to talented early-career architects worldwide...affiliation to the GSD is no longer required; application process opens January 10; registration deadline: February 15; submission deadline: February 28 - *Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD)*

Ten Years and Counting...: Reflections on the year, ArchNewsNow's first decade, and our 10th Anniversary Fête: If you're reading this, it means the Mayans weren't wrong (but the End-of-Timers were) – Happy Winter Solstice! By Kristen Richards - *ArchNewsNow.com*



Bookcase: "Three Little Pigs - An Architectural Tale" by Steven Guarnaccia: ...inspired by the architecture of Frank Gehry, Philip Johnson, and Frank Lloyd Wright.

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