

Today's News - Tuesday, March 5, 2013

- Shioiri-Clark takes on critics of a new hospital in rural Rwanda (and masterfully, we think): "We are paralyzed as a field if we are afraid to use our design skills to move beyond the strictly vernacular...it's more neo-colonialist to assume that African people don't want well-designed buildings and spaces."
- Speaking of socially responsible design, Cooper-Hewitt's white paper "Design and Social Impact: A cross-sectoral agenda for design education, research and practice" is now available for download.
- Davidson cheers SHoP's new plans for the Domino Sugar refinery on the Brooklyn waterfront: "The city rarely gets this good a chance to extricate itself from a planning mistake" (it "sure is better than the alternative: the New Jersification of Brooklyn").
- In Queensland, the redevelopment of Townsville's main street (which meant re-opening it to traffic) is "a highly nuanced response that plays out at a range of scales" in a "seamless integration of street furniture, architecture and planting so that the individual authorship of each discipline is virtually undetectable."
- Brin explores an "architects' village": Philly's Northern Liberties neighborhood is an "urban experiment in design density" (lots of pix, but sadly, nary an architect mentioned).
- Gehry returns to his design roots with a plan for a new tower and cultural complex in Santa Monica (reminds us a bit of New York by Gehry - in white).
- Babbs practically bubbles over two new projects in Milan and Singapore that are examples of the growing trend in towering buildings-cum-gardens in dense urban areas.
- Brake reports on Chipperfield's "understated addition" to the Saint Louis Art Museum, almost ready for its close-up.
- When it comes to healthcare facilities, the "emerging field of evidence-based design" is a "purely logical tactic from a basic science perspective" - and can even save money.
- A "gaggle of emerging and up-and-coming practices" are on the shortlist to design retirement homes for aging baby boomers.
- For all you die-hard traditionalists, we couldn't resist a title like "The Dead Architects Society" proving a "resurgence of interest in Gilded Age mansions" by lesser-known, but none-the-less revered architects of yore (some in the slide show made our teeth ache).
- The Balmond/Jencks-designed Star of Caledonia gets the thumbs-up, with hopes it will soon rise on Gretna's horizon.
- An eye-ful of the MIPiM Architectural Review Future Projects Award winners (an interesting mix of stunning and head-scratchers).
- A good reason to be in Atlanta next week: Greenprints 2013 will focus on green building and urban sustainability while also addressing policy implications.
- Call for entries (deadlines loom!): AIA UK 2013 Excellence in Design Awards, open to U.K.-based architects and international firms with projects in Britain + International I-Park 2013 Architects-in-Residence Environmental Art Biennale Program (architects wanted!).

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[Building a Rwandan Wall: Design to Balance Local Traditions and New Solutions: We are paralyzed as a field if we are afraid to use our design skills to move beyond the strictly vernacular...it's not neo-colonialist to work on high-quality design projects...it's more neo-colonialist to assume that African people don't want well-designed buildings and spaces.](#) By Marika Shioiri-Clark/SOSHL Studio -- MASS Design Group- GOOD

[Cooper-Hewitt Publishes White Paper on Socially Responsible Design: "Design and Social Impact: A cross-sectoral agenda for design education, research and practice"...an extension of the 2012 Social Impact Design Summit,, \[link to report\]-](#) Contract magazine

[Oooh, Williamsburg: A so-what plan is trumped by daring: The saga of the Domino Sugar refinery...gave everyone something to hate...The city rarely gets this good a chance to extricate itself from a planning mistake. Yes, the new Domino would mean more creeping Manhattanization, but that sure is better than the alternative: the New Jersification of Brooklyn.](#) By Justin Davidson -- SHoP Architects [image]- New York Magazine

[Flinders Street \(Qld\) revitalization: A redevelopment of Townsville's main street captures its historic character...a highly nuanced response that plays out at a range of scales...a seamless integration of street furniture, architecture and planting so that the individual authorship of each discipline is virtually undetectable. -- Cox Raynor Architects; Gamble McKinnon Green \[images\]-](#) ArchitectureAU (Australia)

[Architects' Village? Philly's urban experiment in design density: What if you herded a bunch of architects into one neighborhood and let them loose to design...Northern Liberties, a late 18th century Philadelphia neighborhood exhibits a high concentration of architect- designed structures... By Joseph G. Brin \[images\]-](#) Metropolis Magazine

[Homeward Bound: Frank Gehry Designs Mixed-Use Tower For Santa Monica: ...\\$72 million "Ocean Avenue Project,"...The tower-and-podium scheme will have 125 hotel rooms and 22 condos...A new cultural complex...also to be designed by Gehry, is being planned just opposite the tower site... \[images\]-](#) Architizer

[High-rise gardening: When is a skyscraper not just a skyscraper? When it's a garden too: ...all eyes will surely be on the Bosco Verticale when it opens in Milan...the surface of this high-rise will ripple with organic life...Park Royal on Pickering hotel in Singapore is another example of a towering building-cum-garden in a dense urban area... By Helen Babbs -- Stefano Boeri Architeti; WOHA \[images\]-](#) Guardian (UK)

[Meet David Chipperfield in St. Louis: ...understated addition to the Saint Louis Art Museum is nearing completion..The massing and heft of the addition, and the scale and proportions of the galleries, recall and defer to the original Cass Gilbert-designed main building.](#) By Alan G. Brake -- Michel Desvigne [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

[How Much Should Be Spent Beautifying Hospitals? ...while indulgence surely occurs for indulgence's sake, numerous studies have established that the environment...may have a direct influence on health and healing...the emerging field of "evidence-based design"...The tactic is purely logical from a basic science perspective. -- Lance Hosey-](#) The Atlantic

[Emerging stars shortlisted in RIBA baby boomer retirement homes contest: A gaggle of emerging and up-and-coming practices has been shortlisted in the Re-imagine Ageing competition to design pioneering housing for those aged 55 and over. -- AU Studio; Tom Russell Architects; Inglis Badrashi Loddio Architects; waparchitects; Living Space Architects/Hilary Lawson-](#) The Architects' Journal (UK)

[The Dead Architects Society: A resurgence of interest in Gilded Age mansions has some buyers clamoring after the work of lesser-known, regional architects who practiced decades ago...reflects a resurgence in interest in an original source of traditional architecture—as opposed to the newer "McMansion" variety... -- George Washington Smith; Eugene Bradbury; Ehrick Rossiter; Luth Maria Riggs; John F. Staub \[slide show\]-](#) Wall Street Journal

[Star of Caledonia: Scotland-England landmark plan approved: Councillors have approved plans for the public artwork at Gretna. -- Cecil Balmond; Charles Jencks \[image\]-](#) BBC News

[MIPiM Architectural Review Future Projects Awards: ...celebrate unbuilt or incomplete design projects... -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill \(SOM\); Sanjay Puri; GAD/Gokhan Avcioglu & Dara Kirmizitoprak; Richard Naish; Suyabatmaz Demirel Architects; Spridd/ETAT; Arup Associates; Daniel H. Fernandes; Melkan Gursel & Murat Tabanlıoğlu; Osamu Morishita; Osamu Morishita; MZ Architect; UNStudio; Foster + Partners; Architect: Arqmovworkshop; Arkitekturværkstedet ApS;](#)

Weston Williamson; SSH International; Elina Pattichi; Joe Morris; etc. [slide show]- Telegraph (UK)

Greenprints 2013: will focus on residential and commercial green building and urban sustainability while also addressing policy implications in all three areas; a diverse curriculum including a Tactical Urbanism Charrette and a Building Science Pecha Kucha; March 13-14, Atlanta, GA- Southface / Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI)

Call for entries: AIA UK 2013 Excellence in Design Awards: open to architects based in Britain, and from architects throughout the world for built projects in the UK; deadline: March 22- American Institute of Architects UK Chapter

Call for entries: I-Park 2013 Architects-in-Residence Environmental Art Biennale Program in rural East Haddam, CT (international); application deadline: April 1- I-Park Foundation

Nuts + Bolts #2: You Can't SELL If You Can't TELL: You talk all the time but are you communicating clearly? Use your words effectively to build your influence. By Tami D. Hausman, Ph.D.- ArchNewsNow

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