

## Today's News - Thursday, April 4, 2013

EDITOR'S NOTE: Early morning travel plans mean we won't be posting the newsletter tomorrow, but we'll be back Monday, April 8 - happy weekend!

- On ANN: Bjone gives (mostly) thumbs-up to Bosker's "Original Copies: Architectural Mimicry in Contemporary China," which explains the design phenomenon "in a clear and concise manner without the pretentious tribal signifiers that so plague academic writers."
- Dunham-Jones offers an in-depth - and totally fascinating - analysis of "the irrational exuberance" of Koolhaas.
- Leveté gets the CNN treatment as "the woman reshaping skylines across the globe."
- Baillieu hopes that Chipperfield "gets back to what he does best: The architect is attracting headlines for all the wrong reasons" (with links to some of those reasons).
- Hawthorne is o.k. with the \$100-million revamp of L.A.'s Dodger Stadium: it's "not so much a makeover as an incremental step toward better integrating the site with the city - there are more radical ways to go."
- BDP wins competition to revamp Aberdeen's "sleeping beauty" Music Hall.
- Brussat goes looking for beauty in Chicago, and finds it "does modern architecture better than any other city. Classicists like me who would rather do without it altogether must reckon with its allure here" (modern and allure in the same sentence - gasp!).
- Heathcote takes heart in designers "finding ways to counter today's throwaway culture, shifting the discourse from incessant production to intelligent adaptation" (even though planned obsolescence "seems to remain the norm").
- On artists' fascination with dying malls: they "live on as giant unpickable scabs on cities. As ruins, they have no romance, no majesty; they tell no stories"; beyond "ruin porn," the "new artistic cliché will be the ruins of the service economy, the post-industrial non-ruin" (a great read).
- Payne explains "how Millennials are tackling the green building experience gap" (oh those pesky catch-22's).
- A new Green Light New York report looks at how much energy could be conserved if advanced daylighting systems were deployed throughout the city's offices - including the challenges to implementation and how they might be surmounted (surely informative for other cities).
- Eyefuls of the international student winners in the Trimo Urban Crash Competition: "Bike Base."
- One we couldn't resist: SWA's "internal exercise" to figure out "how public amenities could be woven into" the 5,000-mile Keystone XL Pipeline (bike path, anyone?).
- Weekend diversions:
  - Bergdoll walks Zara through MoMA's "Henri Labrouste" show.
  - Hanley on Pesce's first New York solo show in 25 years: "The kinship he establishes between the body and fabricated objects is everywhere in the show, even if at the opening, Pesce himself was nowhere to be found" (hissy-fit included).
  - "Parallel Nippon: Contemporary Japanese Architecture 1996-2006" starts off in Sydney before hitting the road.
  - Five unusual ideas for "greening" schools, courtesy the NBM's "Green Schools" show.
  - Pearson parses Rawlins's "Fire Island Modernist: Horace Gifford and the Architecture of Seduction" that is "both a cultural history and an architectural meditation - clear, graceful prose brings Gifford's times back to life" (though he's "not convinced that Gifford's houses truly rise to the highest level of architectural achievement").
  - Heinberg talks about his new book "Energy: Overdevelopment and the Delusion of Endless Growth" - "a haunting look at our current energy path" (boy, are we're in trouble!).

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**Book Review: "Original Copies: Architectural Mimicry in Contemporary China" by Bianca Bosker: A must-have for those who wish to see a design phenomenon and trend explained in a clear and concise manner without the pretentious tribal signifiers that so plague academic writers. By Christian Bjone - ArchNewsNow**

**The Irrational Exuberance of Rem Koolhaas: ...has any other contemporary architect so forcefully had his finger on the pulse of global development patterns and directed attention to the role of capital in design? ...bathes Lite Urbanism in liberatory and progressive rhetoric, while ignoring the risks of abuse inherent in restless mobile capital and short-term interests...he argues that most of the utopian efforts of architects have been disastrous. By Ellen Dunham-Jones [from "Architecture and Capitalism"] - Places Journal**

**From London to Lisbon: The woman reshaping skylines across the globe: Amanda Leveté is the architect behind a range of ground-breaking buildings, including the futuristic Media Center at Lord's Cricket Ground...and a \$342 million five-star hotel and shopping mall in Bangkok. She spoke about her achievements, ambitions and why she loves working on an industrial estate. -- Jan Kaplicky/Future Systems; AL\_A - CNN International**

**David Chipperfield needs to get back to what he does best: The architect is attracting headlines for all the wrong reasons...clearly something is not quite going to plan. By Amanda Baillieu - BD/Building Design (UK)**

**Dodger Stadium revamp is a work in progress: The \$100-million project is not so much a makeover as an incremental step toward better integrating the site with the city around it. But there are more radical ways to go. By Christopher Hawthorne -- Emil Praeger (1962); Janet Marie Smith; Brenda Levin; Mia Lehrer + Associates; Thomas Quirk/D'Agostino Izzo Quirk Architects [slide show, video]- Los Angeles Times**

**Aberdeen's Music Hall set for design revamp: ..."transformation of this wonderful 'sleeping beauty' of a building"...will be a major boost for the city centre and will help make the venue one of the leading lights in our City of Culture bid." -- Archibald Simpson (1822); Building Design Partnership/BDP - The Scotsman (UK)**

**How beauty stacks up in Chicago: Chicago does modern architecture better than any other city. Classicists like me who would rather do without it altogether must reckon with its allure here...its surviving classicism...enables the city's modernism. By David Brussat [images]- Providence Journal (Rhode Island)**

**Make and mend: ...the idea of repair has largely vanished...This disappearance of a whole layer of craft is now provoking a few designers into rethinking the way we make things, shifting the discourse from incessant production to intelligent adaptation...with our contemporary concerns with sustainability, "planned obsolescence" looks increasingly unacceptable yet seems to remain the norm. By Edwin Heathcote -- Martino Gamper/"100 Chairs in 100 Days"; Jane Ni Dhulchaointigh; Fixperts/Daniel Charney/James Carrigan - Financial Times (UK)**

**Why are artists so obsessed with the fall of the mall? ...dying malls...live on as giant unpickable scabs on cities. As ruins...they have no romance, no majesty; they tell no stories...their architecture is lacking even the most distant of human touches...Is this subject matter just another manifestation of "ruin porn"...the new artistic cliché will be the ruins of the service economy, the post-industrial non-ruin... By Russell Smith -- Brian Ulrich/"Dark Stores"; Deadmalls.com - Globe and Mail (Canada)**

[How Millennials are Tackling the Green Building Experience Gap: ...BOULD - a social enterprise built to address the "experience gap," by equipping millennials with the experience necessary to launch green careers, while also delivering impact to local communities. By Jim Payne- Huffington Post](#)

[Getting Serious About Daylighting: If advanced daylighting systems were deployed throughout New York City offices how much energy could be conserved? Our report, Let There Be Daylight answers this question in four parts. By Yetsuh Frank/Green Light New York- The Sallan Foundation](#)

[Winners announced in 4th Biennial International Trimo Urban Crash Competition: "Bike Base": a challenge for architecture and design students. \[links to images, info\]- Trimo Urban Crash \(Slovenia\)](#)

[What If The Keystone XL Pipeline Was A Bike Path? ...proposal would turn the 5,000-mile pipeline into an opportunity for localized development..."If we're not thinking about how to make it better for people, that's a problem. It's time to set a precedent for imagining infrastructure that folds into the reality of our everyday lives." -- Kinder Baumgardner/SWA Group \[images\]- Fast Company](#)

["Henri Labrouste: Structure Brought to Light" at the Museum of Modern Art: Barry Bergdoll walks Janelle Zara through the exhibition. \[video\]- Artinfo](#)

["Gaetano Pesce: L'Abbraccio": The designer's first New York solo show in 25 years reprises some hits even if something is missing: When I arrived...the designer had just stormed out...The kinship he establishes between the body and fabricated objects is everywhere in the show, even if at the opening, Pesce himself was nowhere to be found. By William Hanley \[slide show\]- Architectural Record](#)

["Parallel Nippon: Contemporary Japanese Architecture 1996-2006" at the Japan Foundation Gallery in Sydney: ...a collection of creative architectural solutions that reflect the social and cultural context of contemporary Japan...in cooperation with the Architectural Institute of Japan. -- Toyo Ito; Kengo Kuma; Tadao Ando; Kenzo Tange; SANAA; Taniguchi and Associates; etc. - The Japan Foundation Sydney \(Australia\)](#)

[5 Unusual Ideas for 'Greening' a School: Visions for sustainable building in the education system courtesy the National Building Museum: "Green Schools" culls examples nationwide of innovative design and curriculum. \[images\]- The Atlantic Cities](#)

["Fire Island Modernist: Horace Gifford and the Architecture of Seduction" by Christopher Bascom Rawlins; foreword by Alastair Gordon: Both a cultural history and an architectural meditation...captures the look, feel, and sensation of gay society in the 1960s and '70s...clear, graceful prose...brings Gifford's times back to life...As seductive as this book is, I'm not convinced that Gifford's houses...truly rise to the highest level of architectural achievement. By Clifford A. Pearson- Architectural Record](#)

[The Coming Crash: Our Addiction to Endless Growth on a Finite Planet: Richard Heinberg talks about the new book "Energy: Overdevelopment and the Delusion of Endless Growth," a haunting look at our current energy path. \[slide show\]- AlterNet.org](#)

[Nuts + Bolts #3: Focus on the Future: Keys to Steady Growth in a Slow Recovery: Business forecasts are looking brighter, but steady, measured growth is still your best strategy for success. By Steve Whitehorn- ArchNewsNow](#)



[Image Library: MVRDV: Gemini Residence \(2005\): The old twin Seed Silos on Copenhagen's waterfront transformed into exciting new residences in a new urban district.](#)

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