• Rosenbaum reflections on Mather: “Not as renowned as some starchitects - he was just beginning to have an impact in his native country.” + BD's visual tribute to his built legacy: "He let his work do most of the talking, and it won him respect from architects and the public."

• My, my...we found a grumpy lot today (but all well worth reading): Tweeddale does a brilliant take-down of the design industry's "crisis of relevance - it occurs to me now that architecture itself may not really be in crisis; only that the subjectivity and egos of a particular group are feeling challenged" (her Venice encounter is a hoot)." 

• Grabar neatly wraps up a round-up of the "counter-manifestos" emerging from Shteir's NYT piece about Chicago: "Her central beef is how resolutely proud everyone seems to be of the city, despite its issues" (who isn’t chiming in on this one!).

• Hume ties West, Texas, and Toronto explosions together: "the two have at least one thing in common: explosively bad planning."

• Dobrzynski weighs in on MoMA/AFAM "It's sad that a building may come down after just 12 years in existence, but I'm still wondering why it was approved in the first place" (do we hear gasps?).

• Enough with the grumps: an eyeful of BIG's winning design for EuropaCity: 200 acres near Paris "set to be a retail, cultural, and leisure city of unprecedented scale."

• Russell cheers Google's green goals for its new HQ, though "I fear GPS will be needed to navigate this well-meaning muddle" - and just how does it compare to Seattle's oh-so-green Bullitt Center?

• Chipperfield's Rockbund Art Museum and cultural hub in Shanghai is "one of the most intriguing design projects to emerge in recent years that is not a monumental skyscraper."

• Bernstein previews Grimshaw's Queens Museum of Art expansion that "aims to bring renewed purpose to a vast, Robert Moses-era building" with a "spectacular ensemble of galleries."

• One man's dream for Olmsted's "tarnished South Side jewel" in Chicago could become reality (with wHY on board, why not?).

• Conti on Soleri: "Will his legacy be as meaningful as that of others who are in the history books today? It's a good guess to say yes."

• Maeda continues his mantra to turn STEM into STEAM: "artists and designers will be the innovators of this century - developing this creativity needs to start in the K-12 schools."

• We couldn't agree more, but once inspired, students wanting to enter Cooper Union will have to pay a price (for the first time in over 150 years - Gorlin calls it "a sad day")

• The AIA ABI sees "the best run of growth since before the financial crisis and the bursting of the construction bubble."

• An eyeful of the 2013 APA National Planning Excellence Awards (West, TX, and Toronto might want to take a peek).
It's a good guess to say yes. By John Conti [images] - Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

Turn STEM into STEAM with arts education: We need to add an “A” for art to the national STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education agenda...I remain convinced that artists and designers will be the innovators of this century...developing this creativity needs to start in the K-12 schools. By John Maeda - Seattle Times

Cooper Union to Charge Undergrad Tuition: ...famously free to students..."Being mostly alumni ourselves, we share your sense of the loss of this extraordinary tradition." - Architectural Record

ABI Up for Eighth Straight Month: The AIA's Architecture Billings Index shows continued strength in the design and construction industry...the best run of growth since before the financial crisis and the bursting of the construction bubble. - Architect Magazine

APA Hands Out National Planning Excellence Awards: American Planning Association also saluted 12 projects with the first-ever National Planning Achievement Awards...winners tended toward projects with an ambitious scope... [images, links] - The Architect's Newspaper


-- Hodgetts + Fung: Sinclair Garden Pavilion, Pasadena, California,
-- Lundgaard & Tranberg: Tietgen Dormitory, Copenhagen, Denmark
-- Tadao Ando: Langen Foundation, Neuss, Germany

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