

Today's News - Friday, June 7, 2013

- Evitts Dickinson gets inside the design mind of the 23-year-old winner of the Next Generation Design Competition, and her "ingenious set of cooking tools that enables her autistic brother to cook for himself."
- Eye-fuls of what the 7 shortlisted Australian teams have dreamed up for a temporary pavilion (or non-pavilion) at the 2014 Venice Architecture Biennale.
- Saffron has high hopes that a Philadelphia parking garage make-over will "sprinkle some sparkle - making us see this familiar structure in a new way."
- Hetter finds out from Goldberger which airports he thinks show off architecture that soars.
- Szenasy's Q&A with Oren Safdie re: "False Solution," the last of his trilogy of plays with "a weighty subject at its heart, the Holocaust and the memorial architects build - he talks about memory, design, ego, and sexual politics" (opening June 13 in NYC).
- Weekend diversions: Lubell brings us eye-fuls of the 6-ton(!) model at the heart of "The Presence of the Past: Peter Zumthor Reconsiders LACMA" (and the architect "admitted that he came up with the sinuous shape 'out of pure desperation'" - doubtless there are those who think it looks it).
- A lotta MoMA: the breathtaking Corbu show "reveals the sources of his varied approach to design and the root of influence in his work" + Merwood-Salisbury finds that the Labrouste show allows "us to see material we thought we knew in an entirely new light" + MoMA PS1's "Expo 1: New York" is "a sprawling, multisite extravaganza."
- McEnaney fairly gushes over NBM's Guastavino exhibition that highlights "the intersection of architecture and technology" + Murg marvels at the museum's "Mini Golf" indoor range.
- In St. Louis, "The City Inside/Out" offers a fab array of photographs of the city's architectural landscape (by a fab array of photographers).
- In London, Wainwright finds inspiration at The Architecture Foundation's "InsideFlows: The Superuse Approach to Design" that shows off Dutch architects who are transforming the world with waste.
- Woodman gives (mostly) thumbs-up to "Green Fuse: The Work of Dan Pearson" at the Garden Museum: "Architecture is really turning a corner in terms of seeing landscape as integral to the design project."
- "Light Houses: Young Nordic Architecture" at the Museum of Finnish Architecture, Helsinki, "highlights topical social and environmental themes, looking at the sobering economic constraints and diminishing environmental resources."
- In Shanghai, "Spectacle: 12 Presentations of Contemporary Museum Architecture in China" is "a well-timed exhibition" that "explores 'the social, cultural, and political transformations' they produce...Still, architects being architects..."
- Farrelly finds Cantrill and Thalís's "Public Sydney: Drawing the City" a "magnificent tome" that "resonates with passion and intelligence. Such a document has not been seen before in this country."
- Heathcote hails Thurley's "Men from the Ministry: How Britain Saved its Heritage": "Though his parade of bureaucrats can be wearying at times, the end result is magnificent."

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Family Recipe: A young designer creates an ingenious set of cooking tools (with accompanying app) that enables her autistic brother to cook for himself...23-year-old Amanda Savitzky is the 2013 winner of the Next Generation Design Competition..."I was trying to build a system where the user can't fail." By Elizabeth Evitts Dickinson [images] - Metropolis Magazine

2014 Venice Architecture Biennale proposals: 7 shortlisted teams vying for the role of creative director of Australia's pavilion unveil their visions: From a flatpack pavilion to a floating stage on the canal...in the midst of transition from the old Philip Cox pavilion to the new design by Denton Corker Marshall. With no physical building...teams have developed a range of temporary platforms... [slide show] - ArchitectureAU (Australia)

A garage proposal that sprinkles some sparkle: Philadelphia Parking Authority...is now on a mission to clean up its act...To demonstrate its new civic spirit, the authority decided against putting together an in-house repair plan...The outreach paid off...the design is all about...making us see this familiar structure in a new way. By Inga Saffron -- O'Donnell & Naccarato; Wallace Roberts & Todd (WRT) [slide show] - Philadelphia Inquirer

Airports where the architecture soars: "An inspiring grand welcome to a place is not something you get in most of them," says Paul Goldberger...Here are some of the airport designs he has appreciated or is hankering to see for himself. By Katia Hetter -- Rogers Stirk Harbour & Partners; Foster + Partners; Renzo Piano; Skidmore, Owing & Merrill (SOM); Fentress Architects; Rafael Vinoly; Eero Saarinen (1962) - CNN

Q&A: Oren Safdie: "False Solution" opens on June 13 at New York City's La MaMa theatre...a weighty subject at its heart, the Holocaust and the memorial architects build to a horrific era in modern human history...Here he talks about things like memory, design, ego, and sexual politics... By Susan S. Szenasy - Metropolis Magazine

LACMA Tar Patch: Govan, Zumthor shed light on designs for Los Angeles' new museum: A six-ton (yes, six-ton) model of the design is now the centerpiece of "The Presence of the Past: Peter Zumthor Reconsiders LACMA"...admitted that he came up with the sinuous shape "out of pure desperation"... By Sam Lubell [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

MoMA presents "Le Corbusier: An Atlas of Modern Landscapes": ...curator Jean-Louis Cohen provides a peek into [his] journeys and developments as an architect...reveals the sources of his varied approach to design and the root of influence in his work. [images] - ArchDaily

Ancien Modernist: "Henri Labrouste: Structure Brought to Light" offers detailed and original analysis...allowing us to see material we thought we knew in an entirely new light...the immediacy of his work in the context of the social and political concerns of his own time seems fresher than its later influence on architectural modernism. By Joanna Merwood-Salisbury [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

The Natural World: Here, It's Had Work: ..."Expo 1: New York," a sprawling, multisite extravaganza including a multitude of installations, shows-within-shows and events relating to the current and future state of our planet's ecology...it raises many more questions than it answers...Even the romantic fantasy of nature's essential goodness is challenged; at MoMA PS1 and other sites. [slide show] - New York Times

Soaring Ideas: The National Building Museum explores the historic work of the Guastavino Company at the intersection of architecture and technology. "Places for the People: Guastavino and America's Great Public Spaces" through January 20, 2014. By Liz McEnaney [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Architects Take a Swing at Mini Golf: an indoor Mini Golf exhibition in the form of 18 holes designed and built by Washington-area architects, landscape architects, and contractors; at the National Building Museum. By Stephanie Murg -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Rippeteau Architects;

Design Foundry; KUBE Architecture; Wienczek + Associates Architects; Inscape Publico [images]- UnBeige

"The City Inside/Out": Photographs of St. Louis's architectural landscape by David Johnson, Ken Konchel, Demond Meek, Alise O'Brien, Andrew Raimist and Richard Sprengeler, along with a special showing of the Joel Meyerowitz portfolio, St. Louis and the Arch (1979-1982); Sheldon Art Galleries, St. Louis, June 7 – September 7 - Sheldon Art Galleries (St. Louis)

Superuse Studios: meet the Dutch architects transforming the world with waste: A new exhibition shows how to grow mushrooms on coffee grounds, make a playground out of old wind turbines – and how much you can do with a windscreen; "InsideFlows: The Superuse Approach to Design" at The Architecture Foundation, London. By Oliver Wainwright [images]- Guardian (UK)

"Green Fuse: The Work of Dan Pearson": A new Garden Museum exhibition [in London] places Pearson's wide-ranging career in context...Conceived in collaboration with Adam Khan Architects...makes considerable efforts to convey a sense of the role that the temporal plays in his craft..."Architecture is really turning a corner in terms of seeing landscape as integral to the design project"... By Ellis Woodman- BD/Building Design (UK)

"Light Houses: Young Nordic Architecture": ...the works of 32 Finnish, Swedish and Norwegian architects or offices highlights topical social and environmental themes, looking at the sobering economic constraints and diminishing environmental resources; at the Museum of Finnish Architecture, Helsinki- Museum of Finnish Architecture

"Spectacle: 12 Presentations of Contemporary Museum Architecture in China": Shanghai's new Power Station of Art (PSA) is addressing this phenomenon...projects explore not only the design...but also "the social, cultural, and political transformations" they produce...Still, architects being architects... By Clare Jacobson -- Urbanus; Yu Ting; Qiu Anxiong; Zhang Ming/Zhang Zi; Lab/GSAPP Columbia University; Liu Jiakun; Yuan Feng; Sheng Zhonghai; Zhang Jiajing [slide show]- Architectural Record

Tracing the foundations: "Public Sydney: Drawing the City" by Peter John Cantrill and Philip Thalís: ...magnificent tome polishes and parses the real, in particular the reality of this place, Sydney. It is a work of heart and mind, fully integrated...resonates with passion and intelligence...Such a document has not been seen before in this country. By Elizabeth Farrelly- Sydney Morning Herald

For old times' sake: England's historic architecture is protected today. It was not always thus: "Men from the Ministry: How Britain Saved its Heritage" by Simon Thurley is the first attempt to tell the story of how this came to pass...Though his parade of bureaucrats can be wearying at times, the end result is magnificent. English Heritage has been an easy (and constant) target for government cuts and this book is, in a way, a defence of its raison d'être and a warning of what would happen if it wasn't there. By Edwin Heathcote- Financial Times (UK)



Sambuichi Architects: Inujima Seirenscho Art Museum, Inujima, Higashi-ku, Okayama, Japan: Recycling the Remnants of History

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