Today's News - Wednesday, June 26, 2013

- Newberg cheers examples of tactical urbanism, "a fairly low-cost way to demonstrate, temporarily, the potential for long-term change."
- Q&A with a Turkish architect, whose firm is documenting Gezi Park's temporary structures, re: architecture's power to provide social commentary in the hands of amateurs, and why what happened in Taksim Square is only the beginning.
- Woodman talks to Duany, who is "trying to import his radical view of urbanism" from Miami to Scotland, and "his enthusiasm for design codes": "We're not working with good designers but with builders. Acres of great architecture can be very oppressive."
- Litt lights up about a small marina project on Cleveland's lakefront: it may be small, but it's an "important step for a city starved for high-quality recreational access to its waterfronts."
- Rawsthorn rides one of Copenhagen's Cycle Super Highways to find out if they're really as good as they sound: "I've learned the hard way to be suspicious whenever politicians promise to do anything bike-friendly" - her conclusion: "they're great."
- Goodyear rounds up "10 brilliant pieces of bike infrastructure" (no, they're not all in Copenhagen and Amsterdam).
- Meanwhile, Jaffe parses NYC’s "double standard on NIMBYism" when it comes to two transit projects: Citi Bike vs. the 2nd Avenue subway.
- Welton spends some quality time with Harmon, who "believes that every building offers lessons to be learned - and that the best way to absorb them is to sketch."
- Impressive shortlists in the running for the new U.S. Embassy in Beirut, and the new Olympic HQ on the shores of Lake Geneva.
- Three finalists in the PXSTL Competition vie for the chance to re-imagine and develop a vacant lot in the St. Louis Cultural District.
- One we couldn't resist: eyefuls of 15 famous architects' homes: "where these artists lived themselves is rarely a discussion."
- Newbery brings forth videos of eloquent tributes by some notable names paid to Colin Rowe at a memorial program in 2000 (better late than never!).
- ICAA's Gunther remembers Henry Hope Reed, "the contrarian classicist."
- Welton spends some quality time with Harmon, who "believes that every building offers lessons to be learned - and that the best way to absorb them is to sketch."
- One we couldn't resist: eyefuls of 15 famous architects' homes: "where these artists lived themselves is rarely a discussion."
- Call for entries: Fentress Global Challenge 2013: "Upcycled Architecture" International Student Competition (cash prizes, no fee!).

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Tactical Urbanism Builds Better Blocks and Streets: It's a fairly low-cost way to demonstrate, temporarily, the potential for long-term change...or can catalyze changes that have been languishing...not only ignores "why?" in favor of "why not?" but shows us "Why not?" in a tangible way. By Sam Newberg- Citified

Architecture firm creates blog to document Gezi Park's temporary structures: Q&A with Hayrettin Güç about architecture's power to provide social commentary in the hands of amateurs, and why what happened in Taksim Square is only the beginning. -- Herkes İçin Mimarlık (Architecture for All) [images] - Wired

Architects firm creates blog to document Gezi Park's temporary structures: Q&A with Hayrettin Güç about architecture's power to provide social commentary in the hands of amateurs, and why what happened in Taksim Square is only the beginning. -- Herkes İçin Mimarlık (Architecture for All) [images] - Wired

Andrés Duany and the new enlightenment: ...trying to import his radical view of urbanism from Miami to the Moray Firth; ...in Scotland, DPZ's advocacy of coding has been received sympathetically..."We're not working with good designers but with builders. Acres of great architecture can be very oppressive." By Ellis Woodman- BD/Building Design (UK)

New marina at North Coast Harbor will be a welcome step toward Cleveland's lakefront of the future: The project is a small but important step for a city starved for high-quality recreational access to its waterfronts. By Steven Litt -- Paul Volpe/City Architecture; SmithGroupJJR; EEEK [images] - Cleveland Plain Dealer

Bicycle Lanes for Multitudes: Denmark embellishes its thoughtfully made cycling routes...Cycle Super Highways...part of Copenhagen's efforts to become carbon-neutral by 2025. Are they as good as they sound? I've learned the hard way to be suspicious whenever politicians promise to do anything bike-friendly...Judging by my experience of the Farum route, they're great. By Alice Rawsthorn [images] - New York Times

New York's Double Standard on NIMBYism: A tale of two transit projects: Citi Bike vs. the 2nd Avenue subway...whatever progress New York has made against transit NIMBYism seems compromised by its simultaneous concessions to elitism...Benefiting thousands instead of appeasing a select few should be the aim of every city... By Eric Jaffe [images, links] - The Atlantic Cities

Initial Design Team Shortlist Announced for New U.S. Embassy in Beirut -- Diller Scopfido + Renfro; Mack Scogin Merrill Elam/ACOM; Morphosis Architects; Rafael Viñoly Architects; Yazdani Studio - U.S. Department of State

Amanda Levete and Farshid Moussavi make Olympic HQ shortlist: The International Olympic Committee has announced a 12 strong shortlist to design its new headquarters on the shores of Lake Geneva in Lausanne, Switzerland. -- Jean Marc IBOS - Myrto Vlart; XDGA - Xaveer De Geyter Architecten; Brasil Arqu & Associates; Groupe 3 Architectes S N.C; Toyo Ito & Associates, Architects; OMA; Neto Sobeijano Arquitectos; PIUARCH; 3XN; Diller Scofidio + Renfro- BD/Building Design (UK)

Three Finalists Selected for PXSTL Competition: Launched by the Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts and the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts...invited designers, architects, and artists to re-imagine and develop a vacant lot in the St. Louis Cultural District. -- Rebar; Freeceil Architecture; Oscar Tuazon- ArchDaily

Frank Harmon believes in learning by sketching: ...believes that every building offers lessons to be learned - and that the best way to absorb them is to sketch..."Which of us wakes up at night with a laptop to make a sketch?...Part of the magic of drawing is that we discover the unexpected as we draw." By J. Michael Welton [images] - News & Observer (North Carolina)

Library of Congress Announces Holland Prize Winners: ...in cooperation with the National Park Service and Architectural Record...a new prize for the best single-sheet, measured drawing of an historic building, site or structure. -- Thad Heckelman; Ankawaka (Niki) Rao; Laura Beth Ingle; Coby Vardy [images] - Architectural Record

Obit: Henry Hope Reed, 1915-2013: the contrarian classicist: His personal classical solution was narrowly rule-bound but his driving civic hope was unlimited. By Paul Gunther/Institute of Classical
Colin Rowe: A Memorial program was held on February 6, 2000, at The Carnegie Institution of Washington, DC.; speakers included: Robert Maxwell; Judith DiMaio for John Hejduk; Peter Eisenman; Michael Spens; Tom Beeby; Grahame Shane; Fred Koetter; Rodolfo Machado; etc. By Philip Handler [videos]- Fly on the Wall Productions

Frank Lloyd Wright, Alden B. Dow And 13 Other Famous Architects' Homes: ...where these artists lived themselves is rarely a discussion. -- Philip Johnson; Walter Gropius; Frank Gehry; Zaha Hadid; Sean Godsell; Günther Domenig; Vanna Venturi/Robert Venturi; John Henry; Dominic Stevens; Ricardo Bofill; Terunobu Fujimori; Susanne Nobis; Ray & Charles Eames [images, links]- Huffington Post

Call for entries: Fentress Global Challenge 2013: "Upcycled Architecture" International Student Competition: exploration of future design possibilities in public architecture; cash prizes, exhibition; no fee; registration deadline: December 19 (submission deadline: January 16, 2014)- Fentress Architects

Review: "False Solution" by Oren Safdie: The third in Safdie’s series of plays about architects and architecture makes its world premiere at La MaMa in Manhattan (only a few days left to see it!). By Kristen Richards- ArchNewsNow.com


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