

Today's News - Thursday, June 27, 2013

- ArcSpace brings us Teyssot's "latest, brilliant book," Zaha on view at the Danish Architecture Center, and a tribute to Henning Larsen.
- Lots of architects have lots of opinions about Scotland's new architecture policy ("it's just people saying nice things"; "England was never as brave!").
- San Francisco looks at establishing four types of eco-districts.
- Olcayto weighs in on the Heatherwick/Atopia Olympic Cauldron controversy: "Who should we believe?"
- Anderton's DnA has Horton and Walker talking about designing couples with Scott Brown, and Mizutani and Luddy.
- Wainwright on the "girl gap" in engineering and whether design can "persuade more women to enter the male-dominated field" (one female engineer's solution: "We need to make it glamorous").
- Pogrebin reports on construction changes at the Whitney, post-Sandy: it "will be a temple of American art and a model of storm protection" ("If the water comes up that high we'll have a lot more to worry about than art," says the museum's director).
- Cramer cautions about the "danger of insensitive renovations" of Weese's DC Metro stations: "The Eisenhower and MoMA scraps have garnered widespread media attention, but the Metro situation has yet to emerge as a cause célèbre."
- King is more optimistic about a small expansion at the California Academy of Sciences: Cavagnero's design "looks to be a subdued jewel in dialogue with Piano's elegant machine-like box."
- Gehry ruminates on his Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, and "why it's hard these days to find a benevolent dictator with taste" (in Foreign Policy magazine, no less).
- Szenasy cheers two competitions and a way of judging that "gives design work the meaning, dignity, importance, and relevance it deserves...So, I must ask, why we are still spending time debating pictures...?"
- Eyefuls of the 2013 North American Copper in Architecture Awards.
- One we couldn't resist: "I am an Architect" rap video is "a viral hit that proves architects do have a sense of humor" (it made us laugh, though we wish we knew who those arch/rappers are!).

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-- "A Topology of Everyday Constellations" by Georges Teyssot...his latest, brilliant book...  
-- "Zaha Hadid – World Architecture" at the Danish Architecture Center, Copenhagen, Denmark  
-- Obituary: Henning Larsen, 87: ...the essential link between the old masters from the Golden Age of Danish architecture...and the new, internationally oriented generation...  
-- "Reiulf Ramstad Architects" by Boris Broman Jensen (editor)

Scottish architects unconvinced by SNP's new architecture policy: ...have raised doubts over the potential impact of Scotland's new architecture policy [Creating Places], despite its promise to embed design quality in the planning and procurement systems...opinion...remains divided. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Efficiencies of Scale: San Francisco moves to establish eco-districts: ...examining the incorporation of four types of eco-districts into various zones and neighborhoods, seeking to find environmentally friendly solutions to energy demands, pollution, and overcrowding. [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Whose idea was the Olympic Cauldron anyway – and what does it really matter? Authorship is a prickly topic, yet practitioners know that design emerges through debate: Thomas Heatherwick, a copycat? ...A photo of a model of the Atopia scheme...seemed to prove Atopia's point...Who should we believe? By Rory Olcayto- The Architects' Journal (UK)

DnA/Frances Anderton: Designing Couples; Denise Scott Brown talks with Guy Horton about keeping it equal as a creative couple, in an unequal profession; Alissa Walker talks to another designing duo Makoto Mizutani and Benjamin Luddy of Scout Regalia, about keeping their business local, and their 24/7 partnership interesting. - KCRW (Los Angeles)

Women in engineering: the girl gap: Can design persuade more women to enter the male-dominated field of engineering? ...a bid to go beyond the boilersuit..."There is a big perception problem...it's difficult to see that there's anything beyond hammers and metalwork and boilersuits – when in fact the job is all about design, creativity and innovation. We need to make it glamorous..." By Oliver Wainwright -- Jennifer Leggett; Yewande Akinola/Arup; Roma Agrawal/WSP - Guardian (UK)

One Eye on Art, the Other on Water: Hurricane Sandy has influenced the construction of the new Whitney Museum: ...will be a temple of American art and a model of storm protection...the Hoppers and DeKoonings will be out of danger...60 feet above the lobby level. "If the water comes up that high...we'll have a lot more to worry about than art." By Robin Pogrebin -- Renzo Piano; Piet Oudolf- New York Times

When Brighter Isn't Better: Harry Weese's D.C. Metro stations are in danger of insensitive renovation. If changes really are necessary, don't these modern landmarks deserve the best? The Eisenhower and MoMA scraps have garnered widespread media attention, but the Metro situation has yet to emerge as a cause célèbre. This is unfortunate because Weese's grandly vaulted stations are no less than a national treasure... By Ned Cramer -- Ivailo Karadimov- Architect Magazine

California Academy of Sciences to expand (a little)! The good news is that the Mark Cavagnero design looks to be a subdued jewel in dialogue with (as we architectural poseurs say) Renzo Piano's elegant machine-like box. By John King [image]- San Francisco Chronicle

Epiphanies from Frank Gehry: The starchitect on his first project in the Arab world [Guggenheim Abu Dhabi] - and why it's hard these days to find a benevolent dictator with taste. - Foreign Policy magazine

Food for Thought: Two competitions underscore the value of research, innovation, and collaboration: Next Generation Competition...original, rigorous, and focused research [and] the importance of identifying underserved user groups...Rudy Bruner Award...way of judging gives design work the meaning, dignity, importance, and relevance to the community that it deserves. So, I must ask, why are we still spending time debating pictures when there's so much to know, so much to say? By

Susan S. Szenasy- Metropolis Magazine

2013 North American Copper in Architecture (NACIA) Awards: Copper Industry Honors Churches, Academic Facilities and Historic Government Buildings. -- SmithGroupJJR; CO Architects/Ayers Saint Gross; Safdie Architects; gouldevans; Cannon Design; Gensler; Gauthier, Alvarado & Associates; Quinn Evans Architects; Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates; STV Incorporated; Fournier Gersovitz Moss Drolet et associés architectes [images]- Copper Development Association/Canadian Copper & Brass Development Association

'I am an Architect' rap video is a hit on Youtube: American architectural products company YKK AP may have hit on a double whammy - a viral hit that proves architects do have a sense of humour... [video]- BD/Building Design (UK)

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

Some Pointed Architectural Queries for Three Connoisseurs of Albert Speer's Monumental Classicism on the Occasion of the Re-publication of "Albert Speer: Architecture 1932-1942" by Leon Krier. By Norman Weinstein -- Robert A.M. Stern; Witold Rybczynski - ArchNewsNow

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