

Today's News - Monday, July 1, 2013

- Climate change? What climate change? Hume tackles Alberta flood coverage: the heart-warming stories are all well and good, but "you'd think that Canadians would be at least a little skeptical about getting back to business as usual."
- Flint reports on a little-covered Supreme Court decision that will make "the grinding work of preparing for the impacts of global warming more complicated" (but developers are happy).
- AIA issues an appeal to help stop the Senate from repealing 2030 sustainability targets for federal buildings put into place six years ago.
- Dunlap tours the not-quite finished 9/11 museum at Ground Zero and finds "vastness and serenity, and awe and grief" - and a pathway with "points at which visitors can decide to leave if they feel emotionally unprepared for what lies ahead."
- Lamster may cheer the First Baptist Church of Dallas's commitment to downtown, but is much less cheered by an expansion that looks more like a "corporate behemoth" that "consciously insinuates its private space into the public space of the city."
- Welton wanders Raleigh's new Wake Justice Center: "if it disappoints somewhat at the street level, its interiors make up for that in spaces where good design matters most - at the human level, with warmth, and a sensitive touch."
- King reports on San Francisco planners' review of Foster's Union Square Apple Store: it "can be boiled down to one short word: reboot."
- Northwestern University names a shortlist of three vying to design the successor to Goldberg's doomed Prentice Women's Hospital.
- Finalists from New York, Madrid, and Stockholm fly to Bristol to show off their revised design concepts for a "facelift to improve the aesthetics and performance of the Bristol Royal Infirmary."
- H&deM's M+ museum design may be "very Hong Kong" - but another factor for the win was that it's "the cheapest, budgeted to cost 40% less than the most expensive entry" (we'll see how that plays out).
- Darley hopes U.K. Education Secretary Gove takes heed of Colin Stansfield Smith's obituaries: "he made the quality of design of schools, libraries, fire stations and other public buildings something to be proud of."
- Hawthorne minces no words when it comes to explaining the "messy run-up" to MOCA's "Contemporary Californian Architects" show (a.k.a. "A New Sculpturalism" - sort of): "it's clear that it is the product of an architectural ruling class in Los Angeles that is not so much dysfunctional as increasingly insular" (ouch!).
- Filler weighs in on MoMA's Corbu show: it's "a sprawling, frustrating, intermittently thrilling tribute" that "often raises more questions than it answers" (and "has some astonishing lapses").
- After 18 years, Plater-Zyberk is stepping down as dean of the University of Miami's architecture school - leaving it with "a national reputation as an iconoclastically un-voignish center for traditional design and community engagement."
- Alan Dunlop writes about his passion for hand drawing in architecture: "I am dismayed to see so many students working only on lap tops" - and "few working architects now use pencil and paper - these tools no longer seem to figure in the creative act."
- One we couldn't resist: Bey has a field day with "I Am an Architect" rap video and, even better, comes up with two others (a PBS kids' show from 1987, and an ode to Mies that's not to be missed!).
- Eyefuls of finalists in ULI 2013 Global Awards for Excellence competition.
- Call for entries: International open call for July 22 memorial sites in Norway to commemorate the bombing in Oslo and the massacre at Utøya.

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[Alberta flood coverage misses the point: Stories about the flood response are heart-warming, but should be more about Earth-warming: ...we need to drop the fantasies by which we live and enter the realm of reality. You'd think that Canadians, who hear stories weekly about the vanishing Arctic, the disappearing boreal forest, the melting tundra, falling water levels, record summer heat and warmest-ever winters, would be at least a little skeptical about getting back to business as usual. By Christopher Hume - Toronto Star](#)

[How the Supreme Court Made It Harder to Prepare for Climate Change: Should waterfront developers have to contribute to flood mitigation? With Koontz, it just got a lot harder to ask them...Why should one builder be held accountable for a problem the whole world is responsible for? Years from now the stakes will be...the safety of vast urban populations...in the meantime, the grinding work of preparing for the impacts of global warming just got more complicated. By Anthony Flint - The Atlantic Cities](#)

[Help Stop the 2030 Repeal: ...stop the Senate from taking a major step backward on sustainable design...will likely vote on an amendment that would remove 2030 sustainability targets for federal buildings that AIA members worked very hard to put into place six years ago. - American Institute of Architects \(AIA\)](#)

[In 9/11 Museum to Open Next Spring, Vastness and Serenity, and Awe and Grief: Rather than try to squeeze a conventional museum into this eccentric void, the creators threaded a pathway through it, a concrete ribbon with switchbacks and overlooks and — quite as important — points at which visitors can decide to leave if they feel emotionally unprepared for what lies ahead. By David W. Dunlap -- Davis Brody Bond; Snohetta \[images, video\] - New York Times](#)

[First Baptist Church of Dallas builds a \\$130 million corporate behemoth: The message is clear. First Baptist...is unafraid of the trappings of the modern world and the contemporary city. Indeed, it has embraced both emphatically and strategically...consciously insinuates its private space into the public space of the city... By Mark Lamster -- Beck Group \[slide show\] - Dallas Morning News](#)

[Wake Justice Center's design succeeds where it matters most — at the human level: For all its size and height, this building's interior succeeds best in its most intimate spaces...if \[it\] disappoints somewhat at the street level, its interiors make up for that in spaces where good design matters most — at the human level, with warmth, and a sensitive touch. By J. Michael Welton -- O'Brien/Atkins; HOK - News & Observer \(North Carolina\)](#)

[SF planners want Union Square Apple Store altered: ... initial review...can be boiled down to one short word: reboot...There's too much glass on Post Street and too much metal on Stockton...Ruth Asawa's fountain must be included in the design... By John King -- Foster + Partners - San Francisco Chronicle](#)

[Doomed to Demolition, Northwestern Names Three Firms to Design Prentice Successor: Perkins + Will, Goettsch Partners, and Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill will compete to design a successor to Bertrand Goldberg's celebrated Prentice Women's Hospital...Booth Hansen will serve as the local architect of record...winning firm will be chosen by December... - The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Finalists in Bristol hospital competition reveal new designs: International shortlist flies in from New York, Madrid and Stockholm for interviews -- Nieto Sobejano; Tham & Videgård; Solid Objectives-Idenburg Liu \(SO-IL\) \[slide show\] - BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

['Bird's Nest' architects Herzog & de Meuron win M+ museum design: ...firm fights off five global](#)

rivals with a minimalist 'playground for artists' to win job of creating West Kowloon museum..."[the design] is very Hong Kong"...winning design was the cheapest, budgeted to cost 40% less than the most expensive entry. -- TFP Farrells [images]- South China Morning Post

Architecture Lessons for Gove: I hope Michael Gove has been reading the obituaries of Colin Stansfield Smith, Hampshire's county architect between 1974 and 1993...he made the quality of design of schools, libraries, fire stations and other public buildings something to be proud of...he believed in the highest possible quality in the public built environment. By Gillian Darley- London Review of Books

MOCA's revamped architecture show a model of insularity: ...a jumble of work that marks how closed off the profession in Southern California has become...it's clear that it is the product of an architectural ruling class in Los Angeles that is not so much dysfunctional as increasingly insular...Now that the theme of "A New Sculpturalism" has been banished, what's left? ...The biggest change...since the Morphosis rescue has been to make the show even more insular than it was before... By Christopher Hawthorne -- Christopher Mount- Los Angeles Times

The Contradictions of Le Corbusier: ...Museum of Modern Art's "Le Corbusier: An Atlas of Modern Landscapes"—a sprawling, frustrating, intermittently thrilling tribute to the 20th century's most influential master builder...attempts to challenge prevalent notions of its subject...often raises more questions than it answers...has some astonishing lapses. By Martin Filler -- Barry Bergdoll; Jean-Louis Cohen [images]- New York Review of Books

Celebrated University of Miami architecture dean, champion of traditional design, to step down: Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk...under whose leadership the fledgling architecture school gained a national reputation as an iconoclastically un-voguish center for traditional design and community engagement, is stepping down as dean after an unusually long tenure of 18 years.- Miami Herald

OZ 33: Alan Dunlop writes about his passion for hand drawing in architecture: These days you are unlikely to find many drawing boards in schools of architecture or students drawing by hand...I am dismayed to see so many students working only on lap tops...Regrettably, few working architects too now use pencil and paper and these tools no longer seem to figure in the creative act.- Drawing Research Network (UK)

Raise the roof, y'all: Architects' rap video a minor sensation: "I Am an Architect"...bespectacled architects rapping about their profession is now a YouTube favorite...The intersection between rap and architecture isn't quite as unusual at it might seem. Consider this bit from PBS educational show 3-2-1 Contact from way back in 1987...And my favorite, Ted Kamp's "Mies van der Rohe" from 2007. By Lee Bey [videos]- WBEZ Chicago Public Radio

ULI Announces Finalists for the 2013 Global Awards for Excellence Competition: ...selected 27 developments... -- Lake|Flato Architects; Perkins+Will; Deborah Berke Partners; ECE architects; NBBJ/LMN Architects; AECOM; ZGF/FFKR Architects; Mithun/Solomon; The Jerde Partnership/Samoo; ASTOC/EMBT; Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates (KPF); Torti Gallas and Partners; VOA; Lowry Architecture; Van Meter Williams Pollack; David Baker + Partners; Harboe Architects; BIG/Bjarke Ingels Group; Handel Architects; Axis Architects; Studio E Architects; DattnerArchitects/Grimshaw [images, info]- Urban Land Institute (ULI)

Call for entries: International open call for July 22 memorial sites in Norway to commemorate the bombing in Oslo and the massacre at Utøya; deadline: September 1- Norwegian Ministry of Culture



-- "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 Brorman Jensen (editor)

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