

Today's News - Wednesday, August 7, 2013

- Duncan ponders why so many British women are leaving architecture, and what needs to be done to buck the trend (in South America, "female architects outnumber men" - who knew?!?).
- Russell minces no words about the "strikingly venal and cruel" possibility of the Detroit Institute of Arts' treasures being auctioned off: the city's "assets need to be understood in terms of what they can do to revive the city, not on what cash they will produce at auction" - he does cheer the "committed young people - artists, designers, historic preservationists, restaurateurs - that have created the new vitality you can see in Detroit."
- The fourth annual "State of Australian Cities 2013" report examines "the productivity, sustainability and livability of Australian cities"; a second report "sets out the simple steps that governments and employers can take to increase the proportion of people walking and riding for short trips."
- There's a "walking boom" in London because of incentives that ailing high streets and town centers that "need to win back walkers" could learn from.
- It hasn't been all gum drops and roses for San Francisco's parklets program, but it's learning from a few failures, and "more parklets are in the works" ("not all are happy to see them appear").
- Byrnes brings us an eyeful of an "absurd Parisian ghost town in the middle of China" - the developer "thought it could cash in on China's love for all things French. It hasn't worked out that way."
- Three projects by Holl, HWKN, and Selldorf "show a confident return to building in the New York region."
- The 20-year saga of the Kingsbridge Armory in the Bronx "could be a national model to achieve the greatest degree of community influence on significant projects using public property" (we love happy endings).
- NYC's Trinity Church taps Pelli Clarke Pelli to design a 32-story tower, a decision that came after a decade of planning; the "selection of an architect before it lined up a development partner is unusual."
- Hales hails LTL Architects' new dorm and student center for Gallaudet University for the deaf and hard-of-hearing: it "exudes raw energy" that "doesn't come from how the structure looks, but how the building functions for the people inside."
- An eyeful of Ban's just-about-completed Cardboard Cathedral in Christchurch "said to be earthquake-proof. And it's not too hard on the eyes, either."
- Moore marvels at some of the "most innovative (and people-friendly)" pop-up designs "popping up in London and beyond."
- Q&A with "pioneering" architect Sheila Sriprakash re: "the need for socially responsible architecture and the frustrating haphazardness of urban design" in India: "The basic problem is that we don't have buildings for the public."
- Richter remembers the Danish master, Larsen, "often referred to as a Magician of Light."
- FLW's Graycliff "has been a well-kept secret on the shores of Lake Erie for years. Maybe not for much longer" (we've seen it - it's divine!).
- Pogrebin reports on the latest twist in the Nasher/Museum Tower debate in Dallas: pro-tower comments were faked by a consultant to the tower's outside law firm (like, that never happens).
- One we couldn't resist: LEGO's \$150 Architectural Studio kit "ups the ante for an unforgiving crowd of architects" (though not all are convinced).

To subscribe to the free daily newsletter [click here](#)

[Why are so many women leaving architecture? 44% of architecture students are female, yet just 12% are partners in firms...how can we buck the trend? This is not a world-wide phenomenon. In South America...female architects outnumber men. So what is going wrong here in the UK? By Jane Duncan/Jane Duncan Architects - Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Detroit's Venal Art Sale No Fix for Urban Nightmare: The idea of auctioning the crown-jewel holdings of the Detroit Institute of Arts looks like a quick fix for a bankrupt city...regarding art assets as monetizable for the purpose of paying off creditors is not only wrong, it is strikingly venal and cruel. Detroit's assets need to be understood in terms of what they can do to revive the city, not on what cash they will produce at auction. By James S. Russell - Bloomberg News](#)

[State of Australian Cities 2013 launched: The Federal Government launches the fourth in an annual series of reports examining the productivity, sustainability and liveability of Australian cities...a second report, 'Walking, Riding and Access to Public Transport', which "sets out the simple steps that governments and employers can take to increase the proportion of people walking and riding for short trips..." - Australian Design Review](#)

[Footfalls: Walking in London: Urban pedestrians buck a national trend: Several reasons account for the walking boom. The number of Londoners increased...and Tube trains are broiling and overcrowded. But other factors also encourage pedestrians...Ailing high streets and town centres need to win back walkers. Learning from London's incentives would be a start. - The Economist \(UK\)](#)

[San Francisco's parklets program learns from failure, moves ahead: ...despite stricter guidelines, more parklets are in the works...But not all are happy to see them appear. - San Francisco Examiner](#)

[Glimpse the Absurd Parisian Ghost Town in the Middle of China: A luxury real estate developer in Hangzhou thought it could cash in on China's love for all things French. It hasn't worked out that way...photographer Aly Song gives us a glimpse of...a place where China's aspirations and traditions awkwardly collide. By Mark Byrnes \[images\] - The Atlantic Cities](#)

[Architecture Again: Three projects show a confident return to building in the New York region: Steven Holl Architects: a muscular athletic facility for Columbia University + Concrete Ambition: sublime gallery building for David Zwirner by Selldorf Architects + HWKN on Fire: Hollwich Kushner turn heads with a bold nightclub building on Fire Island. \[images\] - The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Bronx Armory Saga: Will it Echo Nationwide? For 20 years, community groups and the city wrestled over the Kingsbridge Armory. The latest and most likely proposal includes a landmark community benefits deal that could be a national model...offers a critical policy lesson...to achieve the greatest degree of community influence on significant projects using public property. - City Limits / Bronx Bureau \(NYC\)](#)

[Trinity to build 32-story tower out back: Church taps Pelli Clarke Pelli to design building...The decision to go ahead with the new building...comes after a decade of planning...selection of an architect before it lined up a development partner is unusual. By Matt Chaban \[image\] - Crain's New York Business](#)

[Clear Line of Sight: Faced with the ultimate universal design challenge, LTL Architects creates a new student center based on DeafSpace principles: The new dormitory at Gallaudet University exudes raw energy...doesn't come from how the structure looks...but how the building functions for the people inside. By Linda Hales -- Quinn Evans Architects \[images\] - Metropolis Magazine](#)

[After the Earthquake, Christchurch Erects a 'Cardboard Cathedral': Shigeru Ban designed the paper-based house of worship, which is said to be earthquake-proof...Christchurch Cathedral...And it's not too hard on the eyes, either. By John Metcalfe - The Atlantic Cities](#)

[The pop-up designs changing the city landscape: From a floating cinema to a car park-cum-art gallery, some of Britain's most innovative \(and people-friendly\) design is seen in temporary projects in public spaces. Here's what's been popping up in London and beyond this summer. By Rowan Moore -- Sou Fujimoto; Duggan Morris; Studio Weave; Practice Architecture; Aberrant Architecture; Exyzt; etc. \[images\] - Observer \(UK\)](#)

[Of matters spatial: Pioneering architect Sheila Sriprakash speaks to K. Pradeep about the need for socially responsible architecture and the frustrating haphazardness of urban design..."The basic problem is that we don't have buildings for the public." -- Shilpa Architects - The Hindu \(India\)](#)

[Obit: Henning Larsen, 1925-2013: Dagmar Richter remembers the Danish master: ...often referred to as a Magician of Light...He never succumbed to the branding effect of a personal style, but instead searched for the fundamental quality of each individual project. \[images\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Graycliff: Secret Frank Lloyd Wright house on the Lake: ...designed for Isabelle and Darwin Martin, has been a well-kept secret on the shores of Lake Erie for years. Maybe not for much longer. -- Ellen Biddle Shipman \[images\]- Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)

[Fake Comments Muddy a Debate in Dallas: ...the latest twist in the fight between the Nasher Sculpture Center and its neighbor, the Museum Tower...proved to be the work of a former television anchor...long a fixture in the city and now a public relations executive who had been hired by the tower's outside law firm. By Robin Pogrebin - New York Times](#)

[Lego ups the ante for an unforgiving crowd of architects: ...an Architectural Studio kit that permits the practice of techniques such as creating surfaces, modules and repetition and symmetry...the first in the range to focus on creativity and architectural principles, rather than a specific architectural icon... - BRW \(Australia\)](#)

[Nuts + Bolts #5: Why Mid-Sized Design Firms Should Hire a Director of Operations: Hiring a DOO has the potential to significantly increase revenues while creating an environment where designers design, not manage! By Michael Bernard, AIA, and Mary Breuer - ArchNewsNow](#)

Note: Pages will open in a new browser window.
External news links are not endorsed by ArchNewsNow.com.
Free registration may be required on some sites.
Some pages may expire after a few days.

[Yesterday's News](#)

© 2013 ArchNewsNow.com