• China's "skyward aspirations have inspired incredulity tinged with hostility," with the planned 202-story Sky City (to be built using prefab modules) becoming "the lightning rod for criticism of the trend."

• Ransford issues a rallying call for Vancouver "to launch the mother-of-all collaborative planning processes" for a city-wide master plan for the future.

• Meanwhile, Vancouver's Acton Ostry Architects pays heed to both NiMYs and YMYs to design "a more nuanced and richly textured approach to high density that reflects a neighborhood's character."

• Across the Big Pond, the British government considers scrapping the Code for Sustainable Homes; needless to say, the UKGBC has "accused the government of lacking a vision for sustainable horizons and throwing away years of hard work."

• Hawthorne gives (mostly) thumbs-up to Corner's pair of parks in Santa Monica: though he may have played it "a bit too safe," they are still "unquestionably a rare example of farsighted urban planning - which may in the end be its most important legacy."

• St. Petersurg, FL, voters sank Malzian's competition-winning Lens pier project; they didn't buy the argument that it "would be an icon that would help brand the city internationally."

• Saffron gives thumbs-up to the "elegant redesign" of Philby's Franklin Court complex: the "dire warnings of architectural Armageddon" didn't pan out as "both Franklin's memory and Venturi's iconic design were well-treated."

• A young New York firm gives a Beirut department store a face lift: "pretty is as pretty does - the real test of the building's success was whether the investment would pay off on the sales floor. So far, so good" (great pix).

• A battle is brewing over a proposed façadectomy for "one of Scotland's best post-war buildings" on Edinburgh's St. Andrew Square.

• A fascinating look at how architectural renderings are used as "weapons" in real estate wars: their "most important mission is to gin up enthusiasm for a project, or to incite resistance."

• For powerful proof, check out a sampling of some of the renderings by starchitects on the shortlist to design the World Expo 2017 exhibition in Astana, Kazakhstan.

• A good reason to be in Amsterdam next week: inamsterdam World Interiors Event 2013 will highlight the historic, cultural, artistic, and economic importance of interior architecture and design."
Call for entries: U.S. Seeks Proposals for 2015 World Expo Pavilion: ...hoping to make a strong showing in Milan...Proposers are expected to include plans for raising the projected $25 to $45 million cost of building, running, and then razing the pavilion...drawings are not required—the RFP is not a design competition...Proposals are due on September 15...a seemingly impossible deadline for any firm without deep pockets and expo experience. By Fred A. Bernstein [link to RFP]- Architectural Record

'Guerrilla stripers' add bike lanes to Detroit Avenue in Cleveland to protest slow city action: Renegade bicycle enthusiasts installed makeshift "bike lanes"...over the weekend, bringing to Cleveland the illegal practice of "guerrilla striping"...A steady stream of bicyclists used the lanes...and motorists generally respected the stripes. By Steven Litt - Cleveland Plain Dealer

Stamp Out Quacks With Reduction Of Charges: The federal government has advised architects and other professionals in the building industry to review their charges...to discourage people from patronizing quacks who design buildings that easily collapse...appealed to the Nigeria Institute of Architects to creatively proffer new solutions that will address the nation's housing challenges. - Channels Television (Nigeria)

Quack, quack! Whither genuine architects? It's high time we prioritised what we expect of architectural profession, had full clarity about each profession's roles and assumed full responsibilities...With such a large volume of construction underway...have we pondered how the professional responsible for the same — the architect — is selected? By Yatin Pandya/Footprints E.A.R.T.H. - DNA/Daily News & Analysis (India)

inamsterdam World Interiors Event 2013: will highlight the historic, cultural, artistic and economic importance of interior architecture and design, bringing together 1000-1200 professionals from over 45 countries. September 5-7 - Dutch Association of Interior Architects BNI

-- Estudi D'arquitectura Toni Gironès: Transmission Space for Megalithic Dolmen of Séro, Artesa de Segre, Spain
-- "Eastern Promises: Contemporary Architecture and Spatial Practices in East Asia"; shows us why architecturally interested heads should turn toward East Asia in the coming years; MAK Austrian Museum of Applied Arts / Contemporary Art, Vienna
-- OMA is Rem Koolhaas. Rem Koolhaas is OMA...one should not make the mistake of equating the two.
-- SANAA: 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, Japan
-- Eduardo Souto de Moura: Viana do Castelo Multipurpose Pavilion, Viana do Castelo, Portugal - ArcSpace

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.

© 2013 ArchNewsNow.com