Today's News - Wednesday, October 2, 2013

- AIA posts "Shutdown 101: FAQ" to assist its members during the government shutdown + Quirk reports on AIA's new buzzword: "resiliency" and its part in the 100 Resilient Cities Centennial Challenge.

- Gendall goes coast-to-coast to see how designers "are breaking through the old distinction between grey and green infrastructure," but "many of the real possibilities for fundamental change have been hampered by the lure of a buzzword."

- A great in-depth look at how Houston, the "most sprawling, least dense, most automobile-dependent city in America is trying to adapt to people's preference for urban living" - and the growing pains it's going through.

- Wainwright reports from Beijing Design Week and the designers using "urban acupuncture" to revive one of Beijing's oldest neighborhoods, finding lots of good intentions - and some misfires (with pix to prove his points).

- Litt x 2: he has high hopes for plans to turn a "battered, bleak, rundown" commercial strip into Cleveland's "next hot neighborhood" + the proposed Opportunity Corridor would connect the city's "Forgotten Triangle" to University Circle, "the fastest-growing job center in the region."

- Chaban reports on NYC's next extremely tall tower that could rise in midtown (taller than 1 WTC - if you don't count its 400-foot spire).

- Q&A with Gehry re: Disney Concert Hall's 10th anniversary: "I don't look at all the sturm und drang that went on."

- The "dean of health-care design" has big plans to revolutionize the way hospitals are designed and built with a Silicon Valley design start-up.

- The new chair of the landscape architecture department at the University of Virginia School of Architecture explains how she designs using two minds.

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- Q&A with Gehry re: Disney Concert Hall's 10th anniversary: "I don't look at all the sturm und drang that went on."

- Booth reports on a harrowing report that Qatar 2022 World Cup construction "will leave 4,000 migrant workers dead unless action is taken" (will starchitect(s) take a stand, we wonder).

- Two firms team up to improve educational system outcomes.

- Levinson explores "the power and appeal of the book, of the print artifact, even as we move ever more fully into the digital era."

- Two we couldn't resist: a 3D video of how Gaudi's finished Sagrada Familia will look in 2026 + "Ship Of Tolerance" docks in Brooklyn's Dumbo, with sails of poignant messages drawn by children from around the globe.

- Call for entries: "Rome Motorino Check Point" competition for architecture students and young graduates.

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Federal government shutdown: What it means to AEC firms: AIA issued a statement and "Shutdown 101: FAQ" to assist its members during the shutdown. [link to FAQ] - Building Design + Construction (B+D+C)

AIA Puts Resiliency on the Agenda: "Resilience Is the New Green": ...American Institute of Architects’ participation in the 100 Resilient Cities Commitment: an initiative of the Rockefeller Foundation to provide 100 cities with "Chief resilience officers"...Along with Architecture for Humanity, the AIA will then train those cities' resilience officers...But the "resilience" doesn’t stop there. By Vanessa Quirk [links] - ArchDaily

The Nuanced Approach: Designers from coast to coast are breaking through the old distinction between grey and green infrastructure to establish strategies that apply a mix of the two...grey vs. green or hard vs. soft...The climate-related risks we now face don’t how to any dualisms...many of the real possibilities for fundamental change have been hampered by the lure of a buzzword. By John Gendall -- Guy Nordenson; Catherine Seewalt; Adam Yarinsky; SWA Group; Sasaki Associates; James Corner Field Operations; AECOM; Tracy Metz; Urbanisten [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Houston: The Surprising Contender in America’s Urban Revival: Even the country's most sprawling, least dense, most automobile-dependent city in America is trying to adapt to people's preference for urban living...track record so far shows that it has growing pains wherever areas get dense...also has an unpleasant history in general with gentrification that critics say has been reigned by efforts at increasing density. - Governing Magazine

Designers use "urban acupuncture" to revive Beijing's historic hutongs: Beijing Design Week sees architects launch "micro-interventions" in one of the capital's oldest neighbourhoods. But are their good intentions having the right effect? While well-meaning, many of the projects...seem to have missed..."we have to be careful Dashilar is not just creating another kind of 'authentic' stage set for designers." By Oliver Wainwright -- Zhang Ke/Standard Architecture; People's Architecture Office; Neil Gaddes; Liang Jingyu/Approach Architecture Studio; Matali Crasset; Luca Nichetto; Michael Young; Open Union Studio; Bert de Muynck [images] - Guardian (UK)

St. Clair Avenue is poised for revival as Cleveland's next example of "creative placemaking": To the casual eye, the battered commercial strip...would look bleak, unwelcoming and rundown...Michael Fleming...sees something else: a street of hidden treasures and rich potential...he's devised a turnaround plan that could make St. Clair the city's next hot neighborhood...by turning into a regional center for upcycling...By Steven Litt [images] - Cleveland Plain Dealer

Can Cleveland realize the benefits of Opportunity Corridor and avoid pitfalls?...a $321 million boulevard...would curve across the economically devastated south-central portion of the city and connect the highway network to University Circle, the fastest-growing job center in the region...If designed well...could reactivate hundreds of acres of fallow industrial land and hollowed-out neighborhoods in the city's "Forgotten Triangle"...By Steven Litt [images] - Cleveland Plain Dealer

New 1,550-foot tower at 215 W. 57th St. will be the tallest building in New York City other than 1 World Trade Center, and tallest if you don't count 1 WTC's 400-foot spire:...one of roughly half-a-dozen towers over 1,000 feet popping up in midtown, where international buyers are gobbling up multi-million-dollar condos like hotcakes. By Matt Chaban -- Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture [images] - NY Daily News

Q&A: Frank Gehry Celebrates Ten Years of Disney Concert Hall: ...his relationship to the building, his work in production design, and how technology has influenced his work. ..."I don't look at all the sturm und drang that went on." - Artinfo

Derek Parker's Third Act: What's the dean of health-care design doing in Silicon Valley? Attempting to revolutionize the way hospitals are designed and built:...placed a brick and a silicon chip on the table..."one of them is dumb, and one of them is smart. And that the smart one is the one we're using to build hospitals..." – Adizazz; Anshen + Allen; Mazzetti Nash Lipsey Burch; Perkins+Will [images] - Metropolis Magazine

Teresa Gali-Torz: A Woman of Two Minds: ...she just began her first year as chair of the landscape architecture department at the University of Virginia's School of Architecture...She sees of landscape
architects, “we are builders of machines”...explained her process through six projects in Spain and one, currently underway, in Caracas, Venezuela. — Arquitectura Agronomia [images]- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Qatar 2022 World Cup construction 'will leave 4,000 migrant workers dead': International Trade Union Confederation claims about 12 labourers will die each week unless action is taken. By Robert Booth-Guardian (UK)

Mimar McKissick Education Formed to Improve Educational System Outcomes: Baltimore’s Kal Bhatti, Principal of Mimar Architects, a successful Minority Business Enterprise has partnered with McKissick Associates, an Education Architecture firm from Harrisburg, PA. - PR Web

Print and Pixel: Even as we move ever more fully into the digital era, the power and appeal of the book, of the print artifact, remains strong...Nancy Levinson explores the uncertainty — and the excitement — of our current moment, as we hover between worlds.- Places Journal

How Gaudi’s finished Sagrada Familia cathedral in Barcelona will look: It will have taken 144 years to construct, but Barcelona’s emblematic cathedral will finally be completed by 2026, the architect currently in charge of the eccentric masterpiece has promised. — Jordi Fauli [video]- Telegraph (UK)

Kabakov “Ship Of Tolerance” Docks In Dumbo: ...a ship of sails drawn with poignant messages of tolerance by children from local public schools around the globe...Dumbo Arts Festival on the Brooklyn waterfront in New York...before docking in Four Freedoms Park on Roosevelt Island and finally at the Atlantic Salt Yard... [video]- Artinfo

Call for entries: “Rome Motorino Check Point” competition for architecture students and young graduates; cash prizes; earlybird registration (save money): November 17 (submission deadline: January 31, 2014)- ArchMedium

-- Kengo Kuma & Associates: ...works with elements of Japanese tradition to create human friendly architecture for the 21st century.
-- Zaha Hadid Architects: Serpentine Sackler Gallery
-- Snøhetta/craig Dykers/Kjetil Traedal Thorsen: ...has become one of the most discussed and sought-after practices today, due to their radical rethinking of the relationship between building and landscape