

Today's News - Wednesday, October 30, 2013

- Compared to what we woke up to a year ago, it was lovely waking up today to find all's well in our little corner of the world: This being the "era of 'when, not if,' the ULI offers guidance on post-disaster rebuilding."
- Ten "brilliant proposals for resilient urban coasts" drawn from 41 Rebuild by Design proposals.
- Marion Weiss "discusses the new reality of designing buildings, infrastructures and parkland when weather patterns are no longer predictable."
- Speck uses Portland as a prime example of a city that, by prioritizing walkability, has avoided urban decline: "young, smart people are moving to Portland in droves."
- Morphosis tapped by U.S. State Dept. to design the U.S. Embassy in Beirut (no pix yet).
- Mara says Alsop should be "justifiably proud" of completing his "arduous odyssey" of a mixed-use project in Rotterdam: "Despite, or perhaps even because of its architectural animation, it feels like a termite colony"; it's "a gutsy piece of architecture."
- An affordable housing project with "an abrasive urban context with a tough exterior shell" and design features that "exceed those traditionally offered in social housing" garners Tasmania's first 5 Star Green Star.
- Kats links us to eyefuls of Calatrava's design for St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church at Ground Zero: "after 11 years of uncertainty and bureaucratic delays, renderings have surfaced" (no moving parts, it seems).
- Schwartz brings us eyefuls of P+W's PNU - at 32 million square feet, and built in just one year, it's "the world's largest women's university - and it's in Saudi Arabia" ("job prospects after graduation still leave something to be desired").
- More on Kapoor and Isozaki's portable, inflatable "giant purple blimp" of a concert hall: "what would have been the point of just putting up another tent?"
- More on Skolnick's children's museum in Sofia, Bulgaria (the kids can't wait!).
- On the outskirts of Melbourne, the Catholic Ladies College gets a chapel "with a feminine touch" (soft curves not included).
- Scott Brown offers her words of wisdom re: collaboration, career advice, and the psychology of architecture.
- Wainwright offers his (hilarious!) take on starchitects going overboard in a "battle of the superyachts": "Architects have long been obsessed with the nautical, but recent evidence suggests it might not be such a good idea" (unless it's Piano - your must-read of the day!).
- While we're at it, a terrific slide show of dollhouses designed by the stars: a Hadid "could be yours for less than \$20,000. But don't think you can move in."
- We wish we could head Down Under for what looks like a fab Sydney Architecture Festival 2013.
- Cheers to some of our faves being honored with 2013 Society of Architectural Historians Awards for Architectural Excellence.
- Eyefuls of the winners of the ONE Prize 2013 Stormproof Competition.

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The Era of "When, Not If," Compels a New Approach to Waterfront Development: On the anniversary of Hurricane Sandy, ULI offers guidance on post-disaster rebuilding and building in anticipation of future disasters in a way that helps preserve the environment, boost economic prosperity, and foster a high quality of life. By Patrick L. Phillips/Urban Land Institute [link to report]- PLANetizen

On Hurricane Sandy's One Year Anniversary, 10 Brilliant Proposals For Resilient Urban Coasts: We've scoured the 41 Rebuild by Design proposals by international firms, and selected 10 ideas that interrogate urgent urban challenges... -- Bjarke Ingels Group/BIG; OMA; SCAPE/LANDSCAPE Architecture; WXY/West8; Sasaki/Rutgers/Arup; MIT+ZUS+URBANISTEN; HR&A Advisors/Cooper, Robertson & Partners; Interboro Partners; PennDesign/OLIN; Unabridged Coastal Collective [images, links]- Architizer

Marion Weiss on Designing for Disaster: Are we ready for the next Hurricane Sandy? New York architect Marion Weiss, of Weiss/Manfredi, discusses the new reality of designing buildings, infrastructures and parkland when weather patterns are no longer predictable.- Azure magazine (Canada)

Time to get US cities walking again: Cities that prioritise walkability are more likely to avoid urban decline. ..The American city that perhaps epitomizes the benefits of trading automobility for walkability is Portland, Oregon...the real Portland story is neither its transportation savings nor its housing investment, but something else: young, smart people are moving to Portland in droves. By Jeff Speck- ChinaDialogue.net

Design Team Selection Announced for New U.S. Embassy in Beirut: Morphosis Architects was selected from a very talented shortlist of three architecture/engineering (A/E) teams....- U.S. Department of State

Rocky Rotterdam: CalypSO by Alsop Architects, Will Alsop, now ALL Design: [He] is justifiably proud of the mixed use development, not least because it comes at the end of an arduous road...It took 13 years... 'Parochial' is Alsop's verdict on Rotterdam planners' modus operandi...Despite, or perhaps even because of its architectural animation, it feels like a termite colony...a gutsy piece of architecture, sometimes bordering on crude, which would have been a lot better if Alsop Architects had been allowed more freedom. By Felix Mara [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

First 5 Star multi-residential design rating awarded in Tasmania: Hopkins Street Affordable Housing project accommodates an abrasive urban context with a tough exterior shell, but also incorporates exceptional energy efficiency, sustainability...Design features also exceed those traditionally offered in social housing. -- Xsquared Architects [images]- Architecture & Design (Australia)

See Santiago Calatrava's Design for Ground Zero's St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church: ...after 11 years of uncertainty and bureaucratic delays, renderings have surfaced...faces Michael Arad's 9/11 Memorial and stands in stark contrast to the scale of surrounding skyscrapers. By Anna Kats [image, link to slide show]- Artinfo

This Gorgeous Campus Is The World's Largest Women's University - And It's In Saudi Arabia: Up to 60,000 women could eventually enroll...Princess Nora Bint Abdulrahman University is gigantic, especially considering that all of the buildings were constructed in just one year...32-million square foot campus...akin to the women who learn in them: incredibly sophisticated, and veiled on the exterior... By Ariel Schwartz -- Perkins+Will; Dar Al-Handasah [images]- Fast Company

A Transportable Hall of Music: Anish Kapoor and Arata Isozaki could have put up a tent for a series of concerts to help areas of Japan devastated by a tsunami. Instead they built a giant purple blimp...Ark Nova...billed as the world's first portable, inflatable concert hall..."what would have been the point of just putting up another tent?" -- Isozaki, Aoki & Associates [image]- New York Times

A Children's Museum Comes to Bulgaria: The America for Bulgaria Foundation...is financing one of the first children's museums in Eastern Europe...called Muzeiko...architectural theme is called "Little

Mountains," an allusion to the mountainous topography of the surrounding city of Sofia. -- Lee H. Skolnick Architecture + Design Partnership/LHSA+DP [image]- New York Times

School's chapel cloaked in beauty: The building is a sacred place with a feminine touch: The Catholic Ladies College in Eltham never really had an appropriate chapel...The elevated site, perched above the creek, warranted a feminine expression...While some may interpret this literally as soft curves, Virginia Ross avoided the literal and conceived the brief in terms of light... -- Williams Ross Architects [images]- The Age (Australia)

A+ Juror Denise Scott Brown Talks Collaboration, Career Advice, And The Psychology Of Architects: "Sorry to be so fussy about space"...Denise is not looking back...She is, rather, a pragmatist, focused on what is directly in front of her. -- Venturi, Scott Brown and Associates/VSBA [images]- Architizer

Battle of the superyachts: architects go overboard: Architects have long been obsessed with the nautical, but recent designs by the likes of Zaha Hadid and Norman Foster suggest they're all at sea when creating actual yachts...Recent evidence suggests it might not be such a good idea. By Oliver Wainwright -- Renzo Piano; John Pawson [images]- Guardian (UK)

Miniature houses give adults opportunity to play out their design fantasies: David Adjaye...houses could be yours for a little more than \$2,000. Or perhaps you're a fan of Zaha Hadid...could be yours for less than \$20,000...But don't think you can move in. -- Alford Hall Monaghan Morris 9AHMM); Amodels; Coffey Architects; Dexter Moren Associates; DRDH Architects;dRMM; Duggan Morris Architects; FAT Architecture;Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands; Make Architects; Studio Egret West; etc. [slide show]- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Sydney Architecture Festival 2013: The seventh annual SAF will take place at locations across Greater Sydney from 1-10 November...coincides with the 40th anniversary of the Sydney Opera House...program is curated around the theme: "Your City, Your Community"...- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Society of Architectural Historians Awards for Architectural Excellence: 2013 SAH Awards Gala "Century of Progress: 1913-2013" November 9... -- Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture; Judith Paine McBrien/The Archimedia Workshop; Blair Kamin/Chicago Tribune; Zoë Ryan/Alison Fisher/Karen Kice/Art Institute of Chicago- Society of Architectural Historians (SAH)

ONE Prize 2013 Stormproof Competition Winners Announced [images]- Terreform ONE

Nuts + Bolts #6: Changing Habits: The Secret to Successful Time Management: Some practical steps to make time for business development when you've been avoiding it or aren't sure how to fit it into your day-to-day practice. By Donna Maltzan- ArchNewsNow



-- HARQUITECTES + dataAE: Residence for Architecture Students, Barcelona, Spain  
-- Álvaro Siza: Leça Swimming Pools, Porto, Portugal  
-- Ateliers Jean Nouvel: ...persistence, insatiable urge for the creative experimental and his resistance against the ordinary...

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