Today’s News - Tuesday, November 19, 2013

• It's Tate Britain's day! Bevan finds Caruso St John's "sublime reworking" sews the building's history "back together with the most elegant of stitches to create a national gallery that doesn't look like it got dressed in the dark."

• Wainwright says the "revamp brings pizzazz and mischief," and "adds the whimsy of architectural magpies" and "exuberant flourishes."

• Heathcote cheers the "clean, calm and bright scheme of clarity and intelligence."

• Russell roams the Kimbell's Piano Pavilion with its "predictable, restrained elegance" and large galleries that "trade the intimacy of the Kahn for a severe magnificence."

• REX and Front come up with a 400-foot-tall solution to the Nasher's scorching problem in Dallas that is itself a kinetic piece of art (umbrellas that "blossom" included!).

• The mystery of the Google barge being assembled in San Francisco is solved (sort of).

• Wright sees the barge as the "future of mobile retail" and "a way to subvert the idea of the store. As a business model, it (probably) won't take over the world but I hope it comes around and visits my city, if only for a little while."

• Florida parses an "intriguing new study" that appears to prove "the most cohesive neighborhoods are almost never the most diverse ones."

• Hume catches up with Safdie for an enlightening (and amusing) visit: "He may not be your average starchitect, but he is a man who has a place in the world and enjoys it."

• Winners and could-be winners all: Rogers Stirk Harbour beats out "a raft of top names" to design the LSE's new Global Centre for Social Sciences.

• Beha beats "a very talented shortlist" for a major rehab of the U.S. Embassy in Athens.

• Eyefuls of a most impressive shortlist to design the Nobel Prize HQ in Stockholm (images remain "anonymous" - try matching the names with the pix).

• Another very talented shortlist hopes for the chance to revamp Stirling's "controversial" 40-year-old Florey Building; the challenge is to "overcome problems of comfort and use."

• NYC's Battery Park users will be in for a treat no matter which of 5 (very cool!) shortlisted "Draw Up A Chair" designs come out on top.

• Eyefuls of winners from Down Under in The Great Indoors 2013 and 2013 Interior Design Excellence Awards (IDEA) competitions.

• One we couldn't resist: a new app lets you customize London Tube alerts: "Please be aware that the new Die Hard move is being filmed here today. Be alert for fireballs, floods, and bad acting (they're all a hoot!)."

• Call for entries: RFQ to green the streets surrounding ASLA's HQ in Washington, DC + 2014 European Prize for Urban Public Space.
Design Team Selection Announced for Major Rehabilitation of the U.S. Embassy in Athens, Greece: Ann Beha Architects was selected from a very talented shortlist of four architecture/engineering teams...– U.S. Department of State

Proposals Unveiled For Nobel Prize Headquarters in Stockholm: The Nobel Foundation...has shortlisted 12 architecture firms -- 3XN; BIG/Bjarke Ingels Group; Herzog & de Meuron; Johan Celsing Arkitektkontor; Lacaton & Vassal Architectes; Lundgaard & Tranberg Arkitekter; Marcel Meili, Markus Peter Architekten; OMA; SANAA; Snøhetta; Wingårdhs arkitekter; David Chipperfield Architects [images]– The Architect's Newspaper

Revealed: shortlist in contest to revamp James Stirling’s controversial 1971 Florey Building: ...£19million revamp of the 40-year-old facility aims to 'overcome problems of comfort and use'. -- Avanti Architects; Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios; Hawkins\Brown Architects; John McAslan + Partners; Levitt Bernstein Associates; Nicholas Hare Architects [images]– The Architects’ Journal (UK)

“Draw Up A Chair”: The Battery Conservancy Americas Design Competition: The 5 Battery Chair Finalists...from U.S., Canada, Mexico, and Brazil -- Andrew Jones Design; Maria Camarena Design; Independent Design GroupAidan Jamison/Simon Kristak; Jason Bird; Davi Deusdara/Érica Martins/Tais Costa/Rafael Studart/Alencar Falcão [link to images, info]– The Battery Conservancy (NYC)

The Great Indoors 2013: “The Nature of Things” Winners: the best interiors from around the world. -- OHLAB/Oliver Hernaiz architecture lab; i29 interior architects; El Equipo Creativo; Churtichaga+Quadra-Salcedo Arquitectos [images]– Frame Publishers / Bureau Europa / Marres, Centre for Contemporary Culture

2013 Interior Design Excellence Awards (IDEA) winners: ...celebrates the best of Australian interior and product design...– Tribe Studio; Woods Bagot; Breathe Architecture; McBride Charles Ryan; Smart Design Studio; BURNS; Group GSA; Sumu Design; Foolscap Studio; Jeff Copolov/Bates Smart; Environa Studio; etc. [images]– Inside magazine (Australia)

Now You Can Fool Commuters With Customized London Tube Service Signs: "Please be aware that the new Die Hard move is being filmed here today. Be alert for fireballs, floods, and bad acting." - The Atlantic Cities

Call for entries: Request for Qualifications/RFQ: Chinatown Green Street (international); greening the streets surrounding ASLA's headquarters in Washington, DC; deadline: January 15, 2014– American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Call for entries: 2014 European Prize for Urban Public Space biennial competition to recognize and encourage the creation, recovery and improvement of public space; deadline: January 23– Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona (CCCB)

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Alvaro Siza: Bouça Housing Complex (2004), Porto, Portugal

Kisho Kurokawa (1934-2007): one of the most radical and productive thinkers in recent Japanese architecture...a founder of the Metabolist Movement

Batlle i Roig Arquitectes: Funeral Home, Sant Joan Despi, Barcelona, Spain