Today’s News - Monday, March 10, 2014

- ArcSpace brings us Meyer’s (fab) travel guide to Helsinki, and Kiser’s take on Morphosis’s Emerson College in L.A. that “defines the college's identity in the center of the entertainment industry.”
- Quirk is quick to cheer (so do we!) Time magazine’s “fascinating and often deeply moving account” of the building of 1 WTC (a must-read/watch!).
- Wing offers an alternative take on architects’ moral responsibilities (ref. Haddad/Qatar stadium fracas): “Does the fame of the architect somehow mitigate the responsibility? Or does one’s fame and bully pulpit make one more responsible?”
- Roche sees “a moment of truth” for the Eisenhower Memorial: after 15 years and $40 million, and “thanks to the object lesson we’ve been given on the consequences of ignoring standard practice, we know just where to begin again.”
- Johnson does some serious digging to find out who (and what) is behind the “Astroturf organization” spending big bucks to debunk LEED.
- Hosey explains why, “by many important measures, cities are dramatically better for the environment, the economy, and you.”
- Chaban x 2: he takes an in-depth look at how Jersey City is turning “from drab to fab”...move over Brooklyn - “alluring architecture is making ‘Chilltown’ hot.”
- He finds out why NYC’s approval of the massive Domino Sugar factory redevelopment (with towers 20 stories higher than zoning allows) has some housing advocates worried while it “has certainly emboldened” the real estate industry (“Mayor Build de Blasio,” anyone?).
- Rinaldi cheers Denver’s “imagine 2020” arts-first plan that calls for more public art just about everywhere, and offers “incentives for planners and developers who make art a priority.”
- Rybczynski strolls Thom’s Tarrant County College Trinity East campus in Fort Worth, TX: “I don’t want to give the impression that this is shy architecture” - “humanist” is a better descriptor.
- A former fire station in Doha is set to be transformed into art center for residencies, studios, and a gallery for international and Gulf artists.
- Brussat says Holl’s addition to the Glasgow School of Art “expresses the most profound disrespect for its neighbor” (why are we not surprised).
- Pogrebin offers an in-depth look at what conservationists are dealing with now that FLW’s vast archive has landed in NYC: “In preserving the models, the conservators must decide which version to restore: The model in its original form? Its final form? The building as it looked when completed?”
- Heathcote has an amusing take on movie villains’ island lairs: “For the 1960s villain it needed to be Tropical Modern; for our age, it’s more Tate Modern.”
- AIArchitect offers a great round-up re: Palm Springs Modernism that looks at “what-if’s,” giant donut stands, Kaptur, Modernism’s “elder statesman.”
- A good reason to head west this week: Architecture & Design Film Festival lands in Los Angeles.
- Eyeful of the winners and honorable mentions in the Fairy Tales Architecture Competition (some are puckish, some seem a bit grim).
among its smallest: $40,000 in immediate grants for micro-art projects in neighborhoods to create public gathering places...Arts & Venues department will begin taking applications for "P.S. You Are Here"... By Ray Mark Rinaldi-Denver Post

The Picture Frame, Not the Picture: A new university satellite campus in downtown Fort Worth, Texas, creates a vibrant public promenade that descends towards Trinity River...I don’t want to give the impression that this is shy architecture...Humanist is a good word to characterize...[Tarrant County College] Trinity East. By Witold Rybczynski – Bing Thom Architects; Bennett Benner Pettit (formerly Gideon Toal); SWA Group [images]- Canadian Architect

Qatar fire station to be transformed into art centre: Space will house residencies, studios and a gallery for international and Gulf artists..."The Doha fire station is a building of great importance to the community; it has served the community the past 30 years and will continue to do so through the arts." -- Ibrahim Al Jaidah [image]- The Art Newspaper (UK)

Hollible, just hollible: Steven Holl’s addition to the Glasgow School of Art, whose 1909 original by Charles Rennie Mackintosh is an icon of architects of every school, expresses the most profound disrespect for its neighbor. By David Brussat- Architecture Here and There

Models Preserve Wright's Dreams: A vast Frank Lloyd Wright archive relocated to New York is starting to yield new knowledge about him, including his thinking behind Broadacre City, a vision of a utopian metropolis...In preserving the models, the conservators must decide which version to restore: The model in its original form? Its final form? The building as it looked when completed? By Robin Pogrebin- New York Times

How dreams of island paradise become nightmares in the movies: From villain’s lair to lonely prison, island dwellings in many films are far from utopian: For the 1960s villain it needed to be Tropical Modern; for our age, it’s more Tate Modern. By Edwin Heathcote [images]- Financial Times (UK)

Special Section: Palm Springs Modernism Week: Architectural 'What ifs' on Display: ...its architectural heritage through the lens of what didn't get built + Something to Laugh At: Charles Phoenix on Mid-Century Modernism Preservation: Giant donut stands, wacky rooflines... + Stories of Quiet Elegance: A 24-year-old wunderkind set loose in the desert, Hugh Kaptur has grown into a Southern California Modernism elder statesman [images]- AIArchitect

Architecture & Design Film Festival Heading to Los Angeles: ...a 30-film slate as well as a program of panel discussions and Q&As, a pop-up bookshop, and other design-related events. The five-day event kicks off March 12- UnBeige

Winners Announced For The Fairy Tales Architecture Competition: ...with over 300 entries from 50 countries...3 winning entries and 10 honorable mentions. -- Kevin (Pang-Hsin) Wang Nicholas O’Leary; Anna Pietrzak; Joseph Altshuler/Mari Alshuler/Zachary Morrison [images]- Blank Space

Call for entries: Origomo ("folding rubber): transform plastic six-pack rings into unique pieces of wearable art; winning designs will be auctioned off and the funds will go directly to organizations protecting the environment; cash prizes; deadline: March 30- Greencard Creative