• Another interesting take on Rem's Biennale: “a recurring criticism has been that if architecture is a language, all that is given here is the vocab, not the grammar. But there is also something refreshing about this.”

• Levete, Brooks, and Devine explain what they think could help the London's planning process deliver great tall buildings: “It is mystifying that the expertise of our very best architects is viewed with suspicion.”

• Meanwhile, CTBUH names Best Tall Buildings for 2014 regional winners (none in London).

• In Moscow, big plans for Revolution Square to become “the missing link between the city’s central pedestrian and recreational areas - and a full-fledged urban public space.”

• Four finalists’ designs to make over Moscow’s Luzhniki Stadium pool that include “rings, crystals, moss, and scales” are received with “enthusiasm and analyzed where and why contemporary architecture is swimming.”

• Garrison Architects’ prefab post-disaster housing for NYC, assembled in less than 15 hours, is a “multi-story, multi-family interim housing solution that will work in urban areas across the country” (no FEMA trailers required) - and currently on view in Brooklyn (definitely no FEMA trailers here!).

• Welton cheers Freelon’s “strikingly symbolic” National Center for Civil and Human Rights opening in Atlanta on Monday, despite budgetary shrinking pains.

• Riddle gives two thumbs-up to VJAA’s “splendid” Minneapolis Institute of Art African Art Galleries: “a seductive space that is at once open but muted, animated but mysterious - the exquisite subtlety of its redesign refires the objects within.”

• A look at some of the “ingenious” interactive technologies by Local Projects and DS+R that will give visitors “agency over their own experience” when the Cooper Hewitt re-opens in December (we can’t wait!).

• More on the brouhaha swirling around Libeskind’s Holocaust memorial in Amsterdam: aside from the argument that the park site is “just too small,” there are too many trees that will need to be cut down.

• Glancey uses Brasilia, to some a “concrete El Dorado,” as the starting point to examine the success rate of cities that are built from scratch: “Ideal cities have been just that: ideals, or ideals that have been impossible to live up to,”

• Farago forages into Bo Bardi, “Brazil’s best-kept secret”: her “radical approach to the design of people-friendly buildings is a major contribution to modern architecture - she should receive greater recognition.”

• A new Australian architecture salary survey reveals low wage increases and a gender pay gap (BIM managers are doing just fine).

• RIAS Awards 2014 include 13 winners representing the very best of current Scottish architecture.

• Weekend diversions:
  - 20th Century Society’s Croft on “Tricorn - Love It or Hate It?” at the Portsmouth City Museum: “had Owen Luder’s 1966 megastructure managed to survive just a little bit longer, it would by now be listed” (great pix).
  - Glancey finds Brittain-Cattlin’s “Blek Houses” to be “one of the most intriguing, original and gently provocative books on the meaning of architecture for some while.”
  - Molevich cheers Brown’s “Next Generation Infrastructure” for being “an inspiring argument for infrastructure that behaves like nature,” and for her “attention to the social aspects of infrastructure planning and design.”
  - Pezvner parses “The Petropolis of Tomorrow” - “a lush combination of photography, rich narrative, design provocations and critical theory and history” that explores the “architectural possibilities of the floating mechanical islands that will serve Brazil’s emerging offshore oil boom.”

• Roll up, roll up: it’s Rem Time! Rem-membering and Dismembering Architecture at the Venice Biennale: This is a museum show and a museum of a show, and at times one can’t see the (architectural) wood for the trees. Indeed a recurring criticism has been that if architecture is a language, all that is given here is the vocab, not the grammar...But there is also something refreshing about this. By Rob Wilson, with Sophie Lovell and Florian Hellmeyer – Rem Koolhaas [images] - Uncube magazine (Germany)

• How can the planning process deliver great tall buildings? Amanda Levete/AL_A, Alison Brooks and Clare Devine of Design Council CABE share their thoughts on the AJObserver Skyline campaign: “It is mystifying that the expertise of our very best architects is viewed with suspicion.” - The Architects’ Journal (UK)

• Garrison Architects Debuts Post-Disaster Housing for New York City: “...a "multi-story, multi-family interim housing solution that will work in urban areas across the country"...prefabricated structures...intended to be dispatched quickly after an emergency and assembled on-site...currently on display in Brooklyn...” - The Architect’s Newspaper

• In Atlanta, Freelon’s New National Center for Civil and Human Rights: Phil Freelon, whose Freelon Group recently merged with Perkins+Will, will be heading to Atlanta on June 23 for opening ceremonies centered around the design of his newest civic space...strikingly symbolic...went from 93,000 square feet to 61,000 to 42,000...awaits future additions to bring it up to its original, expansive vision. By J. Michael Welton – HOK - Huffington Post

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