

Today's News - Thursday, August 21, 2014

EDITOR'S NOTE: Just a reminder that we're on our summer schedule now, and not posting on Fridays and Mondays. We'll be back Tuesday, August 26.

- ANN Feature: Nuts + Bolts #9: Whitehorn explains the 80/20 principle, and how focusing on your top clients can increase your confidence, stability, and profitability.
- We are saddened by the news that we've lost Deborah Sussman, 83, but rather than run a dry obituary, we've chosen Hawthorne's compelling (and humorous!) profile of the ever "feisty" graphic design master from earlier this year.
- Willett wonders why Canberra can't be more like Berlin in applying "intelligence, culture and community spirit to achieve high quality in city planning and architecture" that could make the Australian capital "one of the most beautiful cities in the world."
- Capps explains what the Lego Company, seemingly more focused on a "Hollywood merchandising vision," can learn from its own Lego House Museum: BIG's design "takes imagination and possibility and injects them into a real-world structure."
- Jacobson is quite taken with Atelier Deshaus's new museum in Shanghai that incorporates an old coal-conveying platform, and "shows that history can serve contemporary architecture, and that even the most unlikely artifacts can be sources of beauty."
- Prison inmates use a four-day workshop to consider "restorative justice through a novel lens: design": their visions for prison spaces were more like a New Age retreat.
- Wilson gets a bit woozy trying to decipher the WTC's "new, very confusing logo" crammed with "a mind-melting series of visual allusions" that "would almost be poetic if not for the fact that it could also be read as an ad" for Westfield's "luxury shopping mall."
- HOK gets back in the game by acquiring sports-facility design firm 360 Architecture (whose name will "go away") + Arcadis acquires Callison (no word on status of name).
- The Getty partners with the Salk Institute to conserve Kahn's masterpiece as part of the GCI's Conserving Modern Architecture Initiative.
- A great presentation of an impressive 100+ projects awarded 2014 Graham Foundation grants.
- Call for entries (deadlines loom!): Contract magazine's 36th Annual Interiors Awards + EPA's 2015 National Award for Smart Growth Achievement.
- Weekend diversions:
- Q&A with "Rebel Architecture" creator Davies: "this is a really hard path to go down. Some succeed, some fail and all struggle. But I think it's optimistic that they're out there doing this."
- Volner parses "the cult of Koolhaas" at the Biennale: he "may have missed the mark" with his own exhibitions, "but his influence brought out the best in the national pavilions"; the lesson may be: "Do as Koolhaas says, designers, but perhaps not as he does."
- Bernstein gives thumbs-up to Japan's National Archives of Modern Architecture that "is off to a very promising start" with the "beautifully installed" show "Toward an Architectural Archive."
- Byrnes is quite taken with Shanghai's Power Station of Art show that includes an ark filled with taxidermied animals: the "haunting installations reflect on nature - and the horrible things people keep doing to it."
- In Suffolk, U.K., "Maps to Memorials - Discovering the work of MacDonald Gill" explores the works of the architect and designer "known for his colorful 'Wonderground' poster and his collaborations with Edwin Lutyens" that "led to a resurgence in pictorial map-making around the world."
- "Infra Eco Logi Urbanism" at the Yale School of Architecture brings together research and design work by RVTR "to explore possible urban and architectural futures in a post-metropolitan world."
- Glancey delves deep into Wilkinson's "revisionist passeggiata through architectural history" and McGuirk's "hike through the slums and outer suburbs of Latin American cities": both "seem bent, provocatively, on turning accepted notions of architecture and the values of the profession that serves it upside down and inside out."
- Stephens cheers DeJean's "How Paris Became Paris" that "is full of creative insights on the symptoms of urban modernity."

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ANN Feature: Nuts + Bolts #9: The 80/20 Architect: How to Spend Wisely by Investing in Your Clients: Focusing on your top clients can increase your confidence, stability, and profitability. By Steve Whitehorn - ArchNewsNow

She Loves L.A.: In her illustrious career, Deborah Sussman has not only reshaped graphic design but also helped to rebrand the resurgent city of Los Angeles...She was certainly happy to talk about the 1984 Olympics... By Christopher Hawthorne -- Sussman/Prejza [images] - Metropolis Magazine

Canberra deserves planning to be put ahead of politics: Canberra has the basic design structure upon which to develop one of the most beautiful cities in the world...What a pity when we don't rejoice more in quality, intelligence, beauty, community, collaboration, discussion, and long-term vision...What is so remarkable in Berlin is the application of intelligence, culture and community spirit to achieve...high quality in city planning and architecture. Why can't we do this in Canberra? By Rosemarie Willett -- Frank Gehry; Walter Burley Griffin - The Age (Australia)

What the Lego Company Can Learn From Its Own Lego House Museum: Bjarke Ingels is building better ideas with Legos than the company that designed them...Licensing deals...have transformed the crisp Danish vision for gender-neutral building blocks into a Hollywood merchandising vision...what's so heartening about the design for the Lego House: It takes imagination and possibility...and injects them into a real-world structure. By Kriston Capps -- Bjarke Ingels Group/BIG [images] - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Catalytic Converter: A new art museum transforms an old coal-conveying platform into a different kind of power generator, jump-starting the redevelopment of an industrial part of Shanghai...stands out from the myriad of new museums being built in China...Long Museum West Bund shows that history can serve contemporary architecture, and that even the most unlikely artifacts can be sources of beauty. By Clare Jacobson -- Atelier Deshaus [images] - Architectural Record

What kind of prison might the inmates design? ...sketching out new visions: an airy room with a skylight to cure vitamin D deficiencies and a fountain with a cascading waterfall...A healing center with lots of windows and, in the middle, a talking circle...The spaces they were planning could be at a New Age retreat...18 men who enrolled in the four-day workshop this summer were contemplating restorative justice through a novel lens: design. -- Deanna VanBuren/FOURM design studio - Los Angeles Times

The World Trade Center Has A New, Very Confusing Logo: Cramming in a mind-melting series of visual allusions, the \$3 million WTC logo is also an ad...a riff on space and negative space, presence and absence...playing tricks on the eye and asking viewers to see what they want to see. Which would almost be poetic if not for the fact that it could also be read as an ad for a luxury shopping mall. By Mark Wilson [images] - Fast Company

HOK will acquire Kansas City-based 360 Architecture: ...will re-energize HOK's sports-facility business, a practice it spun off in 2008...renaming a year later as Populous...The 360 Architecture name will "go away," to be replaced by HOK... - Kansas City Star

Arcadis to acquire Callison: ...intends to leverage the activities of Callison with the existing capabilities of RTKL... - ConstructionWeekOnline (Dubai, UAE)

The Getty Conservation Institute Partners With The Salk Institute Of Biological Studies To Help Conserve Iconic Louis Kahn

Masterpiece: Collaborative Project Is Part of the GCI's Conserving Modern Architecture Initiative- The J. Paul Getty Trust

In 2014, the Graham Foundation awarded over \$480,000 to 42 projects by organizations and over \$520,000 to 68 projects by individuals. [\[links to images, info\]](#)- Graham Foundation (Chicago)

Call for entries: 36th Annual Interiors Awards (international); deadline: September 17- [Contract magazine](#)

Call for entries (deadline reminder): 2015 National Award for Smart Growth Achievement; all entries must include a public-sector partner; deadline: September 5- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

"Rebel Architecture": ...television series that examines the work of architects who work outside the mainstream of their profession to tackle social injustice...Q&A with its creator, Daniel Davies..."this is a really hard path to go down. Some succeed, some fail and all struggle. But I think it's optimistic that they're out there doing this." -- Yasmeen Lari; Santiago Cirugeda; Eyal Weizman; Ricardo de Oliveira- [Icon \(UK\)](#)

The Cult of Koolhaas: Rem Koolhaas's own exhibitions at the Venice Biennale may have missed the mark, but his influence as chief curator brought out the best in the national pavilions: The Dutch dynamo was less important for what he built himself than for how his ideas forced every other designer to react...its signal lesson may be just this: Do as Koolhaas says, designers, but perhaps not as he does. By Ian Volner [\[images\]](#)- [Architect Magazine](#)

"Toward an Architectural Archive" at Japan's National Archives of Modern Architecture: ...a look at the connection between Le Corbusier and three Japanese architects...The show itself is beautifully installed...The Archives is off to a very promising start. By Fred A. Bernstein -- Hiroyuki Suzuki; Junzo Sakakura; Takamasa Yoshizaka; Masato Otaka [\[images\]](#)- [Architectural Record](#)

Shanghai's Newest Art Exhibit Includes an Ark Filled With Taxidermied Animals: "Cai Guo-Qiang: The Ninth Wave"...haunting installations reflect on nature - and the horrible things people keep doing to it...similarly powerful moments can be found in other installations; at the Power Station of Art. By Mark Byrnes [\[images\]](#)- [CityLab \(formerly The Atlantic Cities\)](#)

"Maps to Memorials – Discovering the work of MacDonald Gill": A new exhibition explores the works of architect and designer MacDonald "Max" Gill, known for his colourful "Wonderground Map of London Town" (1914) poster and his collaborations with Edwin Lutyens...led to a resurgence in pictorial map-making around the world.; at the Lettering Arts Centre, Suffolk [\[images\]](#)- [The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

"Infra Eco Logi Urbanism": Architecture exhibition looks at the future of design in North American megaregion...brings together research and design work by the experimental Canadian architecture practice RVTR to explore possible urban and architectural futures in a post-metropolitan world; at the Yale School of Architecture- [Yale News](#)

Erotic architecture: the sexual history of great buildings: From...public toilet glory holes to Eileen Gray's sexy Mediterranean hideaway...both Tom Wilkinson's revisionist passeggiata through architectural history and Justin McGuirk's hike through the slums and outer suburbs of Latin American cities seem bent, provocatively, on turning accepted notions of architecture and the values of the profession that serves it upside down and inside out. ("Bricks and Mortals: Ten Great Buildings and the People They Made"; "Radical Cities: Across Latin America in Search of a New Architecture") By Jonathan Glancey- [New Statesman \(UK\)](#)

"How Paris Became Paris: The Invention of the Modern City," by Joan DeJean, is full of creative insights on the symptoms of urban modernity as well as bold statements about how Paris came to be one of the world's great cities. By Josh Stephens- [PLANetizen](#)



Travel guide: Hong Kong: ...the most breathtaking skyline in the world...unique - in its ambition, elegance, ruthlessness, density and cosmopolitan aura...home to more skyscrapers than any other city in the world. By Ulf Meyer -- I.M. Pei; How Wai Pun; Bruce Murdoch (1846); Foster + Partners; Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF); Cesar Pelli; Rocco Design; Paul Rudolph/Wong & Ouyang; Anthony Ng; Terry Farrell; Harry Seidler; Daniel Libeskind; Coldefy & Associates; Hung Yip Chan; Tod Williams Billie Tsien; etc. [\[images\]](#)

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