

Today's News - Tuesday, August 26, 2014

- ArcSpace offers 7 must-read architectural manifestos: even though they've "become a somewhat unfashionable genre, architects should let themselves be reminded of just how much debate a few adequately polemical lines in a book can spark."
- Architects beware: Bernstein reports that the California Supreme Court "ruled that two large firms could be forced to pay damages" to condominium owners "who claimed their apartments were too hot - years after the developer rejected the architects' recommendation to use low-E glass."
- Critics beware: Zaha sues Filler and NYRB for defamation of character for a review she claims exposed her "to public ridicule and contempt, depriving her of confidence and injuring her good name and reputation."
- Filler follows with an "I regret the error."
- Parker takes the pulse on Charleston's love/hate debate over Cloepfil's design for Clemson University's new architecture school.
- Welton reports on the "saga unfolding over modern versus traditional" in a historic Raleigh neighborhood: the "two sides to this story turn on the definition of one word: compatible. It's also about evolution in architecture - and Cherry's Craftsman-inspired home is a walking, talking example of that."
- Bernstein reports on "Talesin troubles": The FLW School of Architecture is set to lose its accreditation, and is "open to forming a partnership with an accredited institution, which would allow the school to continue offering degrees."
- More on architecture's "glass ceiling" for women: "the hurdles haven't changed."
- Rotenberk looks at two sides of the debate going on in Chicago re: the city's cultural boom, and how underserved communities vying for some of the projects "say that art and culture can be a major factor in renewing neighborhoods" - and help reduce crime.
- McLaren offers an in-depth look at socially-conscious design organizations that "should telegraph to designers and architects that they need not be just another 'brick in the wall.'"
- Berg offers his take on why over-the-top proposals may never be built, "but such outlandish designs profoundly influence how our cities will be built"; some "crackpot architectural ideas of the past are becoming built parts of our cities."
- Kantchev considers some of the over-the-top architecture that is making Astana, Kazakhstan, "a hotbed for architectural experimentation," transforming it into "Manhattan on the Steppe."
- Millard ponders whether "resilience has eclipsed sustainability as a core design concept" that calls for "a new definition that involves interdependent systems of infrastructure, resources, transportation, security, and culture."
- McKean reports on Tokyo's "refuge parks" that are really "cleverly disguised survival bunkers" that will "allow entire districts to survive the critically important first 72 hours following a disaster" (benches become cooking stoves, manholes double as toilets, and food and water under the verdant hills).
- King gives us a sneak-peek at five competing visions for a swath of San Francisco's Presidio: "for all the visual flourishes, they emphasize the practical over the poetic."
- Lange offers her take on artificial turf, "one more park taboo" that is being broken: "Designers celebrate its good points...rather than apologizing for it as ersatz. Unfortunately, we can't just roll out the green carpet."
- Saffron has high hopes for Philly's new Dilworth Park that shows all indications of being "a welcoming civic space" - above and below ground.
- An alphabet soup of green groups join forces to create one rating system.
- Supporters rally to restore SAH's flood-damaged Sullivan/Wright-designed HQ in Chicago.

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[Lawsuit Suggests New Liability for Architects: California Supreme Court ruled that two large firms...could be forced to pay damages to an association of condominium owners who claimed their apartments were too hot - years after the developer rejected the architects' recommendation to use low-E glass.](#) By Fred A. Bernstein -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); HKS Architects - Architectural Record

[Zaha Hadid sues critic over book review: ...law suit against the New York Review of Books and architecture critic Martin Filler after allegedly defamatory comments...seeking damages from the NYRB and a full retraction, as well as an immediate injunction on the review...has exposed Ms. Hadid to public ridicule and contempt, depriving her of confidence and injuring her good name and reputation..."](#) - Dezeen

[Martin Filler Acknowledges a Mistake in Critique of Zaha Hadid: ...acknowledged a significant error in a scathing article he wrote for the New York Review of Books about...Rowan Moore's book "Why We Build: Power and Desire in Architecture"...It was not clear late Monday whether Filler's acknowledgment would be sufficient to satisfy Hadid..."I regret the error."](#) - New York Times

[Bold buildings: How to integrate new architecture into historic urban landscapes: When Clemson University unveiled its designs for the Spaulding Paolozzi Center...\[for\] school's satellite architecture and design division...The lovers argued...the new building would help mix up the landscape, adding aesthetic vitality to the city. The haters insisted that it was ugly and inappropriate..."we need a separate framework for assessing civic and background buildings."](#) By Adam Parker -- Brad Cloepfil/Allied Works Architecture- Charleston Post and Courier (South Carolina)

[North Carolina Judge Hears Arguments on Architectural Style: ...saga unfolding over modern versus traditional in Raleigh's historic Oakwood neighborhood...two sides to this story - which seems to turn on the definition of one word: compatible...It's also about evolution in architecture - and Cherry's Craftsman-inspired home...is a walking, talking example of that.](#) By J. Michael Welton -- Louis Cherry [images]- Huffington Post

[Talesin Troubles: The Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture will lose its accreditation in 2017...will now focus on programs that don't require accreditation, including a post-professional program that has been in the works...open to forming a partnership with an accredited institution, which would allow the school to continue offering degrees.](#) By Fred A. Bernstein- Architectural Record

[In Architecture, a Glass Ceiling: Despite historically high numbers of women entering the field of architecture, top-tier positions are still dominated by men..."the hurdles haven't changed."](#) -- Rosa Sheng/Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; Missing 32% Project; Julie Hacker/Stuart Cohen & Julie Hacker Architects; Elisa Orlandi Ours; Elizabeth Ranieri/Kuth Ranieri Architects- Wall Street Journal

[Will New Museums and Parks Fight Chicago Crime? Proponents of the city's biggest cultural boom in decades say yes...activists in the communities vying for some of the planned cultural institutions say that art and culture can be a major factor in renewing neighborhoods.](#) By Lori Rotenberk [images, links]- Next City (formerly Next American City)

[Deliberate design and accessible architecture: Exploring the critical work of groups like Architecture for Humanity, Society for Responsible Design, Shigeru Ban's Voluntary Architects' Network and others...should telegraph to designers and architects that they need not be just another 'brick in the wall.'](#) By Warren McLaren -- RedR/Register of Engineers for Disaster Relief; EcoDesign Foundation; Builders without Borders; Architects Without Frontiers; Emergency Architects France (Architectes de l'Urgence); Habitat for Humanity; Ross Langdon - Architecture & Design (Australia)

[Why Architects Dream Big - and Crazy: Can you really build farms on top of offices, in skyscrapers that look like they've](#)

been chopped into? Maybe not, but such outlandish designs profoundly influence how our cities will be built...In small steps, the crackpot architectural ideas of the past are becoming built parts of our cities. By Nate Berg -- Dickson Despommier; Studio Cachoua Torres Camilletti; SOM; Safdie Architects; BIG/Bjarke Ingels Group- [The Daily Beast](#)

In Kazakhstan, a Shimmering Skyline on the Steppe: The country's economic boom is bringing top architects to Astana's urban canvas, making the capital a hotbed for architectural experimentation...transformed it into what locals now call "Manhattan on the Steppe." By Georgi Kantchev -- Norman Foster/Foster + Partners Manfredi Nicoletti/Studio Nicoletti Associati; HKR Architects; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM)- [New York Times](#)

The Coming Storm: Has resilience eclipsed sustainability as a core design concept? ...events associated with climate change, now amplified in frequency and severity, call for a distinction between resilience in the simpler engineering sense...and a new definition that involves interdependent systems of infrastructure, resources, transportation, security, and culture. By Bill Millard -- Lance Jay Brown; Kristina Ford; David Waggonner/Waggonner & Ball; Janice Barnes/Perkins+Will; Douglas Farr/Farr Associates; Henk Ovink- [Architect Magazine](#)

In Tokyo's "Disaster Parks" Residents Play on Good Days and Cheat Death on Bad Ones: ...refuge parks are, essentially, cleverly disguised survival bunkers for the masses...building 75 hectares (185 acres) of new disaster-survival parks...outfitted with solar-powered charging stations...benches that transform into cooking stoves, and manholes that double as emergency toilets. Under the rolling grass hills...are water reservoirs and storehouses containing enough food to allow entire districts to survive the critically important first 72 hours following a disaster. By Cameron Allan McKean- [Next City \(formerly Next American City\)](#)

Competing visions for a new Presidio landscape to be unveiled: ...five conceptual visions for an ambitious new landscape leading down to Crissy Field...show very different approaches to a site that's still in flux - and that for all the visual flourishes, they emphasize the practical over the poetic..."We didn't want ideas that are patently undoable." By John King -- James Corner Field Operations; CMG Landscape Architecture; West 8; Snøhetta; Olin [images, link to details]- [San Francisco Chronicle](#)

There's still one more park taboo to be broken: ...the AstroTurf lawn installed on the roof of New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art symbolises the next step in our acceptance and desire for artificial nature...Designers celebrate its good points...rather than apologising for it as ersatz...Unfortunately, we can't just roll out the green carpet...and declare ourselves drought-resistant, more sustainable, and labour-free. By Alexandra Lange -- Weiss/Manfredi; Thomas Balsey Associates; Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates; Piet Oudolf; Diller Scofidio + Renfro- [Dezeen](#)

New Dilworth Plaza space combines park, architecture: The plan for Dilworth Plaza - to be renamed Dilworth Park - is really two projects rolled into one. At street level, the goal is to create a welcoming civic space...Down below will be a big, new waiting room for subway riders. By Inga Saffron -- Olin; KieranTimberlake- [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

One Standard to Rule Them All: Building codes could harmonize seamlessly with LEED certification as USGBC, ASHRAE, and ICC join forces: Under the new agreement, ASHRAE, the American Institute of Architects (AIA), the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES), the International Code Council (ICC), and USGBC will cooperate to create the new three-part system. - [BuildingGreen.com](#)

SAH Receives \$10,000 Challenge Grant for Charnley-Persky House Restoration: As news of flood damage spread, friends of SAH have offered their support...-- Louis Sullivan/Frank Lloyd Wright (1892); John Eifler/Eifler & Associates Architects - [Society of Architectural Historians \(SAH\)](#)

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](#)

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