

Today's News - Thursday, October 16, 2014

- A great round-up of reports on the Top 10 most innovative cities in the U.S., and their "creative solutions to today's most pressing urban problems" (+ "Greatest urban projects of all time" leads with Venice).
- Moore looks at the "brilliantly executed" King's Cross, but bemoans that it "is in danger of being the last of its kind."
- Hawthorne gives (mostly) thumbs-up to Maltzan's One Santa Fe apartment complex in L.A. that "takes banality and stretches it like taffy in the direction of monumentality," but "wringing charisma from convention is not easy."
- Kimmelman is quite taken with Gang's Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership in Kalamazoo: "Imagine a log cabin the Jetsons ordered from the 2062 Whole Earth Catalog" - it is "laudable simply for being eloquent and humane" (pix by Baan).
- Hanscom hails Miller Hull's Bullitt Center in Seattle that "is making waves far beyond its super-insulated, nontoxic, and FSC-certified walls."
- Heathcote looks at the up- and downsides for universities that "have become playgrounds for starchitects. The big names are having a ball...but there is a danger they become collections of trophy buildings, poorly integrated into their surroundings and host cities."
- A great look at a growing trend to transform defunct prisons around the world into boutique hotels and student housing.
- OMA/Olin Studio wins the heated competition to design Washington, DC's 11th Street Bridge Park - hopes are high that it will help close "a yawning gap in economic fortunes between residents on the Anacostia River's two banks."
- High hopes that the High Line's success can be repeated with the just-released plans for a stretch of an abandoned elevated track in Queens: "Now supporters (and detractors) of the QueensWay can move the conversation forward" (lots of detractors in comments).
- A Norwegian designer hangs out her shingle on the border of Thailand and Burma, working with refugees; her design/build architecture practice "designs and builds with an ethic of sustainability."
- A design educator bemoans curriculums leaving "designers lacking in business skills - it's hard enough to learn to be a designer, but there needs to be a next step for the business side calls for."
- Fast. Co.'s 2014 Innovation By Design Awards include Dahlberg's Memory Wound - July 22 Memorial on Norway's Utøya island.
- An impressive shortlist of projects from around the world in line for the Landscape Institute Awards 2014 (great presentation!).
- Two we couldn't resist: Rudolph's lakefront Parcels House near Detroit can be yours for only \$1.8 million (we'll take it!).
- A Brussels-based artist "vandalizes" Corbu's Villa Savoye: his "provocation is an attack on the idolization of architecture."
- Call for entries: 5th Annual SEED Awards for excellence in public interest design + The Architect's Newspaper's 2nd Annual Best Of Design Awards + U.S. DOE's 2015 Race to Zero Student Design Competition.

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[Most Innovative Cities: Creative solutions to today's most pressing urban problems: See the full list – and their big ideas: Why cities matter + New York: America's most innovative city + The future of tech: Your local library + Is your city the next Portlandia? + Greatest urban projects of all time, etc., - CNN](#)

[All hail the new King's Cross - but can other developers repeat the trick? The ongoing transformation has been brilliantly executed, but the prospects for further such public/private developments look bleak...King's Cross is in danger of being the last of its kind. By Rowan Moore -- de Rijke Marsh Morgan/dRMM; David Chipperfield; Allies and Morrison; Demetri Porphyrios - Observer \(UK\)](#)

[Michael Maltzan's One Santa Fe apartment complex plays with notion of density: ...not a flashy or gymnastic piece of architecture...design takes banality and stretches it like taffy in the direction of monumentality...the meaning of the project...springs directly from its practically Seussian width...a more inventive, less paint-by-numbers kind of midrise housing...It's hypercontextual, built from a kind of super-vernacular...Wringing charisma from convention is not easy. By Christopher Hawthorne \[images\]- Los Angeles Times](#)

[Stoking a Hearth for Human Rights: The Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership in Kalamazoo, Mich....doesn't pierce a skyline or explode with titanium panels and big glass sails. All the more reason to make a pilgrimage...Imagine a log cabin the Jetsons ordered from the 2062 Whole Earth Catalog...What makes the building special is partly the novel form...laudable simply for being eloquent and humane. By Michael Kimmelman -- Jeanne Gang/Studio Gang \[slide show/Iwan Baan\] - New York Times](#)

[How one building is changing the world: Seattle's Bullitt Center is making waves far beyond its super-insulated, nontoxic, and FSC-certified walls...made possible by Deep Green Pilot Program, which allows builders to deviate from the standard codes in order to build more sustainably...will provide \\$18.5 million in public benefits over its lifetime...that's almost exactly what it cost to build the thing. By Greg Hanscom -- Miller Hull- Grist Magazine](#)

[How universities are using bold campus architecture to market themselves: Universities have suddenly become playgrounds for starchitects in an explosion of shape-making. The big names are having a ball...but there is a danger they become collections of trophy buildings, poorly integrated into their surroundings and host cities. By Edwin Heathcote -- Herzog & De Meuron; Zaha Hadid; Frank Gehry; Rem Koolhaas/OMA; Norman Foster; David Chipperfield; David Adjaye; Tadao Ando; Grafton Architects; O'Donnell + Tuomey; Arata Isozaki - Financial Times \(UK\)](#)

[Britain's disused prisons are being turned into hotels and student accommodation: Declared "surplus to requirements" by the Ministry of Justice, they are now being sold off to developers. -- Cambridge Seven Associates; Janko Rožic \[images\]- DesignCurial / Blueprint Magazine \(UK\)](#)

[OMA and Olin Studio selected to design 11th Street Bridge Park: ...\\$40 million park...offers the District a chance to take advantage of the abandoned bones of old transportation routes...envision the park as a defining feature for the Anacostia River typically characterized by the pollution it endures and a yawning gap in economic fortunes between residents on its two banks. \[images\]- Washington Post](#)

[A Detailed Blueprint for Queens' \\$122M 'High Line,' Revealed: The plan to turn a 3.5-mile stretch of abandoned railroad tracks in Queens into a vibrant park...includes a cost breakdown, economic and transportation analyses, and detailed outlines for amenities...Now supporters \(and detractors\) of the QueensWay can move the conversation forward. -- WXY architecture + urban design; dlandStudio Architecture & Landscape Architecture \[images\]- Curbed New York](#)

[Do No Harm: Democracy Through Design: Line Ramstad...Norwegian-born designer who since 2009 has lived and worked in a refugee camp...near the border of Thailand and Burma...founded her current design/build architecture practice...designs and builds with an ethic of sustainability. Their built work consists largely of dormitories, schools, wells and playgrounds... -- Gyaw Gyaw \[images\]- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects \(ASLA\)](#)

[Nurturing Talent: Design education leaves designers lacking in business skills - it's hard enough to learn to be a designer, but there needs to be a next step for the business side...The number of students who are interested in launching their own businesses has increased dramatically... By Debera Johnson -- Pratt Design Incubator for Sustainable Innovation;Brooklyn Fashion and Design Accelerator- Metropolis Magazine](#)

[Winners Of The 2014 Innovation By Design Awards: The 10 best designs of the year \[includes\] Memory Wound - July 22 Memorial Site by Jonas Dahlberg Studio on Norway's Utøya island. \[images\]- Fast Company](#)

[Landscape Institute Awards 2014 shortlist announced: ...drawn from entries received from all corners of the UK and overseas. -- Taylor Cullity Lethlean \(TCL\)/Aurecon/Tonkin Zulaikha Greer \(TZG\); Civitas; EDSA; Shma Company Limited; BASE Landscape Architecture \[link to images, info\]- World Landscape Architecture](#)

[Rudolph for Sale: Detroit area's only Paul Rudolph House is on the market: The Parcels house is a dramatic departure from the conservative architectural taste of most homes in the wealthy Detroit suburb of Grosse Pointe Farms...listed for sale at \\$1.8 million. \[images\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Modernism in Ruins: Artist "Vandalizes" a Le Corbusier Masterpiece: The visualizations find the architect's Villa Savoye in deep disrepair: ..Xavier Delory likes to poke fun at history...Pèlerinage sur la Modernité \(Pilgrimage on Modernity\) is an irreverent look at the meaning of Modernist masterworks today...provocation is an attack on the idolization of architecture. \[images\]- Metropolis Magazine](#)

[Call for entries: Fifth Annual SEED Awards for excellence in public interest design; deadline: November 20- Design Corps / Social, Economic, Environmental Design Network \(SEED\) / Lawrence Technological University](#)

[Call for entries: 2nd Annual Best Of Design Awards: open to U.S. and international architects, but projects submitted must be located within the United States; registration deadline: November 3 \(submission deadline: December 7\)- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Call for entries: 2015 Race to Zero Student Design Competition \(U.S. and Canada\); registration deadline: December 15, 2014 \(submissions due March 22, 2015\)- U.S. Department of Energy \(DOE\)](#)

[ANN Feature: Why the Starchitect Debate isn't "Stupid": Starchitecture is just a symptom of a much bigger problem in the profession. By Michael J. Crosbie- ArchNewsNow](#)



[-- Richard Meier & Partners: Few architects have retained such an uncompromising style throughout a more than five-decade-long practice. By Jakob Harry Hybel](#)

[-- 7 Imaginative Pavilions -- Foster & Partners; Diller + Scofidio + Renfro; Ai Weiwei; SANAA; Atelier Peter Zumthor; Sverre Fehn; Kazuyo Sejima & Associates](#)

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