

## Today's News - Thursday, October 23, 2014

- Lewyn parses a paper that addresses the frequency of minimum density and similar regulations that "critics of smart growth often claim seek to 'force' density on Americans - we found that minimum density requirements are in fact quite rare."
- Saitta finds the remains of a 100-year-old striker's camp in "Nowheresville," Colorado, to be "a useful foil for discussing current intercultural urban planning and design."
- Stott delves into why China's president has called for an end to weird buildings that has "the potential to affect the landscape of architectural practice worldwide."
- Wainwright rounds up an amazing collection of "the most outlandish oddities that have appeared so far" in China (some familiar, some totally outta this world!).
- Altabe takes on McMansions "abasing themselves from Quogue to Queensland": these "castles in the air are back, clamoring for attention and annoying neighbors" (and bringing down architecture).
- UK planning experts head to China to offer advice on building sustainable cities and "the need to avoid Los Angeles-style sprawl."
- Betsky bemoans the demise of DS+R's "visionary and beautiful" Facsimile on the Moscone Convention Center façade: it "never worked the way it was intended," but it took on "big issues that take a big artwork" that few artists or architects are willing or able to take on.
- Libeskind has big plans for a condo complex in Boca Raton "ironically named after another architect with an extremely different design sensibility" (how could we resist a headline like "Mama Mizner!").
- Grimshaw tapped to lead the team to design the almost billion-dollar expansion of Lima's international airport.
- The PWP/Rogers Partners competition-winning design for the National Mall's Constitution Gardens gets important thumbs-up's to move forward.
- Sarkis heads from Harvard to MIT as the 10th permanent dean of the School of Architecture and Planning.
- Kamin cheers Siza and H&deM taking home the inaugural Mies Crown Hall Americas Prize for two of the best built works in the Americas.
- SCAPE takes the \$100,000 2014 Fuller Challenge with "Living Breakwaters."
- The Netherlands' oldest and largest prize, €40,000 Prix de Rome Architecture 2014, goes to van Milligen Bielke for her "radical and poetic intervention" for the Hoogstraat in Rotterdam.
- U.K.-based OS31 wins the competition to design a pop-up restaurant on a frozen river in Winnipeg.
- West Hollywood picks an Australian designer's submission for an AIDS Monument in the city's park (though several jurors would have preferred the design by a local).
- An interesting (and impressive) mix of international architects make the shortlist to expand the Art Gallery of New South Wales in Sydney.
- Van Alen Institute and New Orleans Redevelopment Authority pick three finalist teams in Future Ground competition to develop strategies for reuse of vacant land in NOLA.
- 15 cities now in the running for the 2014 Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation.
- Miles of impressive names make the Icon Awards 2014 shortlist.

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[How Often Do Cities Mandate Smart Growth? A recent Mercatus Institute paper addresses the frequency of minimum density regulations, maximum parking requirements, and similar regulations: Although critics of smart growth often claim that the movement seeks to "force" density on Americans, we found that minimum density requirements are in fact quite rare. By Michael Lewyn- PLANetizen](#)

[Remembering the 'White City': Does a 100-year-old tent colony located on a 40-acre piece of remote, sunbaked and windswept prairie have anything to teach us about intercultural urban planning and design? The Ludlow Tent Colony was a striker's camp of 200 tents...a useful foil for discussing several aspects of the contemporary urban condition... By Dean Saitta \[images\]- PLANetizen](#)

[Why China's President Xi Jinping Says "No More Weird Buildings": ...identifying architectural projects such as OMA's CCTV Headquarters as the kind of building that should no longer be constructed in Beijing...comments have the potential to affect the landscape of architectural practice worldwide. But what is behind these sentiments? By Rory Stott -- Rem Koolhaas; Wang Shu; Ma Yansong/MAD Architects- ArchDaily](#)

[China's strangest buildings, from pairs of pants to ping-pong bats: Chinese president Xi Jinping wants to put a stop to China's bizarre building syndrome. Here are the most outlandish oddities that have appeared so far: He's fed up of phallic towers, had enough of space-age blobs and is really rather cross about architects scattering novelty shapes across his great cities with reckless abandon. By Oliver Wainwright -- Paul Andreu; Zaha Hadid; Carlos Ott; Ma Yansong/MAD Studio; Studio 505; Joseph di Pasquale; OMA \[images\]- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[McMansions today, McMetropolises tomorrow: ...rice farmers in Yangtze Delta...choose to live like the Great Gatsby in what they call Dong Diannu Manor houses - Roman-style splendor as big as 6,340 square feet...the sin of McMansions - abasing themselves from Quogue to Queensland - has also brought down architecture...castles in the air are back, clamoring for attention and annoying neighbors. By Joan Altabe- Examiner](#)

[UK experts to advise China on sustainable cities: ...planning experts are heading to China to advise on building cities that do not wreck the environment...will address mayors on the need to avoid Los Angeles-style sprawl by building dense cities with low-carbon buildings and good public transport. -- Town and Country Planning Association \(TCPA\)- BBC](#)

[RIP Facsimile: Death of a Public Art Project: San Francisco Arts Commission has voted to remove Facsimile...by Diller Scofidio + Renfro, from the Moscone Convention Center...moving screen...has never worked the way it was intended...project was always one that was challenging in a social and political sense...big issues that take a big artwork, and today I see few artists or architects willing or able to take them on. By Aaron Betsky \[images\]- Architect Magazine](#)

[Mama Mizner! Starchitect Daniel Libeskind Condos Could be Coming to Boca Raton: ...a four-towered luxury condo complex called Mizner on the Green...very unlike most of Libeskind's other existing work, much of which tends to look like a mashup between a Holocaust museum and an iceberg...ironically named after another architect with an extremely different design sensibility... \[images\]- Curbed Miami](#)

[Grimshaw Architects selected for Lima's Jorge Chavez International Airport expansion: ...designs for the near-billion dollar expansion are set to be revealed in 2015. -- ARCADIS; CH2MHill; Ramboll- Peru this Week](#)

[National Mall's Constitution Gardens Redesign Approved and Moving Forward: The competition-winning plan covers a 50-acre site and features a lakeside glass pavilion. -- PWP Landscape Architects; Rogers Partners Architects+Urban Designers \(formerly Rogers Marvel Architects\) \[images\]- Architect Magazine](#)

[Hashim Sarkis named dean of the School of Architecture and Planning: Practicing architect, also a prominent scholar of architecture and urbanism, joins MIT from Harvard...will become the 10th permanent dean of the](#)

school. -- Hashim Sarkis Studios- MIT News

IT offers another major architecture award: ...the first winners of its new award for architecture in the Western Hemisphere. It goes by the unwieldy name of the Mies Crown Hall Americas Prize - or the snappy MCHAP, for short...architects of the winning projects will receive \$50,000 for research and a publication that explores the theme of "Rethinking Metropolis"... By Blair Kamin -- Álvaro Siza/Iberê Camargo Foundation; Herzog & de Meuron/1111 Lincoln Road [images]- Chicago Tribune

Living Breakwaters Wins 2014 Fuller Challenge: ..."socially responsible design's highest award"...Kate Orff will accept the \$100,000 prize in November. -- SCAPE / LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE - Buckminster Fuller Institute

Donna van Milligen Bielke €40,000 Prix de Rome Architecture 2014: ...for her "radical and poetic intervention" -- Cabinet of Curiosities -- for the Hoogstraat in Rotterdam. The Prix de Rome is the oldest and largest prize in the Netherlands... [image]- ArchDaily

Pop-up restaurant by OS31 will be built over a frozen river: British studio has won a competition to design a pop-up restaurant on the surface of a frozen river in Winnipeg...RAW:almond restaurant will be installed at the point where the mouth of the Assiniboine meets the Red River, as part of the Canadian city's annual winter festival. [images]- Dezeen

City Chooses Australian designer Daniel Tobin to Design AIDS Monument for West Hollywood Park: The city's Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission had recommended Susan Narduli, a Los Angeles architect and artist. [images]- WEHOville (West Hollywood, California)

Acclaimed international architects compete with Australian firms for Sydney Modern Project: Plans to double the size of the Art Gallery of NSW/New South Wales are gaining momentum... -- Candalepas Associates; Sean Godsell Architects; Fender Katsalidis; Kazugo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa/SANAA; Kengo Kuma and Associates; Kerry Hill Architects; Nieto Sobejano Arquitectos; RMA Architects (Rahul Mehrotra Architects); Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects; David Chipperfield Architects; Renzo Piano Building Workshop); Herzog & de Meuron - Architecture & Design (Australia)

Finalist Teams in Future Ground Competition to Develop Long-Term Strategies for Reuse of Vacant Land in New Orleans. -- Team LEX; Team PaD/ James Dart/DARCH/Deborah Gans/etc.; Team Stoss/STOSS Landscape Urbanism - Van Alen Institute / New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (NORA)

The short list: 15 finalists for the 2014 Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation: ...assessed more than 200 entries highlighting innovative programs in cities around the world. By Neal Peirce and Farley Peters - Citiscope.org

Icon Awards 2014: shortlist revealed: ...judges shortlisted five people, projects, products or practices in each of ten categories...includes globally renowned architects and designers as well as up-and-coming practices and technical and social innovators. [links to images, info]- Icon (UK)



-- The International Photography Awards: winners of the 7 architecture subcategories.  
-- Irene Kung: ...has expanded her repertoire to include photography..."I am fascinated by architecture as an extraordinary and indicative expression of human beings."  
-- "Constructing Worlds - Photography and Architecture in the Modern Age," Barbican Art Gallery: These photographs offer a way of understanding the architects' intentions in relation to the lived reality... By Kirsten Kiser

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