

Today's News - Wednesday, November 5, 2014

- A round-up of local reactions to MAD's proposed Lucas Museum in Chicago run the gamut, from "a palace for Jabba the Hutt" to "ambitious and provocative" (and everything in between).
- Moore reviews the results of 20 years of the U.K.'s National Lottery building spree that was "often wasteful and absurd," but "also had triumphs" and "large numbers of institutions and structures ranging from the crass to the brilliant."
- Ransford bemoans Vancouver's risk-aversion that "is stifling the risk-taking needed for innovation, creativity and diversity. It is preventing talented design professionals from doing what they do best - solving problems with smart design."
- Florida warns that the "next housing crisis may be sooner than you think - sometimes it seems we never learn" (comments are interesting, too).
- Schindler sees hope in "what American cities might learn from other parts of the world, and more, from the rich history of non-profit cooperative housing right here at home."
- Hess delves into the surprising - and inspiring - history of Irvine, CA: its midcentury master plan "was not so much a radical alternative to suburban design as a boldly rationalized refinement. Before me was not a theoretical treatise, but a real neighborhood with real architecture rooted in good principles."
- Lasner takes a long look at new housing for singles in mid-century America that pre-date the current trend in "NextGen" homes for extended families and micro-units (images for all the housing features are amazing!).
- A geriatrician calls for "silver architecture" that will accommodate an aging population: health care could be the "sector to start developing design prototypes that could be applied to homes and even neighborhoods, so people can stay active and grow older without having to move to retirement homes."
- Malpas cheers the University of Tasmania's new Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies on Hobart's waterfront that "belies a complex web of history, site, and program," and "draws the public in and the university out."
- Six building "that defy the rules of architecture."
- FT asks its global correspondents to pick which buildings they would demolish in their parts of the world "if they were given a wrecking ball" (some real doozies! Heathcote opts for London's Walkie-Talkie - "a grinning idiot photobombing the city").
- Kats's Q&A with curator Zoe Ryan re: the Istanbul Design Biennial, which examines the Gezi Park protests and" their global ramifications more than a year later."
- Grima explored changing ideas of domesticity at the Biennale Interieur 2014 in Belgium.
- Opening tomorrow in Los Angeles: 2014 New Urbanism Film Festival, "focusing on urban design and architecture at the pedestrian level."
- Call for entries: Folly 2015 for NYC's Socrates Sculpture Park + International Wildlife Center/IWC Africa (in Kruger National Park) + International Architecture Awards 2015 + Fairy Tales 2015 competition for unique architectural fairy tales.

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[Futuristic concept for Lucas museum touches off civic debate: A palace for Jabba the Hutt. An amorphous, land-eating colossus..."I could get used to the unusual form"...ambitious and provocative." -- Lee Bey; Zurich Esposito/AIA Chicago; Ma Yansong/MAD Architects - Chicago Sun-Times](#)

[The buildings that won the national lottery jackpot – the hits and misses: It's been 20 years since the national lottery first began providing funding for public building...responsible for the Eden Project, Tate Modern – and the Millennium Dome...This spree of public building was often wasteful and absurd...also had triumphs...has left large numbers of institutions and structures ranging from the crass to the brilliant. By Rowan Moore -- Richard Rogers; Zaha Hadid; Thomas Heatherwick; Norman Foster; Nicholas Grimshaw; Michael Hopkins; Caruso St John; Herzog & de Meuron \[images\]- Observer \(UK\)](#)

[Fear of a challenge is stifling our creative solutions: Times change: Risk-taking was relatively easier in the past...Can public process be truly public? ...challenges and issues of a rapidly growing Vancouver and the wider region are new...fear is stifling the risk-taking needed for innovation, creativity and diversity. It is preventing talented design professionals from doing what they do best - solving problems with smart design. By Bob Ransford- Vancouver Sun](#)

[The Next Housing Crisis May Be Sooner Than You Think: How we could fall into another housing crisis before we've fully pulled out of the 2008 one...sometimes it seems we never learn...more American households, especially middle- and working-class people, are having a harder time affording housing. This is particularly the case in reviving urban centers... By Richard Florida- CityLab \(formerly The Atlantic Cities\)](#)

[Housing and the Cooperative Commonwealth: Can the limited-equity co-op relieve the American affordable housing crisis? ...we are overlooking one of the best and most basic solutions...Why aren't policy makers embracing housing models...outside the private market? ....what American cities might learn from other parts of the world, and more, from the rich history of non-profit cooperative housing right here at home. By Susanne Schindler- Places Journal](#)

[Discovering Irvine: The midcentury master plan of Irvine, California, was not so much a radical alternative to suburban design as a boldly rationalized refinement...Before me was not a theoretical treatise, but a real neighborhood with real architecture rooted in good principles...balance between the progressive and pragmatic...reflects an exploration of alternative ways to be Modern. By Alan Hess -- Charles Luckman; William Pereira; Victor Gruen Associates; A.C. Martin; Peter Walker; Smith and Williams; etc. \[images\]- Places Journal](#)

[Swingsites for Singles: New housing for new households in mid-century America: Decades before developers began marketing "NextGen" homes for extended families or "micro-apartments" as the ultimate in solo city living, the singles apartment complex was responding creatively to new social needs. By Matthew Lasner \[images\]- Places Journal](#)

[New Buildings for Older People: We need "silver" architecture and design...Health care might be the ideal sector to start developing design prototypes that could be applied to homes and even neighborhoods, so people can stay active and grow older without having to move to retirement homes...Green architecture is good for the environment; silver architecture is good for humans. The best new buildings will be both. By Louise Aronson, geriatrician, UC San Francisco- New York Times](#)

[Between city and sea: Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies \(IMAS\): The simple form of a research building on Hobart's waterfront belies a complex web of history, site and program...One might argue that in a time of reduced university budgets, IMAS is an extravagance, and yet it places the University of Tasmania in the heart of one of the city's iconic areas...in a way that draws the public in and the university out. By Jeff Malpas -- John Wardle Architects; Terroir \[images\]- ArchitectureAU \(Australia\)](#)

[6 Buildings That Defy the Rules of Architecture: When it comes down to it, most buildings look alike. There are a few, however, that defy the rules of architecture. -- Frank Gehry; MVRDV; Michael Graves; Piet Blom; Adrian Smith/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill \(SOM\) \[images, links\]- The Global Dispatch](#)

[Demolition dreams: the world's 'worst' buildings: The world is full of terrible architecture. Which buildings would the FT's global network of correspondents demolish if they were given a wrecking ball? -- Russian Embassy, Havana; Antilia, Mumbai; Asahi Breweries HQ, Tokyo; Walkie-Talkie, London \(Edwin Heathcote\); Time Warner Building, New York; Pompidou Centre, Paris; Ponte City, Johannesburg; CCTV building, Beijing; etc.- Financial Times \(UK\)](#)

Q&A: Curator Zoe Ryan On the Istanbul Design Biennial: With the memory of Gezi Park protests still fresh...The second edition...which opened on November 1...plans to examine the protests and their global ramifications more than a year later, under the theme "The Future Is Not What It Used to Be." By Anna Kats [slide show]- Artinfo

Joseph Grima explores changing ideas of domesticity: Biennale Interieur 2014: "The Home Does Not Exist"...Grima and his research collective Space Caviar took over a derelict school in Kortrijk, Belgium, to create an exhibition exploring how perceptions of the home have changed over time. [images]- Dezeen

2014 New Urbanism Film Festival: focusing on urban design and architecture at the pedestrian level; November 6 - 9, Los Angeles - FORM magazine

Call for entries: Folly 2015: submit proposals for the annual design/build studio program at Socrates Sculpture Park, New York City; deadline: January 12, 2015- Architectural League of New York / Socrates Sculpture Park

Call for entries: International Wildlife Center/IWC Africa (in Kruger National Park); open to students and young professionals; cash prizes; early registration deadline (save money!): November 28; final registration deadline: January 16, 2015 (submissions due February 2, 2015)- Arquideas (Spain)

Call for entries: International Architecture Awards 2015; open to professionals and students; registration deadline: January 31, 2015 (submissions due February 15, 2015)- Architecture Podium

Call for entries: Fairy Tales 2015 competition for unique architectural fairy tales; cash prizes and publication; registration deadline: December 12 (submissions due January 16, 2015)- Blank Space

ANN Feature: New York Falls in Love with Gaudí's Complexity: A school of architecture displays the Sagrada Familia as a collective masterwork. By Vicente Jiménez, El País; translated by Prof. Lisa Paravisini-Gebert- ArchNewsNow



-- Book review: "L'Architecture Sauvage - Asger Jorn's Critique and Concept of Architecture" by Ruth Baumeister. By Jakob Harry Hybel

-- 7 Stunning Examples of Sports Architecture -- Dominique Perrault; Santiago Calatrava; PTW; Kisho Kurokawa; Zaha Hadid; Berger + Parkkinen; Eduardo Souto de Moura

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