

Today's News - Thursday, January 29, 2015

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow is this week's "floating" no-newsletter day (Interiors Awards breakfast early, early!) - we'll be back Monday, February 2 (what happened to January?!?!?).

- Weinstein wades into the "style wars" waters and offers "a path to avoid the quagmire" of "fake controversies."
- The Smithsonian looks across the Big Pond as it considers opening its first international space in London's Olympicopolis (with hefty support from Boris and developers - and a Republican Congressman!).
- The Centre Pompidou mulls another satellite that has local French officials "excited about the possibility" of a Bilbao Effect in the region.
- de Monchaux is totally enthralled by Predock's Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg, where the Bilbao Effect "is more interesting": "the seams show to let you know that for all its volcanic and glacial geomancy, the building is the work of human industry and intention" (fab photos, too).
- Vancouver isn't feeling the same vibe for a proposed Smith + Gill tower: the Chicago architects "have built many internationally-recognized buildings all over the world. But with this one, they struck out."
- St. Hill does a bang-up round-up of Milan Expo 2015 pavilions that hope to "reflect the huge challenge of balancing our greedy consumption with the depleting natural resources of the planet."
- Call for entries: Atlanta Bridgescape Competition (two bridges in need of help!) + LEAF Awards 2015.
- Weekend diversions (and lots of 'em!):
- Betsy gives (mostly) thumbs-up to MoMA's "Uneven Growth": "For an exhibition that focuses on some of our world's most severe problems, it is oddly optimistic and even exuberant" (with just a touch of his own pessimism).
- Kennicott cheers BIG's "Hot to Cold: An Odyssey of Architectural Adaptation" at the NBM for a number of reasons: it "is obligatory for anyone who cares about architecture and museums," and "gives innovation a good name" (and more!).
- Shaw cheers "Michael Graves: Past as Prologue" in Princeton: "He somehow marries the radical and everyday in a calculated way that merges art and life," packaging "radical concepts for the masses" (his "coat of contraband" is a hoot!).
- "Antoine Predock: Strata" struts its stuff in Albuquerque, sampling "the expansive scope of this architect's approach to design."
- Dvir, Rauchwerger, and Albrecht have much to say about "exceptional and persistent formal similarity that spans across history and geography" in "Icons of Knowledge: Architecture and Symbolism in National Libraries" at Harvard GSD.
- The David Yannay retrospective in Tel Aviv showcases "the ground-breaking architect who began developing digital methods for architectural design in the 1970s, alongside a design theory based on genetic models."
- Photographer Tillmans' "Book for Architects" at the Metropolitan Museum of Art presents "the ordinary and the extraordinary - with what he has called a 'warm eye.'"
- Shaw cheers "Michael Graves: Past as Prologue" in Princeton: "He somehow marries the radical and everyday in a calculated way that merges art and life," packaging "radical concepts for the masses" (in a good way).
- Hatherley hails Rotbard's "White City, Black City: Architecture and War in Tel Aviv and Jaffa" as a "revealing study of the myths that surround the modernist buildings in Israel."
- Excerpts x 2 (and great reads): "Design for a Living Planet: Settlement, Science, and the Human Future" by Mehaffy and Salinger + "From Formalism to Weak Form: The Architecture and Philosophy of Peter Eisenman" by Corbo.
- Green has a long Q&A with landscape architect Anne Whiston Spirn re: her new book, "The Eye Is the Door: Landscape, Photography, and the Art of Discovery" - and much more.
- Lamster and Vognar "muse on master of cinema Jacques Tati," and his "importance as an artist and his relevance to city dwellers everywhere."

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[Inexhaustible Nostalgia, Inexhaustible Shocks of the New: How to Navigate Through a Fake Controversy: A path to avoid the quagmire of architecture's style wars...During my proposed "time out" to retire the word "style" - let's dive into the depths of the word "cost." And I'm not just talking about money. By Norman Weinstein- ArchNewsNow.com](#)

[Smithsonian aims to open first international space in a London cultural complex: ... at the former Olympic park...dubbed the "Olympicopolis"...London Mayor Boris Johnson and the developers of the site have pledged \\$50 million...- Washington Post](#)

[Centre Pompidou Mulls Another Satellite Museum: ...Libourne outpost would mirror plans already well on their way for...satellite in Malaga, Spain...a mobile version...attracted 50,000 visitors in its short run, a figure which has local officials excited about the possibility of the growing tourism industry in the region, should the museum choose Libourne for its next outpost.- artnet News](#)

[Canadian Museum for Human Rights: There must still have been something of the so-called Bilbao Effect in the cold Manitoba air...But in Winnipeg, the result is more interesting...the seams show...to let you know that for all its volcanic and glacial geomancy, the building is the work of human industry and intention...a reminder that, even as you seek to live out humane values...sometimes - however secularly, however awkwardly, however ambitiously - you also need a cathedral. By Thomas de Monchaux -- Antoine Predock Architect \[images\]- Architect Magazine](#)

[Vancouver design panel rejects controversial Waterfront tower proposal: ...presented too many unanswered questions and conflicted with the major heritage Waterfront Station...It means the architects will have to redesign the building before coming back to the panel...Chicago architects...have built many internationally-recognized buildings all over the world. But with this one, they struck out. -- Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill \[link to images\]- Vancouver Sun](#)

[Milan Expo 2015 - a look at this year's pavilions: ...theme is Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life...reflects the huge challenge of balancing our greedy consumption with the depleting natural resources of the planet. By Cate St Hill -- Terrain: Architects and Landscape Architects; Tsinghua University + Studio Link-Arc; Chybik + Kristof Associated Architects; X-TU; Carlo Ratti Associati/etc.; Nemesi & Partners; MADE arhitekti; Wolfgang Buttress; SoNo Arhitekti; Foster + Partners; Biber Architects; Daniel Libeskind; etc. \[images\]- DesignCurial / Blueprint Magazine \(UK\)](#)

[Call for entries: Atlanta Bridgescape Competition \(international\); an urban design challenge seeking creative strategies to enhance the 10th Street Bridge in Midtown and the Courtland Street/Ralph McGill Boulevard Bridge in Downtown Atlanta, Georgia; stipend for Phase II; earlybird registration deadline \(save money!\): February 17 \(submissions due March 3\)- Midtown Alliance / Central Atlanta Progress/Atlanta Downtown Improvement District / AIA Atlanta / Architecture and Design Center.](#)

[Call for entries: LEAF Awards 2015: celebrating the best that global architecture; deadline: April 20- Arena International](#)

[MoMA Goes Tactical with "Uneven Growth: Tactical Urbanisms for Expanding Megacities": For an exhibition that focuses on some of our world's most severe problems, \[it\] is oddly optimistic and even exuberant...the best of these proposals do make us think that we can design a better future...who cares if the rich steal their style? By Aaron Betsky -- Pedro Gadanho; MAP Office; NLÉ/Zoohaus/Inteligencias Colectivas;](#)

Superpool/Atelier d'Architecture Autogérée; URBZ; SITU Studio; RUA Arquitectos/MAS Urban Design; Ensemble Studio/MIT-POPlab [images]- Architect Magazine

Exhibit highlights architecture as product of its environment: "Hot to Cold: An Odyssey of Architectural Adaptation," at the National Building Museum, is obligatory for anyone who cares about architecture and museums...the first exhibition...to use the magnificent but cavernous central atrium...in a way that integrates exhibition design into the architectural setting...gives innovation a good name. By Philip Kennicott – BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group [images]- Washington Post

History as contraband: "Michael Graves: Past as Prologue" at Princeton Grounds for Sculptures celebrates the 50th anniversary of Graves' design firm and five decades of visionary work...He somehow marries the radical and everyday in a calculated way that merges art and life...designs package radical concepts for the masses, and this juxtaposition gives them their unique character. By Matt Shaw [images]- Domus

"Antoine Predock: Strata": "...collages, works on paper, and architectural models...samples the expansive scope of this architect's approach to design...in participation with On the Map: Unfolding Albuquerque Art + Design"; at Richard Levy Gallery, Albuquerque- Richard Levy Gallery

"Icons of Knowledge: Architecture and Symbolism in National Libraries": Despite the rapid digitization of print, nations are vehemently investing resources in the construction of buildings that will project their cultural legacy...exhibition highlights an exceptional and persistent formal similarity that spans across history and geography. -- Noam Dvir; Daniel Rauchwerger; Benjamin Albrecht- Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD)

"David Yannay: Architecture and Genetics": A retrospective of the ground-breaking architect who began developing digital methods for architectural design in the 1970s, alongside a design theory based on genetic models; at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art [images]- Tel Aviv Museum of Art

"Wolfgang Tillmans: Book for Architects" at the Metropolitan Museum of Art: "...the German photographer traveled to 37 countries...shooting architectural features - the ordinary and the extraordinary - with what he has called a "warm eye." [images]- Architectural Digest

"White City, Black City: Architecture and War in Tel Aviv and Jaffa" by Sharon Rotbard - a demolition job: A revealing study of the myths that surround the Unesco-celebrated modernist buildings in Israel...if you want an explanation of the roots of the Israel-Palestine conflict – and of just how deep they go, right into the very foundations of the buildings – this book gives one of the most unusual and convincing accounts. By Owen Hatherley- Guardian (UK)

Ten New Findings From the Sciences that Will Revolutionize Architecture: excerpts from "Design for a Living Planet: Settlement, Science, and the Human Future" by Michael Mehaffy and Nikos Salingaros: Architects have allowed themselves to become attention-getting artistic packagers...The problem is that we have not addressed the real process of settlement, or asked how architecture...can actually take (or resume) a leadership position in shaping that process.- ArchDaily

"From Formalism to Weak Form: The Architecture and Philosophy of Peter Eisenman" by Stefano Corbo: ...connecting themes in the design and the theory of the influential architect across the many stages of his 50-year career. The following is an excerpt from the book's introduction... [images]- ArchDaily

Q&A: Landscape Architect Anne Whiston Spirn on Nature and Cities: An interview with the designer and author on the release of her new book, "The Eye Is the Door: Landscape, Photography, and the Art of Discovery": "the most part, the landscape urbanism and ecological urbanism literature has been aimed at the design disciplines...There is a need for publications that are valuable to designers and planners and are also challenging, interesting, and enlightening to a broader audience." By Jared Green- Metropolis Magazine

Architecture, film critics muse on master of cinema Jacques Tati: A new DVD set ["Complete Jacques Tati"] gives our architecture critic and culture critic reason to consider an ever-relevant master of French cinema...their conversation about Tati's importance as an artist and his relevance to city dwellers everywhere... By Mark Lamster and Chris Vognar- Dallas Morning News



-- Monthly News Round-Up, January 2015 Edition -- Snøhetta; Herzog & de Meuron; Jean Nouvel; Coop Himmelb(l)au; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Allied Works Architecture
-- Shannon McGrath: Melbourne-based photographer...has had her own practice for the last 12 years, concentrating on architecture and interior design... By Pygmalion Karatzas
-- What's New on the Bookshelves? January 2015 edition

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