

## Today's News - Tuesday, March 10, 2015

- Szenasy ponders the AIA's "Look Up" campaign and the importance of diversity in its message: "we're seeing a new conception of architecture. I am hopeful that this vision has a good chance of becoming the reality - soon."
- Saitta parses a new study that compares ancient and modern cities, and explains "why planners should care."
- Hume is practically giddy with glee about a development proposal "unlike any seen in Toronto" that should "bring tears to the eyes of the most ardent urbanist" for "the lengths to which it goes to be part of the city, not simply occupy space within it."
- Designing\_SouthAfrica's Asmal offers the fascinating saga of a project to "rethink the role of urban public space" in Johannesburg.
- McDonald checks out the results of the competition-winning design for an arts center in Ireland that almost bit the dust when the economy tanked and the architects were dismissed: it "ended up being built under the supervision of quantity surveyors. Ruthless cost-cutting is evident in the completed building."
- Preservationists are raising a red flag over plans to bulldoze Grimshaw's 1993 "Ship" building in Plymouth: "demolition could mean the city would fail to attract high-profile architects in the future."
- Hoboken, NJ, is only the second U.S. city to become part of the UN's 45-city "Making Cities Resilient" campaign (the other is San Francisco).
- Wainwright x 2: he delves deep into BIG's Dryline (formerly called the BIG-U), "a vision as ingenious as it is elementary, a why-didn't-they-do-it-already no-brainer of a plan."
- He meets the space architects "measuring up the red planet for inflatable homes and farms made of moon dust concrete."
- Eye-fuls of Ennead's design for the Shanghai Planetarium.
- Move over Mall of America - the 200-acre American Dream Miami mall is gonna be bigger - with a Legoland, sea-lion show, ski slope - and submarine rides (and more!) included (yikes!).
- Jiricná, Pawson, and Meier join upcoming stars for a "massive" project in Prague.
- Bernstein parses (with lots of pix) Scheeren's auction house and cultural hub in Beijing: it "may represent a way forward for foreign architects in China under a culturally conservative regime."
- Betsky tools around Snøhetta's Ryerson's Student Learning Center in Toronto: it is "the most unabashed version of a container for socialized surfing, and shows how to let students make monuments their own."
- Morgan hails a Connecticut prep school's biomass heating plant that is "a study in environmental responsibility and innovative architecture. Centerbrook has produced one of its best designs ever."
- The design of a new prison in Auckland "follows a progressive model that aims to promote rehabilitation with reward incentives."
- Help Wanted: EPA Office of Sustainable Communities seeks a division director in the smart growth, green building, and sustainable development arenas (application deadline is Friday!).
- RAIC gives KANVA the 2015 Emerging Architectural Practice Award.
- Winners announced in the IIDA 42nd Interior Design Competition and 23rd Will Ching Design Competition.

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It's Time for Architecture to Celebrate Diversity: I'm watching the debut of "Look Up," the American Institute of Architects' (AIA) newest public-awareness campaign...it becomes clear that we're seeing a new conception of architecture...Though the reality might not yet match this vision...I am hopeful that this vision has a good chance of becoming the reality - soon. By Susan S. Szenasy -- Liz Ogbu; Katie Swenson/Enterprise Community Partners; Vishan Chakrabarti/SHoP Architects - Metropolis Magazine

How Ancient and Modern Cities Compare (and Why Planners Should Care): A new scholarly paper argues that ancient and modern cities can be usefully analyzed in a comparative perspective. But what you do with the comps depends on how much you value similarities versus differences in urban form. By Dean Saitta - PLANetizen

Proposal for Honest Ed site a deal we can't refuse: With 1,000 rental units and lowrise buildings, this is a development proposal unlike any seen in Toronto: ...a continuation of the traditional city by other means...will bring tears to the eyes of the most ardent urbanist, the most passionate city-builder...what makes this scheme so remarkable are the lengths to which it goes to be part of the city, not simply occupy space within it. By Christopher Hume -- Gregory Henriquez; Janet Rosenberg [images] - Toronto Star

Diary: Zahira Asmal in Johannesburg: Director of Designing\_SouthAfrica reports on the project for a new 'place-making' pavilion for Jo'burg, a dreamed opportunity to rethink the role of urban public space in the city and turn Park Station, the continent's biggest transport node, into a new gateway to South Africa -- David Adjaye - The Architectural Review/AR (UK)

How compromise hit plans for Skibbereen's arts centre: The architects of Uillinn [West Cork Arts Centre] won an international competition but were dismissed after the financial crisis hit. Has their vision survived in the finished project? ...ended up being built under the supervision of quantity surveyors...had to surrender their drawings...Ruthless cost-cutting is evident in the completed building. By Frank McDonald -- Donaghy + Dimond Architects [images] - Irish Times

Campaigners protest to save Grimshaw's 'Ship': ...part of a campaign to save the award-winning office scheme from demolition...Plymouth Architectural Trust...said the demolition could mean the city would fail to attract high-profile architects in the future...iconic building...completed in 1993... [images] - The Architects' Journal (UK)

UN Names Hoboken Role Model for Resilience: Hoboken joined the UN's "Making Cities Resilient" campaign in 2013. It's now one of 45 cities worldwide...only the second in the U.S. - the other is San Francisco. - Next City (formerly Next American City)

Bjarke Ingels on the New York Dryline: 'We think of it as the love-child of Robert Moses and Jane Jacobs': If New York needs 10 miles of flood defences to protect it from another Hurricane Sandy, why not conceive the barrier as a leisure amenity? ...a vision as ingenious as it is elementary, a why-didn't-they-do-it-already no-brainer of a plan...the most ambitious product of Rebuild by Design...has also sparked fears of gentrification... By Oliver Wainwright -- BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group [images]- Guardian (UK)

Let's all move to Mars! The space architects shaping our future: We've had starchitects. Now we've got space architects. Oliver Wainwright meets the people measuring up the red planet for inflatable homes and farms made of moondust concrete. -- Brent Sherwood; Guillermo Trotti/Sasakawa International Center for Space Architecture; Madhu Thangavelu; Foster + Partners; Marc Cohen/Astrostructure [images]- Guardian (UK)

Ennead Architects to Design New Shanghai Planetarium: ...409,000-square-foot, \$95 million project...draws inspiration from astronomical principles and the experience of orbital motion. [images]- Contract magazine

This mall looks like it should be built in Dubai, but it's actually planned in Miami as the nation's largest: American Dream Miami...200-acre complex...[with] restaurants and shops, hotels and condominiums, mini golf, a theme park, a skating rink, a Legoland, a Ferris wheel, and indoor gardens, and...a sea-lion show and a "submarine lake." [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Eva Jiricná Architects, John Pawson and Richard Meier and Partners join upcoming stars in Prague: ...the latest architects working on...massive 'Oaks' scheme...features a new 'village centre' surrounded by 220 new homes. -- Coffey Architects; Duggan Morris Architects; Eldridge Smerin; Hall McKnight; Haptic; John Pardey Architects; McGarry-Moon Architects; EDSA; Chapman Taylor; John Thompson and Partners; Al-Design [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

New Auction House by Ole Scheeren Rises in Beijing: The China Guardian Art Center...will be equal parts auction house and cultural hub: hopes to become known for a less divisive contribution to the Beijing scene...despite its 600,000 square feet, treads lightly on its site...may represent a way forward for foreign architects in China under a culturally conservative regime. By Fred A. Bernstein [images]- Architectural Record

Snøhetta's Ryerson University Student Learning Center in Toronto: ...main function is to give students a place to combine the socializing and networking...designers have created the most unabashed version of such container for socialized surfing...Craig Dykers is quick to point out the features or oddities the buildings sports...shows how to let students make monuments their own. By Aaron Betsky -- Zeidler Partnership Architects [images]- Architect Magazine

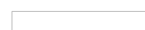
Campus Hot Spot: A biomass heating plant at a Connecticut prep school is a study in environmental responsibility and innovative architecture: Art and science classes meet in the heating plant...The Hotchkiss School is "trying to connect students with resources while grappling with the issues we teach"... Centerbrook has produced one of its best designs ever. By William Morgan -- Centerbrook Architects and Planners [images]- Design New England

Prison design by MODE and Peddle Thorp Aitken promotes rehabilitation with better housing incentives: ...seeks to usher a new era of correctional facility design in New Zealand. The 960-bed Auckland South Corrections Facility, known locally as Kohuora...design follows a progressive model that aims to promote rehabilitation with reward incentives. [images]- Architecture & Design (Australia)

Help Wanted: EPA Office of Sustainable Communities Seeks Division Director/Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist managing staff working in the smart growth, green building, and sustainable development arenas; must be U.S. citizen; application deadline: March 13- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

RAIC names recipient of 2015 Emerging Architectural Practice Award: A Montreal multi-disciplinary firm that experiments with materials and building methods... -- KANVA- Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC)

Winners of IIDA 42nd Interior Design Competition and 23rd Will Ching Design Competition Announced -- International Interior Design Association; Aidlin Darling Design; Burdiflek; CL3 Architects Limited; de-spec; Hacin + Associates; Office of mcfarlane biggar architects + designers; Christopher David Associates [links to images]- Contract magazine



Travel Guide: Taiwan: Taipei City, Taichung City, Kaohsiung: The cities impress; not because of their beauty, but because of their vitality.

The architectural qualities do not reveal themselves at first glance - you have to know where to look. By Ulf Meyer -- C.Y. Lee; Toyo Ito; Richard Rogers; Uheiji Nagano (1919); Chen Chi-Kwan/I.M. Pei (1963); Wang Ta-hung; Yang Cho-Cheng; Norihiko Dan; Jay W. Chiu/Chuang Hsueh-neng; Kuo Ying-chao/Bio Architecture Formosana; Er-Pan Kao; LIAO Weili/Ambi Studio; Justus Dahinden; Kris Yao/Artech; OMA/Artech/Projekt; Kerry Hill/TIA Architects [images]

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