

Today's News - Tuesday, April 14, 2015

- A fascinating look at the differences between Copenhagen and New York City's meatpacking districts: one "makes room for creative newcomers and traditional trades," while the other is limited by zoning codes and a developer-driven real estate economy.
- Wallop wonders if the U.K.'s National Trust is "dumbing down - obsessed about becoming less middle class" (and removing some of the "stuff" in historic homes).
- Litman lays out some of the highlights from his public policies report that "provides practical guidance for creating cities that are healthy, wealthy and wise."
- Weder wades into the growing use of engineered wood that is creating "a paradigm shift in construction" with an eco-friendly replacement for concrete and steel.
- Lissoni explains "the positive effects that the world's financial crisis has had on luxury design."
- Washington, DC's Union Station has a "grand development plan" by Grimshaw and Beyer Blinder Belle: "If London can figure out how to do it, we're hoping we can."
- Also in DC (and with another Brit), the International Spy Museum "pitches a new location" for its \$100 million, 100,000-square-foot building by Rogers Stirk Harbour.
- The Whitney and the Broad are only the latest museums going with the trend for vast column-free spaces, "the latest must-have, but curators and budgets can suffer"; says Selldorf: "It is a buzzword, and it's not the be-all and end-all."
- Webb is wow'd by Kevin Daly Architects' UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music: it is "as joyful and exuberant as a Handel anthem or Stravinsky's wind octet. Each of its three elements has its own expressive personality, but plays in harmony like a polished trio."
- Hess bemoans that Google architecture "has been largely neglected by official histories," and cheers "the avalanche of support" for the recently-threatened Norm's coffee shop that "exposes an often overlooked fact: Modernism can be popular."
- Harris offers an in-depth analysis of how high-fidelity stereos "posed new challenges" for post-war house builders (a touch of Don Draper, Cos Cob, and great 1960s ads included).
- Two takes on vintage visions of Manhattan and Times Square's future, "some of which never caught on and some of which still have a chance."
- Living Building Challenge energy and water documentation can now get LEED credits without added paperwork, "but it is at least partly symbolic."
- Q&A with Will Hunter re: how he hopes his London School of Architecture will "overhaul the way architecture is taught," and change an "undervalued and marginalized" profession.
- Across the Big Pond, AIAS launches the Promote Early Licensing: Professional Advancement Support Scholarship to "encourage aspiring architects to actively seek licensure to kick-start their professional careers."
- Zara parses the inaugural Chicago Architectural Biennial lineup of more than 60 studios from 30 countries.
- A UK-Korean firm wins The Lake Isle of Innisfree competition with its "luminous" Square Moon pavilion.
- Eye-fuls of the 150 winners of the 2015 A+Awards.
- The 8th International Design Awards winners include PLUS-SUM Studio's entry to Guggenheim Helsinki competition, and Gensler's SF International Airport Terminal 3.

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[Copenhagen Vs. New York City: A Tale Of Two Meatpacking Districts: Unlike New York, Copenhagen's burgeoning Kødbyen district makes room for creative newcomers and traditional trades: "New York's preservationists and planners are limited to working with the city's zoning code, and, in a developer-driven real estate economy, that's ultimately a blunt instrument"...](#) -- Serban Cornea/Mutopia [images]- Fast Company / Co. Design

[Is the National Trust becoming a 'bizarre joke'? ...director general, Helen Ghosh, has said many NT properties have too much "stuff" in them. Ickworth House, Suffolk, has taken out some furniture as an experiment, upsetting art historians. Is the organisation dumbing down? Many worry the National Trust has become obsessed about becoming less middle class.](#) By Harry Wallop- Telegraph (UK)

[Public Policies For Optimal Urban Development: "Analysis of Public Policies that Unintentionally Encourage and Subsidize Sprawl"...provides practical guidance for creating cities that are healthy, wealthy and wise, that is, attractive and healthy places to live, economically successful, socially vibrant and equitable....some of the report's key conclusions...](#) By Todd Litman/Victoria Transport Policy Institute- PLANetizen

[Beam Me Up: Building "plyscrapers" with engineered wood: A posse of Vancouver architects, engineers, manufacturers, and consultants ...are leading a paradigm shift in construction...they may well also have found an eco-friendly replacement for concrete and steel...The North American industry will have to retool if it wants to keep pace with its counterparts across the Atlantic.](#) By Adele Weder -- Michael Green Architecture; Greg Dowling; Office of McFarlane Biggar; McFarlane Marceau; Perkins+Will; Fast + Epp; Acton Ostry Architects/Architekten Hermann Kaufmann; Guido Wimmers [images]- The Walrus (Canada)

[Design in Crisis: How Economic Bust Has Redefined the Value of High Design: ...the positive effects that the world's financial crisis has had on luxury design...Developers have discovered a European sensibility, looking abroad for architects and designers to realize ambitious projects that often incorporate hybrid programs and features.](#) By Piero Lissoni [images]- Metropolis Magazine

[Union Station in Washington Has a Grand Development Plan: The 14-acre project to develop air rights over the tracks will feature 1,300 residential units, retail space, more than 500 hotel rooms, and parks and plazas...to be called Burnham Place..."If London can figure out how to do it, we're hoping we can"...](#) -- Daniel Burnham (1908); Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners; Grimshaw Architects; Shalom Baranes Associates [images]- New York Times

[International Spy Museum pitches new location: ...\\$100 million, 100,000-square-foot building at L'Enfant Plaza...contingent on approval from the Commission of Fine Arts...hoping that the museum's commitment to that area will prompt the District to move forward on...a sweeping improvement plan that covers 110 acres of property in Southwest between the mall and the waterfront.](#) -- Rogers Stirk Harbour & Partners; Gallagher & Associates - Washington Business Journal

[New Whitney and Broad Museum on trend with vast column-free space: Super-sized, flexible spaces are the latest must-have, but curators and budgets can suffer...Most architects agree that "column-free" has become shorthand for "super-sized" and "mega-flexible", two qualities that are highly valued in museums today. "It is a buzzword, and it's not the be-all and end-all"...](#) -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Renzo Piano; Annabelle Selldorf; Kulapat Yantrasast- The Art Newspaper (UK)

[Kevin Daly Architects brings the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music into the digital age; Ostin Music Center is as joyful and exuberant as a Handel anthem or Stravinsky's wind octet. Each of its three elements has its own expressive personality, but plays in harmony like a polished trio...The scale is humane, the facades tactile...](#) By Michael Webb [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

[Comment> Alan Hess says Google is as modern as a Craig Ellwood house: The avalanche of support for Norm's La Cienega...recently threatened with demolition, exposes an often overlooked fact: Modernism can be popular...Google has been largely neglected by official histories.](#) -- Armet and Davis; Douglas Honnold; Martin Stern, Jr.; Wayne McAllister; John Lautner- The Architect's Newspaper

[A Tiny Orchestra in the Living Room: High-fidelity stereo and the postwar house: how did stereo change the design of residential spaces? The perceptual dissolution of boundaries between spaces, and particularly between the private home and the outside world, is one of the key impacts of stereo technologies...new "sonic age" posed new challenges for house builders. By Dianne Harris \[adapted from a chapter in "Making Suburbia: New Histories of Everyday America"\] \[images\]- Places Journal](#)

[Forgotten Plans for NYC That Should Be Revived: Sometimes good ideas come before their time, or get squelched for random political reasons...Infrastructure that doubles as office space...it probably wasn't worth tearing down Carnegie Hall to build a skyscraper. But a fire-engine red office building somewhere in New York? That's a great idea. -- Gustav Lindenthal; Pomerance and Beines \(1957\) \[images\]- New York Magazine](#)

[Imagining the Future of Times Square, Again and Again: ...has always been about reinvention - no matter what state it's in...Here are some plans for the future...some of which never caught on and some of which still have a chance. -- Cooper, Robertson & Partners \(1979\); Snøhetta; etc. \[images\]- New York Magazine](#)

[Living Building Challenge Energy and Water Documentation Now Satisfies LEED Requirements: Projects certified under LBC will be able to get LEED credits without added paperwork. The alignment could have practical implications for project teams, but it is at least partly symbolic. -- U.S. Green Building Council \(USGBC\); Living Future Institute \(ILFI\)- Architectural Record](#)

[New architecture school aims to change "undervalued and marginalised" profession: London School of Architecture's Will Hunter talks about his plans to overhaul the way architecture is taught...new school opens at the Design Museum in London in September...What we're interested in is how practice and academia can be closer together."- Dezeen](#)

[AIAS Launches Campaign to Promote Early Licensing: Professional Advancement Support Scholarship, or PASS...encourages aspiring architects to actively seek licensure to kick-start their professional careers.- ArchDaily](#)

[Chicago Architectural Biennial Announces Inaugural Lineup: More than 60 studios from 30 countries will be represented in the first-ever North American architecture biennial, to take place this fall... "The State of the Art of Architecture," will include both new and commissioned works... By Janelle Zara -- Joseph Grima and Sarah Herda; Theaster Gates; Iwan Baan \[images\]- Architectural Record](#)

[UK-Korean firm wins Yeats poetry pop-up contest: Shindesignworks has won a competition for an installation in Lough Gill, Ireland inspired by William Butler Yeats' 1892 poem "The Lake Isle of Innisfree"...Square Moon...an aluminium-scaled frame and luminous lantern light...impressed the judges with its 'clarity and simplicity'...will then be relocated to a permanent home on the Institute of Technology Sligo campus. \[image\]- The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[2015 A+Awards Winners Announced: Heatherwick Studio, Studio Gang, and James Corner Field Operations Among Winners: A total of 150 firms and companies are represented among the winning projects... \[images\]- Architizer](#)

[8th International Design Awards: 2014 Architect of the Year: PLUS-SUM Studio; Guggenheim Helsinki; 2014 Interior Designer of the Year: Gensler; San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3; etc.- International Design Awards \(IDA\)](#)



[Interview: Enrique Norton/TEN Arquitectos: ...his recent projects and general approach to architecture... "It's a process and a lot of it is trial and error...It is not, as you say, a magical inspiration. It's not a doodle on a napkin. It's a lot of work...architecture is a group effort." By Morten Wilhelm Scholz \[images\]](#)

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