Today’s News - Wednesday, April 15, 2015

- Mackenzie minces no words in criticizing the critics of ARM Architecture's Portrait building in Melbourne: he finds the criticism to be "marred by racism and unsubstantiated opinion," which "illuminates the impoverished state of public discussion about architecture" (and then some).

- Elshahed delves into the controversy and questions swirling around the "unimaginatively christened" The Capital Cairo: "street-level renderings show a modern city that could be anywhere" (and a desert landscape "rendered in green").

- Not done deals, but two potentially positive news items: Foster's 2 World Trade Center "might actually happen" (if things work out with Rupert Murdoch).

- Rudolph's Orange County Government Center gets a reprieve from the wrecking ball - until July, anyway.

- Kaji-O'Grady cheers John Wardle Architects/NADAAA's Melbourne School of Design that "yields a layered new school rich in ideas and meticulous in detail."

- A new pedestrian bridge in Gothenburg by Erik Andersson Architects will have "a narrow profile that seemingly floats over the water."

- A Minneapolis skyway becomes the "ultimate recycling project," first to be transformed into an interactive art installation before becoming a lakeside home.

- Eyeful of the 2014 - 2015 A' Architecture, Building and Structure Design Award winners (miles of 'em!).

- Eyeful of an impressive shortlist of 6 vying to design Oslo's government quarter.

- Thanks to Rupert Murdoch, Norman Foster's 2 World Trade Center might actually happen: "News Corporation and 21st Century Fox - both owned by the billionaire media mogul - are interested in using half the building (1.5 million square feet) as a joint headquarters...widely considered to be the most architecturally adventurous of the glassy WTC bunch...expected to change at least slightly if this deal moves forward..." -- Foster + Partners - The Architect's Newspaper

- Judge Stalls Demolition of Paul Rudolph's Orange County Government Center in Goshen, NY: "...request for a temporary restraining order to stop the county's plan to give the building a generic glassy overhaul...denied...but ruled that no demolition should happen before July..." -- Curbed

- Academic rigour: Melbourne School of Design: At the University of Melbourne, a partnership between John Wardle Architects and NADAAA yields a layered new school rich in ideas and meticulous in detail...it challenges us to find the appropriate critical language with which to appreciate its effects. By Sandra Kaji-O'Grady -- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

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- Erik Andersson Architects Designs Carbon Fiber Pedestrian Bridge for Gothenburg: "...a narrow profile that seemingly floats over the water. It is envisioned that the landscape the crosses form can be used as an amphitheater for riverside performances. [images] -- ArchDaily

- Forform 280,000-pound Twin Cities skyway finds a new home as a home in Brainerd: It's the ultimate recycling project...once connected two downtown buildings...will be transformed by a team of artists from Vancouver into an interactive art installation in Minneapolis, then head north later this summer where it will become a lakeside home..." -- CityDesk Studios [images] -- Minneapolis Star Tribune

- Bjørn Ingels Group, MVRDV + Snhetta unveil proposals for Oslo's government quarter: "...six different proposals...were selected from 24 original entries..." -- Asplund Vial; LPO; White [images] -- designboom


- 2014 - 2015 A' Architecture, Building and Structure Design Award Winners -- Kris Lin; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); PARTISANS; Ingenard & Ewy Architects; etc. [images] -- A' Design Award & Competition

- University Of Maryland Team Wins The 2015 ULI Hines Competition With Plan To Redevelop A Site In Downtown New Orleans + Finalists [links to presentations] -- Urban Land Institute (ULI)

- John Peterson, founder of Public Architecture, appointed curator of the Loeb Fellowship: "...will assume his new post in January 2016...will step down from his position as President of Public Architecture to become a member of its board of directors. -- Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD)

- Call for entries (deadline reminder): 2015 Brick in Architecture Awards (U.S., Canada, and U.S. territories); deadline: April 30 - Brick Industry Association

- Call for entries: World Architecture Festival/WAF Awards; earlybird deadline (save money): May 1; standard deadline: May 22 - World Architecture Festival (WAF)

- Call for entries: The Seasteading Institute Floating City Project – Architectural Design Contest: develop ideas for a floating city stationed in protected ocean waters which contains housing, hotel/resort, and office/commercial spaces; cash prizes; registration deadline: May 28 (submissions due June 1) -- The Seasteading Institute / DeltaSync
Interview: Enrique Norten/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]