

Today's News - Monday, May 11, 2015

- ArcSpace brings us eyefuls of Henning Larsen's Moesgaard Museum in Denmark that "offers a new perspective on the role of the museum as a public space" (with a roof that becomes the area's largest/best sledding hill in winter).
- Litt is quite taken with the "gentle, graceful and subtly inviting urban presence" of Piano's new Whitney: "The aura is more mysterious and enigmatic than knock-your-socks-off spectacular. But don't be fooled by its humility."
- Heathcote cheers Phifer's new wing for the Corning Museum of Glass that "is a pure expression" of the relationship between glass and light - "an opalescent light box and an elegant new addition to an unusual corporate campus."
- Russell rambles around "sprawling" Atlanta: "It's a real-estate wild west," as it "tries on the idea of becoming a city," but "the divide between public disinvestment and privatized luxe" is all too apparent (including the alarming deterioration of Merrill Elam Mac Scogin's "refreshingly inventive" 1989 Buckhead library).
- Betsky finds lessons from Baltimore in its "income inequality and spatial segregation. We all live in the democratic American grid, but we inhabit it unequally" - we need to "invest in those places that need it most. For a fraction of what we spend on policing, we could be building our way out of trouble."
- Litman boils down his "Affordable Accessible Housing in a Dynamic City" report to "a succinct statement" of his key conclusions and recommendations.
- Saitta reports some key take-aways from the Rocky Mountain CitySummit in Denver: "The stories that civic boosters tell are far too triumphal. These narratives very effectively 'disappear' the people and issues," and "require more self-critical analysis."
- Lamster laments a CNU panel's presumption that that it's architects' fault that there's "so much architecture junk - architects don't have that much power" (and he cheers "a younger generation not interested in tendentious arguments about traditionalism and modernism," but are, instead, focused on the building "urban centers that progressive thinkers of all stripes can embrace."
- Gehl Institute launches to bring "People-First Design" to more cities to "help create public spaces that draw in people and boost economic opportunity of the surrounding areas."
- King brings us a great tour of San Francisco's parklets: "there are detractors as well as devotees. Here's something else: They're fun" (comments lean (depressingly) towards the detractor factor).
- Bullivant cheers a rural Kenyan school designed as "a living infrastructure" that harvests rain water for pupils, teachers and the community, "but can the project be repeated in other arid regions?"
- Ban and Voluntary Architects' Network propose a "three-part disaster relief process to provide shelter, housing, and community facilities to victims of the devastating earthquake" in Nepal.
- On a more personal note, Ban "recalls traditional carpenters at his family's Tokyo home, his passion for recyclables," and how he "fought against being influenced by other architects" to "invent my own style."
- Eyefuls of the ULI Hines Competition winners' visions for new uses for two New Orleans neighborhoods.
- ArchiteXX (New York), Parlour (Australia), and n-nails (Berlin) win a Wikipedia grant for the collaborating organizations' initiative "More Female Architects on Wikipedia."
- US Modernist Radio launches a new podcast series: "Be forewarned: this is not academic, heady, precious conversation. It is fun, irreverent..." (as one fan described it: "Imagine 'Urban Omnibus' smushed with 'Car Talk' - how could we resist?!").
- Eyefuls of what to watch out for at NYCxDesign 2015, kicking off this week - ICFF, Frieze New York, designjunction edit New York are among many.
- Speaking of which, Be Original Americas will be presenting "Authentic Design Online" at WantedDesign, May 16, to explore "how the design community can assert and promote quality through intangible channels and the ever-shifting online marketplace."
- Call for entries: 2015 CTBUH International Student Tall Building Design Competition + Liebherr's Design your Fridge! international competition.

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[Henning Larsen Architects: Moesgaard Museum: Surrounded by woods on the outskirts of Aarhus, Denmark, the new MOMU...offers a new perspective on the role of the museum as a public space. By Robert Martin \[images\]](#)

[New Whitney Museum focuses on art, not architectural pyrotechnics: ...a gentle, graceful and subtly inviting urban presence...sheathed in pale blue-gray metal panels...like an oversized piece of industrial equipment. The aura is more mysterious and enigmatic than knock-your-socks-off spectacular...But don't be fooled by the humility of Piano's design...seems to be at pains not to be perceived as a brash newcomer and as a harbinger of a neighborhood takeover by the 1 percent. By Steven Litt -- Marcel Breuer; Renzo Piano - Cleveland Plain Dealer](#)

[Corning Museum of Glass opens new wing: ...explores the material's relationship with light...a museum of the material can be something very different to a museum of art. Indeed the new wing...is a pure expression of that relationship, an opalescent light box and an elegant new addition to an unusual corporate campus...exerts an enigmatic presence on the landscape. By Edwin Heathcote -- Wallace K. Harrison; Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; Thomas Phifer and Partners - Financial Times \(UK\)](#)

[Sprawling Atlanta Tries to Be a City: It's a real-estate wild west, as Atlanta tries on the idea of becoming a city...The divide between public disinvestment and privatized luxe was brought home to me...Inept attractions; Suburbs Irrelevant?; Catalytic BeltLine; Private City. By James S. Russell \[images\]- JamesSRussell.net](#)

[Lessons From Baltimore: Segregation is Real: Aaron Betsky finds income inequality evident in the spatial segregation of America's cities: We all live in the democratic American grid, but we inhabit it unequally...What we need to do - or at least try to do - is to invest in those places that need it most...We need points of stimulation and openness. For a fraction of what we spend on policing, we could be building our way out of trouble. - Architect Magazine](#)

[Welcome To Our Neighborhood: A Manifesto for Inclusivity: "Affordable Accessible Housing in a Dynamic City" provides 65 pages of detailed analysis concerning why and how to develop more affordable infill housing...boiled down the key conclusions and recommendations to a succinct statement... By Todd Litman/Victoria Transport Policy Institute- PLANetizen](#)

[Building the Inclusive City: Income inequality, housing affordability, and residential segregation are big challenges that require more self-critical analysis and less civic self-promotion: The stories that civic boosters and others tell about Denver and other American cities...are far too triumphal. These narratives very effectively "disappear" the people and issues... By Dean Saitta -- Rocky Mountain CitySummit; Bill Strickland; Jeff Speck- PLANetizen](#)

[Why is so much architecture junk? It is a problem that vexes architects. Isn't it their fault, anyway? This was the presumption at a panel during...Congress for The New Urbanism annual conference...the problem with the built environment...is because architects have lost their design principles...The truth is that architects don't have that much power...A younger generation...not interested in tendentious arguments about traditionalism and modernism, but instead focused on the task of building the kinds of walkable urban centers that progressive thinkers of all stripes can embrace... By Mark Lamster - Dallas](#)

Morning News

[New Gehl Institute Will Bring "People-First Design" to More Cities: ...with \\$1.6 million in backing from the Knight Foundation...will help create public spaces that draw in people and boost economic opportunity of the surrounding area in Knight communities... -- Gehl Studio- Next City \(formerly Next American City\)](#)

[An architectural tour of ... parklets? Say what you like about Parklets - and there are detractors as well as devotees - they are now an established part of the scenery not only in San Francisco, but beyond...Here's something else: They're fun. By John King \[images\]- San Francisco Chronicle](#)

[The rural Kenyan school that collects water for the community: ...harvests rain for pupils, teachers and their families \[in Laikipia\], but can the project be repeated in other arid regions? More than just a simple building, the Waterbank School is a living infrastructure...designed by British architects Jane Harrison and David Turnbull, founders of the non-profit PITCHAfrica. By Lucy Bullivant \[images\]- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Shigeru Ban Architects and Voluntary Architects' Network Will Supply Shelter to Nepal: Pritzker Prize winner proposed a three-part disaster relief process to provide shelter, housing, and community facilities to victims of the devastating earthquake. - Architect Magazine](#)

[Shigeru Ban Turns to Tubes: The Pritzker Prize winner recalls traditional carpenters at his family's Tokyo home and his passion for recyclables: "At architecture school, I fought against being influenced by other architects...Only a few architects have never been influenced by the styles of their predecessors and peers...Buckminster Fuller and Frei Otto invented their own materials or structural systems. This is what I wanted to do, invent my own style."- Wall Street Journal](#)

[Lay of the Land: Urban Land Institute names winner in competition to envision new uses for two New Orleans neighborhoods: ...University of Maryland has won annual ULI Hines Competition...The competition is entirely hypothetical, but the development potential of the selected area is not. \[images\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[ArchiteXX \(New York\), Parlour \(Australia\) and n-ails \(Berlin\) Awarded Wikipedia Project and Event Grant to Profile Women Architects on Wikipedia: ...collaborating organizations' initiative..."More Female Architects on Wikipedia"...- ArchiteXX.org](#)

[US Modernist Radio launches: a new podcast series about Modernist Architecture. Be forewarned: this is not academic, heady, precious conversation. It is fun, irreverent \(sometimes\), casual, lively, amusing, informative and personal...Christine Madrid French/Recent Past Preservation Network re: her brave, decade-long attempt to save Richard Neutra's Cyclorama at Gettysburg; Kelly Lynch; Myrick Howard/Preservation North Carolina; J. Michael Welton; Jim Cutler/Cutler Anderson Architects - Triangle Modernist Archive / North Carolina Modernist Houses](#)

[All the Designs to Watch Out for at NYCxDesign 2015: Architects and designers converge again for New York's third annual design fair and a slew of exciting off-site events; through May 19- Metropolis Magazine](#)

["Authentic Design Online" presented by Be Original Americas at WantedDesign, May 16, New York City: a discussion on how the design community can assert and promote quality through intangible channels \[and\] the ever-shifting online marketplace. -- Amanda Dameron/Dwell; Bradford Shellhammer/Bezar; Gregg Buchbinder/Emeco; Max Fraser - Be Original Americas](#)

[Call for entries: 2015 CTBUH International Student Tall Building Design Competition; winning submissions include a total of \\$22,000 in cash and travel stipends; registration deadline: August 3 \(submissions due August 10\)- Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat \(CTBUH\)](#)

[Call for entries: Design your Fridge! \(international\) best design presented at IFA 2015 in Berlin, and 1st place winner will receive a refrigerator in their winning design; deadline: July 15- Liebherr](#)

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