Today's News - Friday, May 29, 2015

- While we're not very good at tooting our own horn, the Philadelphia University School of Architecture just posted a Q&A with yours truly as part of its Expert Interview program (toot toot!).

- Appelbaum on the uncertainty of our future in an era of climate change: "In uncertain times, urban design should make public places more flexible, more reassuring, and more public. Even big-budget projects..." [like The Dryline], are trying to design in human connections to manage uncertainty.

- Whitaker wades into what is perhaps "the most intriguing" (though unseen) feature of the new Whitney - its custom flood-mitigation system (a post-Sandy add-on): "While the country has been stuck in a surreal debate over the reality of climate change, institutions in vulnerable areas are having to respond in real time," bringing on "an era of improvised ingenuity, of localized efforts to address a problem in dire need of a global solution."

- No matter which Chicago park the Obama Presidential Library lands in, South Siders "are already dreaming big about the potential ripple effects. They want jobs and housing - and they want it in writing."

- Long lays out his vision for the V&A's new outpost at Olympicopolis that "will have a strong focus on architecture and urbanism," and an impressive team to steer the development - he's also looking to hire a senior curator (job posting included).

- Bernstein offers his take on the One World Observatory: "The best part of a visit may be the ride to the 102nd floor. The problem is it lasts only 47 seconds," and, despite a few quibbles, it is "a chance to celebrate New York's post-9/11 renaissance. And then there's the elevator ride down - almost as enjoyable as the ride up."

- Blahut cheers the Graham Foundation's Bo Bardi show, which "emphasizes how her work and writings have influenced contemporary architecture - and the cultures it examines, an objective largely achieved."

- Torre ponders whether the MoMA show does the region justice, and concludes it does: the "richly documented exhibition aspires to present architecture from within the era of improvised ingenuity, of localized efforts to address a problem in dire need of a global solution. By John Whitaker -- Renzo Piano; Walz & Krenzer; South Siders lobby for promises in writing as Obama library takes shape:...the most intriguing feature is the one that kicks in in case of emergency:...custom flood-mitigation system designed...in the aftermath of 2012's Hurricane Sandy. While the country has been stuck in a surreal debate over the reality of climate change, institutions in vulnerable areas are having to respond in real time...augur an era of improvised ingenuity, of localized efforts to address a problem in dire need of a global solution. By John Whitaker -- Renzo Piano; Walz & Krenzer"

- Lange finds many levels of meaning at Manhattan's MAD show “Pathmakers: Women in Art, Craft and Design, Mid-century and Today“ about "women's role in postwar Modernism" and "the uneasy gender imbalance between craft and industrial design."

-love is more than intrigued with MoMA's Latin America show: it "does not offer pat conclusions about whether the building boom found the answers to massive urban problems or improved the lives of those most in need. But this very complex diversity is, in fact, the show's strongest recommendation and the source of its compelling fascination."

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- Blahut cheers the Graham Foundation's Bo Bardi show, which "emphasizes how her work and writings have influenced contemporary architecture - and the inclusiveness of her designs, both socially and aesthetically."

- Eliasson brings LEGO's to the High Line - along with a slew of starchitects working in the nabe "contributing one building which the public will then be able to adapt, extend or work around."

- Philly's "first foray into a season-long celebration of outdoor fun at The Oval" is "Future Sensations," an "exhibition of epic proportions" with "ephemeral pavilions" offering a "sensory journey of science, storytelling and art" (celebrating Saint-Gobain's 350th, too!)

- Green cheers Lydon and Garcia's thoughtful, informative "Tactical Urbanism" for being "the first book to really organize all the small fixes that seem to have spontaneously sprung up in so many communities in a way that everyone can understand."

- Flint cheers "Busby: Architecture's New Edges," which "details the theory and practice of what might be called Green Building 2.0. The idea is not to be satisfied with efficiency for its own sake."

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- According to Kristen Richards of Built Environment: To subscribe to the free daily newsletter please click here.

- Keeping Up With the Built Environment According to Kristen Richards: The best architects, engineers and firms strive to keep up with the boldest and brightest innovations in the industry...how will you stay informed post-graduation?

- Philadelphia University School of Architecture

- In Uncertain Times, Design for Community: We don’t know exactly how climate change will play out, but two things are clear: Parts of our cities are in for severe stress. And we will have to get through it together...In uncertain times, urban design should make public places more flexible, more reassuring, and more public...Even big-budget projects are trying to design in human connections to manage uncertainty. By Alec Appelbaum - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

- Protecting Priceless Art From Natural Disasters: The new Whitney Museum has been lauded for its cutting-edge architecture, but the most intriguing feature is the one that kicks in in case of emergency:...custom flood-mitigation system designed...in the aftermath of 2012's Hurricane Sandy. While the country has been stuck in a surreal debate over the reality of climate change, institutions in vulnerable areas are having to respond in real time...augur an era of improvised ingenuity, of localized efforts to address a problem in dire need of a global solution. By John Whitaker -- Renzo Piano; Walz & Krenzer - The Atlantic

- How Paris Is Trying to Fix One of the Worst Planning Decisions It Ever Made: erecting a grandiose glass canopy over one of its most contested sites as part of a new culture and shopping complex...will do more than give shoppers something new to gawk at and shelter under...While so many urban renewal plans seem to be about using the monied to push the less wealthy and the young away, the Les Halles revamp seems to be at least trying to weave them together. Let’s hope it works. By Feargus O'Sullivan -- Patrick Berger and Jacques Anziutti [images] - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

- South Siders lobby for promises in writing as Obama library takes shape:...whether it’s Washington Park or Jackson Park, nearby residents are already dreaming big about the potential ripple effects. They want jobs and housing - and they want it in writing...coalition pushing for a formal community benefits agreement, or CBA...Chicago has never had a successful CBA...But more than 10 miles south of downtown, another group is trying to change that...- WBEZ Chicago Public Radio

- V&A moves into top gear at Stratford: Kieran Long reveals O'Donnell & Tuomey will design new museum...putting together the team that will steer the development of its new outpost at Olympicopolis... provisionally branded V&A E20, will have a strong focus on architecture and urbanism...also recruiting a senior curator...-- Allies & Morrison; Gustafson Porter; Josep Camps/Olga Felip Arquitectura- BD/Building Design (UK)

- Through the Eyes of a Critic: One World Observatory: The best part of a visit...may be the ride to the building’s 102nd floor...The problem is [it] lasts only 47 seconds. The rest...isn’t quite as spectacular as the $32 ticket price might suggest. But in the end, the expense, the privatization of the top two floors, and the lack of inspired design are quibbles...offers some of the world’s most stirring vistas [and] a chance to celebrate New York’s post-9/11 renaissance. And then there’s the elevator ride down...almost as enjoyable as the ride up. By Fred A. Bernstein [images] - Travel + Leisure

- A Tour Through the New Chicago Athletic Association Hotel: The finished product is a hotel that pays homage to its past while feeling very modern and new. -- Henry Ives Cobb (1893); Hartshorne Plunkard Architecture; Roman and Williams - Curbed Chicago

- Why "Tomorrowland" Should Never Come: ...a Calatrava future: It seems ironic to me that it is exactly that failed carcass of...
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