• Gehry responds to the "stinging criticism" re: his joining the L.A. River Restoration Project: "they are trying to cut me up before I even get out of the gate. That's not nice. Tell them to grow up," Lehrer welcomes him to the fray. "He's a creative dude."
• Down Under x 2: Drew minces no words about what he thinks of RS+HP and Wilkinson Eyre's plans for Barangaroo: it's "a mess of colossal proportions - like a giant finger given to Sydney, everything about it is selfish and narcissistic."
• Bull and Kirk explain what's at stake as three industry organizations representing architecture, landscape architecture, and urban design come together "in an unprecedented step" to oppose plans for a $2 billion casino resort in "Brisbane's historic civic heart."
• Betsky continues to bemoan the "privatization of space - our collective identities are more and more the domain of either private entities or state organizations over which we have little control."
• Wm. Richards says "we need a new definition of the architectural hero - star status does not always denote design leadership...lamenting a dearth of heroes is about as productive as grousing about too many starchitects."
• Safdie's first foray in Manhattan will be a 64-story mixed-use tower just south of the Empire State Building.
• Civitas is tapped to tackle Wayzata, MN's Lake Minnetonka's waterfront to make it "more inviting and accessible to residents" (now all the city needs is the moolah to get it done).
• Kamin reports that "140 architects from 25 countries have submitted qualifications for the plum job of designing the Obama library."
• Miranda takes Lange on a tour of architectural sites in Orange County (after they finished "Broading").
• Q&A with Neri & Hu re: "why so many Chinese designers succumb to greed": "Architects should take on new value in how they innovate in producing architecture."
• O'Sullivan is wow'd by a new before-and-after photo archive of city streets "that have been transformed by pro-pedestrian makeovers. It's a walkable feast - when it comes to policies for weaning cities off cars, we may soon reach a watershed after which such policies will no longer be an exception, but a rule."
• Then and now: Hume and FLW evaluate the losing finalists from 1958 competition to design Toronto's city hall (guess who said: "It's the most insolent of all").
• Penner pens a great intro to Banham's "remarkable analysis of a pioneering crash-test dummy": a "good ju-ju of technology, a modern prevento mori."
• The Chicago Architecture Biennial posts its amazing array of public programming (registration now open, too).
• The New Ideas for Housing International Ideas Competition announces an impressive shortlist of 100, soon to be on view at the NLA galleries in London.
• 5 "brilliant" videos "tell the stories of buildings in a matter of minutes."
• Vittori garners the 2015 Harley Award for Vision and Leadership in Sustainability (and $50,000).
• Call for entries: 63rd Annual P/A Awards + 33rd Annual ALD International Lighting Design Awards.

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To a Before-and-After Photo Archive of the World's Best Street Designs: It's a walkable feast: …more than 350 before-and-after
shots showing city blocks across the world that have been transformed by pro-pedestrian makeovers...This scope shows that, when it comes to policies for weaning cities off cars, we may soon reach a watershed after which such policies will no longer be an exception, but a rule. By Feargus O’Sullivan -- Urb-i [images] - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

The city halls we almost had: The losing finalists from 1958 competition get assessed by Christopher Hume - and Frank Lloyd Wright: ...Toronto’s iconic city hall - now turning 50 - came about as a result of an international competition held in 1958...Here’s a look at the seven who didn’t make the cut... -- Halldor Gunnlogsson/Jorn Nielsen; William B. Hayward/Hayward and Associates; David Home; Rafferty, Rafferty, Mikutowski Associates; I.M. Pei & Associates; Perkins+Will [images]- Toronto Star

Future Archive: The Man Who Wrote Too Well: Reyner Banham was not only a scholar but also a prodigiously productive journalist. Consider his remarkable analysis of a pioneering crash-test dummy, a “good ju-ju of technology, a modern prevento mori.” Introduction by Barbara Penner/Bartlett School of Architecture - Places Journal

Chicago Architecture Biennial Announces Public Programming: Program includes over 200 public events presented in collaboration with more than 100 cultural institutions across the city and region. Online registration now open - Chicago Architecture Biennial

New Ideas for Housing - International Ideas Competition: 100 shortlisted ideas announced...will be on display...at the NLA galleries in The Building Centre from 15 October to 17 December...Ten winning ideas will be announced in mid October... - New London Architecture/NLA

5 Movies from the Master Storytellers of Architecture: …brilliant examples of architectural movies that tell the stories of buildings in a matter of minutes. -- Pattern Design/Factory Fifteen; AECOM/Squint/Opera; Zaha Hadid Architects/MIR; Herzog & de Meuron/Tronic Studio; Fran Silvestre Arquitectos/Alfonso Calza - Architizer

2015 Hanley Award for Vision and Leadership in Sustainability and $50,000 Prize Go to Gail Vittori, co-director of the Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems: …award...honoring individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary, lasting, and far-reaching contributions to sustainability, and who have greatly influenced policy and industry response to critical environmental challenges in the United States. - Builder magazine

Call for entries: 63rd Annual P/A Awards (Progressive Architecture Awards) for unbuilt and ongoing projects. All entries must be commissioned by paying clients for execution; deadline: October 30 - Architect Magazine

Call for entries: 33rd Annual IALD International Lighting Design Awards; early bird deadline (save money!) October 23; final deadline: November 6 - International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD)


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