

Today's News - Monday, September 28, 2015

- Berke to step into Stern's shoes as the dean of Yale School of Architecture (the first woman in the school's 100-year history).
- Moore parses the good and not-so-good sides of Hadid, "a visionary whose ideas don't always make sense - the shape comes first, the means of achieving it follow. She is forthright, funny, passionate, sometimes generous, sometimes furious."
- Feary bemoans the waning relevance of architects, who "arrive far too late in the political and real estate food chain to be of any real significance in initiating how the built environment is produced."
- Bakshian sees not much more than "monumental egos" and "narcissists" among the finalists for the national World War I memorial: "'Attack of the Mole People,' anyone?"
- Miranda has a field day with the Petersen Automotive Museum's "gloriously bad redo," though "there is something about the building's willful awfulness that I have to admire."
- Dittmar parses the National Trust's embrace of post-modernism and its "brutal utopias": "much of the appeal of brutalism is a nostalgia for this optimism and vigor in the public sector [and] desire to move away from the fractured corporate-dominated world we live in."
- Harclerode sees a partial preservation victory in the (sort of) recycling of Pei's 1949 Gulf Oil Building in Atlanta (at least it wasn't totally demolished).
- Meades ponders "the brutal charm of the Soviet bus stop. The norm is wild going on savage - they certainly don't lack grandeur and audacity" (Herwig's stunning photos prove it!).
- Schumacher cheers the competition to design a segment of Milwaukee's lakefront and "truly smart design work from some finalists," but worries the "tiny park" is being asked to do too much - the project's scope should be expanded.
- Cohen isn't going NIMBY with his call to "stop building mediocre parklets" - they "are a clever form of tactical urbanism that theoretically reminds people that streets are public pace," but "pavement parks" are better.
- Tuckey explains how well-designed outdoor spaces can bring communities together.
- Bernstein cheers Manhattan's new salt shed: it is "an architectural gem - a shapely concrete container that is winning rave reviews - even from people who have no idea what it's for."
- EyeFuls of Wardle's summer pavilion at the National Gallery of Victoria, a "meadow of fuchsia pink, orange and purple blooms" designed with a chuckle in mind: "We thought, with some humor, of paying reverence to another Sydney."
- A round-up of Israeli architects who are "finding their place in the international design scene" + EyeFuls of 7 Israeli workspaces "that achieve the ultimate degree of awesomeness."
- Adjaye in his own words re: "the people and places that fire up his creative juices and how architecture can - and should - change the world."
- Rhodes offers a fascinating look at the "bizarre, bony-looking future of algorithmic design," and the "distinction between explicit design and generative design."
- Call for entries: Architizer's 4th Annual A+Awards + Meeting the Architecture 2030 Challenge: redesign the facade of 200 Park Avenue + Baldwin's "70 Years Bold" Design Competition: design a commemorative door knob.

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[Deborah Berke named Dean of Yale School of Architecture, will succeed Robert A.M. Stern in 2016: She has taught at Yale for nearly thirty years, and began her now 60-person practice in 1982...She will also be the first woman to serve as the school's Dean. \[images\]- Archinect](#)

[Zaha Hadid: A visionary whose ideas don't always make sense: The first female winner of the Royal Institute of British Architects' Royal Gold Medal is a great talent. But she has been criticised for lack of practicality and for her, at times, questionable choice in client: In her approach to design, the shape comes first, the means of achieving it follow...she has earned her position through the power of her design and force of character...She is forthright, funny, passionate, sometimes generous, sometimes furious. By Rowan Moore- Observer \(UK\)](#)

["Why aren't we relevant?" Architects and their place in Britain's housing crisis: ...architects arrive far too late in the political and real estate food chain to be of any real significance in initiating how the built environment is produced...Architects are, to their credit, well-trained in spinning several bureaucratic plates at once...Yet the fact is that the vast majority of what we build has little to do with an architect at all. By Thomas Feary- CityMetric \(UK\)](#)

[A War Memorial Design Competition for Monumental Egos: The finalists for a national World War I memorial are disappointing. 'Attack of the Mole People,' anyone? The monumental narcissists are at it again...Only one of the proposals...the best of the worst, is recognizable as a memorial to fallen heroes...an attempt at heroic neoclassicism...But it is busy, overloaded with verbiage, partially obscured by trees and incorporates the now-hackneyed device of yet another "eternal flame." By Aram Bakshian Jr.- Wall Street Journal](#)

["The Edsel of architecture"? L.A. reacts to the Petersen Automotive Museum's gloriously bad redo: ...has put the firm on the map in L.A. - in ways the architects likely didn't intend...there is something about the building's willful awfulness that I have to admire...Blessed be the cockamamie design schemes of El Lay! By Carolina A. Miranda -- Kohn Pedersen Fox \(KPF\) \[images\]- Los Angeles Times](#)

[You've got to hand it to post-modernism: It took capitalism and consumer nostalgia to rescue our brutal utopias: ...were expressions of confidence in the power of modern design ideas to change society for the better...also an expression of an era where government was trusted to tackle social problems...much of the appeal of brutalism is a nostalgia for this optimism and vigour in the public sector...\[and\] desire to move away from the fractured corporate-dominated world we live in. By Hank Dittmar- BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[A New Life for an Old Building: Take a historically rich, yet underutilized commercial building in a booming Atlanta real estate market, and be prepared to hear about proposals to completely demolish the structure...the Gulf Oil Building by I.M. Pei could have taken this course...was taken apart...reconstructed...as part of a new multi-family project 131 Ponce...now used as the clubhouse and leasing office...At the least, the project acknowledges the architectural significance of the original structure. By Melody L. Harclerode \[images\]- Atlanta Intown](#)

[Gimme shelter: Jonathan Meades hails the brutal charm of the Soviet bus stop: The norm is wild going on savage...they certainly don't lack grandeur and audacity. Photos by Christopher Herwig \[images\]- The Calvert Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Lakefront park design competition asks a tiny park to do so much: As wonderful as this competition seems, the project could itself become an emblem for the kind of fragmented vision that has plagued the lakefront if the scope is not expanded...Despite truly smart design work from some finalists...all four of the proposed pedestrian bridges appear unavoidably like lifelines to an isolated landscape. By Mary Louise Schumacher -- James Corner Field Operations/La Dallman; the Office of James Burnett/Johnsen Schmalig Architects, AECOM; Graef/PFS Studio/Rinka Chung Architecture \[images\]- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#)

[Stop Building Mediocre Parklets, Start Building Pavement Parks: Another Park\(ing\) Day has come and gone...pop-up installations are a clever form of tactical urbanism that theoretically remind people that streets are public pace. Parklets as a](#)

permanent installation are a waste of time and money...better than a parking spot isn't the same thing as good...Seattle's First Hill pavement park works for a number of reasons. By Josh Cohen [image]- Next City (formerly Next American City)

Landscape design brings communities together: Well-designed outdoor spaces, such as Underpass Park, can break down barriers between communities and citizens...There is a science behind designing these special outdoor spaces for people to enjoy...communities are made up of more than just the buildings, and that landscape architecture is often what brings everything together. By Bryan Tuckey/Building Industry and Land Development Association- Toronto Star

A Salt Shed for Spring Street: Dattner Architects and WXY Architecture & Urban Planning teamed up on an angular, seven-story building in Manhattan's TriBeCa neighborhood designed to hold 5,000 tons of salt...an architectural gem...a shapely concrete container that is winning rave reviews - even from people who have no idea what it's for. By Fred A. Bernstein [images]- Architectural Record

John Wardle Architects' NGV (National Gallery of Victoria) summer pavilion opens: ...the first in an ongoing annual series of architecture commissions..."We thought, with some humour, of paying reverence to another Sydney," Wardle said with a chuckle...The surface is a meadow of fuchsia pink, orange and purple blooms. [images]- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Israeli architects go global: More and more...are penetrating the world's markets, exposing their unique talents to the world...finding their place in the international design scene. -- Avner Yashar Architects; Gal Naor; Pitsou Kedem; Lilach Lev/llan Gargir/Lev-Gargir Architects; Ofer Rossmann/Hirsch-Rossmann-Avitzour; Daniel Hasson; Sharon Ecker-Michael; Ami Szmelcman/Asaf Gottesman/Gottesman Szmelcman Architecture; Dana Oberson Architects [images]- Ynetnews (Israel)

7 of the most fabulous offices in Israel: Israel isn't just a leader in technological innovation, it's a leader in design too, and where better to enjoy it than at the office? ...seven Israeli workspaces that achieve the ultimate degree of awesomeness. -- Camenzind Evolution/Setter Architects/Studio Yaron Tal; Hila Tayas/Kfir Shaked; T&R Interior Design; Amir Mann-Ami Shinar Architects and Planners; Studio MU Architecture & Design [images]- ISRAEL21c

The Architect Who Wants to Change the World: David Adjaye is equal parts philosopher and planner: old The Post about the people and places that fire up his creative juices and how architecture can - and should - change the world. [images]- New York Post

The Bizarre, Bony-Looking Future of Algorithmic Design: ...a clear distinction between explicit design and generative design...Explicit design is when "you have an idea in your head and you draw it...With generative design, a designer begins with an objective or set of objectives...and then lets algorithms take the reins on drafting solutions. By Margaret Rhodes [images]- Wired

Call for entries: 4th Annual A+Awards (international): Honoring the Best Architecture, Spaces & Products; 120+ categories; earlybird deadline: October 30- Architizer

Call for entries: Meeting the Architecture 2030 Challenge: redesign the facade of 200 Park Avenue, one of New York City's most recognized landmarks, with the goal of achieving greater energy performance; open to professionals and students; Prize: \$15,000; registration deadline: November 15 (submissions due February 1, 2016)- Metals in Construction magazine

Call for entries: Baldwin "70 Years Bold" Design Competition: Create our Commemorative Door Knob; cash prizes; deadline: October 30- Baldwin Hardware

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