

Today's News - Tuesday, September 29, 2015

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow will be a no-newsletter day; we'll be back Thursday, October 1.

- ArcSpace brings us Kiser's great gathering of Gehry Partners projects: "A Gehry building begins with a sketch."
- Lange x 2: The Broad Museum is made for "the instagram age. It's exciting to see DS+R try out a largely new bag of tricks - but perfection is just out of reach."
- She cheers the comeback of Buffalo, NY, where landmarks and infrastructure are being "maintained, upgraded, restored, and repurposed for the 21st century. It's too soon to declare the recovery complete," but it's looking very promising.
- Wainwright bemoans the Birmingham New Street station's value-engineered makeover: "Writhing in tortured twists" and "ending up with a mangled monument to an age of icon-hungry hubris" (ouch! But it's not all the architects' fault).
- Jaffe reports on "a series of absurd anti-bike arguments that somehow won the day" in Coronado, CA ("paint stripe pollution" and "graffiti on the streets" anyone?).
- Saffron, on a brighter note, hails a new school that is the result of "an inspiring collaboration between a high-profile architecture firm and young men who otherwise might have spent the last seven years in jail."
- MASS Design Group plans to open "the Bauhaus of Africa" in Kigali, Rwanda, "to help address the 'dearth of professional designers' across Africa."
- Perkins+Will Toronto "goes back to school" at the University of Toronto Mississauga.
- An interesting take on several NYC architects who are taking control of their own projects by acting as their own developers.
- Banksy's Dismaland is being dismantled, and the timber to be used to build shelters for migrants in Calais: "No online tickets will be available."
- The Architects Foundation issues its first annual report on the National Resilience Initiative.
- A look at why Britain's Green Deal was such "a disaster" while Germany's EnEv program has been so "extremely successful."
- Why the MacArthur Foundation is doubling down on climate change with a new Climate Solutions program that awarded \$50 million in grants.
- A look at the "24 extraordinarily creative people" just named 2015 MacArthur Fellows (an environmental engineer, environmental health advocate, and an urban sociologist among 'em).
- Meet the RAIC's new executive director Jody Ciufo, currently a national affordable housing advocate.
- A good reason to be in Scottsdale, AZ, next week: AIA/Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation's 2015 Taliesin Colloquium: New Conversations in Holistic Sustainability and Preservation.
- 2015 ASLA Professional Awards go to 34 winners (link at the bottom leads to fab presentations!).
- 2015 Toronto Urban Design Awards celebrated its 25th anniversary by handing out 13 Awards of Excellence and 7 Awards of Merit.
- Call for entries: 6th Advanced Architecture Contest: PRODUCTIVE CITY (cash prizes; no fee!).

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Gehry Partners, LLP: A Gehry building begins with a sketch..."As soon as I understand the scale of the building and the relationship to the site and the relationship to the client, as it becomes more and more clear to me, I start doing sketches." By Kirsten Kiser

LA's Broad Museum: A Downtown Destination Fit for the Instagram Age: ...a fascinating museum experience...I see its design as a move toward a completely artificial, hands-free architecture, but as a construction culture we are not quite there yet...It's exciting to see DS+R try out a largely new bag of tricks...but perfection is just out of reach. By Alexandra Lange -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Hood Design [images]- Curbed

A Buffalo Case Study: Can Architecture Bring a City Back? ...a city's existing landmarks and infrastructure...are maintained, upgraded, restored, and repurposed for the 21st century...It's too soon to declare the recovery complete, but all of these things are currently happening... By Alexandra Lange -- Louis Sullivan; Daniel Burnham; Frank Lloyd Wright; H.H. Richardson; the Saarins; Gordon Bunshaft/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Frederick Law Olmsted; Calvert Vaux; Toshiko Mori; Albert Kahn; Minoru Yamasaki; Daniel Burnham; Flynn Battaglia Architects/Deborah Berke Partners/Goody Clancy; Paul Rudolph; Perkins+Will [images]- Curbed

Birmingham New Street station: a 'value-engineered' icon of compromise: It may be an improvement on the old station...Sadly, it is mould-breaking only in the sense that it looks like someone dropped the mould and tried to bodge it back together. Writhing in tortured twists...an ungainly hulk...as if someone has tried to wrap the original station with a gigantic sheet of kitchen foil, but didn't quite have enough to cover it. Which is sort of what happened...ending up with a mangled monument to an age of icon-hungry hubris. By Oliver Wainwright -- Foreign Office Architects (FOA); Alejandro Zaera-Polo/ZPML; Will Alsop; John McAslan; Haskoll [images]- Guardian (UK)

Objecting to Bike Lanes as 'Paint Stripe Pollution': Residents of Coronado, California, marched out a series of absurd anti-bike arguments that somehow won the day...Bicycle advocates have learned how to respond to all sorts of opposition...But the type of arguments they heard during a public meeting...might have left them speechless. By Eric Jaffe- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

They built their own school with donated materials, and it's beautiful: ...an inspiring collaboration between the high-profile architecture firm and young men who otherwise might have spent the last seven years in jail...the success of such a design can't be judged by the usual architectural criteria. By Inga Saffron -- Digsau [images]- Philadelphia Inquirer

US firm announces plans to open "the Bauhaus of Africa": MASS Design Group...plans to start an architecture and design training centre in Kigali, Rwanda, to help address the "dearth of professional designers" across Africa...The new centre, which the firm is raising money for and intends to open next year, will offer design training both in the classroom and in the field... [images]- Dezeen

Perkins+Will Toronto goes back to school: Theatre of Campus Life, North Building Phase B, University of Toronto Mississauga...the second phase of a three-phase project to replace the campus's first structure, a temporary building erected in 1967...aims to be the Mississauga campus's first LEED Gold building. [images]- Canadian Interiors

The architects who are building themselves a new future: Many of New York's most iconic buildings required a tag-team combo of talented architects and driven developers...But is there a distinct advantage...for architects that have opted to take on the task of developing themselves? ...more and more architects have been taking control of their own projects... -- AJ

[Pires/Alloy; Gita Nandan/thread collective; Charlie Kaplan/Gluck+; Jorge Mastropietro/JMA; Thomas Hickey/Edward Yedid/Grade- Real Estate Weekly](#)

[Dismaland to be taken down and sent to Calais to build shelters: Banksy said his 'bemusement park' is to be dismantled and timber used to build shelters for migrants near French port... "No online tickets will be available."](#) - Guardian (UK)

[Architects Foundation issues first annual report on National Resilience Initiative: ...includes the work of three schools, examines how architects work with communities through the National Resilience Design Network...resilient design studios geared toward helping communities become more resilient to natural disasters and climate change..."In Flux: Community Design for Change, Chance and Opportunity" \[link to report\]](#) - Building Design + Construction (BD+C)

[How not to promote energy efficiency: The Green Deal, a British government program supposed to assist the uptake of energy efficient retrofits and recently cancelled, was a disaster...To see why, let's compare it to an extremely successful German version of the same scheme...the EnEv programme...](#) - The Fifth Estate (Australia)

[Why the MacArthur Foundation is doubling down on climate change: "As a down payment this year, our new Climate Solutions program awarded \\$50 million in grants."](#) By Robert Kropp - GreenBiz

[Meet the 2015 MacArthur Fellows: 24 Extraordinarily Creative People Who Inspire Us All](#) - MacArthur Foundation

[Introducing the RAIC's new executive director: Jody Ciuffo is currently the Executive Director of the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association \(CHRA\), the national voice for affordable housing issues...assumes her duties at the RAIC in December.](#) - Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC)

[2015 AIA Taliesin Colloquium: Whole-Building Life Cycle Assessment: New Conversations in Holistic Sustainability and Preservation; co-sponsored by the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation. Taliesin West, Scottsdale, Arizona, October 9-10](#) - American Institute of Architects (AIA)

[34 Top Landscape Architecture Projects Win 2015 ASLA Professional Awards -- Reed Hilderbrand; ArquitectonicaGEO; OLIN; AECOM; Stephen Stimson Associates Landscape Architects; Surfacedesign; Sasaki Associates; dlandstudio Architecture + Landscape Architecture; Hargreaves Associates; Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects; Mia Lehrer + Associates; Design Workshop; Landscape Architecture Foundation; etc. \[link to images, info\]](#) - American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

[Winners of 2015 Toronto Urban Design Awards announced: ...celebrated the 25th anniversary of Toronto's awards...13 Awards of Excellence and 7 Awards of Merit. -- Paul Raff Studio; Quadrangle Architects/Phil Goldsmith Architects; Taylor Smyth Architects/Goldsmith Borgal & Company; Core Architects; Page + Steele/IBI Group Architects; Saucier + Perrotte Architects/ZAS Architects; MacLennan Jaunkalns Miller Architects \(MJMA\); Kearns Mancini Architects/Patkau Architects; thinc design; etc.](#) - Canadian Architect

[Call for entries: 6th Advanced Architecture Contest: PRODUCTIVE CITY \(international\): envisage what the city and the habitat of the 21st century will be like; cash prizes; no fee; deadline: January 18, 2016](#) - Institute for Advanced Architecture of Catalonia / FabLab Barcelona

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