Today's News - Wednesday, February 3, 2016

- ArcSpace brings us more eyefuls of DS+R's UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (by Iwan Baan).
- We lose two talents much too soon: Farrelly pays eloquent tribute to Paul Pholeros and his Healthabiltat, "a true architect hero" (and only 63): "we who are left should make PP's big-heart small-ego heroism the stuff of legend."
- Shuttleworth does the same for his partner and friend Paul Scott (only 51): "His professional achievements were not limited to the buildings he designed but the deep passion for architecture he instilled in others..."
- Kamlin talks to Weisshaar, the young architect "at the center of the gathering storm," and the "battles ahead" re: his winning design for the World War I Memorial (Maya Lin is glad it's him and not her again).
- It's a New York kind of day: Rosenbaum revisits MoMA's revised expansion plans: DS+R's "transgressively creative but farfetched architectural follies have been (mercifully) abandoned. All I can say is: I told you so."
- Bierig revisits Arch Record's 1968 cover story of Kevin Roche, John Dinkeloo's Ford Foundation, and the challenges facing Gensler's interior renovation: "The gnarly question is how to preserve a work of such total, integrated design while also bringing it up to date."
- Shaw explores the "transformation of urban outdoor space into a commodity" and "tries to find civic inspiration in a city overwhelmed by luxury residential development."
- Notable names not doing luxury: BIG does the Bronx with a police station that "communicates a desire to improve community-police relations."
- Studio Gang heats up a Brooklyn fire station with bright red details.
- Tod Williams Billie Tsien tapped for the $96 million modernization of the historic Jewish Theological Seminary in Manhattan's Morningside Heights.
- We've avoided the eye-candy reportage on Mark Foster Gage's almost 1,500-foot-tall "Khalæisi" tower, but Artemel actually discusses its implications: the "Manhattan skyscraper doesn't shy away from sticky questions of taste, form, or property speculation," and it's "pop sensibility is quite different from that of the 1960s."
- Hassell hopes to assuage critics of its "Ribbon" project on Darling Harbour, "one of the most polarizing development proposals in recent Sydney history," with "a pre-construction facelift that could appease the attitudes of at least some" (before/after images are telling).
- Haworth Tompkins "has bagged the prize job" of taking over Gehry's "hugely contentious seaport project" in Hove (remember "Tin Can Alley?)."
- A first look at the new, "minimalist" Pikes Peak visitor complex that appears to be carved into the mountainside, and "will provide majestic views of the Rocky Mountains."
- Sarasota's Ringling Museum is about to get a new glass pavilion (for its studio glass collection) "inspired by the movement of water and air over sand."
- Four design teams are shortlisted to design the centerpiece of the $2 billion Parramatta Square urban renewal project.
- Budd's Q&A with one of the founders of the website No Sir, which "aims to level the playing field for female designers," re: "the pervasive boys-club mentality that's so ingrained in the industry, what's at the root of the problem, and what has to happen for things to change."
- Brussat cheers Merrill's Driehaus Prize: "His 'style' is a sort of chic classical, with an inspired vernacularity of tone, spare but unafraid of classicizing tendencies."
- Call for entries: Buckminster Fuller Challenge (and a $100,000 prize).
Historic Jewish Theological Seminary Plans $96M Campus Modernization: a deal to sell one old dorm, a small parcel of land, and a chunk of its air rights to a New York City developer. The school will use the cash windfall to fund a "reimagining" of its one-block campus...in Manhattan's Morningside Heights neighborhood...-- Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects - The Forward (NY)

A Trophy for Living In: Mark Foster Gage's provocative design for a Manhattan skyscraper doesn't shy away from sticky questions of taste, form, or property speculation: This pop sensibility is quite different from that of the 1960s - celebratory rather than ironic, awe-inspiring rather than cynical, seductive rather than political...Professional and personal interests have a way of exerting even greater influence when speculation is made concrete. By A.J.P. Artemel - Metropolis Magazine

Paris hopes €1bn revamp of Les Halles can become city's 'beating heart': French capital to unveil reworked site crowned with one of the most ambitious architectural projects of the decade..."the Canopy"...But a history of errors and regrets still hangs heavy over the site..."This is an attempt to heal a wound that never closed." By Angelique Chrisafis - Guardian (UK)

Tallahassee firm's design marks new addition at The Ringling Museum of Art: Architects: Lewis + Whitlock putting its design print on Kotler-Coville Glass Pavilion..."façade is inspired by the movement of water and air over sand"... - Tallahassee Democrat (Florida)

France's Manuelle Gautrand among four architecture teams shortlisted to design 'centrepiece' of the $2 billion Parramatta Square urban renewal project. -- Manuelle Gautrand Architecture/Designinc/Lacoste+Stevenson; Johnson Pilton Walker (JPW); Francis-Jones Morehen Thorp (FJMT); SJB/Lahznimmo Architects - Architecture & Design (Australia)

Does The Design Industry Need A Women-Only Platform To Promote Equality? The Swedish website No Sir aims to level the playing field for female designers: Terese Alstin [talks] about the pervasive boys-club mentality that's so ingrained in the industry, what's at the root of the problem, and what has to happen for things to change. By Diana Budds - Fast Company / Co.Design

Scott Merrill's Driehaus Prize: ...an architect best known for his work in Seaside and other New Urbanist communities...His "style" is a sort of stick classical, with an inspired vernacularity of tone, spare but unafraid of classicizing tendencies...congratulations...also to the winner of...the Henry Hope Reed Prize, Havana's city historian, Eusebio Leal Spengler... By David Brussat -- Merrill, Pastor & Colgan Architects - Architecture Here and There

Call for entries: Buckminster Fuller Challenge (international): $100,000 prize to support the development and implementation of a design solution that addresses complex global problems; early bird registration deadline (save money!): February 17 (submissions due March 1)- Buckminster Fuller Institute