Today's News - Wednesday, April 27, 2016

- Bevan raises some provocative questions around the Palmyra Arch in Trafalgar Square and its planned journey back to Syria: “Even if well intentioned, erecting Italian-cut Egyptian stone in the middle of Syria is about as far from authentic as you can get. Ultimately, if we fake our history how can we learn from it?”

- Giovanni's cheery Hadd's first project completed posthumously, a "sleek maritime terminal" in Salerno, Italy: "As a matter of urban planning policy, beauty mattered."

- ZHA's first posthumous competition win: a 32-acre business park in Russia's Silicon Valley outside of Moscow, "proving that demand is high as ever for the late architect's work."

- Moore marvels at a "miraculous" new extension to the Kunstmuseum Basel: "Art and architecture rub up against each other in all the right ways."

- The Australian National Maritime Museum opens its FJMT-designed Action Stations museum - "a grand structure" on Sydney Harbor.

- Stead dives into how architect-led affordable housing development in Australia "has the potential to transform the way urban housing is conceived, funded, and designed. The architectural community has been watching closely, and with excitement. You should be too."

- Lam cheers an architect-led "pilot initiative to provide modestly priced rentals for poor and disadvantaged adults" that cities across Canada are interested in replicating.

- Abbey-Lambertz parses a report by the APA and Cornell University that posits there are perils in not planning cities with women in mind: "We have policy blindness around gender."

- Chipperfield's controversial Nobel Centre gets scaled back - and gets a green light (not all are pleased).

- Miami Beach considers a Nouvel-designed condo project - green walls included (see Heathcote's take on the "curse of 'green fuzz' on buildings" in Yesterday's News).

- The Milwaukee Bucks pick a design team for its arena entertainment block.

- Breuer's Central Library in Atlanta faces demolition, but it's not the only one: "As petitions circulate to save the monument, the question at hand centers on the cultural value and social impact of Brutalist architecture in today's urban landscape."

- Romans take to the river retake the Tiber, "part of a surge in grass-roots efforts to restore Rome's public spaces."

- One we couldn't resist: eyefuls of the best architectural installations of Coachella 2016 (very cool!).

- Winners of the 2016 Berkeley Prize Essay Competition tackle "Sheltering Those in Need: Architects Confront Homelessness."

- Call for entries: Memorials for the Future (deadline reminder - it looms!) + Blueprint Awards 2016 + Nominations for World Monuments Fund/Knoll Modernism Prize.

Zaha Hadid's First Posthumous Project Is Inaugurated in Salerno: A sleek maritime terminal is expected to give the Italian city an economic boost as well as an architectural landmark...As a matter of urban planning policy, beauty mattered...was designed in a transitional period as she abandoned fragmentation in favor of the flowing forms and space encouraged by the computer. By Joseph Giovannini [images]- New York Times

Kunstmuseum Basel - a miraculous balance of judgment and courage: Art and architecture rub up against each other in all the right ways in a 'miraculous' new extension to Basel's 1930s art museum: The paradoxical nature of the brick cloud is an example of..."not-only-but-also", the essential ability of architecture to be more than one thing at a time. By Rowan Moore -- Christ & Gantenbein [images]- Observer (UK)

WWI centenary marked by nautical museum: Marking the centenary of WWI, the Australian National Maritime Museum has launched Action Stations, a $12-million dollar museum...a grand structure...evokes images of Royal Australian Navy's ships, alongside graceful oceanic motifs. -- Francis-Jones Morehen Thorp/FJMT [images]- Australian Design Review

A Roman Legion of Volunteers Retakes the Tiber: Citizens frustrated with the government have banded together to clean up the riverfront, part of a surge in grass-roots efforts to restore Rome's public spaces: For the most part, City Hall has been...
supportive of Retake Rome and other like-minded neighborhood associations. - New York Times

The Best Architectural Installations of Coachella 2016 – Alex Arrechea; Jimenez Lai/Bureau Spectacular; Phillip K. Smith III; Do LaB [images]- ArchDaily

2016 BERKELEY PRIZE Essay Competition Winners and Travel Fellows: "Sheltering Those in Need: Architects Confront Homelessness." - Berkeley Prize / Department of Architecture, University of California, Berkeley

Call for entries (deadline reminder): Memorials for the Future: A competition to imagine flexible and interactive memorials for the 21st century; pre-registration (not required): April 18; deadline: May 4 - Van Alen Institute / U.S. National Park Service / National Capital Planning Commission

Call for entries: Blueprint Awards 2016: celebrating the very best of world architecture and design; deadline: July 1 - Blueprint Magazine (UK)

Call for entries: Nominations for World Monuments Fund/Knoll Modernism Prize to recognize outstanding and innovative design solutions that save modern icons; deadline: July 15 - World Monuments Fund/WMF

Venice Biennale Curator Series: The Nordic Countries: Curated by David Basulto and James Taylor-Foster, "In Therapy: Nordic Countries Face to Face" to explore and investigate architectural projects that have been instrumental in constructing contemporary Nordic society. By Robert Martin [images]