

Today's News - Wednesday, August 24, 2016

- A great round-up of some of the transit-oriented developments planned to rise along the 15.2-mile-long spine of L.A.'s newly completed Expo Line extension.
- Green garners insights from Louisiana-based landscape architect Michaels re: how "climate change and sprawl are more rapidly changing the map of flood risk," and how the state can "build back smarter" after the recent catastrophic flooding.
- Campbell-Dollaghan looks at a tiny Alaskan town that is "a bellwether for coastal communities" facing relocation because of climate change: "climate refugees" will require architects, planners, and policy-makers "to mobilize in a way not seen since the years after World War II."
- Lubell rounds up "7 clever ways to fight flooding in an increasingly wet world."
- Besides building the "world's largest passive housing complex" in Germany, Frey Architekten has designed a lunch program that brings construction workers and future residents together.
- While Vancouver is laying claim to the world's tallest timber tower, now under construction, Amsterdam has thrown its hat in the ring to take it even higher.
- Carr casts an eye on a global architecture competition looking to "foster new ways of handling the growing density of unplanned cities."
- The proposed Milwaukee Arts Barge hopes that a floating cultural space "might create new opportunities for civic participation and social exchange along the very boundaries of urban segregation."
- Rinaldi almost runs out of superlatives for SOM's Center for Character & Leadership Development at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs: not only is it "an architectural marvel," it "rises with precision and purity and with an abundant belief in the power of design to inspire."
- Welton is fairly wow'd by BCJA's environmental education center in Pittsburgh's largest park: "It's a marriage of landscape and design, history and sustainability" that "morphed" into meeting the Living Building Challenge.
- A look at Meier's first project in South America - an office building in Rio de Janeiro that aims "to connect the building to its context and Brazil's architectural legacy of open, indoor/outdoor living."
- Hohenadel cheers Yablon's Planned Parenthood center in Queens, NY, as "one of the best health care building designs" around.
- The first U.K. firm to open an office in Mongolia is tapped to design Galleria UB, which "will transform a disused former print works into a high end shopping center" in the capital city of Ulaanbaatar.
- Scotland votes for the nation's top 10 buildings, and "more than half are from last 35 years."
- A look at how museums can "nurture a more widespread appreciation for and investment in our built environment."
- Lange queries MoMA's Stierli re: "museums acquiring architecture and the measures that cultural institutions can take to interact with the discipline."
- Bélanger, curator of the Canadian Pavilion at the Venice Biennale, explains that it is the first pavilion to be located outside in the Giardini: "I can only hope that more and more projects capitalize on working outside and engaging the ground more and more, figuratively, literally and politically."
- The New Zealand Institute of Architects makes the case for saving a 40-year-old visitor center in Te Urewera National Park from demolition: it was designed by John Scott, "a pioneer Maori architect whose work is increasingly recognized."
- Sisson delves into the evolution and future plans of the Frank Lloyd Wright Revival Initiative with founder and filmmaker Michael Miner.
- Eye-fuls of the top 10 Toronto buildings from the 1970s: "We might not love concrete like we once did, but the best of these structures have stood the test of time."

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Kicking the Car: L.A.'s expanding menu of transit options is challenging the city's auto-urbanism: Los Angeles's newly completed Expo Line extension...enabling a 15.2-mile-long spine of mixed-use development...developers have begun to wake to the untapped market for transit-oriented development... -- Cunningham Group; AECOM; Ehrlich Yanai Rhee Chaney Architects; Gensler; Rios Clementi Hale Studios; Koning Eizenberg Architects; Michael W. Folonis Architects [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

How Can Louisiana Build Back Smarter? ...climate change and sprawl...are more rapidly changing the map of flood risk...communities at higher risk of flooding also need to rethink the status quo..."As landscape architects, we need to be more involved in the design of infrastructure...we can be smarter about how we design our landscapes and cities..." By Jared Green -- Wes Michaels/Spackman, Mossop and Michaels - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

The Other Housing Crisis: Another U.S. community has voted to relocate because of climate change. It's just the beginning: Shishmaref, Alaska, might be a tiny town...But it's also a bellwether for coastal communities - which house roughly half of the world's population..."climate refugees"...will require architects and planners - not to mention policy-makers - to mobilize in a way not seen since the years after World War II. By Kelsey Campbell-Dollaghan - Fast Company / Co.Design

7 Clever Ways to Fight Flooding in an Increasingly Wet World: ...recent floods near Baton Rouge...the worst natural disaster in the U.S. since Hurricane Sandy...With similar climate events happening much more frequently...countries around the world are struggling to create new flood barriers and strategies... [in Japan, Netherlands, New York City, Miami Beach, South Korea; Venice, Louisiana] By Sam Lubell -- Manuel de Sola-Morales; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group [images]- Wired

Germany is building world's largest passive housing complex with 162 green units: The solar-powered Heidelberg Village...Frey Architekten also plans to provide construction workers and future residents with a lunch program designed to connect the people who will live in Heidelberg Village to those who built their homes. [images]- Inhabitat

Amsterdam Is Building One of the Tallest Timber Skyscrapers in the World: What developers hope will be the world's tallest timber tower is currently under construction in Vancouver...Amsterdam...has thrown its hat in the ring with Haut, a 240-foot-tall timber residential tower. By Kristin Hohenadel -- Acton Ostry Architects/Architekten Hermann Kaufmann; Team V Architecture [images]- Slate

A Global Architecture Competition With No Tall Buildings in Sight: ...Density Competition...to foster new ways of handling the growing density of unplanned cities...a portfolio of new ideas [and] increasing awareness around the state of housing and the need for innovation thinking to solve these issues. By Carlin Carr -- Urban Design Research Institute (UDRI); Shelter Global; Jai Bhadgaonkar/Ketaki Tare; Lauren Brosius; Amira Abdel-Rahman/Gabriel Muñoz Moreno/Santiago Serna Gonzalez [images]- Next City (formerly Next American City)

Barge In: "Art Barge" proposal would turn rivers that divide Milwaukee into public performance spaces: ...currently sparking dialogue with community partners and local residents to raise enthusiasm, support, and sponsorship...Milwaukee Arts Barge team envisions that floating a cultural space along the very boundaries of urban segregation might create new opportunities for civic participation and social exchange. -- Antonio Furguele [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

New U.S. Air Force Academy building an architectural marvel: Center for Character & Leadership Development is one of the most important pieces of architecture to go up in Colorado - perhaps, in the entire West - in decades...it rises with precision and purity...and with an abundant belief in the power of design to inspire great action...resembles the tail of a jet floating above...[the campus] in Colorado Springs. By Ray Mark Rinaldi -- Roger Duffy/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM)- Denver Post

An Environmental Education Center By Bohlin Cywinski Jackson Architects: It's a marriage of landscape and design, history and sustainability...The largest park in the city of Pittsburgh...Frick Park...sustainability drove the spirit of the design process

for the new center. "It actually morphed over time into a Living Building Challenge"... By J. Michael Welton -- LaQuatra Bonci Associates [images]- Huffington Post

Brazilian modern: Richard Meier & Partners completes first project in South America: ...the Leblon Offices in Rio de Janeiro...team's main aim was to connect the project to its context and Brazil's architectural legacy of open, indoor/outdoor living. [images]- Wallpaper*

One of the Best Health Care Building Designs Is a Planned Parenthood in Queens: ...Diane L. Max Health Center...is a bright, colorful 14,400-square-foot space..."sleek and uplifting," embodying "the mission of quality care for all." By Kristin Hohenadel -- Stephen Yablon Architecture [images]- Slate

Gateshead architects win major contract in capital of Mongolia: Gradon Architecture has been chosen to design a new shopping centre in Ulaanbaatar: ...Galleria UB...will transform a disused former print works into a high end shopping centre...Gradon made history last year when the practice became the first UK architect to set up in Mongolia...- Chronicle (formerly Evening Chronicle) (UK)

Vote shows pride in Scotland's contemporary architecture: More than half the nation's top 10 buildings are from last 35 years picked from an initial longlist of 100... -- Walter Douglas Campbell; Wallis, Gilbert and Partners; J & JA Carrick; David Scott; Hugh Martin & Partners; Nicoll Russell Studios; Benson + Forsyth; Richard Murphy Architects; Enric Miralles/EMBT/RMJM [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Architecture's place in the museum: ...how can a deeper appreciation for architecture be instilled in 21st-century society? This question may be best addressed by museums...The use of digital technologies to make architectural history more relevant and accessible...can in turn nurture a more widespread appreciation for and investment in our built environment. By Bridget Gayle Ground- Archinect

Curating the Immovable: Can you add a building to a collection? How do you turn the built environment into a museum exhibit? As chief curator of architecture and design at New York's Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), Martino Stierli is no stranger to these issues...Q&A re: the possibility of museums acquiring architecture and the measures that cultural institutions can take to interact with the discipline. By Alexandra Lange- Disegno

Canada at the 2016 Venice Architecture Biennale: The Canadian Pavilion...is the first pavilion to be located outside in the Giardini...EXTRACTION calls attention to both the territories of extraction that cities rely upon and the histories of colonization in these territories...I can only hope that more and more projects...capitalize on working outside and engaging the ground more and more, figuratively, literally and politically. By Pierre Bélanger/OPSYS [images]- Canadian Architect

Architects want Urewera visitor centre saved: 40-year-old centre earmarked for demolition in Te Urewera National Park...New Zealand Institute of Architects is appealing for a reprieve...designed by John Scott, a pioneer Maori architect whose work is increasingly recognised..."It is always disappointing when government agencies fail to protect the national legacy, but it is unforgivable when they actively promote its destruction." - TV3 (New Zealand)

The top 10 Toronto buildings from the 1970s: Our modern skyline was born during...this 10 year flurry of architectural activity. We might not love concrete like we once did, but the best of these structures have stood the test of time. -- York & Sawyer/Page + Steele Architects/I.M. Pei & Partners; Clifford and Lawrie Architects; Mathers & Haldenby Architects; Bregman + Hamann Architects; WZMH Architects/John Andrews/Webb Zerafa, Menkes Housden; Eberhard Zeidler; Raymond Moriyama; Arthur Erickson; Edward I. Richmond [images]- blogTO (Toronto)

The Frank Lloyd Wright Revival Initiative wants to bring back lost masterpieces: Founder and filmmaker Michael Miner wants to restore great buildings lost to "short-sighted, capricious changes in taste." The first building the group will focus on, the Banff Pavilion in Alberta, Canada, offers the most straightforward restoration opportunity...city council gave the go-ahead this spring. By Patrick Sisson- Curbed



Architecture for Fashionistas: When top profiles of both worlds join forces, lines between architecture and advertisement blur...surreal settings are created, and magical spaces occur. -- Frank Gehry/Gehry Partners; Olafur Eliasson; Massimiliano and Doriana Fuksas; Rem Koolhaas/OMA; Gluckman Mayner Architects; William Russell/Pentagram; Legoretta + Legoretta; Kumiko Inui; Toyo Ito; Peter Marino; Renzo Piano; Jun Aoki [images]

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