Today's News - Tuesday, October 11, 2016

- Wainwright weighs in on Caruso St John's Stirling Prize: "The UK's most prestigious architecture prize has been won by the subtle masters of gallery design...This subtle magic...a far cry from...oligarch-bling spiral staircase of Tate Britain. In craftsmanship alone, [it] is streets ahead of this year's other contenders." - Guardian (UK)

- RBIA Stirling Prize: the profession reacts re: Caruso St John's Newport Street Gallery: Jay Merrick/The Independent: "I feel a twinge of satirical satisfaction...Satire aside...a beautifully made, free-to-enter public object"; Piers Taylor/Invisible Studio: "It's a great building and the obvious choice. But it also begs the question - What is the Stirling for? Do we care any more?"; etc. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

- Blair Kamin: Donald Trump's sycophantic, vitriolic treatment of architecture critics: ...Candidate Trump isn't all that different from Developer Trump. He remains a master media manipulator who can be charming, mercurial and vengeful. Only now he wants to be the most powerful man on earth. [He] clearly has a thing for critics who challenge his self-promoting narratives. -- Paul Goldberger - Chicago Tribune

- Alex Bozikovic: As Toronto rapidly evolves, Rail Deck Park is needed: ...the proposal for a 21-acre park above the rail corridor...would be expensive. It would be complicated. It would be big...But not big enough....won't match the galloping growth of this area...This is why the planning department is thinking big. It has a much broader Parks and Public Realm Plan for the downtown...Rail Deck Park is just one piece. Yet it is a crucial one. -- Public Work

- Alex Bozikovic: The difficult task of reviving Toronto's Ontario Place: ...a powerful lesson about what makes public space work: You have to give people a reason to come...the modernist fantasy land on Toronto's waterfront...designed as a gleaming showcase...but that vision collapsed...it had a purpose that was poetic, but not very practical...it requires "a big idea". -- Der Scutt - New Yorker

- Jay Merrick/The Architects' Newspaper: Piers Taylor/Invisible Studio: "It's a great building and the obvious choice. But it also begs the question - What is the Stirling for? Do we care any more?"; etc. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

- Thomas de Monchaux: Seeing Trump in Trump Tower: Rarely has someone so near the summit of American political life been so closely identified with a single structure...[Its] darkly mirrored façade is the clearest way to see its namesake. Half a lifetime after Trump built it, the tower still defines the man. -- Der Scutt - New Yorker

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Alexandra Schwartz: The Rose Reading Room and the Real Meaning of “Luxury” in New York City: The storied New York Public Library space has reopened after two and a half years of restorations. It’s a pleasure to have it back... The [room] is luxurious in the way that only certain shared spaces can be. Its grandeur attracts its visitors, and is in turn amplified by their presence: the true urban symbiosis. -- Carre`re & Hastings (1911); WJE Engineers & Architects; EverGreene Architectural Arts - New Yorker

Are the architecture schools doing enough to tackle mental health problems? Last month Eleanor Jolliffe highlighted the pressures faced by architectural students. She talked to the universities to see what they are doing about this and whether it is enough - BD/Building Design (UK)

“Good Walls Make Good Neighbors, Mr. Trump” competition winners announced: ...challenging entrants to invert one of Trump’s signature policy initiatives—building a wall separating Mexico from the United States—by designing a wall separating Trump from the rest of us. [images] - The Architect’s Newspaper

Call for entries: $5 million Knight Cities Challenge: ...grant funding for your best ideas to make the 26 Knight communities more successful....Start thinking about your big ideas and get ready to submit... deadline: November 3- Knight Foundation

Call for entries: 5th Annual A+Awards (international): new categories with a lower entry fee, designed especially for students and young architects; deadline: November 4- Architizer


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