

Today's News - Thursday, October 13, 2016

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, October 18.

- Weder pens an eloquent tribute to Thom that, as she told us, includes "quotes culled from my extensive unpublished interviews with him [and others] to unpack his remarkable life story. Quite a life, quite a city-builder!"
- Davidson gives (mostly) two thumbs-ups to the "beautiful" new African American museum in DC: "Architecture and identity rarely fuse as convincingly as they do here - grand, alternately claustrophobic and vacant, triumphant and demoralizing" (and "badly in need of a nickname").
- Mara parses Zaha's "diamond ship" in Antwerp: after considering how it "seems to stridently leap over and even terrorize its decent, law-abiding neo-Hanseatic neighbor," he concludes: "It's an ingenious structure."
- McKnight talks to Kéré about his "dramatic" House of Parliament proposal for Burkina Faso: "They say it's too visionary. I still have to convince them."
- The Portland Art Museum plans to expand with a Mark Rothko pavilion, by Chicago's Vinci Hamp, to house major pieces loaned by the artist's children in a 20-year partnership.
- We get a sneak-peek at Chicago's made-over Navy Pier, with pix by Baan and Coston-Hardy (we can't wait to see it!).
- Aranda/Lasch wins the competition to design furniture for 14+ Foundation's Chipakata Children's Academy in Zambia.
- Finch calls for a new award to "acknowledge excellence earlier in an architect's career - the current system is simply too elitist."
- A good reason to be in Venice next week: Aerial Futures: Grounded Visions for the Airport Terminal of Tomorrow symposium (a who's who of participants!).
- Call for entries: Reconstruct and Adapt Belgrade Fair Halls 7, 8 and 9 + Arch Record's 2017 Good Design Is Good Business + Hart Howerton 2017 Travel Fellowship Program.
- Weekend diversions:
 - Q&A with Tyrnauer re: his "stunning, pensive" documentary "Jean Nouvel: Reflections": he thinks the Louvre Abu Dhabi "is going to be the Bilbao of the next generation."
 - Moore meanders muf's Wonderlab at London's Science Museum - "a feast for the imagination," and Trevor Horne's Cabinet Gallery, "a little brick, 12-sided pavilion with a certain lightness of heart" next to donkeys and alpacas.
 - In Singapore, "Incomplete Urbanism: Attempts of Critical Spatial Practice" offers "a laboratory of ideas" using William S.W. Lim's practice and initiatives as a point of departure.
 - Sisson sizes up MoMA's "How Should We Live? Propositions for the Modern Interior": "What's most striking about the interiors on display is how alternately modern and historical they can feel" (great pix!).
 - At Pratt Brooklyn, "a Handful of Dust" is "inspired by Man Ray and Marcel Duchamp's Dust Breeding," offering a "visual journey through some of the last century's most unlikely imagery."
 - In Elmhurst, Illinois, the "unsung architect" Marion Mahony Griffin, who is much better known in Australia, finally gets her due.
 - Bozikovic cheers "Vital Little Plans: The Short Works of Jane Jacobs," as a "wonderful new anthology," but, "sadly, the sexism is glaring and also weirdly out of place" in Kanigel's "big, comprehensive" Jacobs biography, "Eyes on the Street."

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Adele Weder: Obituary: Bing Thom was visionary architect who united East and West: According to those in his inner circle...his primary motivation was never the pursuit of fame or fortune. Phyllis Lambert...remembers him as a "generous, warm, optimistic and encouraging friend," with a fearless ambition to improve the societies he worked within..."We have lost a highly creative thinker who saw architecture in its largest sense." - *Globe and Mail (Canada)*

Justin Davidson: The National Museum of African American History and Culture Is Gorgeous But Reductive: A frankly beautiful building tries to streamline a sprawling, messy narrative: An indispensable new presence has risen on the National Mall, a showcase of glory and shame...Architecture and identity rarely fuse as convincingly as they do here...grand, alternately claustrophobic and vacant, triumphant and demoralizing. -- David Adjaye; Phil Freelon; Max Bond; Freelon Adjaye Bond/SmithgroupJJR - *New York Magazine*

Felix Mara: Zaha's 'diamond ship' is a clash between old and new: At Antwerp Port House Zaha Hadid Architects has produced a fitting building for clients craving an icon: ... isn't there something aggressive and impolite about the way [it] seems to stridently leap over and even terrorise its decent, law-abiding neo-Hanseatic neighbour? It's an ingenious structure... [images] - *The Architects' Journal (UK)*

Jenna M. McKnight: Francis Kéré Envisions New Pyramid-Shaped House of Parliament for Burkina Faso: ...architect, who was born in the West African country, has proposed a dramatic new capitol to replace the former one destroyed during a 2014 revolt: "They say it's too visionary. I still have to convince them"... [images] - *Architectural Record*

Portland Art Museum plans multimillion-dollar expansion, Mark Rothko pavilion: ...will connect the museum's two buildings...pavilion will also become the museum's new entrance... -- Vinci Hamp Architects [images] - *The Oregonian*

First look: photographs of Chicago's redeveloped Navy Pier: Phase 1 of the James Corner Field Operations-masterplanned pier is complete, and Iwan Baan and Sahar Coston-Hardy have captured a first look of the refurbished pleasure pier. -- Gensler; Thornton Tomasetti; Fluidity Design Consultants; Buro Happold; Pentagram; nARCHITECTS [images] - *The Architect's Newspaper*

Aranda/Lasch wins competition to design furniture for 14+ Foundation's Chipakata Children's Academy in Zambia, Africa: ..."Nesting Furniture" is lightweight, movable, and weather resistant... -- Susan Rodriguez/Ennead Architects; Frank Lupo; Randy Antonia Lott; Selldorf Architects [images] - *The Architect's Newspaper*

Paul Finch: Acknowledge excellence earlier in an architect's career: The RIBA Gold Medal sets the bar so high that an alternative awards mechanism is required: ...there should be a mechanism for acknowledging design talent before individuals reach the greatest heights of the profession; the current system is simply too elitist. - *The Architects' Journal (UK)*

Aerial Futures: Grounded Visions for the Airport Terminal of Tomorrow symposium, part of the 15th Venice Architecture Biennale Collateral Events Programme, October 17- 19, hosted by the European Cultural Centre - Aerial Futures/European Cultural Centre

Call for entries: Single-stage Conceptual Solution Production for Reconstruction and Adapting of Belgrade Fair Halls 7, 8 and 9; cash prizes; deadline: November 5- Belgrade Association of Architects / Belgrade Fair

Call for entries: 2017 Good Design Is Good Business: award honors the architects and clients who best utilize design to achieve such strategic objectives; deadline: January 15, 2017 - *Architectural Record*

Call for entries: Applications for Hart Howerton 2017 Travel Fellowship Program; open to undergraduate and graduate students in planning, architecture, landscape architecture or urban design entering their final year in September 2017; deadline: January 27, 2017 - [Hart Howerton](#)

Meet the Award-Winning Writer Who Just Made a Documentary About Jean Nouvel: Q&A with Matt Tyrnauer: "Jean Nouvel: Reflections," a stunning, pensive study in process..."I think the Louvre Abu Dhabi is going to be the Bilbao of the next generation. The opportunity to follow him and look at his process on the eve of the Louvre opening was an irresistible temptation for me." [images, video] - [Architectural Digest](#)

Rowan Moore: Wonderlab: The Statoil Gallery; Cabinet Gallery: The Science Museum's new interactive room, a cross between a playground and a school laboratory, is a feast for the imagination: ...the Cabinet Gallery, a little brick, 12-sided tower that has risen on the edge of the grass, next to the donkeys and alpacas of the farm...a freestanding pavilion with a certain lightness of heart... -- [muf architecture/art](#); Trevor Horne [images] - [Observer \(UK\)](#)

"Incomplete Urbanism: Attempts of Critical Spatial Practice": ...a laboratory of ideas, exploring the indeterminacy and changeability of urban living. Borrowing its title from Singaporean architect William S. W. Lim's book...takes Lim's practice and the initiatives...as a point of departure; at NTU Centre for Contemporary Art Singapore - [NTU Centre for Contemporary Art Singapore](#)

The radical roots of modern interior design: A new MoMA exhibit shows how progressive design in the '20s and '30s still shapes our living space: "How Should We Live? Propositions for the Modern Interior": What's most striking, perhaps, about the interiors on display is how alternately modern and historical they can feel. By Patrick Sisson [images] - [Curbed](#)

"a Handful of Dust": inspired by Man Ray and Marcel Duchamp's Dust Breeding and curated by British writer and photographer David Company...provides a speculative history of the last century and a visual journey through some of its most unlikely imagery; at Pratt Institute Brooklyn Campus - [Pratt Institute Brooklyn Campus](#)

Exhibit honors unsung architect Marion Mahony Griffin: "In Her Own Right: Marion Mahony Griffin"...[she] was the first female licensed architect in Illinois as well as the first employee of the Frank Lloyd Wright studio...The Griffins are much better known in Australia...[for] 1911 design for Australia's capital city of Canberra; at the Elmhurst History Museum -- [Walter Burley Griffin - Chicago Tribune](#)

Alex Bozickovic: The enduring influence of Jane Jacobs: "Vital Little Plans: The Short Works of Jane Jacobs," a wonderful new anthology that captures her confident prose and her empathetic, patient eye for the way humans live and work together..."Eyes on the Street: The Life of Jane Jacobs"...Robert Kanigel's big, comprehensive biography...draws a fuller portrait...than has emerged in previous accounts...Sadly...The sexism is glaring and also weirdly out of place... - [Globe and Mail \(Canada\)](#)

ANN feature: INSIGHT: Communication Issues in A/E/C Firms: 10 predominant communications failures that hinder both individual career growth and business success. By Donna L. Maltzan - [ArchNewsNow.com](#)



Marks Barfield Architects: British Airways i360, Brighton, U.K.: The world's most slender tall tower is a 'vertical pier,' that is set to redefine the shoreline...Designed by the team responsible for the enormously successful London Eye, [it] seeks to reinvent the Victorian 'pleasure pier' for the 21st century. [images]

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