

Today's News - Thursday, October 20, 2016

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, October 25.

- ANN feature: Q&A with San Francisco-based Studio O+A's Primo Orpilla re: opening an office in NYC, whether "stadium seating and wacky graphics and Airstream trailers" are still hip, and winning the 2016 National Design Award in Interior Design from the Cooper Hewitt (which he and Verda Alexandra will be accepting tonight!).
- Poons ponders "why mayors and other leaders from 500 cities released a manifesto at the UN's Habitat III summit" and "fighting for their spot at the table."
- Davidson has high hopes for KPF's towering One Vanderbilt that is "not just a machine for making money," but "that rarity, a civic-minded Goliath."
- Dickinson doesn't grok why New Haven would spend \$60 million on a "banal, brick layer cake with scalloped concrete eyebrows" passing as a parking garage - will a "revised" design make it better?
- Showley talks to Selldorf re: her Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego in La Jolla, her first West Coast project and first modern art museum project.
- AS+GG tapped by a "billionaire developer" to design a luxury tower on Miami's Biscayne Bay.
- Pedersen explains why Louisiana's disappearing coastline is the canary in the coal mine for the rest of us (the state "has replaced Venice as the fastest sinking land mass in the world" - who knew?).
- Anzilotti's Q&A with Ross Barney re: the 15-year Chicago Riverwalk project as it draws to a close.
- "L.A. River VR Experience" is "letting Angelenos see the river in new light."
- SANAA's Grace Farms wins the Mies Crown Hall Americas Prize.
- Weekend diversions:
  - "Harry Seidler: Modernist" is a new documentary about "the architect Sydneysiders loved to hate."
  - "Megacities: Urban Future, the Emerging Complexity" is a "sobering" Pentagon video that "foresees a dark urban future."
  - Giovannini cheers "Icons of Modern Art" at the Louis Vuitton Foundation that "may be the show that takes Paris by storm" in Gehry's museum "(itself designed like a building painted by Picasso)."
  - Agnese cheers NBMs "Timber City" that is "modest in size yet chock-full of interesting information - equal parts science lesson and architectural display."
  - Wainwright weighs in on the Lisbon Architecture Triennale's "star" show "Building Site" that "puts cranes and cement-mixers centre stage - a refreshing tonic when so much architecture and design curation is intent on drifting off into critical theory and conceptual art."
  - The Cooper Union offers "Alternativas/Alternatives - XIII Spanish Biennial of Architecture and Urbanism (XIII BEAU)" that "showcases a breadth of talent from across Spain, not just its biggest cities"
  - Worrall offers a fascinating Q&A with Settis re: "If Venice Dies," why saving it is important for all humanity, how the city inspired a new vision for Manhattan in the 1920s, and more.
  - Lange has high praise for Lubell and Goldin's "Never Built New York," a lushly illustrated compendium of almost 200 utopian, dystopian, gargantuan, high-flying, and low-flying plans that never made it" (and a cool show coming to the Queens Museum's Panorama).
  - Shubert's "Architecture on Ice: A History of the Hockey Arena" is "an all-encompassing, eye-opening study of structures that are often taken for granted."
  - Designers & Books launches a Kickstarter campaign to revive a "Futurist graphic design gem": Depero's 1927 "The Bolted Book" that should delight design junkies.

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[ANN feature: A West Coast Firm Establishes an East Coast Base: An Interview with Primo Orpilla of Studio O+A: Do clients on the East Coast want stadium seating and wacky graphics and Airstream trailers? "Is that a satirical note I hear in your question?" - ArchNewsNow](#)

[The Paradox of a Global Urban Agenda Led by Nations, Not Cities: Why mayors and other leaders from 500 cities released a manifesto at the UN's Habitat III summit in Quito: "A Seat at the Global Table" manifesto...cities are still fighting for their spot at the table...If there's a time to make more daring proposals, it's now. By Linda Poon- CityLab \(formerly The Atlantic Cities\)](#)

[Justin Davidson: Is One Vanderbilt the 1,400-Foot Building We Need? More than token gestures toward the public: Those first 100 feet show what the public can demand from a big corporate office tower...that rarity, a civic-minded Goliath... doesn't match its neighbor \[Grand Central\] in grandeur, but it's got its eye on the right tradition. -- Kohn Pedersen Fox \(KPF\) - New York Magazine](#)

[Duo Dickinson: Why spend \\$60 million on an ugly building: Sometimes a building is so banal its design cannot be defended...the computer rendering ...for a new parking garage...is indefensible...a brick layer cake with scalloped concrete eyebrows...did not pass visual viability test and is being "revised"...Why not spend \\$60 million to create beauty - especially now that there is a revision? -- Direct Design Enterprises \[image\]- New Haven Register \(Connecticut\)](#)

[Roger Showley: La Jolla art museum architect anticipates \\$55M expansion: When Annabelle Selldorf comes to San Diego, she pinches herself and says, "What's up?! We're in paradise here!"...The Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego \[in La Jolla\] will be \[her\] first West Coast project and first modern art museum project. \[images\]- San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

[Billionaire developer taps architect of world's tallest building to design Brickell condo tower: OKO Group paid \\$48 million for a 44-year-old condo building...on Biscayne Bay...After terminating the condo association, it plans to tear down the building and construct a luxury tower. -- Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture- South Florida Business Journal](#)

[Martin C. Pedersen: Why Louisiana's Disappearing Coastline is a Political Problem: We possess the know-how; we lack consensus...Climate change...is not a "theory" here. It is a rapidly encroaching reality...southern Louisiana has replaced Venice as the fastest sinking land mass in the world...mission - as in, mission to Mars - is an altogether apt description for what's needed. - Common Edge](#)

[A Vision for a Chicago Unified by Rivers: As the 15-year Chicago Riverwalk project draws to a close, the city hopes to use its waterways to bridge neighborhoods: Q&A with Carol Ross Barney about the riverwalk, and why the city needs to start reclaiming its whole aquatic network..."cities need this kind of connective, beautiful infrastructure to truly be good places to live." By Eillie Anzilotti -- Ross Barney Architects; Sasaki Associates \[images\]- CityLab \(formerly The Atlantic Cities\)](#)

[L.A. River revitalization takes center stage in public eye \(and real estate development\): ..."L.A. River VR Experience" is already letting Angelenos see the river in new light...one thing is sure: L.A.'s River is changing very, very quickly. -- Mia Lehrer Associates; Lewis MacAdams; Frank Gehry; OLIN; Gruen Associates; Oyler Wu Collaborative; Michael Maltzan Architecture- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Grace Farms by SANAA Wins Mies Crown Hall Americas Prize: The biennial award recognizes distinguished](#)

architectural projects in North and South America: "The jury was struck by the radical way in which the line between architecture and landscape is blurred by the River building." -- Kazuko Sejima; Ryue Nishizawa [images]-  
Architectural Record

Harry Seidler's grand designs, re-evaluated for Mad Men and modern times: A documentary about...the architect Sydneysiders loved to hate, reappraises the simplicity and elegance of his modernist contribution..."Harry Seidler: Modernist"...Penelope Seidler..."There's just maybe a bit too much of me in there"...Elizabeth Farrelly is one of the film's most vivid speakers...the only expert who really says anything negative about Seidler and his work. - Sydney Morning Herald

Dystopia: In sobering video, Pentagon warns of megacities and their security challenges: Dubbed "Megacities: Urban Future, the Emerging Complexity"...foresees a dark urban future that will challenge the U.S. military's ability to target adversaries...makes clear that these urban environments will be the new battlegrounds for global stability and security. - The Architect's Newspaper

Joseph Giovannini: A Bridge from Moscow to Paris: "Icons of Modern Art" at the Louis Vuitton Foundation will include paintings...from the collection of Sergei Shchukin...may be the show that takes Paris by storm...will hang on the walls of this museum by Frank Gehry (itself designed like a building painted by Picasso)...to evoke the way Shchukin organized his masterworks in his Trubetskoy Palace. - New York Times

Braulio Agnese: "Timber City" at the National Building Museum: ...demonstrates that, when it comes to using timber to its full potential, we're not out of the woods: Modest in size yet chock-full of interesting information, [it] is equal parts science lesson and architectural display. -- Yugen Kim/Tomomi Itakura,/IKD- Architectural Record

Oliver Wainwright: The secret life of building sites: the show that puts cranes and cement-mixers centre stage: ..."Building Site" is the star turn of the Lisbon Architecture Triennale: ...a refreshing tonic at a time when so much architecture and design curation is intent on drifting off into critical theory and conceptual art, seemingly afraid of tackling any discussion of bricks and mortar or the underlying economy of construction head on. - Guardian (UK)

"Alternativas/Alternatives - XIII Spanish Biennial of Architecture and Urbanism (XIII BEAU)": ...showcases a breadth of talent from across Spain, not just its biggest cities; at the twin S. Chanin School of Architecture of The Cooper Union [images]- Cooper Union

Simon Worrall: Tourists Could Destroy Venice - If Floods Don't First: ...in danger of becoming an overpriced theme park: Floods were once the greatest threat...the tsunami of tourists pouring into the city could cause greater harm, argues Salvatore Settis in "If Venice Dies...Q&A re: why saving Venice is not just important for Venetians but for all humanity, how the city inspired a new vision for Manhattan in the 1920s, and how corruption has blighted a major flood-control scheme. - National Geographic

Alexandra Lange: The New York That Could Have Been: "Never Built New York" [by Sam Lubell and Greg Goldin] a lushly illustrated compendium of almost 200 utopian, dystopian, gargantuan, high-flying, and low-lying plans that never made it...In 2017...an exhibition based on their research that uses the Queens Museum's Panorama...will place the "never built" alongside the "was built," and we'll be able to see an alternate city rise from the map. - New Yorker

"Architecture on Ice: A History of the Hockey Arena" an unsentimental journey through history of hockey arenas: Howard Shubert's richly illustrated study takes a clear-eyed look at the evolution of our national sport's venues: ...an all-encompassing, eye-opening study of structures that, for all their iconic standing and unquestioned cultural importance, are often taken for granted. By Ian McGillis - Montreal Gazette

Kickstarter Campaign Aims to Revive Legendary "The Bolted Book" by Fortunato Depero: The Futurist graphic design gem was first published in 1927: Design junkies could soon get their hands on a reissue of...Futurist cult classic, "Depero Futurista"...a paragon of avant-garde bookmaking. -- Designers & Books - Architectural Record



Fanatik Architecture Interview: ...one of the most successful architecture and design businesses in Second Life, an online virtual world...explore the world, build, create, shop and trade virtual property and services. By Kirsten Kiser -- Kendra Zaurak [images]

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