

Today's News - Thursday, November 3, 2016

EDITOR'S NOTE: To our fellow Americans: In this weird/wacky, distressing/depressing election cycle every vote counts, so please be sure to VOTE on Tuesday! Speaking of which...tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tues., Nov. 8 (then heading to the polls!).

- ArcSpace offers Barozzi/Veiga's Bündner Kunstmuseum in Chur, Switzerland, "a tall, rectangular prism that reads as a stoic and contemporary form - it is bold, unforgiving and unashamedly new."
- Arieff ponders whether "architecture can help shift politics into a new era - and might just change the status quo" (wouldn't that be nice).
- Vozza looks at the ways office layouts can cause gender bias - and what can be done to make things better.
- Horton continues the discussion about the "correlation between mental health issues and architecture practice," and lays out "the common traits of a 'dysfunctional design team.'"
- Lubell looks into how "bird safety is changing architecture," and an architect's "informal circle of anti-collision advocates" who are on a "mission to mitigate this fowl holocaust."
- Plan to spend some time with The Architect's Newspaper's deep dive into "water, landscapes, and urbanism," including: "Has 'resiliency' been hijacked to justify and promote development?"
- Philly has high hopes for its own High Line-style park: "Competing visions for the former rail corridor have battled it out over the years," but it finally breaks ground.
- Green offers the opportunity to experience Toronto's Underpass Park in virtual reality (very cool!).
- Caruana offers a thoughtful introduction to how the Internet of Things "will change how buildings are made and used," and spawn "a new wave of creative design."
- Bernstein spends some serious time with Schumacher, Hadid's right-hand man, who "now faces the daunting task of leading the firm she built - he is the right man for the job."
- Volner spends some serious time with Snøhetta to find out how it "became one of the world's most sought-after firms": they are "determined to keep their projects as fluid as their off-the-wall thinking - it's what makes the firm so interesting to watch."
- Eleven projects from around the world take home the ULI 2016 Global Awards for Excellence.
- Call for entries: International Zumtobel Group Award - Innovations for Sustainability and Humanity in the Built Environment + Biomimicry Global Design Challenge.
- Weekend diversions:
 - DS+R "does voyeurism as good as anyone" in bringing Pierre Chareau's work to life "in a groundbreaking way" at NYC's Jewish Museum.
 - Keane is keen to view the Venice Biennale "through a digital lens - within an exhibition that seemingly focuses on analog practice."
 - Mortice cheers the Marion Mahony Griffin show at the Elmhurst History Museum in suburban Chicago, which traces her career "as she flit between design practices and continents."
 - Bevan gives (mostly) thumbs-up to Sudjic's "The Language of Cities": even though "there are too many 'so what?' moments," it is an "indispensible guide to what makes a city a city - he has cautionary tales aplenty. We have been warned."
 - Brussat gives (mostly) thumbs-up to Settis's "If Venice Dies": the book "is a joy to read, and its righteous anger at the awful predicament facing Venice and other historic cities is an invaluable resource to be visited again and again by those who love cities."

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Barozzi/Veiga: Bündner Kunstmuseum, Chur, Switzerland: ...forms an elegant extension to the Grisons Museum of Fine Arts. Crisp in design and compact in size, [it] is a stark and simple reinterpretation of its heritage neighbor: ...a tall, rectangular prism that...reads as a stoic and contemporary form - it is bold, unforgiving and unashamedly new. -- Schwander & Sutter Architekten [images]

Allison Arieff: What's Wrong With Politics? Let's Start With the Benches: Maybe architecture can help shift parliamentary politics into a new era: Can other countries follow the creative lead of the Netherlands? I hope so...shows how playing with the architecture upends stability and routine - and might just change the status quo. -- David Mulder/Max Cohen de Lara/XML; Gensler; Studio Egret West; Jurgen Bey/Studio Makkink & Bey [images]- New York Times

Stephanie Vozza: Is Your Office Layout Causing Gender Bias? Most office layouts are set up to favor men's work styles: "The answer is to design a good space for people in the workplace to advance - and half of them happen to be women." -- Elizabeth Von Lehe/ICRAVE; Julie Gauthier/Lauckgroup- Fast Company

Tim Horton: Managing mental health: Is there a correlation between mental health issues and architecture practice? New research discusses how the profession might better support its members: How often is mental illness put down to the "creative streak"? ...while many studies promote a positive association between creativity and mental illness, it's just not supported by evidence...the common traits of what the research team calls a "dysfunctional design team" [are]: -- Parlour- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Sam Lubell: How to Keep Buildings From Killing Hundreds of Millions of Birds a Year: Architects' growing affinity for glassy buildings has given the world better views, more natural light, sexier skylines - and a lot of dead birds...Guy Maxwell/Ennead Architects is on a mission to mitigate this fowl holocaust...Working with him is an informal circle of anti-collision advocates...The concept of bird safety is changing architecture...- Wired

Relational Water Landscapes: ...water, landscapes, and urbanism - from drought to deluge, survival to decadence: Has "resiliency" been hijacked to justify and promote development?; "Landscape as Necessity" conference aims to broaden the role of landscape architects; etc. - The Architect's Newspaper

Philly Breaks Ground on Its Own High Line-Style Park: ...Philadelphia's long-anticipated Reading Viaduct Rail Park...The full vision encompasses three miles of abandoned railroad transformed into an above- and below-ground park...Competing visions for sections of the former rail corridor have battled it out over the years. -- Studio Bryan Hanes - Next City (formerly Next American City)

Jared Green: Experience Toronto's Underpass Park in Virtual Reality: ...[it] won the ASLA 2016 Professional Award of Excellence. Take an exciting journey through this unique park found under a highway underpass...a prominent example of reusing abandoned, derelict space. -- Greg Smalenberg/PFS Studio. - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Anthony Caruana: The IoT will change how buildings are made and used: ...an introduction to the likely impacts of the Internet of Things on the architecture industry: ...architects can evolve from designing edifices to creating experiences for patrons...This will require new skills but, more importantly, a new wave of creative design.- Australian Design Review

Fred A. Bernstein: How Patrik Schumacher Will Keep Zaha Hadid's Name On Top: The right hand of the late starchitect, who has an iconoclastic streak all his own, now faces the daunting task of leading the firm she built. That won't be easy; firms headed by starchitects rarely outlive their founders...But [he] is the right man for the job. [images]- W Magazine

Ian Volner: How Maverick Architects Snøhetta Became One of the World's Most Sought-after Firms: It's rare that such a non-star-driven practice should attract the kind of star clients that [it] has...It's hard to reduce the firm's approach to any individual quality...much less to any individual personality...[they] seem so determined not to get pinned down, to keep their projects as fluid as their off-the-wall thinking...it's also what makes the firm so interesting to watch. -- Photos by Adrian Gaut- Wall Street Journal

Eleven ULI 2016 Global Awards for Excellence Winners Named: ...projects from around the globe - seven from North America, three from Europe, and one from Asia - have been selected... -- AJA Paul Chemetov/Jean-Francois Schmit Architectes; SVA Architects/Studio E Architects; Diamond Schmitt Architects; PLP Architecture; 5+1AA; Moore Ruble Yudell/Koning Eizenberg; 360/Airspace/Eberly & Associates/Gensler/S9 Architecture; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); LMN Architects/Marmon Mok; Tony Goldman/Jessica Goldman Srebnick/DNB Design Group/Plusurbia [images]- Urban Land Institute (ULI)

Call for entries: International Zumtobel Group Award - Innovations for Sustainability and Humanity in the Built Environment; includes inaugural special award for young professionals; no fee; total purse: €150,000; deadline: January 15, 2017 - Zumtobel / Aedes Berlin

Call for entries: Biomimicry Global Design Challenge: address critical global issues with nature-inspired solutions; professional and student categories; cash prizes + \$100,000 Ray of Hope Prize; earlybird registration deadline (save money!): March 31, 2017 (submissions due April 30, 2017)- Biomimicry Institute / Ray C. Anderson Foundation

Diller Scofidio + Renfro Bring Pierre Chareau's Work to Life at the Jewish Museum: ..."Pierre Chareau: Modern Architecture and Design"...we get a comprehensive look at his oeuvre for the first time in the U.S. But the exhibition does more than that...taken on the challenge of how to display architecture in a groundbreaking way...DS+R does voyeurism as good as anyone. [images]- Architectural Record

Patrick Keane/Enter Projects: Digital practising in Venice: ...the 2016 Venice Biennale through a digital lens...projects that embrace the digital Zeitgeist within an exhibition that seemingly focuses on analog practice: ...combining sophisticated digital techniques with primitive "making" to give original perspectives to architectural conceptualization and production...An analog and digital combination is the requirement of experimental practice today. - ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Zach Mortice: Marion Mahony Griffin, Unbound: A new exhibition shines a light on the life of America's most influential yet least known early 20th century female architect: "In Her Own Right: Marion Mahony Griffin" at the Elmhurst History Museum in suburban Chicago...traces the career...as she flit between design practices and continents...provides a rare occasion where her husband...Walter Burley Griffin...slots into the background of his wife's expansive talents. [images]- Architectural Record

Robert Bevan: "The Language of Cities" by Deyan Sudjic: An indispensable guide to what makes a city a city: There are too many "so what?" moments...concepts we are all familiar with written as revelations...[He] is at his best when he's on familiar ground such as how megalomaniacs have shaped monuments and cities...he has cautionary tales aplenty...Not all cities are successful indefinitely. We have been warned.- Evening Standard (UK)

David Brussat: "If Venice Dies" by Salvatore Settis: By the time I was half finished...It was to be another of my bibles...[He] warns readers against any sort of addition to a city that does not respect its soul...But when it comes to figuring out why Venice is at risk, he does not even mention the most obvious answer...His book is a joy to read, and its righteous anger at the awful predicament facing Venice and other historic cities is an invaluable resource to be visited again and again by those who love cities. - Architecture Here and There

jaja architects: Park'n'Play, Copenhagen, Denmark: Parking House Lüders...challenges the conventional monofunctional parking house. With its characteristic recreational urban space on the roof it strives to be an exciting asset to the new neighborhood. [images]- ArcSpace

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