

Today's News - Thursday, November 10, 2016

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, November 15.

- Artsy sees "a new hope" for the Lucas Museum in L.A.: "this time around Angelinos have a good shot at winning the museum - a long, lean spaceship with gardens woven into its roof and flowing underneath" by Ma Yansong (w/great images from the actual collection!).
- Zeiger's great Q&A with Gadanho re: his new gig heading a new museum in Lisbon that "aspires to be more than just another signature building" (he doesn't "believe in architects doing art installations - they're very bad at it, and everybody recognizes it except for architects themselves" - ouch!).
- O'Sullivan x 2: he parses what "could be the biggest task yet for the Bloomberg Philanthropies Mayors Challenge - challenging Latin American cities to change."
- He's not at all convinced by "a growing and misguided trend" to turn "infrastructure into flashy playgrounds - it assumes we're all idiots who cannot be influenced by anything but the desire for distraction."
- Goldberger delves deep into how Heatherwick "became the Pied Piper of architecture - he's pushed the limits of possibility, and created unconventional and controversial results in the process."
- Lee parses the recent Equity by Design symposium in San Francisco and ponders: "Is there a 'pink ghetto' within architecture?"
- Woods' "Women Architects in India" puts the spotlight on these too often unsung professionals: "Nearly 44% of India's 58,646 registered architects are women - that's pretty impressive," but they "have to contend with a field that isn't always hospitable."
- Green reports on a discussion about the dearth of diversity in landscape architecture: "Unfortunately, the profession is still overwhelmingly white," but "increasingly-diverse clients want to see someone who looks like themselves on the other side of the table." - Harvard GSD and Perkins+Will launch the Philip Freelon Fellowship Fund "to provide assistance to African American and minority students."
- Trump's "astonishing victory has turned the world of climate action upside down" (we're still trying to grok a government made up of so many (too many!) climate deniers).
- Brussat on Trump's triumph: "It's hard to say what, if anything, his victory may mean for architecture. One suggestion: He should see to it that an early grave is dug by Congress for Frank Gehry's like memorial design."
- Dunne ponders the Mexican firm Estudio 3.14's take on Trump's border wall - it's a "pink homage to Luis Barragán."
- Weekend diversions:
  - Giovannini cheers DS+R's Chateau show at NYC's Jewish Museum: "The architects manage to deliver delight to the kind of design show that is usually DOA."
  - Lange lauds DS+R's Chateau show: the "technological feats make the retrospective far more inventive and topical than it has any right to be" (the Maison de Verre "makes those other glass houses look a little bit lazy").
  - The Cooper Hewitt's "By the People: Designing a Better America" gives space to socially-responsible design "that is rarely presented to a greater audience" and sets "a strong precedent for other design museums - hopefully, they will follow its lead."
  - Davidson cheers two new Jane Jacobs tomes, but saves the best for Jonathan Rose, "a do-gooder developer and urban advice-giver who stockpiles common sense in 'The Well-Tempered City.'"
  - Q&A with Marwa al-Sabouni re: "The Battle for Home: Memoir of a Syrian Architect" and her "vision to transform her ideas into reality."
  - Caldwell's great Q&A with Serraino re: "The Creative Architect: Inside the Great Midcentury Personality Study": Why was the study not published? "That is the biggest mystery of all."
  - "Hong Kong Architecture 1945-2015: From Colonial to Global" traces the city's "transformation from a tiny island to a modern urban metropolis - urban planners and architects have done a decent job."
  - Betsy gives two thumbs-ups to the monograph "An Te Liu" that celebrates "one of the best post-architects I know."

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[Avishay Artsy: A new hope for Lucas Museum in LA: Los Angeles and San Francisco are competing to play host to George Lucas' Museum of Narrative Art...this time around Angelinos have a good shot at winning the museum...a long, lean spaceship...with gardens woven into its roof and flowing underneath. -- Ma Yansong/MAD Architects \[images\]- KCRW](#)

[Mimi Zeiger: Pedro Gadanho Reflects on the Unveiling of MAAT: The Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology in Lisbon aspires to be more than just another signature building: "I don't believe in architects doing art installations. I think they are very bad at it, and everybody recognizes it except for architects themselves." -- Amanda Levete/AL\\_A; Aires Mateus e Associados; Johnston Marklee; Brandão Costa Arquitectos; Office Kersten Geers David Van Severen \[images\]- Architect Magazine](#)

[Feergus O'Sullivan: Challenging Latin American Cities to Change: This could be the biggest task yet for the Bloomberg Philanthropies Mayors Challenge: ...the issue is not just that applicant cities are all very different...the data necessary to understand their differences ...is often absent...Latin American applicants seem especially interested in managing...social inequality...the positive effect could be potentially huge. - CityLab \(formerly The Atlantic Cities\)](#)

[Feergus O'Sullivan: The Problem With 'Playable' Cities: Turning infrastructure into flashy playgrounds only results in cutesy distractions from real issues: ...they're part of a growing and misguided trend...it's a distraction with a subtle but coercive edge...Playable interventions don't democratize cities...\[It\] assumes we're all idiots who cannot be influenced by anything but the desire for distraction. - CityLab \(formerly The Atlantic Cities\)](#)

[Paul Goldberger: How Thomas Heatherwick Became the Pied Piper of Architecture: The 46-year-old Briton's latest projects - whether London's Garden Bridge, New York's Pier 55, or Google's new headquarters - are making him the most talked about designer in the world...he's pushed the limits of possibility, and created unconventional and controversial results in the process. - Vanity Fair](#)

[San Francisco's Equity by Design Symposium Uses Data to Engender Change: Is there a "pink ghetto" within architecture? Something for both men and women to consider: Within each gender, those with a master's degree in architecture earned roughly the same amount as those with a bachelor's degree. By Lydia W. Lee - Architectural Record](#)

[Epic Feats: The secret to success for India's woman architects: unconventional ideas and mothers-in-law: ...their names are often not as recognizable as those of men...Mary Woods' "Women Architects in India: Histories of Practice in Mumbai and Delhi"...is trying to change that...Nearly 44% of India's 58,646 registered architects are women...that's pretty impressive. However...\[they\] have to contend with a field that isn't always hospitable. -- Perin Jamshedji Mistri \(1930s\); Hema Sankalia; Urmila Eulie Chowdhury; Revathi Kamath; Brinda Somaya; Neera Adarkar - Quartz India](#)

[Jared Green: Diverse Firms Will Have Competitive Advantage: Unfortunately, landscape architects have been slow to adapt to this new reality, as the profession is still overwhelmingly white...increasingly-diverse clients want to see someone who looks like themselves on the other side of the table. -- Kona Gray/EDSA; Ron Sims; Mark Rios/Rios Clementi Hale; Diana Fernandez/Sasaki Associates; Lucinda Sanders/OLIN - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape](#)

## Architects (ASLA)

Perkins+Will Launches New Harvard Fellowship Fund: The Philip Freelon Fellowship Fund at the Harvard Graduate School of Design aims to provide assistance to African American and minority students..."It's an important step in broadening the GSD's reach." - Architect Magazine

In Trump, U.S. Puts a Climate Denier in Its Highest Office and All Climate Change Action in Limbo: His anti-regulatory stances, support of unfettered fossil fuel production, and his threat to pull the U.S. out of the Paris agreement, send ripple effects worldwide...his astonishing victory has turned the world of climate action upside down... - InsideClimate News

David Brussat: Vote's "style wars" tea leaves: It's hard to say...what, if anything, Donald Trump's victory may mean for architecture...Maybe he will understand that architecture can be a symbolic representation of his desire to recast the establishment as a vehicle for making America great again. One more suggestion: Trump should see to it that an early grave is dug by Congress for Frank Gehry's Ike memorial design. - Architecture Here and There

Carey Dunne: Mexican Architects Imagine Trump's Border Wall as a Pink Homage to Luis Barragán: A group of interns at architecture firm Estudio 3.14 created 3D renderings to visualize Trump's proposed Southern border wall as a tribute to Mexican architectural heritage..."Prison Wall Project" [images]- Hyperallergic

Joseph Giovannini: Pierre Chareau and the Question of Authorship: A Diller Scofidio + Renfro-designed exhibition at the Jewish Museum in New York examines the legacy...the rare double show, as compelling for the installation...as for the displays...The architects manage to animate the kind of design show that is usually DOA...manage to deliver delight... -- Bernard Bijvoet [images]- Architect Magazine

Alexandra Lange: Maison de Verre, the other glass house: Diller Scofidio + Renfro creates a technology-forward exhibition about...Pierre Chareau's influential - and overshadowed - 1930s residence...[it] makes those other glass houses, which only have to keep out the rain, look a little bit lazy...DS+R's technological feats make the retrospective far more inventive and topical than it has any right to be. Cue another round of homage. -- Bernard Bijvoet [images]- Curbed

At Cooper Hewitt, Socially-Responsible Design Takes Center Stage: "By the People: Designing a Better America" ...examines and gives space to design that is rarely presented to a greater audience...showcases empowering subjects...has set a strong precedent for other design museums - hopefully, they will follow its lead. By Gretchen Von Koenig [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Justin Davidson: To Honor Jane Jacobs's Vision, We Need More Planning, Not Less: Robert Kanigel's "Eyes on the Street" and..."Vital Little Plans" edited by Samuel Zipp and Nathan Storrington, have caused her prestige to spike...Perhaps the most promising way to update "Death and Life" is with the humanistic vision of Jonathan Rose, a do-gooder developer and urban advice-giver who stockpiles common sense in "The Well-Tempered City." Less sweeping in his judgments or rhetorically pungent than Jacobs, Rose believes in a humanistic approach to planning. - New York Magazine

Q&A: How architecture paved the way for Syria's war: Marwa al-Sabouni stood behind the ruined buildings of Horns, her home city, in a picture [for] the cover for her book, "The Battle for Home: Memoir of a Syrian Architect"...from Syria, where she still lives, we discover a vision to transform her ideas into reality. - SciDev.Net

Kenneth Caldwell: Brain Game: A forgotten psychology study of famous midcentury architects gets its due in new book: Q&A with Pierluigi Serraino re: "The Creative Architect: Inside the Great Midcentury Personality Study"...Why was the study not published? "That is the biggest mystery of all." - The Architect's Newspaper

Looking beneath the surface of Hong Kong's architectural landscape: New book traces city's transformation...from a tiny island to a modern urban metropolis: ...urban planners and architects have done a decent job of the fishing village-to-urban metropolis transformation..."Hong Kong Architecture 1945-2015: From Colonial to Global" by Charlie Xue Qiuli explains why... [images]- South China Morning Post

Aaron Betsky: "An Te Liu" and Memorials to Waste: ...celebrations of packaging reimagined as polished, glorified objects...one of the best post-architects I know...exploring what is left over from architecture...if buildings are the remains of a larger project to build a modern world that is perfect, then these are the scale models and the refined essence of buildings. [images]- Architect Magazine



Adjaye Associates: Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington, DC: The culmination of nearly 20 years of political red tape, the NMAAHC finally opened to great fanfare...an elegant, understated architectural gesture...A poetic response to a deeply complex and intersectional subject... By Finn MacLeod -- Freelon Adjaye Bond/SmithGroupJJR [images]

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