

Today's News - Thursday, November 17, 2016

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow will be a no-newsletter day. And a heads-up that we'll only be posting on Monday and Tuesday, November 21 & 22 - the rest of next week will be dedicated to celebrating Thanksgiving and all that we're grateful for.

- Many Melbournians say "no thanks" to Apple's hopes of building a \$50 million megastore on Federation Square that would require demolishing LAB & Bates Smart's Yarra Building (in secret negotiations?) - the company "would save itself a lot of hassle by looking elsewhere."
- King, on a brighter note, cheers the California College of the Arts for choosing Studio Gang to design what could be "San Francisco's newest - and potentially most unusual - college campus."
- BIG x 2: it is now confirmed that it, along with Heatherwick Studios, will be designing Google's new London HQ.
- BIG, along with Silvio d'Ascia Architecture, wins a competition to design a Paris Metro station that, from the air, looks like a gigantic "P" + a stellar line-up to design 10 other stations.
- Kéré is tapped to design a "huge mobile theater" at Berlin's Tempelhof field as the "Francis Kéré. Radically Simple" exhibition opens in Munich.
- Landscape architects are "often the unsung heroes of a project, entwining natural life with man-made environments in extraordinary ways" - here are 15 firms you should know.
- There's still some good news to be found in DC: Gehry and Lin are awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom (Springsteen, too!).
- Call for entries: 5th International LafargeHolcim Awards for Sustainable Construction 2016/2017 (\$2 million in prizes) + Harvard GSD 2017 Wheelwright Prize for \$100,000 traveling fellowship + Speakers for VERGE Hawaii 2017: Asia Pacific Clean Energy Summit.
- Weekend diversions:
  - The new documentary "Citizen Jane: Battle for the City" tells "a great story," but what concerns Morris is "an oversimplification of the story and the fact."
  - Heathcote parses London's new Design Museum and its first show "Fear and Love": it's "a fruity mix" with a "simple and superb" exhibition design; the building itself is "encased in layers of super-tasteful light oak" - or is it "more like an oak-lined concrete sarcophagus."
  - "Demolished Sydney" at the Museum of Sydney "recalls some of the most significant demolitions of the past 200 years," and how many "have made way for some of the city's most iconic buildings."
  - Egger is disappointed that MoMA's "How Should We Live" offers "some dazzling moments, but falls short of expectations" (though "the curators' insistence on gender parity and design partnerships is commendable").
  - Makovsky and Rajagopal cheer NYC's Jewish Museum for rescuing the French avant-garde architect Pierre Chareau "from obscurity" with "a groundbreaking exhibition."
- Three (fab) takes on Lubell and Goldin's "Never Built New York": Sam Roberts calls it an "imaginative picture book for adults" + Budds finds an important lesson: "Keep hubris in check" + NY Post(!) posits: "It all could've happened" (all well worth reading - and great pix!).
- King gives two thumbs-ups to Turner's "Frank Lloyd Wright and San Francisco" - an "unexpectedly fresh addition to the ever-longer shelf of books on the ever-provocative architect" that offers "glimpses" of FLW "as a force unto himself."

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No thanks Apple we'll keep our Federation Square: Apple has seriously misjudged the cultural significance of [the square] to the people of Melbourne and would save itself a lot of hassle by looking elsewhere...wishes to take over the site of the Yarra Building...demolish it, and then erect a new \$50 million...stand-alone megastore. -- LAB Architecture Studio; Bates Smart-Architecture & Design (Australia)

John King: A design to watch for California College of the Arts: San Francisco's newest - and potentially most unusual - college campus will be designed by...Studio Gang, led by Jeanne Gang...The challenge at CCA, though, goes beyond architecture. It will take nimble urban design to conjure a cohesive sense of place...An imaginative approach to landscape architecture will be necessary as well... - San Francisco Chronicle

BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group and Heatherwick Studios confirmed as architects for Google's new London Headquarters: ...the first wholly owned and designed Google building outside the United States...10-story, 650,000 sq. ft. building...will complement Google's existing commitment to the 67-acre King's Cross Estate. - Building Design & Construction (BD+C)

BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group wins Paris Metro competition with looping station design: ...teamed up with French studio Silvio d'Ascia Architecture to design...the Pont de Bondy station...one of nine "emblematic stations"...Six further architects have also just been named as the designers of 10 stations... -- Kengo Kuma; EMBT/Enric Miralles and Benedetta Tagliabue; BORDAS + PEIRO; Elizabeth de Portzamparc; Grimshaw; Brenac-Gonzalez & Associates; SCAPE/Offscape; Vezzoni & Associés; Explorations Architecture [image]- Dezeen

Francis Kéré to build huge mobile theater at Berlin's Tempelhof field: ...architect from Burkina Faso is to repurpose a disused airplane hangar at Berlin's former Tempelhof airport. Meanwhile, his works - including his famous opera village - are on show in Munich..."Francis Kéré. Radically Simple" at the Architecture Museum housed in the Pinakothek der Moderne. [images]- Deutsche Welle (Germany)

Groundbreakers: 15 Landscape Architecture Firms You Should Know: Landscape architecture is, far too often, the forgotten profession of the construction industry...often the unsung heroes of a project, entwining natural life with man-made environments...in extraordinary ways. -- Balmori Associates; Gustafson Guthrie Nichol; Hood Design; James Corner Field Operations; Martha Schwartz Partners; Imelk; Mia Lehrer+Associates; Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates; Michel Desvigne Paysagiste; Mkyoung Kim Design; OLIN; Sasaki Associates; SCAPE/Landscape Architecture; Turenscape; West 8 [images]- Architizer

Frank Gehry, Maya Lin Awarded Presidential Medal of Freedom: ...the White House described Gehry as "one of the world's leading architects, whose works have helped define contemporary architecture"...also highlighted Lin's contributions to environmentalism, and her Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. - Architectural Record

5th International LafargeHolcim Awards for Sustainable Construction 2016/2017: ideas with the highest potential to tackle today's challenges to increasing urbanization and to improve quality of life; \$2 million in prizes; deadline: March 21, 2017- LafargeHolcim Foundation for Sustainable Construction

Call for entries: Harvard GSD 2017 Wheelwright Prize: International competition for early-career architects to win \$100,000 traveling fellowship; deadline: January 31, 2017- Harvard University Graduate School of Design (GSD) / Wheelwright Prize

Call for entries: Speakers for VERGE Hawaii 2017: Asia Pacific Clean Energy Summit (Honolulu, June 20-22); deadline: January 1, 2017- GreenBiz Group / Hawaii State Energy Office

New documentary delves into the history and legacy of Jane Jacobs: "Citizen Jane: Battle for the City"...clearly sides with Jacobs's David rather than Robert Moses's Goliath...it's a great story with large implications for our world. ...what concerns me is an oversimplification of the story and the facts; directed by Matt Tyrnauer. By Susan Morris - The Architect's Newspaper

Edwin Heathcote: Fear and Love, Design Museum, London - "Big questions": ...a show that cleverly throws up more questions than answers: "Fear and Love: Reactions to a Complex World"...is a fruity mix...exhibition design...is simple and superb...Here is a former public building from an era of now almost unimaginable optimism...encased in layers of super-tasteful light oak. From some points it looks like a fine new civic building, at others more like an oak-lined concrete sarcophagus...Sometimes design creates more problems than it solves. -- Justin McGuirk; OMA; Rural Urban Framework; Arquitectura Expandida; Sam Jacob Studio; John Pawson [images]- Financial Times (UK)

"Demolished Sydney" exhibition remembers Sydney's lost buildings: ...recalls some of the most significant demolitions of the past 200 years, from Walter Burley Griffin and Eric Nicholls's Pyrmont Incinerator to Ken Woolley's State Office Block...reflects on how, at times, demolitions...have made way for some of the city's most iconic buildings; at the Museum of Sydney. [images]- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Marianne Egger: MoMA's "How Should We Live? Propositions for the Modern Interior" Falls Short: ...exhibit revisits Modernism's home remedies, but it misses the symptoms they were intended to treat...while offering some dazzling moments, [it] falls short of expectations...suffers from lackluster exhibition design and, worse, a lack of thematic clarity...the curators' insistence on gender parity and design partnerships is commendable. [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Paul Makovsky and Avinash Rajagopal: Rediscovering Chareau: "Pierre Chareau: Modern Architecture and Design" at the Jewish Museum in New York City rescues the French avant-garde architect and designer from obscurity: ...a groundbreaking exhibition...presents his career in a wider cultural context and includes aspects of his life that have not been explored before... [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Sam Roberts: Civic Masterpieces, and Nightmares, Unrealized: A new book presents a catalog of dashed dreams and dodged nightmares once planned for the New York landscape..."Never Built New York"...imaginative picture book for adults by Greg Goldin and Sam Lubell...Each visionary scheme collapsed under its own weight, or was doomed by an economic depression. - New York Times

Diana Budds: Lessons From 200 Years Of Failed New York City Megaprojects: History's biggest failures offer a few hints for the present: "Never Built New York" by Sam Lubell and Greg Goldin...as infrastructure is once again part of the national conversation, examining old projects through a contemporary lens and learning from their mistakes takes on new significance....Keep hubris in check [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

Imagine if NYC looked like this: Bridges and highways, airports and monuments: So many fantastical projects by famous architects and forgotten urbanists have come close to replacing landmarks New Yorkers know and love...It all could've happened. In "Never Built New York," Greg Goldin and Sam Lubell explore 200 unrealized proposals for the city. [images]- New York Post

John King: "Frank Lloyd Wright and San Francisco" by Paul V. Turner: ...an unexpectedly fresh addition to the ever-longer shelf of books on the ever-provocative architect...a scholarly but flavorful history that's far more satisfying than the lavish monographs or detailed studies that Wright tends to attract...what lingers are the glimpses we receive of Wright as a force unto himself...- San Francisco Chronicle



Büro Ole Scheeren: MahaNakhon, Bangkok, Thailand: Its pixelated form reaches 314-metres into the city skyline before gently dissolving back into the densely packed urban landscape below. By Jason Dibbs -- OMA [images]

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