March 2006

PRESS RELEASES

Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation has new Chair.

Our hearty congratulations go out to Phil Allsopp on his appointment as President and CEO of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation. This is great news for RIBA and especially for RIBA-USA to which Phil Allsopp has given valuable support – last September we posted an excellent paper by him on our website that deals with the Katrina tragedy and the general problem of unhealthy environments. The effects of these are, according to Phil, causing almost as many fatalities per day as the British Army suffered during WW1. He is a graduate of the Kingston School of Architecture and his arrival at FLW will be a huge boost for the cause of healthy buildings, sustainable architecture and RIBA. See his paper at http://www.anthemioninternational.org/Post%20Katrina%20Rebuilding%20V2.pdf

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New York (Back to top)

Thursday March 2, 2006 (Reception 5:30 / Program 6 PM)
THE CENTER FOR ARCHITECTURE Lecture Hall
AN EVENING WITH WILL ALSOP
OLD TOWN Strategies for Urban Regeneration
With introduction by Mark Strauss, FAIA AICP, President, AIA New York Chapter

536 LaGuardia Place between West 3rd & Bleecker Streets
RSVP: To register email rsvp@aiany.org with name & date of event
Price - Free
CES Lus 1.5, HSW 1.5 TBD

Will Alsop, one of the most debated architects and urban thinkers working today, presents his visions for urban regeneration. Recent projects include Bradford Bowl, New Barnsley, and Millennial Manchester illustrated above. In “Super City”, Mr. Alsop outlines a unique vision for Britain’s northwest cities as members of a larger entity that redefines the very concept of a city and quality of life for its residents.

Mr. Alsop’s practice is guided by the principal that “architecture is both vehicle and symbol of social change and renewal... by abandoning the hegemony of an acceptable style, he has rendered the process of architecture one of increasing fluidity and transparency”. Mr. Alsop follows a parallel path as an artist and actively promotes artistic contribution to the built environment. His paintings and sketches have been exhibited internationally alongside his architectural projects. “Picture of a City: Bradford Master Plan” was recently exhibited at MOMA, New York City. Alsop Architects is based in London with satellite offices in Toronto, Shanghai and Sheringham.

The International Committee is cosponsoring with the AIA Housing Committee a lecture by Wil Alsop. Details to be announced
For further details on this lecture see: http://www.aiany.org/calendar/index.php?m=03&y=2006

7 March 2006 - 28 May 2006
Samuel Palmer (1805–1881): Vision and Landscape
Wednesday, March 8
New York Design Fair 2006
Seventh Regiment Armory on Park Avenue, NYC

Join Departures for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the Benefit Preview for The New York Design Fair on Wednesday, March 8, 2006. Tickets are $250 per person and proceeds benefit Project A.L.S. Preview the eclectic furniture and home décor from the finest dealers and designers before anyone else. Located at the Seventh Regiment Armory on Park Avenue, the New York Design Fair focuses on the combination of antiques and 21st century design, with exhibitors specializing in everything from furnishings to art, from garden accessories to textiles. Check back soon to view the invitation.
.TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT 212-420-7382

Monday, 20 March – Wednesday 22 March 2006
RIBA-UK Members invited to New York
USA Seminar Mission: “Green Buildings – A UK Perspective”

This conference is being organized for RIBA members in the UK
For further information contact Sally Welbourne at sally.welbourn@inst.riba.org

The UK now has a wealth of experience in sustainability issues that impact design and construction. The US is now also addressing these issues under a voluntary, consensus based standard for developing high performance sustainable buildings under the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System.

The objectives of the proposed Seminar Mission to New York are:

§ To promote British experience in Sustainable design
§ To learn more about the US experience
§ To meet US Clients and Specifiers.

It is proposed that the Mission will include a presentation on US current practice, a structured programme of presentations by Mission members, a reception arranged by the UK Consulate in New York, networking opportunities and the potential for one-to-one meetings and visits to some New York construction sites.

If you would like to register interest in the Mission or confirm attendance, please contact Sally Welbourne at sally.welbourn@inst.riba.org UKTI has funding to cover 50% of estimated mission costs.

A CD-rom of the report “USA Construction Today” issued at the UKTI Seminar held in London February 2005 is available on request from bccb or the report can be downloaded (in sections) from the UKTI web site.

It is envisaged that the Mission will be of interest to Architects, Engineers and Specialists and to suppliers of sustainable or energy efficient products.

Monday, 20 March – Wednesday 22 March 2006
RIBA-UK Members invited to New York

USA Seminar Mission: “Green Buildings – A UK Perspective”

Packed audience to all events in New York to welcome UK RIBA members to NYC.

Bruce Fowle FAIA gave a special presentation to the Delegates “Green Buildings - a US Experience” when he discussed his current project of the New York Times building which he is designing with Renzo Piano. He was then honored at an evening Champagne Reception at the NY UK Consulate where he gave the keynote address.

This was followed by the UK Delegates presentation “Green Buildings - a UK Experience” which was held at the Beekman Tower Conference room to a large audience of AIA and RIBA members.

LOS ANGELES EVENTS (Back to top)

Wednesday 8th March, 2006 at 6:30 pm
The Istituto Italiano di Cultura presents an evening dedicated to women writers on the occasion of International Woman's Day

Dreaming of Italy, Las Vegas and the virtual Grand Tour
Discovering Las Vegas architecture with a book by Giovanna Franci

On the occasion of the International Woman's Day, the Istituto Italiano di Cultura dedicates an evening to women writers with a presentation of recent publications. In Dreaming of Italy (University of Nevada Press, 2005), Giovanna Franci, Professor of Anglo-American Literature and Culture at the University of Bologna, compares three Las Vegas Italian-themed resorts â€” Caesarsâ€™ Palace, Bellagio, and The Venetian â€” to their Italian counterparts: the ancient Forum of the Caesars, the breathtaking Lake Como resort town of Bellagio, and Venice, jewel of the Adriatic.

Franci not only examines architectural features and decorative details of these Italian sites but considers how their mystique has been transplanted to the Nevada desert. In the process, she addresses the compelling phenomenon of modern mass tourism and postmodern travelers to whom the distinction between the â€œrealâ€ and the fakeâ€ is often far less important than the appeal of a destination that allows the visitor to make a â€œvirtual Grand Tourâ€ within the confines of single
The acute observation of the author, as pointed out by Umberto Eco, offers unique insights into the trends and intentions behind recent development in Las Vegas. She shows how the builders of these three casinos use architectural language to unite themes and functions of American consumer culture.

In this context, Las Vegas emerges then a far more then a popular tourist icon. It is rather the first urban spectacle of the postmodern world, a chameleon-like city continuously reinventing itself to offer visitors ever changing and an unflagging array of experiences, sensations and hedonistic delights. The photographs in the volume by Federico Zignani bring to life the physical details and idyllic ambiance of the lavish Las Vegas resorts and their Italian inspirations.

Food, Women and Culture
Giuseppina Muzzarelli (Professor of Cultural History and History of the Middle Ages, Università di Bologna) and Lucia Re (Professor of Modern and Contemporary Italian Literature, UCLA) present their edited volume, Il cibo e le donne nella cultura e nella storia: Prospettive interdisciplinari (Food and Women in Culture and History, Bologna: CLUEB-Biblioteca di Scienze umane Lexis, 2005), 239 pp., with essays by Cristina Bragaglia, Patrizia Calefato, Bruno Capaci, Martina Corgnati, Alessandra Feltini, Cristina Mazzoni, Giuseppina Muzzarelli, Lucia Re, Elisabetta Sambo, and Fiorenza Tarozzi.

The relation between women and food may seem an obvious one, yet while the field of cultural studies on food is already very rich, this is the first work to consider the cultural history of food from the point of view of gender, in an interdisciplinary perspective.

The twelve essays included in this illustrated volume examine the cultural relationship between women and food from the Middle Ages to today in fields ranging from intellectual history to literature, mysticism, psychoanalysis, political and social history, cinema, advertising and the arts, including painting and video performance by women.

Info Date: Wednesday, March 08, 2006 Hours: 6.30 pm
Venue: Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Los Angeles - 1023 Hilgard Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90024
Organized by: Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Los Angeles
In collaboration with: Department of Italian at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA)
Free admission. Free parking available in the lot adjacent to the IIC.
RSVP 310.443.3250 Ext. 114

Friday, 24th March
Structures for Inclusion
Later this month, Public Architecture will be co-hosting a national conference called “Structures for Inclusion.” We’ll be doing so in association with Design Corps (www.designcorps.org) as well as Urban Ecology (www.urbanecology.org). Jess Wendover, who many people on this list know, is one of my fellow co-chairs. Addressing the theme of “Expanding Design,” the conference will take place Friday, March 24 through Sunday, March 26, here in San Francisco. I’ll run from Friday evening through Sunday around Noon. Most of it will take place at the Morgan Auditorium (Post & Mason) in San Francisco, though we are also having a big party at the Design Within Reach studio on Jackson Street. The latter is co-sponsored by Dwell, and will be serving up Skyy Vodka; I’ll run from 7-10pm on Saturday, March 25.
Conference ticket prices are just $25 for students; $50 for interns and young professionals; and $100 for architects and others. To register, visit www.designcorps.org/registration.htm.
Complete details can be found on the new Design Corps website at www.designcorps.org/sfi.

Confirmed Speakers

Keynote Presentation
Larry Scarpa & Angela Brooks
Pugh+Scarpa / Livable Places (Santa Monica, CA)

Panelists
David Baker, David Baker + Partners (San Francisco, CA)
Victoria Beach, Beach Designs (Oceanside, CA)
Carol Berg, City of Santa Cruz Housing Program
Antoine Bryant, Row House CDC (Houston, TX)
Harry van Burik, Shelter for Life (Oshkosh, WI)
Renee Chow, Studio URBIIS / UC Berkeley
Anne Fougeron, Fougeron Architecture (San Francisco, CA)
Alan Lewis, Tulane City Center (New Orleans, LA)
Casius Pealer, Reno & Cavanaugh PLLC (Washington, DC)
David Perkes, Gulf Coast Community Design Studio (Jackson, MS)
John Peterson, Peterson Architects / Public Architecture (San Francisco, CA)
Dan Pitera, Detroit Collaborative Design Center
Anooradha Siddiqi, Robin Hood Foundation Library Initiative (New York)
Raphael Sperry, Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility
Kate Swenson, Charlottesville Community Design Center

Moderators
Brandy Brooks, Community Design Resource Center of Boston
Evelyn Lee, Dougherty + Dougherty Architects (Costa Mesa, CA)
Amit Price Patel, David Baker + Partners (San Francisco, CA)
Kate Stühr, Architecture for Humanity (Bozeman, MT)

Sponsors
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Tuesday, March 28 at 8pm
GREEN FILMS PANEL DISCUSSION FOR LOS ANGELES
HOW TO MAKE LOS ANGELES GREENER
The Green Films Panel discussion will examine how to make Los Angeles ‘Greener’. The panel will be moderated by LA City Council President Eric Garcetti and will feature several leading experts in the field including Environment California’s Energy Advocate Bernadette Del Chiaro.
What: Silver Lake Film Festival: Green Films Panel
Where: ArcLight Cinemas, 6360 W Sunset Blvd, Los Angeles, CA
If you have any questions about the festival or want more information please visit the Silver Lakes Film Festival's web site:
http://www.silverlakefilmfestival.org

NEW ENGLAND  (Back to top)
7th-9th
*RIBA stand at Building Energy 06 conference Boston MA
Contact Marcus Springer RIBA for more information
mspringer@cannondesign.com
http://buildingenergy.nesea.org/

Tuesday 14th,
The 13th Pietro Belluschi Lecture
Thom Mayne Architect, Morphosis, Santa Monica
* "Working Progress*”
6:30 pm, Room 10-250 MIT Cambridge MA

Saturday 25th
Clay Bricks in the 21st Century Conference
MIT Cambridge MA.
Opening lecture by Dr James Campbell RIBA, Cambridge UK.
Telephone 617 623 4488 for further information
Subject: Celebrate International Women's Day at the Istituto Italiano di Cultura

Friday, 31 - Saturday, April 1
On the Waterfront Symposium,
Robert Breugmann, keynote; Alex Garvin, Tom Elghanayan, Thom Mayne, Sir Stuart Lipton, Malcolm Smith
Yale School of Architecture, New Haven
For more complete information, contact the Yale School of Architecture, 203-432-2288, or visit their web site at www.architecture.yale.edu.

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