

Subject: re: ACSF competitions, films, art, books, articles, and news
Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 00:55:56 Eastern Daylight Time
From: Julio Bermudez
To: (Architecture, Culture & Spirituality Forum) ACSF

Dear ACSF members,

In this second email of March, I am sending you information about competitions, films, books, articles, and news related to our Architecture, Culture, and Spirituality. This material has been provided by ACSF members or collected by myself.

Enjoy.

COMPETITIONS *****

THE 2017 FULLER CHALLENGE

http://www.bfi.org/static/challenge/2017/2017_Call_for_Proposals.pdf

Application window opens: Friday, January 13th, 2017
Entry Deadline: Friday, March 31st, 2017
Website: <https://www.bfi.org/challenge>

Launched in 2007, the Fuller Challenge has defined an emerging field of practice: the whole systems approach to understanding and intervening in complex and interrelated crises for wide-scale social and environmental impact. The entry criteria have established a new framework through which to identify and measure effective, enduring solutions to global sustainability's most entrenched challenges. The rigorous selection process has set a unique standard, gaining renown as "Socially-Responsible Design's Highest Award."

The Fuller Challenge attracts bold, visionary, tangible initiatives focused on a well-defined need of critical importance. Winning solutions are regionally specific yet globally applicable and present a truly comprehensive, anticipatory, integrated approach to solving the world's complex problems.

"We are coming to an era the likes of which we've never seen before, we're in the whitewaters of human history. We don't know what lies ahead. Bucky Fuller's ideas on design are at the core of any set of solutions that will take us to calmer waters."

– David Orr
<https://www.bfi.org/challenge>

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International Competition \ Envisioning 2017
"ENVISIONING THE CITY OF THE FUTURE: MAKING THE INVISIBLE VISIBLE"

The international contest is open to students, graduates and experts and its aim is to imagine and design possible scenarios of the city of the future: *How will smart and sharing cities look like in the future? How are these changes going to impact on people's lives in cities?*

Participants are asked to produce spherical panoramas of the proposed scenarios. During the awarding ceremony the selected projects will be shown with immersive Virtual Reality displays (Head Mounted Display). The international jury will award the most innovative projects. The first classified will win one ArchiCad 20 Full licence and one Lumion Standard licence (corresponding value € 6.289). Moreover, the three winning projects will win three annual subscriptions to charging stations for electric vehicles (provided by NHP); these stations will be implemented within the European project Sharing Cities.

PROGRAM

28.02.2017

Opening date for applications

15.05.2017

Closing of applications and deadline for project submission within 12:00 pm - Central European Time Zone for accessing the first evaluation phase

26.05.2017

Notice of the selected proposals (up to 30 proposals) and request of integrative material to access the second evaluation phase

12.06.2017

Deadline for the final upload of definitive materials of the finalist projects

20.06.2017

Closing ceremony and proclamation of the three finalists, special mentions and prizegiving at the Polytechnic University of Milan with international jury

For more info: https://www.eko.polimi.it/index.php/contest-env-2017/env_2017

FILM *****

Jeff Bridges and Maggie Gyllenhaal to star in movie about Mies van der Rohe's Farnsworth House

The story of Mies van der Rohe's iconic Farnsworth House is set for the silver screen, with Oscar-winning actor Jeff Bridges set to play the famous modernist architect. The feature film will follow the relationship between Mies and his client, Chicago nephrologist Edith Farnsworth, during the design and construction of the glass-box dwelling. The movie does not yet have a release date, but Bridges is confirmed to play Mies, while Maggie Gyllenhaal has been chosen for the role of Farnsworth.

For more info:

<https://www.dezeen.com/2017/02/08/mies-van-der-rohe-farnsworth-house-hollywood-movie-jeff-bridges-maggie-gyllenhaal-residential-architecture-usa/>

PERFORMING ARTS *****

Eiko: A Dancer's Urgent Body in a Sacred Space

As part of a three-year residency, Eiko, the 65-year-old Japanese dance artist who is

known by her first name, often performs solos in the cathedral — they happen when the moment takes her. She is acclaimed for her uncanny ability to move with extreme slowness, which she has done for years as half of the performing duo Eiko and Koma. Now that she works in the solo form, Eiko’s vulnerability as a stark, lonely figure is even more intense. She might stand as still as a statue and then wilt gradually, with her long black mane veiling her face, or arch backward, grasping at strands of hair with slender fingers. Her eyes see past you.

But there is also urgency in her dancing: It’s no longer unusual to see her dash forward in a sudden, violent spurt or to hear her voice erupt in a yelp. As a non-Christian in a cathedral, she said, she tries to be polite, but sometimes she can’t help herself ...

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/07/arts/dance/eiko-a-dancers-urgent-body-in-a-sacred-space.html>

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Reflect on movement and space with yoga in Slovenia’s historic Javorca church

Slovenian architect and performer Anja Humljan has collaborated with photographer Primož Lukežič to explore the connection between architecture and the body. In this photo series, Humljan investigates and reflects on the architecture of the historic Javorca church through physical movement within the sacred space. Also known as the Memorial Church of the Holy Spirit, Javorca is deemed a cultural monument of national importance for its art nouveau style, which is unique among religious sites in Slovenia. Built by soldiers during the First World War, the church's architecture reflects its purpose as a memorial to fallen comrades in its wood-clad walls, where the names of the 2,565 deceased are engraved as if on the pages of a book.

In her contemplation of the building through her body, taking on an array of positions in relation to the space, Humljan investigates the relationship between the human body and Javorca as a symbol of both war and reconciliation. Anja Humljan is the founder of The Urban Yoga <<https://theurbanyoga.com>> , a platform that considers humans' connection to space through the prism of yoga. She has described her practice over the past years in *The Urban Yoga* book .

<https://calvertjournal.com/news/show/7721/reflect-on-movement-and-space-with-yoga-in-slovenias-historic-javorca-church>

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Shared Sanctuary Revisited: The Growing Trend among Artists to Work in Historic Places of Worship

No one would deny that artists, especially musicians, have contributed greatly to the success of Austin, Texas. But as often happens after artists help to put a city—or a neighborhood—on the map, those artists can no longer afford to live and work in the places they lifted up, so they get squeezed out. In Austin, as in other cities, some artists are finding ways to buck this trend by finding “home spaces,” or at least regular performance venues, in historic places of worship. Those often-large-scale sacred spaces are looking for ways to remain relevant in their communities even as their congregations shrink or even disappear

<https://nonprofitquarterly.org/2017/03/08/shared-sanctuary-revisited-growing-trend-among-artists-work-historic-places-worship/>

BOOKS *****

Evoking through Design. Contemporary Moods in Architecture. Architectural Design by Matias del campo, Nov 2016, John Wiley and Sons Ltd

There is an elemental conviction that great architecture must move us. It should trigger an emotional response: the drawing in of breath on entering a Gothic cathedral. But how is it possible to create highly contemporary architectural spaces that are infused with atmosphere, ambience and mood? *Evoking Through Design: Contemporary Moods in Architecture* highlights how up-to-date architectural technologies and techniques can be combined with traditional knowledge and design skills to enhance the sensorial qualities of space. Moods range from the lighthearted, the colourful, playful and happy to the painterly, the nebulous, the drama of chiaroscuro light and shade, the gloomy and the cavernous.

For more Info: <http://www.researchandmarkets.com/reports/3961191/evoking-through-design-contemporary-moods-in#relb0>

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Architecture Timed. Designing with Time in Mind. Architectural Design by Karen Franck (ed.), Jan. 2016, John Wiley and Sons Ltd

The traditional veneration of architecture for its monumental and enduring qualities seems to be changing. Architects and other designers are moving away from seeking permanence towards a more open, creative use of what time has to offer. This is revealed in new approaches to historic preservation, the proliferation of temporary structures, concerns regarding sustainability, and the employment of time-efficient processes. *Architecture Timed* explores the role of ideas about time in the design inclinations and choices of contemporary designers of the environment. Contributors consider how the new can be incorporated into the old; how designing for the very short term has significant advantages; how what is temporary can be re-used; and how the design of materials, buildings and landscapes can improve sustainability and enhance experiences of time passing. Many designers have replaced the ideal of timelessness and the view of time as a series of singular, static moments with an enriched and more nuanced perspective, treating time as a source of inspiration to be embraced, not a condition to be defended against.

Contributors include: Juhani Pallasmaa, Brian McGrath, Federica Goffi, Jill Stoner, Richard Garber and Eric Parry.

For more info: <http://www.researchandmarkets.com/reports/3798711/architecture-timed-designing-with-time-in-mind#rela7>

NEWS *****

National Geographic: The Healing Power of Faith (Dec 2016 Issue)

Unlocking the Healing Power of You

Science is showing that how you feel isn't just about what you eat, or do, or think. It's about what you believe. This is an excellent article. I (Julio) recommend it.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2016/12/healing-science-belief-placebo/>

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In a robot showdown, humanity may happily surrender (Opinion piece in the Washington Post)

Many people fear that the path of artificial intelligence will eventually lead to a standoff between humans and machines, with humans as the underdogs. Confrontation looms in the forecasts of futurists and in the narratives of science fiction movies such as "The Matrix," "The Terminator" and "Westworld." But there's another way our demise could go down. We could begin wondering what makes people so special, anyway, and willingly give up the title of supreme species — or even the preservation of humanity altogether. This is the path explored by historian Yuval Noah Harari in his new book, "Homo Deus." There's no need for a Terminator to come after us when, instead of fighting the network in the sky, we assimilate into it.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/in-a-robot-showdown-humanity-may-happily-surrender/2017/03/09/b03dea32-f3cd-11e6-b9c9-e83fce42fb61_story.html?utm_term=.a4bc41f192cb

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Rabbi David Stern selected for 2017 Elbert M. Conover Memorial Award

Rabbi David Stern is the Senior Rabbi at Temple Emanu-El in Dallas, Texas, a Reform Congregation of 2500 families and one of the largest in the United States. Rabbi Stern exemplifies the spirit of the Conover Award, demonstrating a passion for quality worship and sacred spaces, fostering spiritual values and promoting cross-denominational community. He led a major addition and renovation project, and fostered both outreach and interfaith collaboration.

For more information:

<https://network.aia.org/interfaithforumonreligionartarchitecture/home/elbertmconovermemorialaward>

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Why can't theatres be sacred places?

theatre and religion have always been interlinked. Performance is at the heart of worship, from its rituals to its devotionals, while theatre has its roots in faith. Ancient Greece had its Dionysian festivals, medieval England, its mystery plays. Here in India, theatre as a whole is believed to be a divine creation, the fundamentals of dramaturgy having been passed down from Lord Brahma.

In Britain, comparisons with religion tend to look towards Christianity. The critic Andrew Haydon has suggested that

<<https://www.theguardian.com/stage/theatreblog/2009/aug/17/theatre-performance-religious-cathedral>> , in an increasingly secular society, our theatres might aspire to the function of cathedrals, not least in their architecture. They're set up for congregations, all facing one way, the stage as its altar. Plays become parables; performances, sermons. We talk, as in the Eucharist, of gift and receipt.

http://www.whatsonstage.com/london-theatre/news/blog-religion-theatre-sacred-performance-india_43062.html

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Pope's message on environment transformed into art in Orange County multimedia exhibit

Ree Taylor went from hopelessness to enlightenment in a matter of about 10 minutes as

she stood within an interactive prayer experience for the protection of the environment, a multimedia art exhibition at the 2017 Religious Education Congress.

The exhibit, a response to Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical letter to all Roman Catholic bishops on climate change, featured artwork, audio and visual presentations and poetry to address the issue of climate change and provide solutions for what members of the Catholic faith can do to obtain sustainability.

<http://www.oregister.com/articles/exhibit-745104-catholic-change.html>

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Discovering Boston's Hidden Sacred Spaces

Across Greater Boston, more than 50 sacred spaces are hidden away. From chapels at Massachusetts correctional institutions, to Our Lady of the Airways at Logan Airport in Boston, to the Hebrew Senior Life Synagogue in Roslindale, to the Muslim Prayer Room at Massachusetts General Hospital, sacred spaces exist as places of silence and prayer across the commonwealth.

In medical centers, municipal buildings, military organizations, prisons and cemeteries, many of the sacred spaces have evolved over the years to reflect the changing nature of Boston itself.

Sociologist Wendy Cadge, architectural historian Alice Friedman and photographer Randall Armor have started a project to find and document those sacred spaces. Their work is in honor of the late architect Karla Johnson, an architect who designed the multi-faith space at Tufts University.

<http://www.wbur.org/radioboston/2017/02/23/cadge-sacred-spaces>

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Chinook Regional Hospital adds ceremony room for indigenous patients

The convergence of western methods with indigenous ways of healing has taken on new meaning. The indigenous patient journey now includes the Chinook Regional Hospital ceremony room. Indigenous patients now have the opportunity to incorporate spiritual healing and traditional family practices to their journey. The ceremony room is an important part of the new hospital expansion project and incorporates the required ventilation to allow for the burning of sacred plants.

<http://www.fortmacleodgazette.com/2017/chinook-regional-hospital-adds-ceremony-room-for-indigenous-patients/>

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The Sacred Space Between Us Parshat Terumah, Exodus 25:1-27:19

Over the course of the fall semester, several swastikas appeared on the college campus at which I work. When I first saw a picture of one, spray-painted on the inside of a bathroom stall in the library, I was pained by the depiction of a symbol that is inextricably bound up with the systematic murder of many of my family members.

What was particularly disconcerting about these symbols was that nobody knew who had painted them. Lacking any evidence to the contrary, I started to suspect that someone at the college had done it; while on campus, I began to experience a creeping self-consciousness about making myself visible as a Jew by wearing a kippah.

I began to feel like I was on patrol, surveying my surroundings with suspicion. As I succumbed to mistrust, my heart began to close as a kind of self-protection. But I soon realized I did not want to live in a world in which people responded to hate by turning away from one another.

<https://www.jewishboston.com/the-sacred-space-between-us/>

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Indians are certain they invented the zero. But can they prove it? (in the Washington Post)

Indian students are taught very early in school that India's contribution to the world of mathematics is zero. Way back in the 5th century, an Indian mathematician used zero in the decimal-based place-value system, an achievement that citizens here have always celebrated with pride. Now, a small but ambitious team of Indian and international scholars called Project Zero wants to go deeper. In the past year, they have been asking the question: What made the invention of zero possible in India?

At a three-day brainstorming event in New Delhi next month called Camp Zero, several scholars will take stock of what is known about the origin of zero and will commission research to find out what philosophical traditions may have led Indians to come up with the concept.

The mission, the group's website says, is an "attempt to settle once and for all the continuing controversy in the world as to when, where and why the zero digit was invented." The project will also boost "the imagination and the image of India," said Robinder Sachdev, president of Imagindia Institute, a lobbying firm that promotes India's image and is supporting the project here. The origin of zero has been an enduring subject of debate because other cultures, including the Mayans, also claim to have used the zero.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/indians-are-convinced-they-discovered-the-zero-can-they-prove-it/2017/03/10/de0821f4-19d2-4600-9403-2975c6a8b057_story.html?utm_term=.ffa90bbea919

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"leap and the net will appear"

