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PETER AARON/JESTO

MIT SUES BUT ARCHITECTS HAVE HEARD IT ALL BEFORE

SHOCKED, SHOCKED ABOUT LEAKS

Officials from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) went to Boston's Suffolk County Courthouse on October 31 to file a lawsuit against architect Frank Gehry and contractor Skanska. The claim: Gehry's design for the Ray and Maria Stata Center—for which he was paid \$15 million—was **continued on page 5**

PARKLAND SWAP TO REVIVE CONEY ISLAND

WONDER WHEELS AT WORK



COURTESY CONEY ISLAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

There may be light at the end of the long dark ride for Coney Island after all. For Joseph Sitt, of developer Thor Equities, it's no tunnel of love, but at least he hasn't been ejected from the Cyclone at top speed.

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's announcement of the new Coney Island Development Corporation (CIDC) rezoning plan on November 8 put to rest local residents' concerns that a high-priced private complex would turn Stillwell Avenue into Vegas East. Dividing a 19-block, 47-acre district into three differently zoned segments, the CIDC

aims to foster new residential and retail development in two areas further removed from the current Astroland and other attractions, and, in the Mayor's words, to "preserve the world's most famous urban amusement park in perpetuity," by mapping it as city parkland managed by a single specialist developer. In return, by de-mapping a site officially identified as parkland—but currently used only by Cyclones baseball fans as a parking lot for Keyspan Park—the city would give developers incentives to create a thriving new **continued on page 6**

NEW A201 OFFERS MORE CHOICES NOT SO BINDING

It's that time of the decade again: The American Institute of Architects (AIA) has just released the latest edition of A201 contract documents. Available since November 5, the decennially updated documents provide **continued on page 8**

TEAM CHOSEN FOR A HOUSING PLUS CULTURE COMPLEX AT BAM



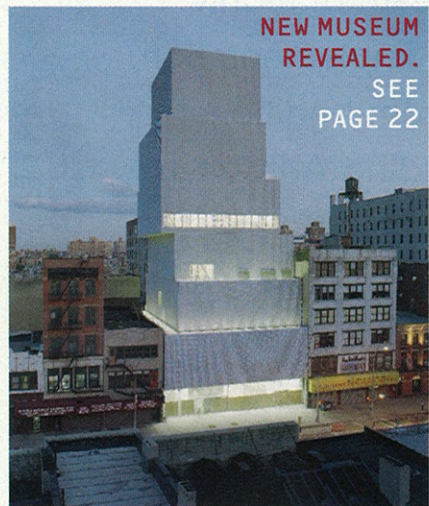
STUDIOMDA/BEHNISCH ARCHITECTEN; RENDERING BY ESKO

COMING TOGETHER

Slow but resolute continues to be the pace at the cultural district around the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM). Last month, the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) selected a team of relative newcomers for a mixed-use project that will be one of the first to adopt the city's New Construction Sustainability Guidelines and will combine performance and dance rehearsal spaces with affordable housing.

Perhaps no one was as surprised at being awarded the commission as the winning team itself: Harlem-based developer Full Spectrum, studioMDA with Zaha-lum Markus Dochantschi, and Behnisch Architects of Stuttgart, Germany. The architects on the team have been collaborating on assorted competitions since the summer after meeting in a class at Yale led by developer Gerald Hines. One such competition that the three firms entered together, for new housing in the Bronx, turned out to be a valuable learning experience earning them an honorable mention.

The BAM site at the corner of Fulton Street and Ashland Place will feature 187 residential units (100 will be affordable), 40,000 square feet of cultural space for **continued on page 6**



NEW MUSEUM REVEALED. SEE PAGE 22

DEAN KAUFMAN

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BRONX HOUSE



Following 9/11, work dried up for Resolution: 4 Architecture. Several projects were canceled or put on indefinite hold and the office shrank from 16 people to four. Principals Joseph Tanney and Robert Luntz used the time for reflection and research. "We started looking at pre-fab, which has always been the largely unrealized holy grail of modernism," Tanney said. Which is not to say that pre-fab doesn't exist all over the country. Trailers and conventional suburban houses with pitched roofs and Palladian windows, however, were not what they were after. "A lot of our friends were building second houses or were moving out of the city, and people were telling us that they wanted sophisticated, open, loftlike spaces, but built in the country for an affordable price," Luntz said.

Tanney and Luntz began visiting manufactured housing factories looking for companies that met their standards of quality and were willing to consider building modern houses. "Most people we talked to thought we were crazy. They thought there was no market," Tanney said. The firm developed a series of modules that can be assembled into different combinations, allowing the firm to customize their designs for different sites and client needs. After posting some of their studies online, *Dwell* magazine invited them to participate in a competition to design a pre-fab house. Res 4 won, beating out numerous other firms, including several in New York. In addition to leading to the construction of their first pre-fab home, the contest gave them tremendous exposure, leading to multiple commissions up and down the East Coast. Depending on the location, most of their pre-fab houses cost \$250–300 per square foot. Many of the houses have been built in places with high building costs, such as the Hamptons, where construction costs are in the \$400-per-square-foot range, so pre-fab has proven to be cost effective for clients.

While pre-fab has become a large part of their practice, Res 4 continues to do conventional ground-up construction and renovations, primarily residential and office work. They recently completed a pair of high-end lofts, one in SoHo and the other in Brooklyn Heights, as well as a design incubator in Long Island City. A long-slumbering project, the Nature's Theater, put on hold by 9/11, has sprung back to life. "We just got a call saying they are starting fundraising again," Tanney said. The office has also been on the rebound, now employing a staff of ten. **ALAN G. BRAKE**

NATURE'S THEATER

Res 4 won an international competition to design this 500-seat performing arts amphitheater in Columbia, South Carolina in 2001. Set in a large, heavily wooded park, the theater hugs the natural contours of the land, and is topped with a faceted polycarbonate roof. Visitors follow a gravel path and enter underneath the stage facing out toward the trees and then climb up to their seats to face the stage. The foundation supporting the project originally planned to start fundraising on September 20, 2001 and has recently restarted its campaign.

BRONX HOUSE

"On the fringes of all the boroughs you find all these interesting sites," said Tanney. Overlooking Eastchester Bay and the Throg's Neck Bridge, this two-bedroom modular house in the Bronx combines a tight urban condition with tranquil water views. The house has a large roof deck as well as a rear deck that steps down to a small dock. The client, an engineer who works in Manhattan, was recently called up for service in Iraq. "It was a huge surprise for everyone," Tanney said. "I think about her all the time."

CAPE COD HOUSE

One of the most architecturally conservative, if pleasingly consistent, regions of the country, Cape Cod, Massachusetts, is typically not a very hospitable environment for those looking to build modern. Using an existing foundation in Eastham, the architects packed a lot of uses into a narrow footprint, including a master suite, two bedrooms, and a separate guest suite. By cladding the house in traditional cedar shakes, Res 4 showed that they can make a modern house fit the prevailing tastes of the region. The clients briefed their neighbors on what they intended to build, and used the large roof deck, complete with an outdoor fireplace, to entertain them after it was completed.

HOUSE ON FIRE ISLAND

This house, designed to be built with modular construction, was ultimately site built, due to the client's friendship with a local contractor. "The end product will be extremely high quality," Tanney said, "but site building the house will be more expensive." The house includes a 2,300-square-foot main house and an 1,100-square-foot guesthouse that are connected by a bridge. The exterior of the houses are complete and the interiors are currently being finished.

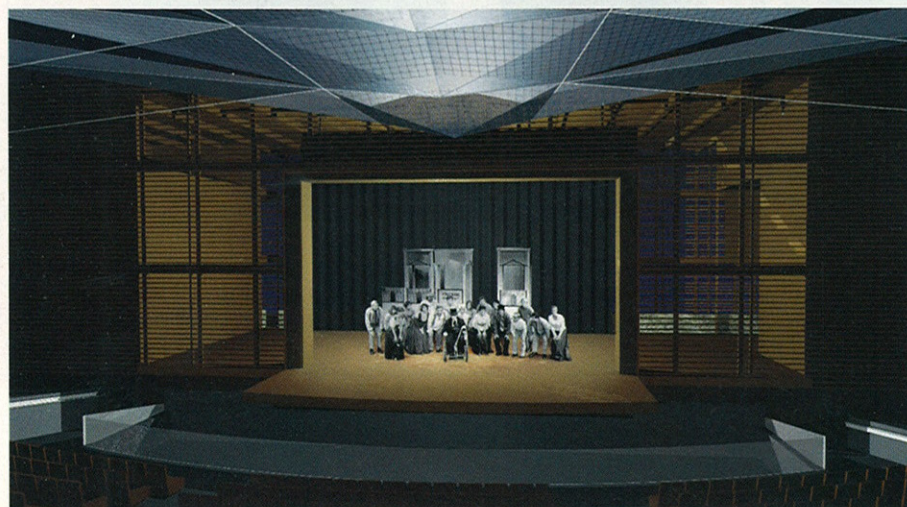
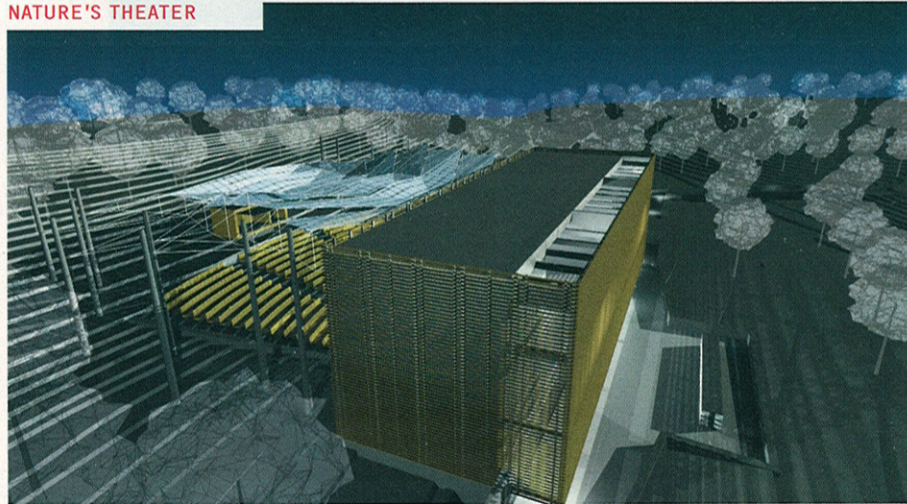
CAPE COD HOUSE



HOUSE ON FIRE ISLAND



NATURE'S THEATER



COURTESY RESOLUTION: 4 ARCHITECTURE

College of Architecture



ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

OPEN FACULTY POSITIONS TENURE/TENURE-TRACK PROFESSORS

The College of Architecture of Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) offers both graduate and undergraduate professional architecture degrees. In addition the College offers post-professional studies and a Doctor of Philosophy in Architecture. A new professional Master of Landscape Architecture program began in Fall 2006.

Multiple tenure/tenure-track positions are open starting in Fall 2008. Candidates should have experience in translating practice into teaching. Candidates with the Ph.D. are encouraged to apply. Applicants are sought in the following curriculum areas:

- **Design**
Fundamentals of design in the core design studios, and comprehensive design at advanced studio levels. Applicants should demonstrate design excellence and a strong understanding of structures, construction, and the integration of building systems.
- **Integrated Building Systems**
Building systems/architectural engineering in both lecture/seminar course works, and serving in an integrated faculty team in an architectural design studio. A sustainable future requires integration of all building components toward optimized building efficiency.
- **Structures**
Structures in lecture/seminar course work, and serving in an integrated faculty team in the architectural design studio. Structures as an integral component of building design at the foundation level, in Advanced Studios and in directed research. Candidates with completed PhDs will be given preference.
- **History and Theory**
Modern and contemporary architectural history and theory for all program levels. Individuals working on urbanism, landscape architecture and/or sustainable planning are encouraged. Must hold a PhD by August 2008.
- **Planning**
An ecological basis for physical planning in design studios, seminars and lecture courses. Candidates should have an in-depth understanding of natural systems, the built environment and how they interact.

How to Apply

Initial application should include a letter describing the areas of interest in teaching, practice and research; examples of design work, research, and/or studio teaching; *curriculum vitae*, and three academic or professional references. *Application materials will be returned if accompanied by return postage and envelope. The process for review of files begins in February and concludes by mid-March.*

Send materials to Professor Mahjoub Elnimeiri, Chair, Faculty Appointments Committee, College of Architecture, Illinois Institute of Technology, S.R. Crown Hall, 3360 S. State Street, Chicago, Illinois 60616.
T 312.567.3263; F 312.567.5820; Email: arch@iit.edu, arch.iit.edu

Illinois Institute of Technology is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Women and minority candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.