

Canadian **Architect**

Urban Innovation



IN BRIEF

China Syndrome. Several Canadian firms that have been heavily involved in work in China are suffering the down side of working abroad. A wave of architects rushed into China in the early 1990s to take advantage of a construction frenzy, but since the Chinese government clamped down on credit, projects have been halted, and Canadian design firms are not being paid.

One firm of architects, Blewett Dodd of Vancouver, won an export award from the B.C. government and had projects in China worth \$2 billion dollars last year. Since then, they have had to close their offices in Beijing and Shanghai and lay off 20 staff in Vancouver.

Calgary Expo Bid. Calgary stands a good chance of being the site of Expo 2005. It made an initial proposal in June in which computerized drawings by architect Barry Pendergast played a major part. The only other contending city is Nagoya in Japan, and environmentalists are opposed to its bid because it involves flattening a forest for the site. A decision is set for next year.

Canadian Architects Show in Venice.

After a bitter disappointment last year when the architecture component of the Venice Biennale was dropped for lack of money, organizer Hans Hollein has now turned things around, and the Venice Biennale VIth International Exhibition of Architecture opened this month.

Two Canadian architects, Richard Henriquez of Vancouver and Brown and Storey of Toronto, were asked just a few months ago to exhibit work in the international exhibition entitled "Emerging Voices" in the central pavilion. Henriquez is showing his Memory Theatre cabinets, which include artifacts and models of his work, assembled according to Henriquez' dictum, "to forget your own history is to lose your place in the world." Brown and Storey are exhibiting the Garrison Creek project, an ecological scheme to regenerate a hidden natural water system in Toronto.

In the Canada pavilion are two exhibits prepared for last year's postponed event. One is a survey of work by Patkau Architects of Vancouver. The other is the 16 winning schemes in the ideas competition "Emerging Voices/Transgression of Borderlines" which was organized by the Canadian Centre for Architecture specially for the Biennale (CA March 1995).

Federal Spending. Public Works and Government Services Canada plans to spend \$443 million in the year 1996-97 on building projects. The federal government also plans to spend \$716 million in defence construction, and \$456 million in Indian and Northern Affairs capital works. Federal projects are advertised on the OBS subscriber system, 1-800-361-4637.

AWARDS

Financial Post. Winners in the Financial Post Design Effectiveness Awards include Yorkville Park by Oleson Worland Architects (best public and recreational space), and the Princess of Wales Theatre interior by Yabu Pushelberg (best retail and entertainment space). An award of merit (retail and recreational) went to the LCBO Store in the Manulife Centre, Toronto by Fiorino Design.

VIRTU Awards. Winners in the furniture categories of the VIRTU 10 awards are: (items in production) Helen Kerr/Miles Keller, Ingrid Reehill, Hot House Design Studio, Ovolo Designs, Karim Rashid; (prototypes) Arriz Hassam/John Tong/Simon Eager, Guido Cosantino, Anthony Provenano, Scot Laugh-ton, David Lewington, Francine Belanger, Karim Rashid, C.P. Arkay Leliever; (limited editions) Richard Brault/Peter Reimann, Eduardo Dutra, Birget Siber, Alvin Wong.

Rendering Award. A rendering by Ronald J. Love of West Vancouver of the Glenrosa school in Westbank, B.C. by Dalla-Lana/Griffin Architects won the Paul Schell Premier Juror Award from the American Institute of Colour Perspectives.

LETTERS

You Can Become a Technologist Too. In the news item on architectural technologists in the April issue (page 7), you state the AATO is seeking exclusive rights for its members to call themselves architectural technologists... "The Architects Act, under Section 46(8), permits our members exclusive use of this designation. As for intern architects, they would be permitted only to use the title "architectural technologist" or "architectural technician" provided that they become members of our Association, and fulfil the requirements of our intern program which includes education, experience, seminars and examinations, and which the OAA endorses.

The changes to the Ontario Building Code we have proposed will ensure that public safety is maintained by having trained professionals provide design services. The results will be improved service to the public, and recognition of those individuals who chose to pursue careers in the technological aspects of design.
*Mario Pecchia, MAATO
Secretary, The Association of Architectural Technologists of Ontario (AATO)
Willowdale, Ont.*

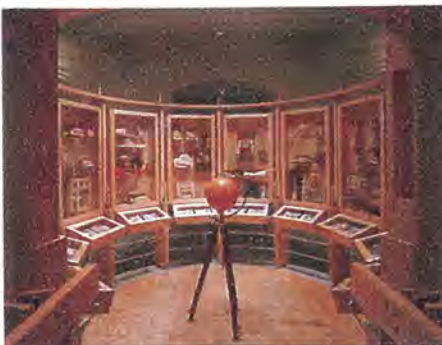
Green about Green? Professor Raymond J. Cole sees changes in architecture that will lead to a sustainable world, "ranging from improved energy performance through to material re-use and on-site waste water treatment" (CA July p. 12). What charming simplicity.

Lucius Burckhardt, chair of

▶ 13



JOHN HOWARTH



JOHN SHERLOCK STUDIO

Top: prototype Squirrel Chair in birch plywood by architecture graduate Anthony Provenzano, winner of a VIRTU 10 award. **Above:** Richard Henriquez' Memory Theatre, which is on display at the Architecture Biennale in Venice.