

COMPETITION AIMS TO TRANSFORM CA HEALTHCARE DESIGN



COURTESY ADITAZZ

## GAME CHANGER

Healthcare giant Kaiser Permanente recently announced the winners of its "Small Hospital, Big Idea" competition, which challenged architects to rethink healthcare facilities in Southern California. Winning ideas will guide development of its moderate-sized hospitals in the region. San Bruno,

Above: The approach to Aditazz's canopied prototype from the "tapestry garden."

California-based Aditazz and Portland-based Mazzetti Nash Lipsey Burch (M+NLB), with the New York office of Perkins+Will (P+W), shared the **continued on page 5**

SEATTLE'S ECO-DISTRICT NEARING REALITY



COURTESY MILLER HULL

Rendering of carbon neutral Bullitt Center.

## GETTING GREENER

With catchphrases like "green," "eco-friendly," and "environmentally sustainable" adopted by everyone from Leonardo DiCaprio to Target, it can be difficult to

distinguish significant change from commercial marketing ploys.

Attempting to better integrate the green agenda into local **continued on page 14**



COURTESY J. PAUL GETTY TRUST

The Eames House is a test case.

GETTY'S CONSERVING MODERN ARCHITECTURE INITIATIVE

## PRESERVE OR PROLONG?

With the Charles and Ray Eames House taking a cornerstone position, the Getty Conservation Institute (GCI) launched the Conserving Modern Architecture Initiative (CMAI) last month. The institute is hardly new to architectural **continued on page 12**

### AIA ISSUE: REGIONALISM NOW

AN TALKS TO KEY VOICES ON HOW BUILDING WITH A SENSE OF PLACE HAS CHANGED IN THE 30 YEARS SINCE CRITICAL REGIONALISM TOOK ROOT. SEE PAGES 15-21

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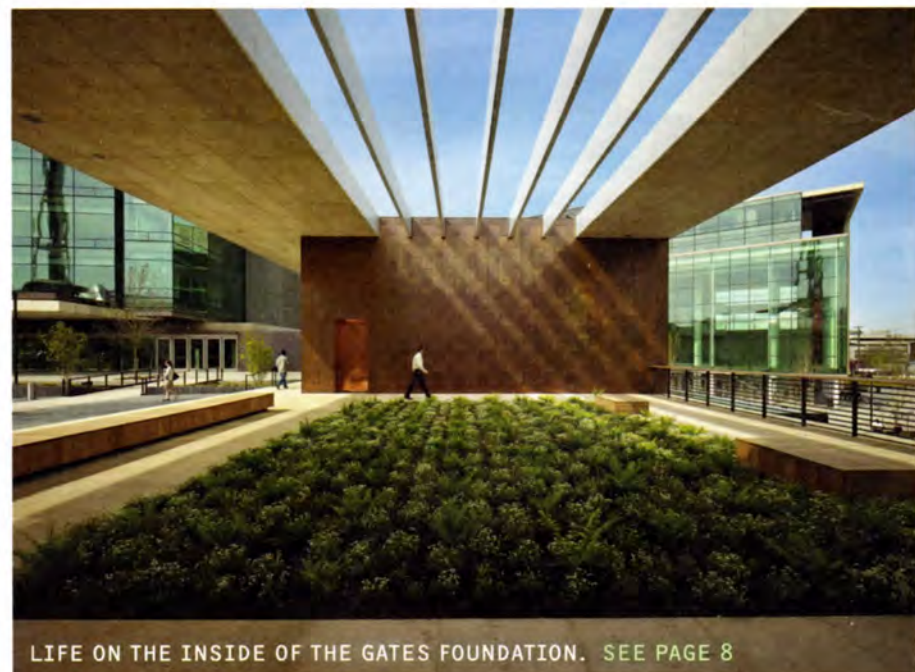
CITY FINDS A WAY TO MAKE CORRIDOR PLAN HAPPEN



COURTESY MELNOREZ

One of LA's most important urban projects is back on track after the dissolution of California redevelopment funding almost shut it down for good.

Since 2010, the MyFigueroa project had tried, through street, landscape, and land-use planning studies, to pave the way for the city's most innovative **continued on page 7**



BENJAMIN BENSCHNEIDER

LIFE ON THE INSIDE OF THE GATES FOUNDATION. SEE PAGE 8



Difficult constraints require creative solutions. Perhaps the perfect case study for this age-old maxim is Simon Storey and Anonymous Architects' Eel's Nest in Echo Park.

The tall, narrow townhome, located on the corner of a winding street near the neighborhood's commercial center, is built on a 15-foot-wide lot, with a 780-square-foot footprint.

In response to this impossibly tight site, Storey took borrowing space to the next level, almost bringing the whole neighborhood inside.

The house is located on the site of a shabby 350-square-foot home that Storey himself briefly inhabited before tearing down. He kept the garage intact (strengthening it with poured-in-place concrete) and put in new footings, above which he built what he calls a vertical extrusion of the landscape, with living space sandwiched between. When you look up, the roof terrace sprouts with trees and plants. Floating above a void-like black building, it almost looks as if the ground were lofted above the block.

Inside, the small house never feels cramped, thanks to several creative solutions: an open plan and terraced back garden on the first floor; a sense of movement and anticipation through compartmentalized floor plans and skylights on the second; and, the most important feature of all, gigantic windows on both floors that cover almost the entire expanse of wall. The siting of the house is such that you appear to be floating over the street itself, watching cars move straight toward you. It's a view that I've only seen once before,

in New York City at the High Line, where a seating section drops below the rails in the middle of 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Does this extreme openness make Storey feel as if he's living in a fishbowl? The architect said he doesn't mind. He said he likes his neighbors, and that lifting the blinds two feet gives him almost complete privacy when he needs it.

From the roof terrace, you get a full sense of the neighborhood and beyond with a panoramic view of Echo Park and the Santa Monica Mountains all the way

**Clockwise from top left: The home's light-borrowing bathroom skylight; a bedroom window wall; its narrow stairwell; an office feels suspended over the street; the stucco facade; and its neighborhood-embracing roof-deck.**

to the San Gabriels. Made of simple framing lumber set with modest but elegant benches, the terrace makes you feel as though you're on top of some sort of architectural mountaintop. "It's all about the house in relation to its surroundings," said Storey. **SL**