Maya Lin designs monuments to explorers. -- Last empty lot in Times Square won't be empty for long. -- The First International Architecture Biennial in Rotterdam next May will examine urban mobility; 11 cities invited, including Beirut. -- Canada and New Zealand celebrate their own on the Pentagon Memorial shortlist. -- Seattle can learn from Boston's Big Dig, and Buffalo seeks advice from the Big Dig's bridge designer. -- Big plans for malls in Russia, and an exhibition in Frankfurt that "celebrates the growing bond between high culture and mall culture" (Koolhaas, Gehry, and Starck included). -- The ghost of Robert Moses in plans to make New York an Olympic City "before" and "after" renderings very interesting. -- A stunning new cultural center with Asian roots (and great photos!). -- Environmental and social issues "remain estranged at fundamental levels" when it comes to sustainable agendas in urban environments. -- Pelli is pleased with his copper-domed jewel of a music hall in Minnesota.

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