This week on ArcSpace: Koolhaas in Seattle; The Moderns in W. Hollywood; starchitect team re-imagines L.A.'s Grand Avenue (more below); Ando in Tokyo. -- Portland as a template for urban planning: perhaps WTC site and Olympic Village developers should visit? -- Can Toronto learn lessons from Vancouver's consultative design process? -- Was L.A.'s Grand Avenue symposium (see ArcSpace) unfail grandstanding? -- A movie star apprentice for Gehry. -- A movie studio in South Wales to have "real wow factor." -- Boston preservationists fear for churches. -- It's Oxies vs. Wessies in preserving Berlin's People's Palace. -- Are well-designed stairways the answer to helping us be flab-free? -- A New Urbanist community in Texas builds a "child-centric" school, while Cleveland is using $1.5 billion for new schools "so unimaginatively that it's on the verge of a major public architectural catastrophe." -- NYC hopes for "restorative new architecture" in Brooklyn and Harlem. -- Muschamp on Hadid: high praise indeed! -- The marvels of Delhi's Metro. -- The marvels of marble, brick, and stone as shower curtains and whirlies. -- Airport art taken to new heights in Toronto.

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-- Nearing completion: Rem Koolhaas/OMA: Seattle Public Library
-- Exhibition installation: The Moderns, Pacific Design Center, West Hollywood
-- Symposium: Reimagining Grand Avenue, Los Angeles (Gehry, Hadid, Cobb, Daly, et al)
-- Zaha Hadid, Pritzker Prize 2004 Laureate (as everybody else but a little different)
-- Tadao Ando: International Library of Children's Literature, Tokyo

Portland draws international urban planners: The city's reputation as a leader in green development attracts an increasing number of delegations - The Oregonian

At 9/11 Site, Balancing Reverence and Retailing: Callison Architecture...involved in the retail planning - By David W. Dunlap - New York Times


Mapping a blueprint for peace at the Art Gallery of Ontario: ...plans for a spectacular transformation... have been put into limbo. - Frank Gehry; Barton Myers - Toronto Star

Beyond the Edifice Complex: excitement and controversy swirl around the architectural redesigns of (Toronto's) major cultural institutions...widely consultative process favoured by Vancouver Art Gallery might not be a bad way to go. - Frank Gehry; Alsop Architects/Robbie Young + Wright Architects; Peter Cardew Architects; Machado and Silvetti Associates; Michael Maltzan Architecture - Globe and Mail (Canada)

A Grand Debate: Gehry Team Accused of Breaking Rank...by hosting a symposium highlighting the Grand Avenue development...prompted accusations of grandstanding and undue influence by the competitors. By Sam Hall Kaplan - Gehry/Hadid/Nouvel/Cobb; AC Martin; Jerde Partnership/Johnson Fain/Rios Clemente Hale Studios; David Childs/SOM/Brenda Levin/Howard Elkus/Gustafson Guthrie Nichols - LA Downtown News

Pitt gives movies the go-by to be Brad the builder...will serve an informal apprenticeship with Gehry. - Times of India

Sheppard Robson to design "Valleywood", a £50m Welsh film studio: masterplan by Holder Mathias - Building (UK)

Preservationists fear church closings...coalition...is trying to decide how best to reduce the likelihood that significant [Catholic church] buildings will be torn down. - By Holder Mathias - Building (UK)

Berliners torn on fate of East's People's Palace. A drive to raze the communists-era edifice stirs protest from those who insist it is historic - Chicago Tribune

Architects join fight against flab: Perhaps architects can help...by designing fat-fighting buildings which simply force you to walk more. - BBC (UK)

"Child-centric" schools: the old formula of "Stand and Deliver" — a teacher before a class giving kids facts they'll be required to regurgitate — is hopelessly outdated. By Neal Peirce - HKS; Prakash Nair - Seattle Times

Building on faith: The city is hoping that Enrique Norten/TEN Arquitectos can serve up a restorative new architecture in Brooklyn and Harlem. By Justin Davidson [slide show] - New York Times

Woman of Steel: Zaha Hadid should have broken into the world of major big-time builders years ago. By Herbert Muschamp [slide show] - New York Times

New milestone: Harvard course marvels at Delhi Metro - Indian Express

Building Materials As Art: National Building Museum exhibit that explores using old building materials in new ways...curated by Stanley Tigerman - CBS News

The White Zone Is for Loading and Unloading Art: Pearson International Airport in
Toronto has assembled a public-art program of arresting bravado. - Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Moshe Safdie; Adamson Associates [images] - New York Times


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