Points/counterpoints: A developer has high praise for Philadelphia's city planning, and an architect calls the claim "disingenuous" and offers New York City planning as "exemplar." -- Neighbors rail against ROM tower; Hume calls it "among the most elegant proposals seen recently in Toronto." -- At Ground Zero, expense and design collide. -- An architecture competition where the jury actually visits the buildings (what a concept!). -- High praise for Piano's High Museum: a dazzling "little town for culture." -- Pei's only English building is an architectural folly and "a wonder." -- A Singapore-style town planned in India. -- Koolhaas and Hermitage Museum team up to define 21st century museum. -- Panel in Washington, DC, next week looks at "Rebuilding the Gulf Coast: What Lies Ahead?" -- Prince Charles, "environmentalist, urban planner, real estate developer, and social critic," wants to "break the conventional mold in the way we've been building and designing." -- Rafi Elbaz talks about his kit-of-parts shelter. -- KieranTimberlake sees the future in plastics.

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Celebrate the Success of City Planning: self-styled design gurus...give the Planning Commission no respect. They repeat their incessant mantra: important buildings are being constructed without planning. They misconceive the fundamental difference between city planning and site design. By Michael Sklaroff

To Pan or Not to Plan: Sklaroff's paean to the bonhomie of marketplace-driven development is stirring but disingenuous. Ironically, New York...is a source of planning inspiration for us, with Amanda Burden, the executive director of the New York Planning Commission, serving as an exemplar of the engaged contemporary planner. By Harris M. Steinberg, Executive Director, Penn Praxis School of Design

Neighbours rail against ROM [Royal Ontario Museum] 46-storey condo proposal -- Brisbin, Brook, Beynon Architects [image] - CBC (Canada)

Height may be right: The more Toronto changes, the more it stays the same. And that's a problem when it comes to erecting tall buildings in the city. Ironically, the ROM tower ranks among the most elegant proposals seen recently in Toronto. By Christopher Hume

At 9/11 Site, Design and Expense Collide: ...have yet to resolve the issue of the Snohetta building... -- New York Times

Architecture contest where judges take a look: Many architecture awards are judged just from pictures...why the judges of the Opus Awards decided to look at the buildings as well...help dispel the notion that architects just do a few pretty sketches and that's the end of their role. - Irish Times

Renzo Piano's High Museum a dazzling "little town": Thanks to Meier's design for the High, Piano's "little town for culture" and Santiago Calatrava's proposed Atlanta Symphony Center, Midtown is on its way to becoming a little town for architecture.[images] - Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Arcadian idyll: I.M. Pei's only English building is an ambitious rural pavilion...a 21st century equivalent of the folly-building of the 18th. All in all, it is a wonder. By Hugh Pearman [images] - HughPearman.com (UK)

Decks being cleared for Amaravati township: Proposals for a Singapore-model township at Mangalagiri are being considered...will have 1,416 flats...a green park, school, healthcare centre... -- Surbana International - Express Newsline (India)

Hermitage Museum and AMO to define the 21st-Century Museum -- Rem Koolhaas/Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) - Construction & Maintenance News (Belarus)

Invitation to a Panel Discussion: Rebuilding the Gulf Coast: What Lies Ahead? November 8, Washington, DC -- RTKL; World Bank; National Trust for Historic Preservation; The Next American City

Prince Charles On Being Relevant: His vision is laid out in bricks and mortar in Poundbury. All his ideas on architectural design, class structure, aesthetics and ecology are here. - CBS News

"Five questions" to Rafi Elbaz: his project 'Life form's Kit of parts Shelter', designed shelters for the homeless in New York. [images] - European Jewish Press

Innovators: They See The Future of Your House: Plastic -- KieranTimberlake Architects - Time Magazine

-- Toyo Ito & Associates: Tod’s Omotesando, Tokyo
-- Conference: Prefab Now; Jean Prouvé; Tropical House, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles

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