It has emerged: Suddenly, the Trump Tower seems very real – and even a little terrifying. Beast or beauty? Monster or gentle giant? We’ll know better come 2008. By Blair Kamin -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill- Chicago Tribune

Design search raises exciting possibilities: Absolute skyscraper competition... is it possible... that the jury will actually give us the Greater Toronto Area's first... icon of global aspiration and big-city cosmopolitan flair? We'll find out in March. By John Bentley Mays -- Zeidler Partnership; rojkind arquitectos; MAD office; Quadrangle Architects- Globe and Mail (Canada)

The £67m 'living room of Wales': The Senedd’s glass-walled symbol of 'transparent democracy'... has impeccable environmental credentials. -- Richard Rogers- icWales

Family battle over architect's gem: descendants of Konstantin Melnikov, one of Moscow’s most famous architects, are locked in a legal fight for control of his house, a Constructivist masterpiece in the heart of the city. -- The Scotsman (UK)

London Eye architect sheds light on plan for Thames: Marks Barfield seeks sponsors for Olympic project to illuminate the banks of the river in central London... hoped to get about 20 architects and artists to design the light patterns. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Style of the century: Stirling & Gowan set a template for the future course of British architecture. On the partnership's 50th anniversary, James Gowan gives a rare interview as Ellis Woodman assesses the legacy of one of the 20th century's greatest creative duos- BD/Building Design (UK)

Haystack Mountain School of Crafts... has been added to the National Register of Historic Places. -- Edward Larrabee Barnes (1961)- Bangor Daily News (Maine)

New "Garden in a City" show snags big design firms to take place in Grant Park May 13 to 21. -- Jacobs/Ryan Associates; Terry Guen Design Associates; Peter Lindsay Schaudt Landscape Architecture; Wolff Landscape Architecture; Hitchcock Design Group; Mariani Landscape- Chicago Tribune

Kunio Mavekawa's uncompromising concrete creations: Fans and skeptics alike can test their prejudices at Tokyo Station Gallery's current retrospective of... one of Japan's leading postwar architects and a high priest of heavy concrete style. - Daily Yomiuri (Japan)

A Survey of Spain, Architects' Playground: “On Site: New Architecture in Spain" [Museum of Modern Art] feels undercooked, but there is much to see... What's fascinating about Spanish cities is how fertile they have proven as training ground for brilliant architectural talents of their own. By Nicolai Ouroussoff -- Monocle; Miralles/Tagliabue (EMBT); Saraje; Abalos & Herreros; Rogers; Hadid; Koolhaas; Ruiz-Geli; Iwama/Garcia; RCR Architects - slide show- New York Times


Alsop Architects: Sharp Centre for Design, Toronto, Canada

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