ArcSpace takes us to Pelli's concert hall in Orange County, CA. – Prince-Ramus and Koolhaas split "with no hard feelings" (is anyone really surprised?). – One Florida development is not New Urbanism as we've come to expect: it's "stranger than that" (with a touch of Frank Lloyd Wright to boot). – Another Florida development is pure New Urbanism, this time with a golf course. – Bing Thom has big plans for Vancouver. – Australian cities offer lessons for Johannesburg. – In Chicago, the "green" revolution is finally trickling down to impoverished areas. – A grass-roots green revolution in Cincinnati is slowly taking root. – UK's SixtyK houses will cost a lot more to buy (builders are licking their chops - so what's the point?). – At least the winning SixtyK's are going on display. – Another cool take on the mobile house (pronounced mouse). – Could a $1.6 billion "Disney-meets-Hollywood entertainment complex" be headed for Connecticut's shore? – The Virgin Mary is in the Details: The developers claim that the town of Ave Maria will be open to all, but the town's theology is obvious in its design - arguably the ultimate New Urbanist place. – But we can't pin this one on DPZ because that's not what's in the rendering. Ave Maria is stranger than that. – In B.C., artists dream of bricks and mortar: If Toronto is the new Florence, ablaze with construction in an unprecedented cultural building boom, Vancouver is the new Venice. So says architect Bing Thom, the visionary behind a recent plan to create a so-called "cultural precinct" for the city. – A lesson from Sydney and Melbourne: In most instances, Australia's cities...are an example of what can be achieved - from preserving heritage to safety, security and cleanliness. But the bureaucracy can be trimmed down. By Neil Fraser/Urban Inc – City of Johannesburg

"Green" revolution comes to inner city: ...a new crop of environmentally sensitive designs is showing that the benefits of green architecture can -- and should -- be spread to impoverished areas far outside the Loop. By Blair Kamin – Farr Associates; Harley Ellis Devereaux- Chicago Tribune

City's green-building effort waiting to bloom: New York City. – Chicago. – Portland. – Ore. These are the cities that get it. Cincinnati doesn't get it yet, the movement is grass-roots. But supporters believe if individuals and the corporate community get behind green building, government will follow. – Alan Wamer/GBBN Architects- Cincinnati Business Courier

Bolted together and clad in cedar tiles, the house that costs £60,000 to build - but a good deal more to buy: Prescott's challenge is met, but builders will charge market rates. – SixtyK house. – Sheppard Robson (image) - Guardian (UK)

[UK] Design Competition Demonstrates Future for Affordable Housing: Design for Manufacture exhibition showcases the nine winning designs...[of] good-quality home for a construction cost of £90,000. – AZoBuild.com (Australia)

Unique Mobile Dwellings: The latest innovation in dwellings that straddle the line between trailer and residence is the m-house (pronounced mouse) by Tim Pyne... – [image] - Globe and Mail (Canada)

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Preston, Conn., a destination in its own right. – $1.6 billion Dream: The Utopia Studios – Disney-meets-Hollywood entertainment complex. – Jerde Partnership; Bastien & Associates (image) - New York Times

Walk on water at Kew: John Pawson's bronze and granite footbridge is a sublime break from prevailing design, yet sits perfectly with Kew's great landmarks, says Deyan Sudjic – Wilkinson Eyre; Decimus Burton.- Observer (UK)

Fortress on the Hill: $559 million Capitol Visitor Center has 580,000 square feet underground, but officials won't say whether it is a congressional bunker – RTKL - Federal Computer Week (FCW)

The lowly becomes lofty: Infrastructure gets its due as awards honor excellence in AIA Wisconsin design awards -- La Dallman Architectsdesign; Vetter Denk Architects; HGA; Louis Wasserman & Associates; Plunkett Raysich Architects, Kubala Washatko

Joshua Prince-Ramus Leaving Koolhaas's O.M.A. to Start New Architecture Firm: ...striking out on his own and taking the entire 35-member New York staff with him. But no hard feelings, they say -- Office for Metropolitan Architecture; Ramus Ella Architects/REX; MVRDV; Foreign Office Architecture; Work Architecture - New York Times

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Under construction: Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects; Renee & Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall/Samueli Theatre, Orange County Performing Arts Center, Costa Mesa, California

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Third World degradation: “Planet of Slums” [by Mike Davis] is an illuminating, frustrating primer for a sprawling subject. By Alan G. Brake - Courier-Journal (Louisville, KY)

Neon Nostalgia From Times Square to Be Sold by Sign Maker: ...nostalgia itself will be for sale when a Philadelphia auction house sells an eclectic collection [Thursday]...being sold by Artkraft Strauss... [images] - New York Times