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-- Competition winner: LAB architecture studio, Newcastle Region Art Gallery, Newcastle, NSW Australia
-- Schwartz/Silver Architects: Shaw Center for the Arts, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Teams OK’d for recovery plan: New Orleans neighborhoods to get tech support...a blend of local and out-of-state consultants...the project will hit its stride by mid-August. -- Duany Plater-Zyberk; Concordia Architects; ACORN Housing; E. Egan McNaughton Architects; Burk-Kleinpeter, Williams Architects; KLMCH; Planning; now; Torre Design Consortium; H3 Studio; Goody Clancy; Frederic Schwartz Architects; EDAS; EDAW; HDR; HOK; Davis Brody Bond; The Times-Picayune (New Orleans)

Canada’s city-states need more than lip service...it is clear that traditional notions of nationality and nationhood are increasingly irrelevant in a world where wealth, power and people are concentrated in fast-growing metropolises. By Christopher Hume- Toronto Star

Cities Shed Middle Class, and Are Richer and Poorer for It: Does it matter if there is less room for a middle class...sociologists and many economists believe that there can be non-economic consequences for cities that lose a lot of middle-income residents. - New York Times

Gated communities are enemies of democracy: If we fail to rebuild our cities and towns, by linking them with transportation systems that don’t demand use of a mobile cocoon (the auto), when the gates start going up all over the region, you won’t want to live here anymore. By James RePass, National Corridors Initiative- Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

Unconventional: Massimiliano Fuksas reinvents the convention center. Conceived on a scale that makes the Javits Center look like a dinky cottage...Fiera Milano...underlying scheme is brilliant in its simplicity. By Paul Goldberger- New Yorker

A Thrill to View, or an Eyesore on the London Skyline? ...unlikely to serve as a template for future high-rise office buildings...could set back the cause of green architecture...Let Foster try again, next time demonstrating how to create visually charged architecture that is site-responsive, aesthetically lovable and green, although not like a gherkin. By Roger K. Lewis- Washington Post

Yacht parking, this way: The new America’s Cup pavilion in Valencia is sleek, sporty - and could teach the British Olympics planning team a thing or two. By Jonathan Glancey -- David Chipperfield; b720 [image]- Guardian (UK)

Art world braced for Tate-extra: Ambitious plan for 100ft extension to London gallery attracts both praise - and a brickbat...will be unveiled this week to warm applause from large parts of the architectural world and some criticism from design experts. -- Herzog & de Meuron; Twentieth Century Society - Guardian (UK)

The New Parrish Art Museum Was Designed With Light in Mind: Herzog & de Meuron sought to strike a balance between the prevailing local aesthetic and something strikingly modern. [image]- New York Times

Save the world one building at a time: Q&A with Edward Mazria. By Steve Paul- Kansas City Star

Healthful habitats are good business: ...many of the design features we now consider luxuries -- views, abundant natural light, greenery -- can have a measurable effect on our health, intelligence and even productivity. -- David Hobstetter/KMD Architects; Alisdair McGregor/Arup Engineering [image]- San Francisco Chronicle

Private hospital rooms to be U.S. norm, experts say: Any new rooms added to the nation’s 6,000 hospitals will most likely need to be private ones to comply with new guidelines for most U.S. states...keeping patients in single rooms pays for itself... (Reuters)- CNN

Guthrie will fade to black after all: An idea to move the original building to Collegeville, Minn., proved fleeting. Demolition is to begin in early September. By Linda Mack -- Ralph
Rapson (1963) - Minneapolis Star Tribune

Demolishing a Celebrated Wall of Glass: The stained-glass facade of American Airlines Terminal 8 [at JFK] will soon be reduced to souvenir key chains...once the largest stained-glass installation in the world... – Robert Sowers (1960) (image) - New York Times

Fight for Stonehenge takes to the air. Hot-air balloonists will highlight danger of traffic-choked roads and call for tunnel beneath monument...Four options are being looked at...- Observer (UK)

A field waves on the Vancouver skyline: Stranded rooftop project may yet welcome visitors...a secret rooftop garden -- under lock and key for now...almost the size of a football field, and it lies smack downtown, atop one of the city's most public and beloved buildings -- bustling Library Square (a.k.a. Central Library). – Cornelia Oberlander; Moshe Safdie- National Post (Canada)

Zaha Hadid's Flying Ferocity: Visionary Architect's Designs Are Finally Being Unleashed: By the time you've followed Hadid's work from her student days to her latest projects...you end up hoping that architectural fantasy will remain a form of personal therapy...that her grandest visions will never become real. By Philip Kennicott (images) - Washington Post

"G" is for Genome (and Green): Terrence Donnelly Center for Cellular and Biomolecular Research: A new campus building is a symbolic and physical bridge between an academic community the city – architectsAlliance; Behnisch Architekten (images) - ArchNewsNow

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