Report from IDSA conference: architecture and fast cars. – Kunstler's take on the future is rather bleak (or is it?): no more "Muschamp smorgasbord of delicious, rarified architectural irony...Koolhaas's celebration of alienation [or] metaphysics of Liebeskind and Eisenman" (never mind New Urbanists). – Big plans in store for downtown Phoenix. – Another big thumbs-up for Denver's new "exuberant, blossoming" museum. – Portland recycles its old armory into a new theater that sparkles with LEED Platinum. – University of Pennsylvania's new "fab lab" breaks all the rules with "winning panache." – Plans to move the Chicago Children's Museum not without controversy. – Meanwhile, the Chicago History Museum dons brand new bells and whistles. – Though nothing is confirmed, it's traditionalists vs. modernists in a tug-of-war for GSA chief architect post, says Kamin. – New deans of architecture for UCLA and Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts in St. Louis. – Innovation conference in NYC takes on "High-Tech Systems for Sustainable Buildings." – Call for entries: Toyota looking for dealership prototype. – Winners all: RIBA Sustainability Award, and Ontario's ARIDO Awards. – Weekend diversions: Q&A with FLW "The Fellowship" co-author. ----- EDITOR'S NOTE: ANN will be on the road for the next week and Internet access may be spotty...we'll do our best to post daily.

A reflection on cities of the future: These days, a new generation of mojo architect savants such as Daniel Libeskind and Rem Koolhaas are retailing an urban futurism that is basically warmed-over Corbu with an expressionist horror movie spin. Yet another vision of the future is supplied by the New Urbanists...By James Howard Kunstler

Deal fills final gap in Phoenix's core: $900 million [CityScape] proposal is calling for 4 high-rises...putting in place the final building block in its plan to construct a new downtown. – Callison Architecture: Arizona Republic

A work of art, for art's sake: The exuberant, blossoming, titanium-clad museum designed by Daniel Libeskind is a brilliant container for art and a stunning work itself...neither dwarfing nor disrespecting Michael Graves' library nor Ponti's original museum building. -- By Mary Voezlar Chandler, Rocky Mountain News (Denver)

Recycling the Armory: A sparkling new theater complex pours into an ordinary old building -- done the Oregon way. – Gerding Theater...first historic renovation in the country to earn the top "platinum" LEED rating. -- By Randy Graag – GBD Architects, Landry & Bogan

Museum brings history to life: Reconfigured, renamed Chicago History Museum lets visitors go with the flow...with its brand new bells and whistles, the museum is a place that reminds us that history is more than the distant past. – By Kevin Nance, Hammond Beeby 

By Blair Kamin, Chicago Tribune

Architect accepts U.C.A.L.A. position: Japan's Hitoshi Abe hopes to bring his Far East perspective to his role as chair of the architecture and urban design department...If appointed, Abe will replace Sylvia Lavin... – Los Angeles Times

Bruce Lindsey named dean of Architecture in Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts - Washington University School of Architecture (St. Louis)

Architectural Record's 4th Annual Innovation Conference: High-Tech Systems for Sustainable Buildings; New York City October 11-12. – Architectural Record

Call for entries: Scion Floorplan Showroom Design Competition; cash prizes; deadline: November 10 (U.S. only); Scion/Toyota

The winner of the RIBA Sustainability Award in 2006 is Heelis (Central Office for The National Trust in Swindon) by Feilden Clegg Bradley. – Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

Ontario's Interior Design Stars Honoured at the 2006 ARIDO Awards of Excellence -- Powell & Bonnell; HOK Toronto; B/H Design Consultants; Element Group; etc.– Canada NewsWire (CNW)

A Frank Look at Wright's Fellowship: A new book exposes Frank Lloyd Wright's cloistered Taliesin Fellowship as a less than ideal world for young architects...Q&A with Harold Zellman– Pacific Palisades Post (California)

Search for meaning...in a skyscraper: Alain de Botton's "The Architecture of Happiness" aims to discover why we like or despise certain buildings... – Christian Science Monitor

New Frontiers in Science and Design: ASU Biodesign Institute by Gould Evans and Lord, Aeck & Sargent (images) – ArchNewsNow

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Report from IDSA 06: Elements of Change (and architecture) - ArchNewsNow
Newly opened: Gehry Partners: Hotel Marques de Riscal, Elciego, (Alava) Spain