Philadelphia and Seattle coming to grips with the future of their waterfronts. -- Toronto politicians just don't get the heritage thing. -- A San Diego initiative that encourages developers to include affordable housing in new projects. -- Another tower for Philadelphia - but it just doesn't fit. -- San Francisco decides today whether to launch an international competition for a very tall tower. -- Cleveland museum taps hot young British firm to design new building. -- Animals rule: Beauty and efficiency of birds are inspiration for new wildlife rehab center in Phoenix. -- International Fund for Animal Welfare HQ to be LEED green. -- Bernstein questions the extremes that "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" goes to. -- A Moscow treasure in dire straights. -- Glasgow's Lighthouse has a new keeper. -- The next new power source: people. -- Calls for entries: EDRA/Places Awards, and a photo competition to launch an atlas of places. -- On view: proposed Post-Katrina design and rebuilding projects in New Orleans. -- Chinese architects and urban solutions in Toronto. -- Michelangelo as architect in Florence.

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Commentary: Involving public in waterfront plan...a series of public forums to listen to the city's voice...Our watchwords for the process will be openness, transparency and excellence. By Harris M. Steinberg/Penn Praxis, School of Design, University of Pennsylvania. - Philadelphia Inquirer

A City's Waterfront: A Place for People or Traffic? Seattle is the latest city to weigh the value of replacing a 20th-century symbol of driving efficiency, designed to serve cars, with parks and boulevards, designed to enrich the human experience. - New York Times

Candidates last don't get heritage concept: it only makes sense that heritage would be endangered in a city where developers and property owners, aided and abetted by the Ontario Municipal Board, are the de facto planners. By Christopher Hume. - Toronto Star

Housing density bonus expected to boost affordable for-sale options: developers are now able to build a larger project than would otherwise be permitted, when they integrate affordable housing into new projects... -- KMA Architecture. - Daily Transcript (San Diego)

High-rise would mar Old City's character: ...as is increasingly the case with Philadelphia's controversial skyscrapers, the zoning arguments are focused on mathematical calculations, not art. Apart from the Americana's glaring design weaknesses, it seems just too tall for Old City. - By Inga Saffron. - Philadelphia Inquirer

Transbay authority to entertain design ideas for new transit tower: Thirty-five years after the Transamerica Pyramid seemed to top off San Francisco's skyline once and for all, a new international competition could lead to construction of an even-taller tower... - By John King. - San Francisco Chronicle

New MOCA design to be woman's work, a first in Cleveland: Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland...has chosen Foreign Office Architects of London...to design its new building...will be FOA's first major project in the United States and its first art museum. By Steven Litt. - Cleveland Plain Dealer

Birds inspire design of new Liberty Wildlife Rehabilitation campus: "It's what you become an architect for." - By Michael Rotondi/RoTo Architects. - Florida Republic

International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) Breaks Ground on New International Headquarters: ...designed to achieve LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification. -- designLAB architects; Stephen Stimson Associates. - Environmental News Network

To the Extreme: The conspicuous consumption of "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition"...Though one Makeover house was outfitted with solar panels, the show is more often a lesson in how to treat the environment disdainfully... By Fred A. Bernstein (images). - Dwell

The building which inspired Le Corbusier is now crumbling to pieces: The World Monuments Fund says the Narkomfin apartment block in Moscow is top of its endangered list -- Moisey Ginzburg (1930); Aleksey Ginzburg; Moscow Architecture Preservation Society (image). - The Art Newspaper

New Lighthouse keeper has influence in mind: The new director of Scotland's architecture and design centre in Glasgow is to be Nick Barley, editor of The List magazine. - Herald (UK)

Man power: a great alternative: Pressure pads under pavements could generate electricity from every step we take...the alternative energy source that stands out from the crowd...Pacesetters Project, an initiative that will involve the installation of the world's first human energy harvesting staircase in Portsmouth's Spinnaker Tower... - Independent (UK)

Call for entries: 2007 EDRA/Places Awards for projects in design, research, and planning directed towards the creation and understanding of places; deadline: January 30, 2007. - Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA)

Call for entries: "Spaces, people and social practices in transformation" International Photography Competition: "Friendly lands" and "Unfriendly lands"...two macro sections in the competition that will mark the launch of "Atlas of places"; deadline: December 31. - Planum - The European Journal of Planning


"Detours: Tactical Approaches to Urbanization in China" focuses on projects by Chinese architects and artists that critically engage urban development in China today...through March 10, 2007 at the Eric Arthur Gallery, University of Toronto. -- Al Weiwei: Amateur
Architecture: Atelier 3; Atelier Feichang Jianzhu; Jiakun Architects; Mada S.P.A.M.; Neno, Ou Ning & Cao Fei; Shenzhen Urban Planning Bureau; Turenscape; Urbanus Architecture and Design- Canadian Architect

Michelangelo feted as architect: Florence show unveils 'poetry' behind projects... perhaps the least-known aspect of the multi-faceted genius... at Casa Buonarroti from December 16 to March 19, 2007 - ANSA (Italy)

(Product) Red "Pop-Up" Store: A temporary retail store in the heart of Chicago is all heart for a good cause. -- WalkerGroup with Motorola [images] - ArchNewsNow

-- Expansion, Allied Works Architecture; Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
-- SMC ALSOP: Clarke Quay, Singapore

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