Found in Space: Griffith Observatory's New Exhibitions: Innovative exhibits for an iconic institution are designed to build an appetite for discovery. — C&G Partners; Pfeiffer Partners; Levin & Associates Architects [images] - ArchNewsNow

Uptown Downtown Runaround: Renzo Piano was hired to design an addition to New York’s Whitney Museum — but scratch that, now he’s drawing up plans for a satellite museum downtown. Either way, he’s happy. By Cathleen McGuigan - Newsweek

City victim of dysfunction: Long before it collapsed yesterday at the eleventh hour, Toronto’s World’s Fair bid had turned into an exhibition of why Canada doesn’t work. By Christopher Hume - Toronto Star

Why T.O. isn’t on road to better future: If Toronto is on the road to a better future, it’s not because of its streets. Though most would agree Toronto must move toward a more urban model, the fact is that we have become increasingly suburban. By Christopher Hume — Joe Lobko - Toronto Star

Golden ticket for redo Ryerson University: "...This is about community. And about design excellence." Certainly, if the professionals chosen for the job are any indication, Ryerson means business... an A-list team. By Christopher Hume — Bruce Kuwabara and Marianne McKenna; Ken Greenberg; Renée Daoust; Randy Grimes - Toronto Star

International style chose reason over passion: A design trend born in the 1920s has many critics, but can still provide lessons for modern builders of social housing. By John Bentley Mays — Weisseschoffisiedlung/white house estate; Le Corbusier/Pierre Jeanneret; Mies van der Rohe; Walter Gropius; Peter Behrens; Hans Scharoun; Jacobus Johannes Pieter Oud - Globe and Mail (Canada)

The Firm: What Skidmore, Owings & Merrill did for American architecture. By Witold Rybczynski — McKim, Mead & White [slide show essay] - Slate

Vermont architects launch affordable housing study... to find ways to build affordable, green, and sustainable manufactured housing in the snow belt. -- Congress of Resident Architecture (CORA); John Connell; Ramsay Gourd - Vermont Guardian

National Conference Centre Architect Says Centre will be Landmark Building in Dublin: ...would be as iconic as the two major landmarks along the Liffey, The Four Courts and The Custom House. -- Kevin Roche - Finfacts (Ireland)

Spanish resort's 'Manhattan skyline' plan sparks uproar: "Cullera Manhattan"...includes the construction of 33 high-rise apartment blocks, two 40-storey hotels and a marina complex...approved by town planners despite claims that it was unsustainable and would overstretch local resources. [image] - Telegraph (UK)

Call for entries: 9th Annual International Berkeley Undergraduate Prize for Design Excellence: Stage One Essay Competition entries due December 10 - Berkeley Prize

Love, Peace & Money? Tokyo Design Week...what makes Japan's design scene so interesting abroad? By Julian Worrall and Mark Dytham - Japan Times

Things Are 'All Wright' in Buffalo: ...an "immersion weekend" meant to showcase the city's architectural and cultural strengths — and prove they are not mutually exclusive - - News York Times

A View on a Forgotten Noguchi: "Shin Banriasha: A Cultural Memory"...an attempt to revive interest in a visionary, but destroyed fusion of art and architecture...the story...is one full of unfortunate ironies. More troubling, however, is the issue of protecting modernist spaces... - - New York Sun

"Toyo Ito: The New "Real" in Architecture" at the Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery through December 24. By Thomas Daniel [images] - Artscape (Japan)

Robocop channels Frank Lloyd Wright: Peter Weller to star as Frank Lloyd Wright, with Harri Yulin as Louis Sullivan, in Frank's Home, a new play by Richard Nelson, directed by Robert Falls, that has its premiere at Chicago's Goodman Theatre in December. By Lynn Becker - Repeat (Chicago)