

## Today's News - March 30, 2007

Australian courts will decide "whether exploitative property speculation carries similar climate responsibility to exploitative coalmining," and Farrelly asks: "If not, why not?" – More Pritzker patter: Rogers minces no words. – 18 projects garner GSA Design Excellence Awards. – A shortlist of "architectural powerhouses" for new Miami Science Museum. – Boddy disappointed in Vancouver's Olympic Village plans that have been "bled of verve." – The "octopus" design for Czech library demonstrates "Modernism's flatulence." – Are new rules in L.A. "finicky restrictions on architectural freedom"? – It's Ando vs. Hadid as Pinault and Guggenheim vie for Venice site. – A movement underway to save Moscow's Shukhov towers. – No more "grotty Chelsea" as high-end developments line up along the High Line (designed by "a ridiculously well-muscled list of architects"). – Rybczynski has an interesting take on Foster's \$16 million yacht. – 7 New Wonders of the World that are worth the trip. – Call for entries: World Habitat Awards for practical and innovative housing. – We couldn't resist: Berlin built of Legos (and pix to prove it).

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[Courts the new battleground in war against nature: Now the courts must decide...whether exploitative property speculation carries similar climate responsibility to exploitative coalmining. And if not, why not? By Elizabeth Farrelly-](#) Sydney Morning Herald

[Improving the World One Building at a Time: Richard Rogers, who just won architecture's Pritzker Prize, talks about making cities livable, building on Ground Zero and his wife's famous restaurant. By Cathleen McGuigan-](#) Newsweek

[Architecture prize-winner says modern design not a patch on past: ...launched a scathing attack on modern British building design hours after being honoured with the industry's most prestigious accolade... "We still haven't achieved a high enough quality in terms of both the buildings and public spaces in contemporary architecture. There's a long way to go"... – Richard Rogers-](#) The Scotsman (UK)

[Turning Buildings Inside Out: Richard Rogers \[has\] made himself into an architectural and city planning power at home, pushing for real architecture over kitsch revivalism and for high-density city living over suburban sprawl. By Richard Lacayo \[link to photo essay\]-](#) Time Magazine

[GSA Design Excellence Awards Honor 18 Projects – Gruen Associates/Moore Ruble Yudell; Ross Barney; Kallman McKinnell and Wood/Karlsberger; Garrison Architects; Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; Lehman Smith McLeish; BNIM; SmithGroup; Westlake Reed Leskosky; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; etc. \[link to projects/images\]-](#) U.S. General Services Administration (GSA)

[Five Architectural Powerhouses Initiate Selection Process for New Miami Science Museum: Three Regional Architects Considered for Executive Architect Role – Grimshaw; Polshek Partnership; Steven Holl; Wilkinson Eyre; Zaha Hadid; Burns & McDonnell; Leo A Daly; Rodriguez and Quiroga-](#) PR Newswire

[A design marathon disappoints at the starting gate: Stringent site requirements have bled Olympic Village design of verve...Vancouver is failing to spark artful city-building and innovative architecture...because a culture of mere sufficiency has prevailed over a culture of true excellence. By Trevor Boddy – Merrick Architecture; Gomberoff Bell Lyon-](#) Globe and Mail (Canada)

[Sad joke on the Czech Republic: ...merely proves that architecture has abandoned any pretense to making the world a better place...Modernism's flatulence demonstrates its own reductio ad absurdum. By David Brussat – Jan Kaplicky/Future Systems-](#) Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

[From Persian folly to boring boxes: Plans to make Lala Land look like anywhere else, almost...Compared with such finicky restrictions on architectural freedom, the measure proposed by the Los Angeles planning department is a wrecking ball.-](#) The Economist (UK)

[Pinault, Guggenheim Intensify Battle on Venice Exhibition Space: ...are neck and neck in the race to turn a disused Venice customs building into a contemporary-arts center. -](#) Tadao Ando; Zaha Hadid- Bloomberg News

[Disappearing Towers: Vladimir Shukhov was one of the most prolific and innovative architects in early 20th-century Russia. But today his legacy is endangered. -- Vladimir Shukhov \[images\]-](#) Moscow Times (Russia)

[High Line Park Spurs Remaking Of Formerly Grotty Chelsea: At least 27 projects—mostly luxury condos and hotels—are in various stages of development... – Gehry; Nouvel; Piano; Selldorf; Field Operations; Diller Scofidio + Renfro-](#) New York Observer

[Stormin' Norman Foster: What happens when an architect dreams up a boat? Now that Foster & Partners has designed a yacht that actually resembles an oversized Prius, maybe it could turn its talents to producing something for the rest of us: a better, cheaper hybrid car. By Witold Rybczynski \[slide show\]-](#) Slate

[The New Wonders of the World: At no other point in history have there been so many great buildings worth the trip. – Le Corbusier; José Oubrerie; Libeskind; Gehry;](#)

[SANAA; Benjamin Warner/Creative Designers International; Murphy/Jahn \[slide show\]- Condé Nast Traveler](#)

[Call for entries: World Habitat Awards for practical and innovative solutions to current housing needs and problems; deadline: June 1- Building and Social Housing Foundation](#)

[Berlin Sites Immortalized in Plastic at New Legoland Discovery Centre \[slide show\]- Der Spiegel \(Germany\)](#)

[NEA Director of Design Jeff Speck to Resign in May: City planner heading back to planning cities.- ArchNewsNow](#)



[-- Polshek Partnership Architects: Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY](#)

[-- Platt Byard Dovell White: Green-Wood Columbarium, Brooklyn, NY](#)

[-- Book: Architecture of the Air: The Sound and Light Environments of Christopher Janney](#)

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