Eco-Architecture Takes Hold in Asia: ...most architecture firms in Asia aren't quite there yet, architects and urban planners say. One problem: No one can agree on what a green building is. Biggest obstacle by far, however, is the reluctance of developers. -- Woods Bagot; Kenneth Yeang; EDAW; Arup Group; Wall Street Journal

Architect pans project 'debacle': Six years after being commissioned to design a set of five luxury lodges and a three-story eco-hotel at Moonlight Head, Glenn Murcutt, claims his drawings and designs were "unilaterally" not followed and says he has never been treated so "shabbily". -- The Australian

Showboating for tourists: The America's Cup coincides with a tourism boom in an ancient city in western Spain: Forget Barcelona, Bilbao or Seville. Now it is Valencia's turn to bask in the international limelight. -- Santiaga Calatrava; Norman Foster; GHF; Jean Nouvel (AP) - Daily Press (Virginia)

Give the ROM's Crystal a chance - but demand the best: Though architectural mediocrity should be combatted everywhere in the city, a ho-hum skyscraper is absolutely unacceptable. We should hold the ROM's feet to the fire...until the museum brings us a proposal equal in beauty and sustainability to the best new skyscrapers in the world. By John Bentley Mays -- Libeskind; Foster; Calatrava; Globe and Mail (Canada)

Back to the future: Lynsey Hanley cheers the reopening of the refurbished Royal Festival Hall but is it still a people's palace?...The hall has been lovingly returned to its old glory, but not in a spirit of shallow retro fetishism. -- Leslie Martin/Robert Matthew/Peter Moro (1951); Allies and Morrison; Larry Kirkegaard; New Statesman (UK)

Light at the Museum: Beauty is an argument that doesn't take no for an answer. And when you're confronted with something as haunting and luminous as the Bloch building, what other word will do? By Richard Lacayo -- Steven Holl; Time Magazine

Top-Secret $510 Million Ground Zero Museum Wallows in Grief: I'm not sure a museum can help us come to terms with 9/11's losses. It's the role that Arad's memorial should have played, but whatever power its austere grandiosity once conveyed has been eviscerated. By James S. Russell -- Michael Arad; Howard & Revis; Snohetta; Davis Brody Bond; Thnc; Design; Local Projects - Bloomberg News

U. of C. picks design for arts skyscraper: Chicago is about to get an innovative new skyscraper, one that stretches a ground-hugging arts center into the sky...$100 million creative and performing arts center...By Blair Kamin -- Tod Williams Billie Tsien; Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, a lavish facility...will break ground in fall 2008...All the finalists in the international competition are known for eye-bending, innovative architectural design... -- Jean Nouvel (AP) - Chicago Tribune

New art museum is biggest gift in MSU [Michigan State University] history: The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, a lavish facility...will break ground in fall 2008. -- Blooomberg News

Concrete slab apartments gain new life with retrofits: Architect argues city's aging buildings can be saved by adding cladding to house latest building features...city could promote measures that would "green" the buildings for generations to come. -- Graeme Stewart/E.R.A. Architects - Toronto Star
Libeskind Designs Condos For Edwards [Colorado] Developer: The proposed buildings' curves and angles are unusual for the area and are generating mixed opinions. [video link] - CBS4 (Denver)

Statement From the Office of Santiago Calatrava: Quarto Ponte sul Canal Grande, Venice: ...the many delays during construction and the unsubstantiated challenges to the design and engineering have been extremely disappointing and professionally embarrassing. It is now time to respond to the misrepresentations in the press, and to address the questions which persist.- PRNewswire

Building's design hits clinker: A major government building can inspire. It can help revive downtown Stockton. Or it can make everybody glum for 50 years. -- Fentress Bradburn [image] - The Record (Stockton, California)

Bird-Safe Building Guidelines: 55-page manual for architects, landscape designers, engineers, glass technicians, developers, building managers, city, state, and federal officials, and the general public. - New York City Audubon

Harry Potter theme park planned: The Wizarding World Of Harry Potter will open at the Universal Orlando Resort, in Florida, in 2009. - BBC News

Line up for an alien abduction: Roswell, NM, plans Alien Apex Resort...a UFO-themed amusement park, complete with an indoor roller coaster that would take passengers on a simulated alien abduction...RFPs will be advertised next month. - CNN

Yesterday's News

© 2007 ArchNewsNow.com