ArcSpace takes us to Tokyo, Istanbul, and Dubai. -- Heathcote on why Rogers' Pritzker is long overdue and his "parallel career as design's most vocal - often only - political champion." -- Meanwhile, looks like RIBA wants to know British architects' political leanings. -- Libeskind's ROM opened this weekend: Hume looks at the bigger picture. -- Rochon is riled that it "rages at the world." -- On the other hand, others find its wild exterior belies a calm interior. -- Speaking of crystalline: Johnson's Glass House ready for its close-up and ready to launch lobby to preserve modern architecture everywhere. -- Articulate defender of the city: Tonight, Lord Rogers of Riverside will pick up architecture's richest award - the Pritzker prize. It has been a long time coming...has never been a "starchitect" or sought the limelight for himself except through his extraordinary buildings and his passion for social justice. By Edwin Heathcote -- Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners - Financial Times (UK)

Architects to be asked to reveal party affiliation: ...has raised concerns among some of the country's leading architects, who yesterday accused the Royal Institute of British Architects of "McCarthyism" - Guardian (UK)

In a whole new light: Now that we're on our way to having arresting architecture for our cultural institutions...it remains to be seen whether all of these projects have what it takes to bring Toronto the attention it craves...a step in the right direction. The key is to keep moving. By Christopher Hume -- Gehry; Libeskind; Alsop - Toronto Star

Crystal scatters no light: It's hard, aggressive and in your face...Okay, everybody: Let's try to understand it...the new ROM rages at the world. This rage I cannot pretend to understand. By Lisa Rochon -- Daniel Libeskind/Bregman + Hamann Architects; I.X IV Design - Globe and Mail (Canada)

ROM's profile crystal clear: ...off-kilter sensibilities offer a surprisingly contemplative space inside the massive crystal-shaped structure that has transformed the architectural landscape of one of Toronto's main thoroughfares. -- Daniel Libeskind - Halifax Herald (Canada)

The Crystal unfolds: Wild on the outside, calm on the inside, the controversial new wing of Toronto's Royal Ontario Museum finally opened...visitors will be able to judge for themselves whether Thorsell and Libeskind have succeeded. "It's certainly got people talking about architecture" - Ottawa Citizen (Canada)

Building on Philip Johnson's Glass House: ...a national program, Preserving the Modern, is to be launched there to lobby for the conservation of modern architecture throughout the United States...one of the most inspiring examples of the mid-century American interpretations of European modernism... By Alice Rawsthorn -- Neutra; Lautner; Breuer; Noyes; Schindler; Wright [slide show] - International Herald Tribune

New transparency for Philip Johnson's Glass House estate: The architect's very private world goes on display as the property opens to the public. - Los Angeles Times

Americana at Risk: ...developer is set to demolish the Americana Motor Inn...a rare hyperbolic paraboloid concrete wonder of Miami Modern design, a.k.a. MiMo...Michael Graves, Docomomo and the National Trust are committed to saving... -- Arthur Rude/Charles McKirahan (1963); Jenifer Briley + Associates [images] - The Slatin Report

What Makes Cities Successful? ...two authorities from the University of Chicago to address the topic - one with a very local view and the other with a global outlook. -- Sean Safford; Saskia Sassen - Smart City Radio

Architect who did the city some service: Jim Barrett is retiring as Dublin City Architect on June 15th, having made a major contribution to the capital...achievements have been substantial. By Frank McDonald - Irish Times

Reviving a Birthplace of Civil Rights: Once a mecca for aspiring African-American
professionals, local leaders want to revive Atlanta’s Sweet Auburn neighborhood. --

Latin American Art museum reopens with new look, attitude: With a bold, dramatic
facade, the Long Beach facility can now give its exhibits the dignity they
deserve...MOLAA has put on its glass slipper and is finally ready for the ball. -- Manuel
Rosen - Los Angeles Times

The Best Buildings You’ll Ever Hear: these are not only breathtaking architectural
forays but a radical rethinking of the concert hall itself. Their exuberant forms and fluid
interiors make the great halls of the late 19th century seem fusty by comparison. By
Nicolai Ouroussoff -- Gehry, Herzog & de Meuron, Jean Nouvel, Hans Scharoun (1963);
Calatrava, de Portzamparc [slide show] - New York Times

The Landmark Theatre has your living room in its sites: The new venue in Los Angeles
brings the comforts of home to the movie theater...That mixture of Crate & Barrel
modernism and Texas overkill is an improvement over the...your typical multiplex. By
Christopher Hawthorne -- PleskowRael; F+A Architects; Dana Foley Design [images] -
Los Angeles Times

Q&A with Vlado Milunic: Architect rues lackluster design:...there are very few in his
field willing to speak as openly as he does about the state of local architecture and the
local architectural community. -- Eva Jiricna; Jaroslav Safar; Petr Franta; Vit
Malsio; David Chisholm / CMC Architects; Cigler Marani Architects - Czech Business
Weekly

Arthur Erickson’s first masterpiece on sale: The “most beautiful house in Canada” is up
for sale, and $10-million will net you a masterpiece...Filberg house... By Trevor Boddy
[slide show] - Globe and Mail (Canada)

Call for entries: Holcim Awards: Building New Perspectives for Our Future...$2 million
competition for sustainable construction projects; deadline: February 29, 2008 - Holcim
Foundation

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