Sydney's Lord Mayor offers her vision for the city's cultural future. -- Heathcote has high hopes that Chipperfield will finally make his mark in London. -- Mexico City to get Latin America's tallest tower by Koolhaas. -- Arquitectonica's towering plans for Abu Dhabi. -- Kamin sings high praise for Chicago's newest, tallest (for now), and greenest tower. -- Dyckhoff finds St Pancras station restoration "breathtaking." -- Sad news re: the station's adjoining Midland Grand Hotel. -- What's cool, what's questionable about 5 proposals for MSU's new museum. -- The Millennium Dome sports Miami Art Deco flavor for its "feel-good playground." -- First step complete in Banff Centre revamp. -- 2007 English Heritage Buildings at Risk Register released. -- How do you build a subway in soggy Amsterdam? Very carefully. -- Q&A with Prince-Ramus: Do you feel yourself becoming more REX and less Rem? -- San Diego design award winners take being green to heart. -- Winners announced in first Zumtobel Group Award for Sustainability and Humanity in the Built Environment. -- "Some Assembly Required" lands in Virginia.

Op-Ed: Neither Soho nor SoHo but all our own: By 2030, we want Sydney to be internationally known as a city of culture and the arts, a city where artists can live and work. By Clover Moore, Lord Mayor of Sydney - Sydney Morning Herald

Architect plans fresh fish for City: David Chipperfield...who has yet to build a substantial structure in the capital, may at last be realising an important building on a prominent Thames-side site...a 10-storey office block folded within a diaphanous veil of glass. By Edwin Heathcote - Financial Times (UK)

Latin America's new tallest tower to be built in Mexico City: ...300-metre-tall Torre Bicentenario (Bicentennial Tower) will open in 2010 with an investment of $600 million...64 floors and six underground car parks with space for 2,500 vehicles. -- Rem Koolhaas - Earthtimes.org

Arquitectonica Designs Symbolic Gateway Tower to Reem Island, Abu Dhabi: Tower among tallest in the country; going for LEED Certification - PR Newswire

340 on the Park a welcome breath of fresh design: Chicago's first green residential high-rise and, for now at least, its tallest all-residential building. But those superlatives would be meaningless if this tower...did not make such a robust contribution to the skyline. By Blair Kamin -- Martin Wolf/Solomon Cordwell Buenz - Chicago Tribune

St Pancras regains the Gothic glamour: The transformation of St Pancras is almost complete — and the results are astonishing...The station’s restoration...is breathtaking. In one fell swoop British rail travel zooms from grim to glorious...By Tom Dyckhoff -- William Barlow; George Gilbert Scott (1860s); Alistair Lansley - The Times (UK)

Fire At 'Harry Potter' Hotel: ...just months before a £100 million refurbishment was due to be completed...at the Midland Grand Hotel above St Pancras station. -- George Gilbert Scott (1860s); Richard Griffiths Architects/RHWL - Life Style Extra (UK)

5 compete to design Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum: The inspiration, The vision, What's cool, What's questionable -- Coop Himmelb(l)au; Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF); Zaha Hadid; Randall Stout; Morphosis [images] - The State News (Michigan State University)

Oh, to be in Miami!: The new sports and entertainment complex [O2] inside the former Millennium Dome looks to Florida’s sun-baked art deco for a feel-good playground all under one roof -- RTKL; HOK Sport; Carey Jones Interiors [images] - Building (UK)

Diamond + Schmitt opens first building in Banff Centre revamp: ...the first phase of an ambitious revitalization of the site, home to an arts, cultural, and educational institution and conference facility. - CBC (Canada)

£65 million needed to save top buildings at risk says English Heritage Buildings at Risk Register (BAR) for 2007...outlining a string of...structures which face dereliction without huge investments...total subsidy needed to repair buildings on the Register is in the order of £400 million. [images, link] - 24 Hour Museum (UK)

Lock out below! Shaky, soggy Amsterdam is getting a subway...presenting Dutch engineers, famed for their ingenuity in keeping this waterlogged nation dry, with devilish challenges. - CBC (Canada)

Q&A: Architect Joshua Prince-Ramus: Do you feel yourself becoming more REX and less Rem? - Washington Post Express

'We hear you': Architecture awards answer 'lack of green design' criticism: This year's awards...was a clear sign...San Diego designers are pursuing a strong agenda on the environmental front...in marked contrast to the previous year's awards. -- Blue Motif; Luce et Studio; Rob Wellington Ogulley; Jonathan Segal; Gluckman Mayner; Safdie Rabines; Estudio Santander; LPA; etc. [images] - San Diego Union-Tribune

First Zumtobel Group Award for Sustainability and Humanity in the Built Environment goes to... -- Mayne/Morphosis; Schlaich Bertermann Solar - Zumtobel Group
Some Assembly Required: A new exhibit at the Virginia Center for Architecture may change some people’s minds regarding prefabricated housing. -- Rocio Romero; Resolution 4 Architecture; Michelle Kaufmann; Richmond.com (Virginia)

-- Foster and Partners: Millau Viaduct, Gorge du Tarn, France
-- Competition winner: Mecanoo architecten, Municipal Offices and Station, Delft, The Netherlands
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