Mayor of Medellín brings architecture to the people: Sergio Fajardo...presses forward with an unconventional political philosophy that has turned swaths of Medellín into dust-choked construction sites. "Our most beautiful buildings must be in our poorest areas." -- Giancarlo Mazzanti [slide show] - International Herald Tribune

Bringing 'Ugly' Back: Why an architectural free-for-all no longer works in a dense, gridlocked city...We certainly don't need a new philosophy that says that an architect's primary job is to produce pretty and reassuring buildings...But there's also nothing wrong, from time to time, with calling an eyesore an eyesore. By Christopher Hawthorne -- Gehry; Mayne; Moss; Asymptote [links] - Los Angeles Times

The greenest skyscraper in India? FXFOWLE Architects' India Tower in Mumbai...new 60-storey (301 meters) world-class Park Hyatt hotel, retail, and residential tower...United States Green Building Council (USGBC) LEED Gold-rated project [images] - World Architecture


In Chicago, a Haven for Green Enterprise: Green Exchange...novel commercial real estate project is part of the expansion of environmentally oriented investments and policies that are reshaping Chicago's economy... -- Hartshorne Plunkard Architecture - New York Times

When Landscape Is Architecture: These innovative projects reimagine the natural world in a technological age. -- Mary Miss; Guy Nordenson; Ed Blakely/Landscape Studio; Marion Blackwell; Diana Balmori; KieranTimberlake; Lake/Fast; Bargmann/Fenning/IRT/Studio- BusinessWeek

Controversy over changes at Hadspen Garden: ...described as a "prescription for failure,"..."just the sort of naff rubbish that architects usually design for gardens," but also as "a wonderful idea"...plan to bulldoze the old walled garden...and to stage an open competition to design a new one... By Alice Rawsthorn -- Foreign Office Architects (FOA); Cedric Price; Peter Smithson; Caruso St John; Peter Zumthor [slide show] - International Herald Tribune

Liverpool unveil new stadium plans: Design includes new single-tier 18,000-capacity Kop...new 60,000-seat stadium in Stanley Park...potential to further expand the ground to more than 70,000 seats in the future... -- HKS [image] - Guardian (UK)

Ziggurat’s big brother: There’s a new kid on the riverfront as CalSTRS [California State Teachers' Retirement System] erects West Sacramento headquarters...designed to look like a large, billowing sail of glass... -- Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum (HOK) [images] - Sacramento Bee (California)

Charlie Rose: A conversation with architect Steven Holl [video] - PBS

The Elementalist: Brad Cloepfil’s emerging body of work may symbolize a shift away from glib shape-making toward a more timeless and lasting architecture. By Andrew Blum -- Allied Works Architecture [images] - Metropolis Magazine

Q&A with Jean Nouvel: do you have any pets? not really. some mosquitos! do you have any advice for the young? no I do not like to give advice... [images] - designboom

Call for Entries: Design Vanguard 2007...a showcase of 10 emerging architects from around the world; deadline: August 6 - Architectural Record

Call for entries: Te Wero Bridge International Design Competition: Seize the challenge to create a striking sculptural bridge for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport on Auckland’s city waterfront; registration deadline: August 17 - Auckland City (New Zealand)

Kunsthaus Bregenz 10th Anniversary: A vision of frosted glass and steel...looks every inch as good as when it first opened...a romantic gesture, the KUB has dedicated the last months of 2007 to a retrospective of Peter Zumthor’s work... [slide show] - Wallpaper
Christo’s latest project: an oil barrel pyramid for the Emirates: made up of 390,500 oil barrels piled up horizontally. Mastaba project, exact location for the pyramid, has yet to be finalised but it will definitely be somewhere in the desert in the UAE... [image]

Yahoo News

– Foster and Partners: Millau Viaduct, Gorge du Tarn, France
– Competition winner: Mecanoo architecten, Municipal Offices and Station, Delft, The Netherlands
– Latest News: arcspaceSL / Second Life