Forbes ranks America’s greenest and least green states (some surprises). – A revised $14 billion plan for Manhattan’s Penn Station and MSG. – Another take on London’s St. Pancras station: “the hunk of heritage ends up being more exhilaratingly modern than the new-build extension tacked on to it.” – MacMillan says Adjaye’s subcubed MCA/Denver may not ignite a blaze of controversy, but it’s “generating its own brand of excitement.” – Gnits on new additions to Johns Hopkins campus: the “pieces add up to a whole, even though they’re so different.” – Polshek “RBA competition judges tore down two trends in garage design: one is the German wish to delight with pure form and the Dutch desire to shock.” – Buschow Henley; Eugenio Miozzi (1930s); Thomas Barlow (1868); Foster + Partners; Alastair Lansley; Anup; Pascall + Watson Architects [images] - Building (UK)

An intimate home for contemporary art: The subdued exterior of the new Museum of Contemporary Art/Denver (MCA/Denver) in the Platte Valley hides a riot of surprising art inside...subdued building is not likely to draw every major architecture critic in the country or ignite a blaze of controversy...By Kyle MacMillan – David Adjaye [images] - Denver Post

Homewood grown: The latest additions to the Johns Hopkins campus take cues from the college’s architectural past...remarkable aspect of the project is the way these pieces add up to a whole, even though they’re so different. By Edward Gnits -- Ayers/Saint/Gross; Michael Vergason Landscape Architects; Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson and Abbott - Baltimore Sun

New York firm selected to design campus performing arts center at Stanford University, initially focusing on a 900-seat concert hall that will serve as the project’s cornerstone... - Polshek Partnerships; Yasuhisa Toyota/Nagata Acoustics; Fisher Dachs - Stanford Report (California)

Bath arts complex contest comes down to Fretton and MUMA: Tony Fretton and McInnes Usher McKnight Architects will have to wait to see which of them designs a new arts complex for Bath University after RBA competition judges failed to decide which firm should win; - BD/Building Design (UK)

A first ‘yes’ vote for Curtis Institute of Music demolition: The school plans to expand, but several buildings stand in the way...won the approval of the Philadelphia Historical Commission’s architectural committee...took a pass on requiring Curtis to rework its architectural plans to preserve the interiors of two significant 19th-century buildings. – Venturi, Scott Brown & Associates- Philadelphia Inquirer

Recycling in Israel, Not Just Trash, but the Whole Dump: The Hiriya dump...will serve as the centerpiece for what is to become a vast 2,000-acre urban wilderness...Ariel Sharon Park...set to become an environmental beacon and a theme park on recycling... - Peter Latz; Laura Starr [images] - New York Times

Simon Henley in “The Architecture of Parking,” finds beauty in dark garages: “says the two trends in garage design are exemplified by the German wish to delight with pure form and the Dutch desire to shock.” – Buschow Henley; Eugenio Miozzi (1930s); Melnikov (1925); Louis Kahn (1947-62); Neutra (1940); Gehry; Hadid; Bertrand Goldberg (1962); Tigerman Fuaman McCurry (1984-86); Koolhaas/Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) - International Herald Tribune

ArchRecord Interview: Tom Kundig – Olson Sundberg Kundig, talks about his design philosophy...the elemental human needs that housing must satisfy...and what it’s like to design for different parts of the world. – Olson Sundberg Kundig Allen Architects [slide show] - Architectural Record

Breakfast on Wall St., Anyone? ...a nod to Tiffany’s roots in the area. But within the marble-clad interior...a shimmering contemporary emporium that is a departure from other Tiffany stores. – Yabu Pushelberg [images] - New York Times

Out of the Woods: A 72-year-old furniture company is sustainable to its roots...longevity...
has made Artek a Finnish institution, and Alvar Aalto a national treasure. By Alice Rawsthorn [images]- New York Times

Cover-up! Quentin Blake drafted in to hide ‘unsightly’ buildings: The children’s illustrator has been hired to give travellers stepping off the new high-speed train from Paris a better first impression of the city...a giant drawing to hide a ramshackle block called Stanley Building South, which stands on the edge of the £2bn King’s Cross redevelopment.- Independent (UK)

Call for ideas: London Festival of Architecture 2008: FRESH! – fresh thinking, fresh talent, fresh approach, fresh air and fresh food; deadline: November 30- London Festival of Architecture/LFA2008

Call for nominations: 2008 Carbuncles Awards...Scotland’s most dismal town, its most disappointing new building and the worst planning decision...Plook on the Plinth Award for the Most Dismal Town in Scotland is the most coveted of the awards...Pock Mark Award, Zit Building Award...- Architecture Scotland

Fearing Crime, Japanese Wear the Hiding Place: A vending-machine dress, the brainchild of clothing designer Aya Tsukioka, could offer a woman walking alone a way to elude pursuers. [slide show]- New York Times

-- wHY Architecture: Grand Rapids Art Museum, Grand Rapids, Michigan
-- Riding the LA Metro -- Tanmann Associates; Siegel Diamond Architecture; Dworsky Associates; Miralles Associates; Escudero-Fribourg Architects; Diedrich Architects; Ellerbe-Becket; Anil Verma Associates; Arquitectonica

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