Heathcote on Asian skylines: “It is unsustainable, it can be...” An in-depth look at Liverpool’s renaissance as it readsies to be European Capital of Culture for this year. — The Architects’ Journal (UK)

Cubit3d to design extension to Fab Four museum: The Beatles Story museum on Liverpool’s Albert Docks will more than double in size...expected to open in time for European Capital of Culture 2008. — The Architects’ Journal (UK)

A city’s ‘character’ changed for good: Newburyport wasn’t the first to shun the “federal bulldozer”...But by the mid-1970s, its story was so compelling, its turnaround so quick...it became the poster child for success. — Officials from other cities came to learn the nuts and bolts of restoring a downtown. — Daily News of Newburyport (Massachusetts)

No more short, ugly buildings downtown, please: This vision, or lack of it, is disconcerting. Halifax’s fascination with low-rise, red-brick buildings...developers are concerned it might simply kill construction of any high-rise building without considering how the buildings look or what they do for the downtown. — HRM by Design, The Chronicle-Herald (Halifax)

Arrested development: Museum latest example of Canada’s difficulty in finding useful purposes for funds...$16-million Environmental Education Centre [in Dalnor] nature reserve...that the Canadian government helped to build for China...originally intended to improve China’s ability to manage its environment and protect its wildlife. — AldrichPears Associates, Globe and Mail (Canada)

Terry Farrell reveals final London aquarium designs: £90m Biota! Aquarium in Silvertown Quays will be linked to nearby Thames Barrier Park by pedestrian bridge designed by Arup and Patel Taylor. — Building (UK)

After 10 Years and 3 Plans, U.N. Renovation Is in Sight: A five-year, $1.876 billion renovation of the iconic United Nations complex is set to be approved by the General Assembly soon. — Michael Adlerstein, New York Times

Proposed 1,000 foot skyscraper would be Brooklyn’s tallest structure: City Tech Tower by Renzo Piano would...include a mix of residential, commercial and office space for New York City College of Technology. — NY Daily News

Developer ordered to rebuild flattened Erno Goldfinger cottage: “It’s clear he doesn’t have a love of post-war buildings.” — BD/Building Design (UK)

Am I just seeing things - or is the modernist apartheid regime still in place?...majority of designers and architects that graduated from the modernist design schools in the past 50 years has been neither able nor willing to design in any of the other stylistic idiom. — Jan Michl, Oslo School of Architecture and Design

Controversial urbanists win top architecture award: Andres Duany and Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk...named the winners of next year’s Richard H. Driehaus Prize, which goes annually to a tradition-minded designer and now comes with $200,000 in prize money. — Blair Kamin, Chicago Tribune

The addition of Andres Duany & Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk to the Driehaus Prize laureates means that a majority...four of the seven recipients to date...have been strongly focused on urbanism...may reflect a strong relationship between classical architecture and urbanism. — Stressed Elements/University of Notre Dame
Biennial Blahs: São Paulo's International Biennial of Architecture suffers by comparison to its Niemeyer-designed venue...the grandeur of his architecture spurs one to wonder: Why isn’t this exhibition more architectural in form? -- HHF

Architects/ZMK design; Architekturbüro Deutschland; Christ & Gantenbein; Gustavo Penna; Urban Think Tank; Valerio Olgiati; Gion Caminada/Frank Havermans; feld72-
The Architect’s Newspaper (NYC)

Call for Entries: 2008 ASLA Professional and Student Awards; registration deadlines: February 1 (professionals), May 9 (students)- American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Call for entries: Green Good Design 2008 honoring design innovation and pioneering achievements in Architecture/Urban Planning/Landscape Architecture; Product and Graphic Design; Corporations, Government, etc.; registration deadline: January 15, 2008- Chicago Athenaeum/European Centre for Architecture, Art, Design and Urban Studies

Call for entries: American Architecture Awards 2008; open to U.S. architects and architectural firms, and firms headquartered outside the U.S. with projects built, or to be built, in the U.S. deadline: February 1, 2008- Chicago Athenaeum

Rockefeller Center Tree Is Green, but Is It Green? ...will be lighted for 42 days and draw electricity from a new 363-panel solar energy roof... -- New York Times

A Civic Gateway: Santa Monica Civic Center Parking Structure: The humble parking garage is humble no more with a bold design that makes it a sparkling destination point in itself - oh, it’s LEED green, too. -- Moore Ruble Yudell Architects & Planners [Images]- ArchNewsNow

-- Kyu Sung Woo Architects (KSWA): Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, Kansas
-- Erick van Egeraat Associates: Federation Island, Russia
-- Will Bruder + Partners: Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, Nevada

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