Oouroussoff positively gushes over New York's New Museum. — Gardner is not quite so kind. — Miami Art Museum will look like no other. — A scathing report on Moscow's appetite for destruction. — Farrell to be Thames Gateway design champion (but will be "a basket case that no wants to go near"). — Gehl sets his sights on Sydney. — Perhaps he should take on Denver's Colfax Avenue. — Trump's £1 billion golf-course plans in Scotland get scotched. — Ohr-O'Keefe Museum rising like a phoenix. — Arup's urban strategy leader takes on China. — Humie is in awe of Toronto construction tarpaulin. — Meanwhile, many of the city's historic facades are suffering. — cheers to the winners: An eyeful of BW/Architectural Record 2007 Awards. — Design-Build Awards. — LEAF Awards (though a bit short on crediting the architects). — Holiday book picks from King and Binney. — Q&A with Silber re: "Architecture of the Absurd." — South Africa gets a new online green 'zine.

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New Look for the New Museum: ...succeeds on a spectacular range of levels: as a hypnotic urban object, as a subtle critique of the art world and as a refreshingly unpretentious place to view art. By Nicolai Oouroussoff -- Sejma/Nishizawa/SANAA [images]- New York Times

Downtown Growing Up: ...New Museum aspires to the condition of eternal youth...new home looks too downtown for its own good...How much better it would have been if this institution had owned up to its age and stature and had commissioned a building to match. By James Gardner -- Taniguchi; SANAA- New York Sun

New Museum Madness: ...looks like one of those industrial, stainless steel sinks — albeit one that had come in contact with atomic waste and, as if out of a Japanese horror film, grew to gargantuan proportions and transformed into a robot that would eat Manhattan. -- SANAA- New York Sun

Miami Art Museum (MAM) designed to fit in with park: The building design...seeks to be one with its waterfront site in Bicentennial Park...looks unlike any building in Miami -- or any other place. -- Terence Riley; Herzog & de Meuron; Grimshaw [images, video]- Miami Herald

Appetite for destruction: Moscow's extraordinary architectural heritage is being wiped out in the ruthless pursuit of a new Russia...isn't having a makeover; it is being murdered. By Robin Stummer -- Moscow Architecture Preservation Society (Maps)- New Statesman (UK)

Farrell to be Thames Gateway design champion: £35 million scheme to improve area's natural and urban environment; Gateway reaches crisis point...very real possibility of it becoming a basket case that no wants to go near; Is the Thames Gateway project a bust? Eelco Hooftman says yes...But Space Craft's Cody Gaynor disagrees-- BD/Building Design (UK)

Man with Sydney in his sights: Jacqueline Maley talks and walks with a planner who wants to give our "invaded city" back to its people. -- Jan Gehl -- Sydney Morning Herald

A Notorious Main Drag, in Line for Big Changes: Colfax Avenue [Denver] has been the Rocky Mountains' answer to Greenwich Village. But ambitious new zoning laws and increased police presence may sanitize its legendary grit. - New York Times

Trump's £1 billion golf-course plans thrown out: ...shock decision comes little over a week after the council's Fortonmartine area committee approved the application... -- Wimberley Allison Tong and Goo (WATG); SMC Jenkins and Marr- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Ohr's phoenix rising again with museum: Mad Potter survived fire, museum outlived storm: Frank Gehry's head-turning design was beginning to take shape...when Hurricane Katrina struck...The future of the ravaged Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art was uncertain. -- Guild Hardy Architects- SunHerald (Mississippi)

The nut cracker: Gary Lawrence, Arup's urban strategy leader...turned Seattle green. Now he's on the world's first eco-city project in Dongtan, China...his approach to sustainability -- and why it begins by hitting moles over the head with a mallet -- Building (UK)

Bay building construction a thing of beauty: Let's dress up the city's ugly buildings in prettier facades:...a giant tarpaulin...unlike any architectural wrapping seen so far in Toronto. The effect is remarkable. The potential is huge... By Christopher Hume-Toronto Star

Facade fakeout: The city lets developers ravage century-old buildings, leaving only faint clues of our architectural past. And they call this conservation? - Now Toronto

BW/Architectural Record 2007 Awards: ...winners were chosen not only for their beauty but also for the way they advance business strategies -- Gehry Partners/Studios Architecture; Kweiera Payne McKenna Blumberg (KPB); Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); ASD; Diamond & Schmitt; Foster + Partners;Gensler; McMillan Smith & Partners; HOK; Antoine Predock Architect/HOK Sport [slide shows]- BusinessWeek
2007 Design-Build Award Competition Winners -- WJA Design Collaborative; HDR; The Haskell Company; 360 Architecture; The Beck Group; HarleyEllis; Economou Partners; Opus Northwest; BRPH Architects-Engineers; Haskell A/E; CH2M HILL; BBG-BBGM - Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA)

Emirates Glass LEAF Award winners, companies, technologies and individuals that have made an outstanding contribution to the world of architecture -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); PTW Architects/CSCEC/ARUP; Haworth Tompkins; Steven Holl links to info/images - designbuild-network.com (UK)

John King's Holiday book review - San Francisco Chronicle

From classical gems to marvels of modern engineering: Books on architecture make handsome Christmas presents, and 2007 has produced a bumper crop. By Marcus Binney - The Times (UK)

Deconstructing Boston: In his new book, Architecture of the Absurd, former BU president John Silber takes aim at some contemporary buildings, including MIT's controversial Stata Center - Boston Globe

Online architecture, construction title launches: Alive2green is a new electronic architecture and construction publication, that seeks to educate, inform and assist readers about the design and construction of sustainable buildings and living spaces - Bizcommunity.com (South Africa)

-- 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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