ArcSpace takes us to Chicago, Shenzhen, and Córdoba. — A big week for Foster + Partners: yesterday it was Oman, today it’s Saadiyat Island museum win and eco-friendly master plan for five Bulgarian hill towns. — OpEd: Is security setting the design agenda? (we wonder what’s wrong with RIBA taking on sustainability, and what is a “shadow minister” anyway?) — Architect revisits Laban Dance Centre on year later and likes what he sees. — Who’s jumping into Melbourne’s St Kilda triangle fray - and who’s not. — Death of light rail project pinches university plans. - - Kaplan gives thumbs-up to public process for L.A.’s Chinatown North (now all it needs is a new name). — Philadelphia gets its first look at revised plans for slave memorial. — Dyckhoff visits the cigar-chomping Niemeyer: “We hated Bauhaus. It was a bad time in architecture. They just didn’t have any talent. All they had were rules.” — Q&A with Bellini re: the “architectural playground” that is China. — An eyeful of Norway’s most important buildings. — A LEED Platinum home in L.A. goes on the block on eBay (starting bid: $2.85 million!). — Call for nominations: Cooper-Hewitt’s 2008 National Design Awards (deadline looms!). — Call for session proposals: Greenbuild 2008. — U.K.'s £50 million Big Lottery winner makes winners of many. — New to us: 2007 World Leadership Awards celebrate best in city leadership (Las Vegas wins 3 categories). — We could resist: Tate Britain’s grim Christmas tree (how depressing).

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Foster + Partners wins Sheikh Zayed National Museum international design competition: ...will be a key asset in Saadiyat Island’s Cultural District in Abu Dhabi...- AME Info (United Arab Emirates)

Foster designs carbon neutral resort on Black Sea coast: ...eco-friendly masterplan for five Bulgarian hill towns -- Foster + Partners [images]: Building (UK)

OpEd: In uncertain times, is security setting the design agenda? ...architects have been recruited as foot soldiers in the war on terror. ...Meeting ever-increasing government targets and demands is an additional burden, but not an alternative to great architecture. By MP Ed Vaizey, shadow minister for culture - BD/Building Design (UK)

Dancing to the music of time: Herzog & de Meuron’s dance centre for Laban at Deptford, south London, won the Stirling Prize in 2003. Here partner Harry Gugger finds out how it is holding up [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Design guru takes a swing in St Kilda triangle fray: ...has called for a rethink of controversial triangle development, arguing that a much bigger, more community-friendly development was possible at minimal cost...described the State Government as "idiots" for failing to invest in the project. -- Nonda Katsalidis/Fender Katsalidis; Ashton Ragatt McDougall- The Age (Australia)

Please opine, State Architect urged: The appointed guardian of urban design in Melbourne — State Architect John Denton — is under pressure to break his silence over the St Kilda Triangle project...has been conspicuously absent from the debate on the proposed $300 million foreshore development.- The Age (Australia)

Death of light rail forces Carleton University to scrap $70M showpiece: Decision robs university of chance to add appealing gateway to the campus -- Moriyama & Teshima; Griffiths Rankin Cook Architects - Ottawa Citizen (Canada)

Visions of 'Chinatown North': Planning Begins and Ideas Fly for Vast Expanse Near L.A. River... identified the estimated 400-acre sprawl as a ripe "opportunity area"...promise of increased public investment in the area...has prompted interest by a swarm of developers. By Sam Hall Kaplan – Hangreas: LA Downtown News

Deeper look into slavery: A new memorial design for the President’s House...modified version of an earlier plan...would allow visitors to peer down through a glass shed and view archaeological remnants of an 18th-century house once occupied by presidents and slaves. -- Kelly/Maiello Architects [image] - Philadelphia Inquirer

Why Oscar Niemeyer is king of curves: What does an architectural titan do as he approaches 100? Brazil's star architect carries on working...if any architect conforms to the stereotype of the back-of-the-envelope, willed-to-form genius, it's Niemeyer. By Tom Dyckhoff - The Times (UK)

Master designer eyes China's architectural revolution: Q&A with Mario Bellini...about working in China, which is rapidly modernizing its cities and has been dubbed an "architectural playground"- Reuters

Norway 'most important' buildings -- Arne Korsmo/Christian Norberg-Schulz; Erling Viksjø; Sverre Fehn; Louis Kiostler; Lund &
Project7ten To Be The First Ever "ECO-HOME" To Be Sold On eBay: ...located in the ultra-hip area of Venice, California...starting auction price of $2.85 million...house is certified LEED Platinum...portion of the sale is being donated to Healthy Child Healthy World (HCHW) — Gray Matter Architecture- PR Web

Call for nominations: 2008 National Design Awards; deadline: December 14 - Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum


Cycle routes win £50m Big Lottery public vote: A scheme which will improve cycling and walking routes across Wales is part of winning bid...79 towns and cities across the UK will benefit. -- Connect2/Sustrans - BBC News

2007 World Leadership Awards: A Celebration of the Best in Modern City Leadership - World Leadership Forum

Have a Gray Christmas! Tate Britain's Tree Dangles Warplanes: If the tree is anything to go by, we are in trouble...this year's tree, by Fiona Banner, is the grimmest for some time. [images] - Bloomberg News

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