Cities of the future part 2: of mega-pyramids and "imploding inward to utopia." – ’08 construction forecast not too bad for healthcare and education projects. – Holl is hot Princeton. – Gehry gets the Serpentine. – Betsky bags the biennale. – T.A.G. takes Prix de Rome. – Is Farrell’s future fading in Edinburgh? – Europan 9 judges award two out of three schemes (third goes back to the drawing board). – Farrell’s on the the downside of regulation and its “devolution into a joyless thou-shalt-notism.” -- Anderton on the message behind the architecture of America’s new embassies. – U.S. lifts lights up over a new Case Western building. – The next big step for Harlem’s Apollo Theater renovation. – Call for entries: European Prize for Urban Public Space and White House Redux (we can’t wait to see those results!).
Blinder Belle Architects - Bloomberg News

Shop, there’s space: Calcutta’s trek to modern malls, which started with Forum four years ago, hit a high on Tuesday with the unveiling of the city’s largest mall [South City] — also the first retail address designed by an overseas firm. — Bentel Associates; Dulal Mukherjee & Associates - The Telegraph (India)

Turning the Page on a New York Times’s Former Headquarters: ...new owner is calling it the Times Square Building...transforming the historic property into 600,000 square feet of modern offices and 200,000 square feet of retail space. — Gensler - New York Sun

Piano nobile: The confluence of peer recognition of this former Pritzker winner, broad media attention, and tall architecture in Record’s backyard provokes ruminations on fame: Is a starchitect worth the hype? In Renzo Piano’s case, as the Times tower attests, the answer resounds positively “yes!” By Robert Ivy, FAIA - Architectural Record

Q&A with Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa: Successes stack up for Tokyo design duo -- SANAA [images] - Japan Times

Modernist Chicago’s Voice of Dissent: Richard Driehaus...is doing what he can to counteract a viewpoint he thinks is leading to a less interesting city, ”Modern architecture has become totally homogenized and uninteresting”...In his campaign to reverse what he sees as a century of dehumanization in architecture, Mr. Driehaus has attracted some high-powered allies. [images] - New York Times

Looks familiar? Apple classics and their 1960s ancestors: US blogs are claiming that Jonathan Ive’s product designs for Apple have been shaped by veteran German designer Dieter Rams. By Jonathan Glancey - Guardian (UK)

Call for entries: European Prize for Urban Public Space 2008; deadline: March 15 - Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona (CCCB)

Call for ideas: White House Redux: What if the White House, the ultimate architectural symbol of political power, were to be designed today? cash prizes; deadline: April 20 - Storefront For Art and Architecture

INSIGHT: Mod Mods: Manufacturing Markets for Modulars: With market forces finally putting wind in the sails of pre-fab, the promise of sales should finally save industrial production of housing from the utopia to which it has been consigned. By John Newman, AIA - ArchNewsNow

— Zaha Hadid Architects: Nordpark Cable Railway, Innsbruck, Austria 
— Hotel Burnham/Reliance Building, Chicago – Burnham and Root (1891); Antunovich Associates; Harboe Architects/McCler; Susan Caruso

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