ArcSpace brings us Gehry in Princeton and UNStudio in The Netherlands. — Korean aiming to establish its own CABE. — Good timing, with projects like New Songdo City underway. — An impressive tour of the “astonishing parade" of starchitects working in Spain (Rogers chimes in on the why). — Miami architects going global (and some global firms invading Miami). — Rose finds inspiration in Dutch floating architecture; not very impressed with Pitt’s plans for not much more than elevated porches. — Auckland’s forested northeast coast in for development (at least its only 150 houses instead of proposed 600; birds will be safe; no cats allowed). — Hume has high praise for all 3 proposals for Toronto’s lakefront. — The “confluence of events" putting Cincinnati on the international architectural map. — Waterloo, Canada, picks team for history museum. — Kamin on Jahn’s first Chicago condo tower: it “conspicuously outclasses all the other high-rises being built around it.” — Erickson’s new BC condo tower: “is more ritzy than timeless” (with a wistful riff on the loss of his Graham House). — Hadid does Oxford (not all are convinced). — Jakarta won’t win any prizes for public space with its heavy-handed plans for flower market. — King weighs in on San Francisco’s design-a-thon for City of the Future. — Beijing’s “Bird’s Nest” tops list of city’s faves. — A touring show that captures the essence of urban sprawl.

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— Nearing completion: Gehry Partners: Science Library, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey
— UNStudio: Agora Theater, Lelystad, The Netherlands

‘Design Korea Project’ Eyed: ...aims at adding beauty and creativity to cutting-edge industrial sites as well as public construction areas...similar to Britain’s Commission for Architecture and Built Environments (CABE). - Korea Times

An Asian Hub in the Making: New Songdo City, a sprawling development planned for the western coast of South Korea, is among the largest master-planned projects that is privately owned. -- Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF); Daniel Libeskind; Peter Zumthor - New York Times

The Fame in Spain: Everywhere there is an openness to visual originality, an appetite for unshackled ideas that has drawn an astonishing parade of international stars. -- Richard Rogers; Gaudí; Calatrava; Cruz y Ortiz arquitectos; Jürgen Mayer H; Felix Candela; Peter Eisenman; Frank Gehry [slide show] - Condé Nast Traveler

Local architects spread modern global style...capitalizing on a global appetite for snazzy Miami design. -- Arquitectonica; Spillis Candela DMJM; Chad Oppenheim; Kobi Karp; Reinhalde Borges; Duany Plater-Zyberk (DPZ); Dover, Kohl & Partners; Rodriguez and Quinoga; Perkins + Will; HKS; HOK; RTKL [slide show, links] - Miami Herald

We’d like 250,000 of these, please: ...as floods return to Britain, Steve Rose meets some Dutch architects who may have the answers...In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans is looking not to the Dutch, but to Brad Pitt...the only flood-proofing precaution...appears to be elevated porches. — Koen Olthuis/ Waterstudio; Ger Kenngen/Factor Architects; Herman Hertzberger; Robert Barker/Baca; Morphosis; Shigeru Ban; MVRDV; David Adjaye; Make it Right - Guardian (UK)

150 houses for ‘green belt’ but pet cats banned: ...sites are in the coastal 840ha Weiti Forest, which is the largest privately owned chunk of undeveloped land left on Auckland’s northeast coast. - New Zealand Herald

Sure footing on Jarvis slip: Lakefront design race down to 3 ideas, each one a winner, including version with pixels in the wind...the three schemes are so good, each one should be built. By Christopher Hume -- Janet Rosenberg Associates; Claude Cormier; West 8/Toronto’s DTAH [images] - Toronto Star

Local architecture soaring success story: A confluence of events will put Cincinnati on the international architectural map this year. -- Batesky; Hadid; Libeskind; Eisenman; Gehry; Graves; Mayne; Pedersen; Spear; Tschumi; Veler; Vignelli; Yudell; Neutelings Riedijk Architects - Cincinnati Enquirer

Architects Chosen to Design the Region of Waterloo History Museum: ...will be “an architectural statement integrated with the landscape" and “symbolic of the ethics and vision of our time" — Moriyama + Teshima Architects; The Walter Fedy Partnership; VUE Design - Exchange Morning Post (Canada)

Getting the max out of minimalism: Helmut Jahn redefines skyscraper formula with his first condo tower in Chicago. ...a quietly elegant wedge of glass that conspicuously outclasses all the other high-rises being built around it. — By Blair Kamin -- Murphy/Jahn; Werner Sobek [slide show] - Chicago Tribune

Arthur Erickson, the Brand: His new Ritz-Carlton condo tower is more ritzy than timeless. -- Musson Cattell Mackey Partnership; Davidson Yuen Simpson [image, links] - The Tyee (Vancouver)
Hadid's Oxford union: ... has revealed designs for an extension to the Middle East Centre at St Anthony's College, Oxford... met with concern from the Oxfordshire Architectural & Historical Society and the Oxford Civic Society. They questioned whether the design was appropriate for the context. [Images] - BD/Building Design (UK)

Flower power wilts thanks to city's deaf ears: The Jakarta administration found an unusual enemy in the eviction of the Barito area flower and fish traders... had battled with roses and a thoughtful design for the area's revitalization... sounded workable and interesting... In contrast, the city's design for the park lacked imagination. - The Jakarta Post

City of the Future: Local architects offer their visions of S.F. 100 years hence... The jury has spoken - and it wants San Francisco in 2108 to be a place where forests of towers grow algae as well as house people... By John King - IwamotoScott Architecture; Fougeron Architecture; Pfau Architecture - San Francisco Chronicle

"Bird's Nest" tops Beijing ranking of new landmarks: Beijing West Railway Station, known for its Chinese traditional style, and the egg-shaped National Theater ranked second and third... Experts believe that the selection will raise public interest in contemporary architecture and give planners ideas of how the city should look in the future. [Images] - Xinhua News (China)

UTech/MoMA Symposium: Modernist Architecture in the Caribbean, Kingston, Jamaica, February 29 to March 1 - University of Technology, Jamaica

The promised land? Sarah Milroy visits the "burbs to catch a touring show determined to capture the essence of urban sprawl. She finds an astute, if unsettling, exhibit "Is There a There There?" - Globe and Mail (Canada)

Stern Seizes the Day: Tour Carpe Diem by Robert A.M. Stern Architects... The newest addition to La Défense is crystalline - and green. [Images] - ArchNewsNow

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