A look at where the denizens of the California Academy of Sciences have been living for the last four years. -- Alsop takes on Prince Charles (no surprise there). -- On the other hand, Hanson wonders just how wild things have to get before "big nob architects" are "carted off in straitjackets." -- Furry's take on contemporary Japan: is it "slickly Westernized" or does "continuity flow beneath?" -- From down under: Brisbane's rebirth as a walking, cycling, and public transport city. -- A "$100m wow!" for Wellington's waterfront. -- Plans for St. Kilda are "exhilarating" but perhaps a bit difficult to grasp. -- Life in the Arabian melting pot that is Dubai. -- Pearman gives thumbs-up and down for Heathrow's T5: "trying to design it must have been like nailing down jelly." -- For Rochon, Toronto's Sugar Beach plans are not as sweet as she'd like. -- A review of LACMA's 7-year expansion saga as it finally readies for its close-up. -- Architects' own offices perhaps a bit difficult to grasp. -- HOK; OWP/P; Cook + Fox; A3C Collaborative; Kazuyo Sejima; Tom Herzog; Shigeru Ban; Junya Ishigami; Toyo It; Kazuyo Sejima; Sydney Morning Herald

Make way for foot traffic. -- A return to much older and more sustainable principles of urban design, architecture and transport. -- Brisbane's rebirth as a walking, cycling and public transport city of European heritage and Australian sub-tropical charm is only just beginning. -- Chris Hale; Courier-Mail (Australia)

$100m waterfront wow! A Wellington Waterfront competition has seen Athfield Architects trump five other companies to have its design, dubbed the Fossil, the Stacks and the Crane, selected. -- add sparkle to the northern end of Queens Wharf. -- The Dominion Post (New Zealand)

Op-Ed: Trying to make a design really sing: Apart from the natural beauty of the sea and the horizon, the character of St Kilda's foreshore is a mixed bag... -- Dimity Reed; Ashton Raggatt McDougall; Lyon Architects; The Age (Australia)

Cultures Learn to Get Along in the Arab Melting Pot. Claiming to have the world's tallest building, biggest airport and most expensive hotel, Dubai is a city of superlatives. -- Bernhard Zand was the first German correspondent to be based in Dubai. After living there for a year, he concludes that the city of 150 nations is also an Arab village. -- Der Spiegel (Germany)

Richard Rogers' colossal new Heathrow Airport Terminal 5 - whoops, he put the real one in Spain: ...a huge work of civil engineering with a light dusting of architecture on top - that has cost £4.3 billion. -- Hugh Pearman; Rogers Stirk Harbour (images); HughPearman.com (UK)

Cormier design wins Jarvis Slip competition: ...jury has embraced sameness over difference for the Toronto waterfront... -- Lisa Rochon; Claude Cormier Architectes; Parisiassie/PJ/Parrish; Kapor + Andersen; Schweinfurth; Ward & Janet Rosenberg + Wittenstein; Globe and Mail (Canada)

In the end, a plan they could live with: What began as a renovation project took a strikingly radical twist. Then budgetary reality came calling. When the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) set out seven years ago to expand and remodel, it definitely was not looking for an extreme makeover. -- William Pereira (1965), Rem Koolhaas, Renzo Piano (links); Los Angeles Times

Living In The Lab: When firms need firsthand evidence that green building strategies work, they turn to their own offices. -- HOK, OMP/P; Cook + Fox; A3C Collaborative; Atelier 10; Sasaki (slide show); GreenSource Magazine

Architect hired to map IU's expansion: ...will update the development plans for all seven of Indiana University's campuses around the state. -- David King/SmithGroup/JJR; replaces John Bella/Beyer Blinder Belle... has served as IU's
master planner for 10 years - Indianapolis Star

Request for Qualifications/RFQ: International architectural design competition for Permanent Premises of the International Criminal Court (ICC), The Hague; deadline: April 1 - Chief Government Architect of The Netherlands

7th International Ecocity Conference / Ecocity World Summit 2008, San Francisco, April 22-26 - Ecocity Builders

DWR Champagne Chair Contest winners revealed: top 50 chairs have embarked on a national Studio tour. – Miwa Klevla, Matthew Glaysher, Akai Yang [Images] - Design Within Reach

– Foster + Partners: Khanty Mansiysk, Siberia, Russia
– Manfredi Nicoletti: Arezzo Law Court, Arezzo, Italy

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