ArcSpace brings us a concrete canopy in France, a call for entries to design a virtual (and real) eco-friendly community (full disclosure: yours truly is a juror), and Yeang's new book, Ecodesign. -- Time serves up a biggie on Masdar City (plus Q&A with Foster). -- Two takes on L.A.'s downtown developments: yes, the economy is taking its toll; but no, the sky is not falling. -- Saffron on Philadelphia’s need for a skyscraper policy: city needs to decide where they should go. -- Columbia University’s expansion plans more than an aesthetic debate. -- Yale plans take traditional cue from Princeton (perhaps with better ornament?). -- Perhaps both should read Heathcote’s argument for ornament (it’s "well on its way to decriminalisation"). -- Becker on Chicago's pitiful landmarking process. -- Shuttleworth re-making a 1950's eyesore on Baker Street. -- Forget Oscar fashions - Dyckhoff offers up what fashionable buildings will be wearing this year. -- Málik making his mark on Astor Place. -- Kaplicky’s "Czeck hat-trick." -- Glancey spends some quality time with Rogers: he "has just one mission: to make everyone’s life more enjoyable." -- Adrian Smith on second chances: "Architecture is an old person’s profession." -- Hawthorne is (mostly) impressed with Walker show on suburbia. -- CABE/RIBA speed dating exercise, where "architects tarted themselves around ruthlessly to get work." -- We couldn’t resist: a "Pepsi Globe" Ferris wheel for Xanadu. -- And a Southampton pyramid time piece (calendar included).
What will the best-dressed buildings be wearing this year? Follow the guide below for some style pointers. By Tom Dyckhoff - The Times (UK)

Minskoff works the angles in new Astor Place building: ... plans to raze the existing building and develop a 13-story, 212-foot-tall, mixed-use new building. lease entitles Cooper Union to participate in the building’s future income. -- Fumihiko Maki [image] - The Villager (NYC)

Kaplicky bags Czech hat-trick: ... has been signed up to design three key buildings for the historic town of Brno, in his native country the Czech Republic: an eco tower and concert hall for the city, as well as a hotel for a private client. -- Future Systems - Architects’ Journal (UK)

All the world's a playground: Whether he's designing £100m flats or creating affordable housing for all, Richard Rogers has just one mission: to make everyone’s life more enjoyable...you get the feeling that he will never stop trying to make this world he dreams of. By Jonathan Glancey - Guardian (UK)

Sweet new start for architect Adrian Smith: Abu Dhabi green project highlights recent success ... "Architecture is an old person's profession...it takes so long to see and learn from the fruits of one's labor; you get better as you get older." -- Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture - Chicago Tribune

Exhibition offers new views of suburbia: 'Worlds Away: New Suburban Landscapes' at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis explores the populist shift outside of the city... top suburban developers... have pretty much decided that architecture -- at least noticeably new or challenging architecture -- is unnecessary. By Christopher Hawthorne -- Teddy Cruz, FAT; LTL Architects; Coen + Partners; Lateral Architecture - Los Angeles Times

Speed dating for architects and developers: Why CABE organised a speed-dating night in central London to introduce architects struggling to find developers... a fascinating revelation of power play, during which the architects tarted themselves around ruthlessly to get work - or the vague promise of it - from the money men. -- Bill Dunster; Proctor and Matthews; Architecture plb; 11.04 Architects - The Times (UK)

America’s largest Ferris wheel: 287-foot-tall “Pepsi Globe” will be incorporated into Meadowlands Xanadu [New Jersey]... still somewhat of a minnow on a global scale. [image] - Gizmag (Australia)

Pyramid selling a landmark to the city: ... Southampton to decide if it wants to be known as the home of "The Solar Pyramid - The World’s Tallest Timepiece"... 150ft structure say it would be one of the most iconic landmarks in Britain... brainchild of architect Richard Swain and astronomer Robin Catchpole, the project has the backing of the Greenwich Observatory. [image] - Daily Echo (UK)