-- Two takes on the World Bank's Growth Report: an antidote to the "Washington Consensus" that has "stultified much development thinking," and/or the "final collapse of the "development expert" paradigm."
-- Bishop and Florida Part II: "Who's Your City?"
-- The transformation of American suburbs: good news/bad news.
-- Athens offers a cautionary tale for London and future Olympic cities.
-- Hume re: partial Gardiner Expressway tear-down: "half a glass, whether empty or full, is preferable to none."
-- Under fire for designing in China, Koolhaas stays cool: his work is "an expression of support for change."
-- Now is San Francisco's best moment in Jewish architecture (since 1926).
-- King sends four postcards from L.A. (and feels "very far from home").
-- Hawthorne on auctioning architectural treasures: is it really the best way to go?
-- Preservationists perturbed by $200 million revamp of a 1957 Moscow landmark.
-- The online war heats up over Corbu's Ronchamp revamped.
-- What should Indianapolis do with its 50-year-old buildings? "Appreciate them. And save them."
-- HDR and CUH2A: a mega-merger.
-- Winners all: An eyeful of AMD Open Architecture Challenge winners.
-- AIA/UK 2008 Excellence in Design Awards. -- Hangaru gamers RAC Gold, but wonders, "What happened to the pleasure that we used to take in drawing and building?" -- ASLA announces 2008 Honors.
-- If you're in Chicago tomorrow, catch "Learning From Bob and Denise" trailer.

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**Growth through Scaling Up:** Some Practical Implications of The Growth Report... offers an antidote to the "Washington Consensus" that stultified much development thinking for the past two decades... The most basic practical challenge is how best to identify and replicate at scale successful public interventions. - Brookings Institution

**Trust the Development Experts – All 7 Billion:** Why should we care about the debacle of a World Bank report? Because this report represents the final collapse of the "development expert" paradigm that has governed the west's approach to poor countries since the second world war. - Brookings Institution

**The Sorted Nation: A Discussion with Authors Bill Bishop/"The Big Sort" and Richard Florida/"Who's Your City?" – Part Two:** the challenges and benefits that cities see as they embrace the unique aspects that make them attractive to certain types of people. [podcast] - PLANetizen

An age of transformation: America's suburbs are coming to resemble its city centres. That is both good news and bad -- William Levitt; Victor Gruen; Alan Berube; Rick Caruso; James Kunstler; Richard Florida; Joel Kotkin - The Economist (UK)

Athens' deserted Games sites a warning to London Olympics: The buildings constructed four years ago are fly blown, closed to the public and covered in graffiti, a forewarning of the possible aftermath of the London Games in 2012... The hangover from the games was tremendous. - Telegraph (UK)

Feckless ambition: When half a dream will do: ...there's no doubt the decision to remove even a portion of the Gardiner Expressway will mark a turning point for Toronto... we don't want to be entirely left out of the urban revolution now sweeping the globe... half a glass, whether empty or full, is preferable to none. By Christopher Hume - Toronto Star

Dutch architect Koolhaas - designing for change in China:...under fire for designing official buildings in China believes his work there is an expression of support for change... -- Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) - Trend News (Azerbaijan)

Op-Ed: San Francisco's Jewish moment: Daniel Libeskind's Contemporary Jewish Museum and Stanley Saitowitz's Congregation Beth Sholom are the most striking works of Jewish architecture... since Arthur Paule Brown's 1926 Congregation Emanuel. By Mitchell Schwarzer /California Colleges of the Arts - San Francisco Chronicle

New ideas take flight in the City of Angels: Four postcards from Los Angeles... Americanica's voluptuous attention to detail would make Walt Disney smile... I feel very far from home. By John King -- Renzo Piano; Lorcan O'Herlihy - San Francisco Chronicle

At auction: architectural history: Is the gavel and block the right way to sell a significant home? The sluggish housing market is having an impact. And what about preservation? Buyer interest might come too late. By Christopher Hawthorne -- Neutra; Kahn; Koenig; Breuer - Los Angeles Times

Detskoy Mir Refit Has Some Perturbed: The landmark children's store will close July 1 for a massive, two-year refurb, which is expected to cost $200 million... developers say the new store will retain the magic of Detskoy Mir with modern comforts, but architectural preservationists are skeptical. -- Alexei Dushkin (1957); Natalya Dushkina; Mosproekt-2; RTKL - The Moscow Times (Russia)

Le Corbusier's Ronchamp chapel stirs passions: An online war is pitting some of the biggest names in world architecture against each other... -- Renzo Piano [links to images, petitions] - BD/Building Design (UK)
Op-Ed: Modern structures become part of architectural history: Indianapolis faces an architectural challenge: What do we do with structures built within the last 50 years? ...when someone asks, "What do we do with these 50-year-old buildings," you'll know to say, "Appreciate them. And save them." By Drew White -- Johnson; Pei; Rudolph; Kahn; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) - Indianapolis Star

HDR and CUH2A to Form Comprehensive Science and Technology Design Firm...combined companies will employ nearly 1,700 architecture, engineering and planning (AEP) staff in more than 40 locations worldwide.- BusinessWire

Architecture for Humanity and AMD announce the winners of the 2007 AMD Open Architecture Challenge: "Digital Inclusion" -- The Global Studio (Seattle - overall winner); Max Fordham, LLP (London), Igor Taskov/ChunSheh Teo/Heather Worrell (USA & Serbia) links to images, finalists- Open Architecture Network

AIA/UK announces the 2008 Excellence in Design Awards winners -- Allies and Morrison; Gustafson Porter; Haworth Tompkins; Hopkins Architects; Ian Ritchie Architects; NBBJ; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) - American Institute of Architects/UK

Architect's designs tell a story: Dan Hanganu, whose work changed the face of Montreal, receives latest award this month...Royal Architectural Institute of Canada will honour Hanganu with its gold medal...- Montreal Gazette

An Incorrigible Optimist: Former Director Of The McGill School Of Architecture David Covo Interviews RAIC Gold Medallist Dan Hanganu: "What happened to the pleasure that we used to take in drawing and building? Where once we had builders, now we have legislators...Success has a different colour." - Canadian Architect

ASLA Announces 2008 Honors...the highest awards the Society presents each year. -- Joseph A. Porter, FASLA; Kathryn Gustafson, ASLA; Linda Jewell, FASLA; Rodney Swink, FASLA; National Association of Olmsted Parks; Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center; Design Workshop; Peter Pollack, FASLA - American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Filmmaker Son of Scott Brown and Venturi to Set Record Straight?...producing and directing a film about the highly regarded yet sometimes misunderstood architects. Called "Learning From Bob and Denise"...trailer will be shown June 4 in Chicago at Pecha Kucha Night...-- Venturi, Scott Brown and Associates; Fred Schwartz; Martin Filler; Vincent Scully; Tom Wolfe; Paul Goldberger - Architectural Record

Nearing completion: Coop Himmelb(l)au: Central Los Angeles Area High School #9, Los Angeles