• ArcSpace brings us an Abu Dhabi tower, and a Snhetta museum in Norway.
• Ouroussoff finds a "wince factor" in Hadid's pop-up pavilion in Central Park, and hopes that "the era of exploiting the so-called intersection of architecture, art and fashion is finally over."
• Iovine finds it "a fine example of the collapse between art and commerce that architecture feeds into so well" (great pix!).
• King on 3 San Francisco affordable housing projects: they make everything around them better.
• An eyeful of Libeskind's shopping mall in Switzerland, a project type not below his "dignity."
• Saffron had high hopes for an outpatient facility; instead, the "Big Driveway rules again" (though "you can't help admiring the many thoughtful touches" inside).
• Hamburg's newest museum space is the "most ambitious," "stunning," and "finely orchestrated."
• Heathcote gives a thumbs-up to Royal College of Art campus plans in a "neglected yet central chunk of south London."
• He finds the new Wexford Opera House "Is as much about the town as about the building. It succeeds impeccably."
• Rawsthorn on China becoming the center of innovation - with caveats and questions.
• King tours a massive marshland restoration project that's "beyond any sort of ecological restoration before attempted in an urban region, so much so that planners don't even pretend to know how things will go."
• An eyeful of Weston-super-Mare pier competition winner (and the runners-up).
• Lots of pix of Holcim Prize winners.
• Restoration of FLW house by owners-architects take a prize.
• Architects in Calgary.
• SMWM merges with Perkins+Will.
• Descottes: the master of lighting who has had as large an impact on the contemporary New York skyline as any architect.
• The World Architecture Festival launches tomorrow, brought to the rest of us via CNN.
• We couldn't resist: a Swiss nuclear bunker transformed into a "zero-star hotel."
Honors for Restored Wright House: ...it struck some as quite surprising that the owner-architects of a 1954 house in the borough of Millstone [New Jersey] won a top award at the recent conference for their restoration efforts — even if the house was originally designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. — Tarantino Architect [images]- New York Times

Architectural firms bring world to Calgary -- Marshall Titemore Architects; Chernoff Thompson Architects; MFCT Architects- Calgary Herald (Canada)

SMMW and Perkins + Will to merge: ...the move was under consideration long before the current economic turmoil and the merger was not driven by financial hardship. - San Francisco Business Times

The Big Picture: Though you've probably never heard of him, Hervé Descottes has had as large an impact on the contemporary New York skyline as any architect working today...has been charged with illuminating major landmark sites around the city... -- L'Observatoire International- New York Times

The Spirit of Architecture: Barcelona hosts the World Architecture Festival during which the great and good will attempt to choose the best building in the world. CNN will get exclusive access to the event- CNN

Who Needs a Swiss Chalet? Spend a Night in a Nuclear Bunker: In the Alpine town of Sevelen, two brothers have transformed one of Switzerland's nuclear bunkers into a "zero-star hotel." The outside world is visible only through monitors, and a wheel of fortune determines who gets to shower with warm water. The buzz, needless to say, is huge. - Der Spiegel (Germany)