Happy St. Patrick's Day! (are we really looking forward to green beer?)

Two we couldn't resist: the Queens Museum of Art puts every building in New York up for sale (sort of); and Scotland's finest build impressively - with Lego's (lots of weirdness).

A good reason to head to Mumbai on Friday: 361°: The Degree of Difference Design Conference.

Belmont Freeman pays tribute to Max Borges.

Davidson on the imminent demise of Greenwich Village's eccentric O'Toole Building: "a sad thing for the NYC's architectural heritage" (and sad that we can't "legislate pessimistic").

Russell rues the sad state of landmark churches being left to rot as restoration deals dry up.

Kamin updates the status of Chicago's ongoing court battle over the city's landmark law.

King cheers the addition of San Francisco's Tenderloin district to the National Register of Historic Places (it only took 25 years).

Goldberger gazes on the new Mets and Yankee Stadiums and finds two very different urban animals.

An eyeful of the shortlist for Art Fund Pavilion at The Lightbox (definitely worth a look).

WTC progress report: when are they going to build it? Just look up.

Ouroussoff offers his take on the "Grand Paris" plans: they "may just be the kind of brazen idealism the world needs right now" because the projects "recognize the strong link between urban policy and social equality."

Yudelson warns U.S. and Canada could find themselves behind a (non-green) eight-ball if they don't catch up with European standards.

It's not all doom and gloom - especially for niche work; likewise, an IALD Economic Impact Study finds "as many feeling cautiously optimistic as those...who are pessimistic."

These days it's not just getting work that's getting more difficult; it's getting paid for it.

Moore does not cheer layoffs and "talented architects being thwarted," but he does find a silver lining: "Now it might at last be possible to bury the dread word 'iconic.'"

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Philadelphia appeals court ruling that cast cloud over city's landmark law: Firing back at an appellate court decision which ruled that Chicago's landmark law is unconstitutionally vague, the city has appealed the decision...citing numerous cases nationwide in which courts have rejected vagueness challenges to laws comparable to Chicago's. By Blair Kamin- Chicago Tribune
Landmark Churches Rot With Deals Drying Up: These buildings matter to more than their congregants...We need our history. Preservation may have to save our cities again. By James S. Russell- Bloomberg News

St. Anywhere: It’s impossible to legislate weirdness, which is a sad thing for the city’s architectural heritage: When St. Vincent’s hospital finally swings a wrecking ball at the O’Toole Building...it will be for the greater good of Greenwich Village...But this improvement comes at the cost of eccentricity. By Justin Davidson -- Albert Ledner; Pei Cobb Freed- New York Magazine

Tribute: Max Borges, 1918-2009: The generation of architects who advanced the modern movement in Cuba with exuberant, avant-garde designs lost one of its finest... By Belmont Freeman [images]- The Architect’s Newspaper

361°: The Degree of Difference Design Conference: Icons... the degree of difference; Earth Matters; Imagining Urban Futures; Rebels/Path-breakers - March 20-22, Mumbai, India -- Alejandro Zaera Polo/Foreign Office Architects (FOA); Hani Rashid/Axysymptote; Fumihiko Maki; Teddy Cruz; Ricardo & Victor Legorreta; Paul Preissner- Indian Architect & Builder

It’s One Way to Get Your Hands on a Bit of New York Real Estate: To raise funds, the Queens Museum of Art is looking for “buyers” of properties in its 9,335-square-foot scale model Panorama of the City of New York...an Adopt-a-Building program. [images]- New York Times

Architects take up Lego challenge: Five of Scotland’s top architecture practices have accepted a challenge to design a building out of Lego...will be displayed at the Scottish Design Awards Nominations Exhibition on Wednesday...[and] the Lighthouse in Glasgow, will be auctioned off for charity in May. -- Aedas; Gareth Hoskins; gm+ad; Michael Gilmour; RMJM [images, links]- BBC News


Q&A: Public Architecture Co-founders John Peterson and John Cary- ArchNewsNow

-- Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA): Taipei Performing Arts Centre, Taipei City, Taiwan
-- Sadar Vuga Arhitekti: National Gallery Extension, Ljubljana, Slovenia

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