• Hopeful signs in architecture field: New signs have emerged suggesting the bottom may be near, say half a dozen local architects. ... -- Bill Monroe/WGM Design, Wayne Camas; Overcash-Dennmit Architect; Narmour-Wright - Charlotte Obseeber (North Carolina)

• Inverness in grave danger of becoming an 'identikit' city: ...at risk of losing its unique identity if something is not done to stop the spread of characterless buildings... heritage group has warned... wants plans for buildings that add little to Inverness's architectural appeal to be stopped in their tracks. - The Inverness Courier (Scotland)

• "Urbanisms: Model Cities": The first of two issues devoted to examining our current urban situation and what lies beyond it: the city's past and its future: the suburban, the exurban, the frontier. Learning from John Lindsay's late-modern metropolis; Supreme geometries, densely packed buildings: cannibalizing the sites and structures of modernism in Mexico, etc; - Triple Canopy Magazine

• AJ exclusive: Prince Charles to bury hatchet with architects: [his] much-anticipated speech at the RIBA on Tuesday 12 May is expected to offer a conciliatory hand to the architect's body, with which he fell out so spectacularly 25 years ago...expected to talk about 'the common ground' shared between himself and the institute. -- Rogers Stirk Harbour; Quinlan Terry - The Architects' Journal (UK)

• Breathtaking new life into Don River: Watertfront Toronto expects that this precinct -- the Lower Don Lands -- will eventually be home to 25,000 residents...all-encompassing approach is critical if waterfront revitalization is to avoid the fate of sameness. -- Christopher Hume - Michael Van Valkenburgh; Ken Greenberg - Toronto Star

• Second Life: Locals look to nab foreclosed condos for affordable housing: ...could take years to resolve, but its backers are already hopeful that their efforts might serve as a blueprint for the plague of similarly stalled developments sprinkled throughout the city. - The Architect's Newspaper

• The lost glory of Chrysler: With the American motor giants in trouble, New York's Chrysler Building seems, more than ever, a monument to a lost age...the most sublime building in Manhattan is as much a relic of a lost empire as any marble fragment decaying in timeless sands. By Jonathan Jones - Guardian (UK)

• Searching for Value in Ludicrous Ideas: ...we've forgotten...how to daydream, invent, engage with the absurd. That's why I am so enamored with the work of inventor/author/cartoonist/former urban planner Steven M. Johnson, a sort of R. Crumb meets R. Buckminster Fuller. By Allison Arief - New York Times

• Global Holcim Awards 2009: four winning entries are a river remediation scheme in Morocco, a greenfield university campus in Vietnam, a rural planning strategy in China, and a shower for day laborers in the USA. -- Aziza Chaouni/Isako Taima; Kuzhiro Kojima/Daisuke Sanuki/Trong Nghia Vo; Yue Zhang/Feng Ni; Liz Ogbu/John Peterson/Public Architecture [links to images, info] - Holcim Foundation
Home Sweet Home: LA's A+D Museum finally lands its own space...Museum Row...Before construction begins, the A+D will host a pop-up exhibition in the new space from May 8 to 23 called "UPCYCLING: Recuperating Past Lives" — Richard Meier & Partners; Gensler - The Architect's Newspaper

"In Situ: Architecture and Landscape": Despite its title, a surprising number of the buildings in MoMA's new exhibition more or less ignore their surrounding landscapes...When the buildings do relate to their settings, it's sometimes a very one-sided relationship...is visual harmony with the landscape at odds with actual harmony? It's a troubling question, and one on which In Situ is silent. — Superstudio; Aldo Rossi; Bernard Tschumi; Tadao Ando; Peter Eisenman; Frank Lloyd Wright; Edward Larrabee Barnes - Metropolis Magazine

"Santiago Calatrava: World Trade Center Transportation Hub" on view at Queen Sofia Spanish Institute, New York City, May 9 – August 31 — DMJM + Harris, STV Group - Queen Sofia Spanish Institute (NYC)

Frank Lloyd Wright in Florida: Call it American Architecture's best-kept secret: ...an opportunity to check out the campus in New York City, courtesy the gorgeous photography of photographer Robin Hill..."Child of the Sun": Frank Lloyd Wright's Florida Southern College, will be on show at the Charles Cowles Gallery, May 19-23 - Azure magazine (Canada)

Made in Brooklyn: ...seventh annual...Bklyn Designs — will open in Dumbo, drawing renewed attention to this neighborhood of former factories and warehouses, and its vibrant design scene. - New York Times

Looking at LOT-EK: Puma City...mobile shipping-container pavilion, has landed on Boston's waterfront, a stone's throw from the Institute of Contemporary Art...Catch it while you can: the maritime carnival decamps for Galway, Ireland, on May 16. - Metropolis Magazine

"Visual Acoustics: The Modernism of Julius Shulman": ...documentary film by Eric Bricker narrated by Dustin Hoffman...explores the monumental career of 98-year-old architectural photographer - JuliusShulmanFilm.com

Book review: Penetrating the density of Rudolph's world: "Writings on Architecture" by Paul Rudolph...it's difficult to know whether to be awed by [his] prescience about important issues...or depressed by the fact that the many failings he is rallying against are still perpetrated in today's architecture...a pleasure to read the words of an architect so obviously passionate about architecture. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Book review: Architect John Lyle left legacy of style: "A Progressive Traditionalist: John M. Lyle, Architect" by Glenn McArthur documents the career of the man who designed more than his fair share of landmarks across Canada...few architects, Canadian or otherwise, were more strongly committed to the idea of capital "A" architecture. By Christopher Hume - Toronto Star

-- KK Letter: From Graz, Austria to Ljubljana, Slovenia -- Design Hotel: Augartenhotel, Graz, Austria

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