• We lose a master of urban renewal.

• Hadid's Guangzhou Opera House (still under construction) goes up in flames ("Why is Chinese stararchitecture so damn flammable?" ponders our friends at TAN).

• Dyckhoff offers some stark advice for the architects in anticipation of Prince Charles's RIBA speech tonight: "It's time to be bold or go under... Your architecture isn't too radical; it's far, far too boring."

• Robert Adam condemns call for boycott of Prince's lecture (and we're looking forward to piles of punditry that's sure to follow tomorrow).

• A call for the world to follow Ecuador's example of a constitution granting rights to nature.

• Coming soon: A Green Classroom Toolbox for greening school renovations.

• A German suburb proves life can be good without cars.

• A battle brews over Edinburgh's skyline; will it chase away much-needed potential investment?

• Glancy thinks Foster and Rogers "are the first to suffer as redevelopment of Ground Zero hits hard times" - because "they're Limeys" (c'mon, isn't that stretching things a bit?).

• New life for Chicago architecture using new tools, new materials, and a renewed focus on issues like density - discussed by those in the know.

• Kamin on Trump tower spire (finally in place): "A Kmart accessory for an Hermes suit...the sky-gazing public has not won."

• King clips: reminder that registration deadline looms for Rising Tides competition; SFMOMA's rooftop garden "nudges us to take a fresh look around"; and cheers for local talent who garnered ASLA Awards.

• Battle shapes up over possible licensing changes for interior designers.

• Q&A with vertical farm guru Despommier.

• Brisbane's striking, new pedestrian bridge expected to be a global drawing card.

• Planned Denmark-Germany bridge called "a money pit worth billions" that would be less used "than a country road."

• A battle brews over Edinburgh's skyline; will it chase away much-needed potential investment?

• Q&A with vertical farm guru Despommier.

• Another take on Chicago Art Institute's Modern Wing (with some amusing/insightful input by Piano).
and wires...part of the City Centre Master Plan 2006, which anticipated an increasing demand for pedestrian areas... has been touted as a future engineering landmark and a structure that will draw 'bridge-lovers' from all over the globe. -- Cox Rayner Architects [image, links]- The Move Channel (UK)

"A Money Pit Worth Billions": Is the Planned Denmark-Germany Bridge Worth it? Danish taxpayers don't want to foot the bill; German taxpayers might pay a lot more than they've bargained for; and some say the bridge would see less traffic than a country road. [images]- Der Spiegel (Germany)

Growing in style: Art Institute's Modern Wing: When the $300 million expansion opens this week, visitors will find the museum easier to navigate and see 20th century masterpieces in a whole new light -- from the sun. -- Renzo Piano [slide show]- Chicago Sun Times

WORDS THAT BUILD: Tip #14: Cluster symbolic and mythically-charged keywords in communication with clients. By Norman Weinstein- ArchNewsNow

-- Michael Maltzan Architecture: Inner-City Arts, Los Angeles
-- Building in a Virtual World: Scope Cleaver: MaxMoney Building, Second Life