• ArcSpace brings us eyefuls of Allied Works' UMMA in Ann Arbor, and BIG/Michel Rojkind's Museo Tamayo in Mexico.
• Ouroussoff digs deep into plans for Grand Paris: the "project represents a critical shift in how we think of urbanism...and that architecture is essential to that transformation."
• In Melbourne, a call to beware "those who wish to impose grander, more outlandish schemes, designed to make this city something it isn't."
• Only a couple of highlights from barrage of Chelsea Barracks coverage: the Rogers team is "shell-shocked"; and a "thanks" to "our Puissant Prince" for meddling (comments galore).
• Not much better news for Foster in Moscow: his Russia Tower scrapped - site will become a parking garage instead (what else?).
• One of the best analyses of the Waxman-Markey climate and energy bill: whether you think it's something to fear or promote, it will "definitely require major changes in how buildings in the U.S. are designed, built, and possibly financed." By Andrew Roberts-
• NYT Magazine takes on "Infrastructure! (It's more exciting than you think, actually)" - prisons, bridges, and dead malls - oh my! (definitely worth spending some time)
• A look at how Tysons Corner wants to transform itself from being a "hotbed of suburban gridlock into a green, walkable city" (a model for us all?).
• Hess cheers the bold use of a Neo-Classical Revival style that creates "an eloquent urban vocabulary" for Santa Cruz, CA - "a rare thing in an era when architects have largely forgotten history."
• Rawsthorn revisits the Eames's own prefab on its 60th anniversary; it "remains a model of economy and creativity," and is "still beguiling."
• In L.A., TreePeople's conference center has a soaring roof that "multitasks to green effect."
• Call for entries: Arquitectum Architecture Competition: Paris 2009: a new dance school for the Moulin Rouge; and eVolo 2010 Skyscraper Competition.
• Chicago continues to take its "fifth facades" seriously with the Red Line Green Roofs Initiative.
• How some architecture firms are positioning themselves overseas.
• How other firms are using evidence-based design for a bevy of different uses (and keeping themselves in business).
• Hawthorne delves into why the prefab movement needs to rethink its model: "taking on a multifamily mind-set could be a new beginning" after "foundering again...in some depressingly familiar ways."
• We couldn't resist: more details on the Rubble Club (it hopes to go international).
A (Radical) Way to Fix Suburban Sprawl: Some 120,000 people work in Tysons Corner, Va., but only 17,000 live there. To transform this hotbed of suburban gridlock into a green, walkable city...is a model of public-private partnership...as suburbs and exurbs...look for ways to repair the damage from five decades of outward, rather than upward, expansion. By Lisa Selin Davis - Time Magazine

Prefab movement needs to rethink its model: Firms find themselves without a toehold even as the any-architecture-goes building boom ends. Taking on a multifamily mind-set could be a new beginning...if prefab is foundering again, it is doing so in some depressingly familiar ways...the age-old gap between ambition and the bottom line has grown wider than ever. By Christopher Hawthorne - Michelle Kaufmann; Marmol Radziner; Taalman Koch Architecture; Lazor Office; Ray Kappe - Los Angeles Times

A Prefab House That Dazzles Still: The Eames House in southwestern California, which turns 60 this month, remains a model of economy and creativity...is still beguiling. By Alice Rawsthorn - New York Times

Differing Strategies Architecture Firms Are Using to Position Themselves Overseas: ...capturing emerging markets against a colonial backdrop...The paradox of working in developing countries as a foreign expert is that you may begin to facilitate your own redundancy. By Gideon Fink Shapiro -- Perkins Eastman; Perkins+Will; Coloco-IAIArchitect

The Evidence Is In: Research-intensive practice has been around for decades...Five firms are on the leading edge of creating purpose-driven, evidence-based design for a bevy of different uses. -- Auerbach Pollock Friedlander; SmithGroup; HMC Architects; RicciGreene Architects; Perkins Eastman [images, links] - The Architect's Newspaper

Green Roofs on Chicago’s Red Line: Red Line Green Roofs Initiative...an effort to create 50,000 square feet of green roofs is about more than stormwater management. Improving the environment, public health, and the perception of uses of roofs themselves are all on the list of goals..."demonstrates the principle that you want to be thinking about the fifth façade of your building"... -- Hampton-Avery Architects - IAIArchitect

Function Follows Form: A conference center's soaring roof multitasks to green effect...for TreePeople, an organization that plants trees and promotes water conservation and sustainability throughout Los Angeles. By David Sokol -- Marmol Radziner [slide show] - GreenSource Magazine

New building artfully fills last gap left by Loma Prieta quake on Pacific Avenue in Santa Cruz: Rittenhouse Building...has created a confident presence on the street by boldly using a Neo-Classical Revival style to achieve a balance with the surroundings...an eloquent urban vocabulary — a rare thing in an era when architects have largely forgotten history. By Alan Hess -- Baldauf Catton Von Eckartsberg Architects - Mercury News (California)

Call for entries: Arquitectum Architecture Competition: Paris 2009: a new dance school for the Moulin Rouge; cash prizes; early bird registration deadline: June 29 (final registration: July 30) - Arquitectum

Call for entries: 2010 Skyscraper Competition: examine the relationship between the skyscraper and the natural world, the community, and urban living; cash prizes; early registration deadline: November 17 - eVolo Architecture

Support for 'bereaved' architects: A support group has been set up to help architects through the "trauma" of seeing one of their creations demolished in their own lifetime. The Rubble Club aims to draw attention to the number of buildings it believes are being torn down unnecessarily. -- Reiach and Hall; Hodder Associates; Gillespie Kidd and Coia - BBC News

Engaging Students in Smart-Building Design: Illinois Institute of Technology New Student Residence Halls: Performance-calibrated building design and student-centric spaces will give students control over their environment and generate performance data to be shared with university and architectural communities beyond the IIT campus. -- Dirk Denison Architects [images] - ArchNewsNow

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