We couldn't resist: in Las Vegas, CityCenter is dealing with the "Vdara death ray."

Call for entries: SCUP Excellence in Planning, Landscape Architecture, and SCUP/AIA-CAE Excellence in Architecture.

An impressive winners list for the Cityscape Awards for Architecture in the Emerging Markets.

2010 World Monuments Fund/Knoll Modernism Prize goes to the "exemplary restoration" of "a little-known but iconic modern structure" in the Netherlands.

Q&A with "light artist" Schwendinger: How do you light smart growth? "My job is to remind people of the nighttime and say 'look at this as a canvas of darkness.'"

Pearman gives a thumbs-up to Theis + Khan's 22 Bateman's Row: it "shows what can happen when architects are in full control of every aspect of the process."

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Master Builder: With his U.S. Institute for Peace set to open in Washington, Israeli-born Moshe Safdie takes his place among the world’s leading architects...has been singularly responsible for shaping his native country’s modern landmarks...But in the United States...he remains almost unknown, overshadowed by superstars... | Tablet Magazine

Q&A with Renzo Piano: ...why bother with all this glass and the fancy skylight system? "I like to give the possibility, the flexibility"...Gehry said of your building, "I like the galleries; Renzo’s getting better!" What do you say to him??...Tell him I am getting better. Tell him he is getting better too!" By Edward Lifson | Metropolis Magazine

Whole in one: Theis + Khan’s plans for a new family home became a complete development including their office and rentable commercial and residential space. It works for everyone, even the planners. Small does not have to mean simple...22 Bateman’s Row...shows what can happen when architects are in full control of every aspect of the process. By Hugh Pearman | RIBA Journal (UK)

Q&A with Leni Schwendinger, Light Artist and Designer: How do you light smart growth? “My job is to remind people of the nighttime and say ‘look at this as a canvas of darkness.’” -- Leni Schwendinger Light Projects; Snohetta; Claude Cormier; Janet Rosenberg; Gustafson Guthrie Nichol; LMN Architects | The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Can We Build in a Brighter Shade of Green? ...the market remains minuscule, and the materials and expertise needed to build passive homes are often hard to find. While some 25,000 certified passive structures...have already been built in Europe, there are just 13 in the United States, with a few dozen more in the pipeline. -- Steven Landau | New York Times

2010 World Monuments Fund/Knoll Modernism Prize to Bierman Henket Architecten and Wessel de Jonge Architecten for their exemplary restoration of the Zonnestraal Sanatorium, a little-known but iconic modern structure in Hilversum, the Netherlands. -- Johannes Duiker/Bernard Bijvoet/Jan Gerko Wiebenga (1931) | World Monuments Fund

Cityscape Awards for Architecture in the Emerging Markets winners announced -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SCM); Aedas; Tabanlioglu Architects; Perkins+Will; EAA - Emre Arolat Architects; Barton Willmore International; nabil gholam architects; RSP Architects; Aezad Alam; Klingmann Architects; FXFowle; Draw Link Group;Bothe Richter Teherani | Cityscape Global (Dubai)

Call for entries: SCUP Excellence in Planning, SCUP Excellence in Landscape Architecture and SCUP/AIA-CAE Excellence in Architecture; deadlines: January 21, February 25, 2012 | Society for College and University Planning (SCUP)

"Death ray" scorched hair: The tall, sleek, curving Vdara Hotel at CityCenter on the Strip is a thing of beauty. But the south-facing tower is also a collector and bouncer of sun rays, which - if you’re at the hotel’s swimming pool at the wrong time of day and season - can singe your hair and melt your plastic drink cups and shopping bags...pool employees call the phenomenon the "Vdara death ray." | Las Vegas Review-Journal

Steven Holl Architects: Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow, UK: The new design complements its neighbor, but moves forward using a new language of light.