• ArcSpace brings us an eyeful of Gehry's "Treehouse" about to take route on the UTS campus in Sydney.
• Gehry gets the Playboy treatment (all in good taste) with a candid, thoughtful (and often amusing) Q&A.
• Moore takes a tour of Masdar City with Foster and really likes what he sees (though he does find "something spooky in the controls it employs in the name of the environment - a touch of eco-Orwell"); on the other hand, the Zayed National Museum "looks a bit daft. How can this be?"
• Puglisi pits Hadid's MAXXI against Dece's MACRO in Rome: one is a "work of elevated architectural poetry"; the other, "an architectural landscape of such contagious beauty" (but there can be only one winner).
• The new Ottawa Convention Centre is "bold, innovative, audacious," and might help the city "shed its reputation for bland," but "can one building, no matter how spectacular, transform a city and change its psyche?"
• Architects weigh in on the convention center: A tulip? A barge? Maybe a buster? No matter what, it is "unsual for Ottawa" and "marks a new era for architecture here."
• King cheers Berkeley's Ed Roberts Campus: universal design, not flashy architecture, creates "an egalitarian oasis that, with luck, will send ripples into the mainstream."
• Recycled and repurposed material brings out the creative side of architects and building: "There's not yet a container city in New York - but there will be."
• A sneak-peek at the High Line's next phase: the "new section feels more like a walk on the wild side" (we can't wait).
architects in Nigeria by allowing them to operate whereas, by law, they are not permitted to practice in the country without being registered. -- Roti Delano/Association of Consulting Architects Nigeria (ACAN)- Vanguard (Nigeria)

New York Architecture: Ten architectural events in 2010 that will have a meaningful effect on 2011 (and beyond). By Paul Goldberger -- Michael Van Valkenburgh; I.M. Pei; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; "Small Scale, Big Change"/Museum of Modern Art; "Sukkah City"/Reboot; "The Lindsay Years"/Museum of the City of New York; Frank Gehry; FDR Memorial/Louis Kahn; Henry Cobb/Pei Cobb Freed [slide show essay]- New Yorker

Notes on a Year: The Burj Khalifa and "In the Footprint," odd as it might sound, were...two sides of the same coin, two cautionary tales about Brobdingnagian urban dreams unique to the architecture of the last decade. By Christopher Hawthorne -- Adrian Smith; Frank Gehry; SHoP; Kazuyo Sejima/Ryue Nishizawa/SANAA; Venturi Scott Brown; Anthony Vidler; James Stirling; Barry Bergdoll; Henry Urbach; HKS [slide show]- Los Angeles Times

Roger K. Lewis’s pet peeves about the District and its architecture: Peeves vary in scale, but all are attributable to faulty design, questionable construction standards, misunderstood human needs and behavior, and sometimes poor maintenance. - Washington Post

Design in another dimension: morality: "Small Scale/Big Change: New Architectures of Social Engagement" at at the Museum of Modern Art showcases buildings that meet needs of the underprivileged...proof that the ideal of a healing profession hasn't disappeared from architecture...works are modest. All were very inexpensive. But they do more than merely perform a social service. They are also distinguished purely as works of architecture. By Robert Campbell -- Hashim Sarkis; Anna Beringer; Teddy Cruz - Boston Globe

Champions of city living: It's Dublin, but not as it's usually portrayed. A senior city planner and an architect have taken a fresh, provocative look at the city and redefined it..."Redrawing Dublin" by Paul Kearns and Motti Ruimy...challenges policy-makers and citizens to confront its contradictions... By Frank McDonald- Irish Times

Total Housing: Apartments Winners Announced: Five firms receive exhibition, publication, cash prize -- H2O architectes; Nabito Arquitectura; Tiago Barros; J. Matthew Thomas; Pratt Institute [images]- Actar / Architizer.com / Storefront for Art & Architecture


Call for entries: International Design Awards for Architecture, Interior, Fashion, Graphic and Product Designers; deadline: January 15, 2011- International Design Awards (IDA)

Too much seasonal spirit: Abu Dhabi hotel 'regrets' £7m [$11m] Christmas tree: Emirates Palace hotel has second thoughts over decision to 'overload' tree with diamonds, rubies and other gems...after questions arose about whether the opulent tree was innocent good cheer or unfortunate bad taste. - Guardian (UK)