We lose Tafel, "the last surviving member of the original Taliesin Fellowship." On a personal note, we will miss this gentle gentleman stopping by NYC's Center for Architecture to cheer the throngs filling its Tafel Hall.

Kamin, taken by the Moscow airport attack, revisits his 5th anniversary of 9/11 column, "Hubs of Frustration" (plus ça change...).

According to the New York Times, the Moscow airport attack has become "an irresistible display case to make their consumption more conspicuous." (though from offline reports, one might want to reconsider planning one's wedding there in mid-January).

Iovine cheers Gehry's "intention to play to the occupants" of the New World Symphony campus instead of "architecture-gawkers... But let's remember what Lapidus once quipped, 'I designed Lincoln Road for people - a car never bought anything.'"

McKee & Co. His recent book, "In the Shadow of 10 Best Lists" (tells) us that the most significant buildings completed since 2000... -- Zaha Hadid, Caruso St John, Grimshaw, Foster + Partners, Haworth Tompkins, Rick Mather, Gustafson Porter, Herzog & de Meuron, Denton Corker Marshall, Reisch and Hat, Capita Percy Thomas, Rogers Stirk Harbour, Consarc, Kennedy Fitzgerald [images, links] - Blueprint Magazine (UK)

Staff at award winning Civil Justice Centre in Manchester offered fleeces because of the cold... -- dubbed the 'Filing Cabinet'... -- The Spinningfields site has just been named one of Britain's 10 best buildings, but unions say parts of it are not fit for purpose... -- Denton Corker Marshall - Manchester Evening News (UK)

Experts call for debate before changing Istanbul's Taksim Square... plans to pedestrianize the city's central square are lacking in specifics and should have been developed in consultation with experts and the public, architects and city planners have said... -- Omer Yilmaz/Akteria Architecture Center, Haydar Karabey/Limited Architecture - Hurriyet Daily News (Turkey)

New libraries bring contemporary look to District neighborhoods:...it's clear that a coherent style has emerged, if not lacking in specifics and should have been developed in consultation with experts and the public, architects and city planners have said... -- Omer Yilmaz/Akteria Architecture Center, Haydar Karabey/Limited Architecture - Hurriyet Daily News (Turkey)

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Museum of Fine Arts Boston: Foster + Partners brings neo-modern seriousness to museum addition, but is it enough?...while no doubt effectively addressing some dilemmas particular to this museum, falls short of that mission...a city graced by the modern diligence of Gropius, Sert, Rudolph, and indeed Pei. It deserves something still more glorious. By Thomas De Monchaux [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Greenwich Millennium Village moves to next stage: A design competition...has been won by a team led by Jestico + Whiles, including Peter Barber Architects and Studio 54 Architecture. Whitelaw Turkington, working on landscape, XCO2, advising on low energy solutions, and acoustic consultants Sandy Brown Associates make up the rest of the winning team. - The Construction Index (UK)

Rem Koolhaas Can't Put Down His Pen: ...sketches constantly as he talks me through his proposal for Hong Kong's planned US$2.8 billion cultural development...biggest prize on the table right now is the West Kowloon Cultural District. -- OMA/Office for Metropolitan Architecture; Rocco Design Architects; Foster + Partners [slide show] - Wall Street Journal

The Ten Commandments of Architecture: Students' questions were astute and concise, including: What makes a good architect? How do I go about getting hired? I went straight to the yellowing Word document... By Jim Childress, FAIA - ArchNewsNow

Gehry Partners: New World Symphony, Miami Beach, Florida