A call for architects to "overcome negative public perceptions about their profession if they are to persuade people that 'having a good architect is as basic as damp-proofing.'" -- Shane O'Toole- Irish Times

A Discourse on Emerging Tectonic Visualization and the Effects of Materiality on Praxis: Or an essay on the ridiculous way architects talk...When in doubt, add '-ity.' Or '-ology.' By Witold Rybczynski- Slate

Crit> Dolby Regeneration Medicine Building: An unpromising site brings out the best in architect Rafael Viñoly...at the back of the University of California, San Francisco...at once sharp and lithe, rational and poetic, industrial and organic—an appropriately futuristic home for the cutting edge of research... [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Mecanoo unveils Birmingham Library fly-through: New video shows the controversial project as it will look once completed...now in its second year of construction, remains on schedule and within budget. [images, video]- BDBuilding Design (UK)

Building rebellion with David Chipperfield: Architecture isn't radical. It can never be radical. "It takes seven years and £23 million to build something. There's no revolutionary potential in there"...he will receive British architecture's highest honour, the Royal Gold Medal...does not seem to have diminished his desire to hold up a mirror to the failings of British architectural culture. By Kieran Long- Evening Standard (UK)

Project Neon: Architect and designer Kirsten Hively describes her effort to seek out, document and encourage appreciation of the best neon in New York and shares her photography of the city's glow. [slide show]- Urban Omnibus

Roger Scruton: What is beauty? I commend...six ten-minute videos that make up a television program from BBC hosted by the philosopher...who summarizes his thoughts on beauty as it relates to art, architecture...It is simple yet profound, or rather profound because it is simple...To watch it is to luxuriate in pure truth. By David Brussat [links]- Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

Towering Insult in Mumbai: Architect wants nothing to do with billion-dollar Antilia Tower...reports...casting its Vaastu principles...and living walls as a modern-day Hanging Gardens of Babylon...[images]- Chicago Architectural Club

Heat wave burns Brisbane's King George Square designers: Soaring temperatures reaching 56.3 degrees [133 F]...have seen the designers burned by critics...for failing to provide enough shade..."If someone is looking for a shady oasis they should go to Roma Street Parkland"...-- ArchDaily-Architects Network (Australia)

EPA Stormwater Rulemaking: Submit your green infrastructure case studies: Demonstrate to the Environmental Protection Agency that green infrastructure is a highly-effective and cost-efficient approach to improving the quality of the water supply; deadline: March 31- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Call for entries: 2011 Burnham Prize Competition: "McCormick Place Redux" international single-stage ideas competition; cash prizes; registration deadline: March 15- Chicago Architectural Club

Book Review: "Visual Planning and the Picturesque" by Nikolaus Pevsner. Edited by Mathew Aitchison: A rediscovered manuscript unveils a portrait of the famed architectural historian as neglected urban designer. His commitment to the picturesque aesthetic for buildings and towns is as urgently needed as ever. By Norman Weinstein- ArchNewsNow

Designers of the Year: Q&A with Verda Alexander and Primo Orpilla of Studio O+A: Today Contract magazine named Verda Alexander and Primo Orpilla of San Francisco's Studio O+A Designers of the Year. We asked them about their experiences during the high and low points of the dot-com era and the ways high-tech continues to influence office design today. - ArchNewsNow

-- BIG-Bjarke Ingels Group: Waste-to-Energy Plant, Copenhagen, Denmark
-- MVRDV: Balancing Barn, Suffolk, UK

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