• ArcSpace brings us Siza's museum in South Korea (inspired by a cat).
• Starchitects come to the aid of Australian flood victims by donating to a flood relief auction (some cool stuff! bidding closes March 2).
• Bhalla berates India's rigid, antiquated building laws for "dull" urban architecture: "Design is not the culprit here rather it is the victim, enslaved within the clutches of policy or what is infamously called the 'system'" (leaving architects looking for loopholes).
• Ireland's attorney general warns against a proposed law to allow "grandfathering" of "people with several years experience practicing as an architect - but without a formal college qualification - to be admitted to the official register of architects" (needless to say, the RIAI agrees).
• Wimsatt offers up five myths about the 'burbs: "let's dispense with a few misunderstandings about where most of us call home."
• Gardner is not quite so gushing about DS+R's new Film Society of Lincoln Center project: "The firm's skill, even brilliance, consists in grand gestures" - but the devil is in the details.
• Q&A with Mazzanti re: his role in the revitalization of a once-mean Medellín, Colombia, neighborhood: "we want an architecture defined by what it does, not by its substance."
• Q&A with Tombazis re: being a green pioneer in Greece, why Athens is not a lost cause, and bioclimatic design: "I do not really strive for a timeless design, what does timeless mean anyway?"
• Q&A with Krisel re: his thoughts on the Modern movement - then and now..."I don't consider it a style; I consider it a language."
• Q&A with Konishi Gaffney; Reiach and Hall; WTArchitecture; Simpson & Brown [images]
• Wim Wenders, Herzog & de Meuron; Balkrishna Doshi; Neri & Hu; Lina Bo Bardi...[images, videos]
• An eyeful of the Edinburgh Architectural Association Awards 2011 shortlist.
• Heatherwick tapped to design 2012 Olympic Cauldron (alas, no pix yet).
• The architecture of happiness: Eco-architecture pioneer Alexandros Tombazis discusses politics, Athens and his dream project...and why the Greek capital is not a lost cause...bioclimatic design..."I do not really strive for a timeless design, what does timeless mean anyway?" - Kathimerini (Greece)
• Five myths about the suburbs: ...today, the suburbs aren't what they used to be...have become more like cities, while cities have become more like suburbs...For better or worse, the suburbs reflect America, so let's dispense with a few misunderstandings about where most of us call home. By William Upski Wimsatt - Washington Post
• New Ritz-Carlton, five-star architecture: The 52-storey residential skyscraper is among the most elegant additions to the New York skyline in recent years...brings a finer urban grain to a part of the city that had been overlooked for decades..."We see it as a piece of urban theatre." By Christopher Hume -- Kohn Pederson Fox (KPF) [image] - Toronto Star
• Pratt Institute Takes an Interest in Making a Neighborhood Nicer: ...Myrtle Hall...has attracted attention for its sleek design...and its environmentally friendly features. But over time it may prove to be most notable for its effect on the neighborhood. By Fred A. Bernstein -- WASA/Studio A [images] - New York Times
• New Film Society of Lincoln Center project fails in the details: The firm's skill, even brilliance, consists in grand gestures while the failures reside in the small details. The new Film Center, judged only by the exterior, is a case in point. By James Gardner -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro [image] - The Real Deal (NYC)
• Architect Restoring Civic Pride, One Library at a Time: Giancarlo Mazzanti has been a key figure in the revitalization of a sector of Medellín, Colombia, that was once regarded as one of the most violent places in the world..."we want an architecture defined by what it does, not by its substance." [images] - UT Dallas News (University of Texas at Dallas)
• Thomas Heatherwick to design Olympic Cauldron: Flame centrepiece will be visible from Populous' 2012 stadium-BDBuilding Design (UK)

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Postal Service Issues Stamps of Approval: A behind-the-scenes look at industrial designers and their iconic designs going postal...Pioneers of American Industrial Design...some of these design pioneers may not have met the primary requirement for U.S. stamp stardom: They're not dead. -- Raymond Loewy; Niels Diffrient; Derry Noyes; Eliot Noyes; Henry Dreyfuss; Norman Bel Geddes; Donald Deskey; Greta von Nessen; Tucker Viemeister/Lab at Rockwell Group [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Meet Architect Barbie: ...complete with hard hat and blueprints...will spotlight architecture as its “Career of the Year”...hopes to educate and encourage girls to consider architecture when thinking about what their jobs could be as adults...consulted with the AIA to keep the doll “authentic to the career.” -- Kelly Hayes McAlonie; Despina Stratigakos [image]- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

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