We couldn't resist: Yesterday, Google doodle celebrated Moscow's St. Basil's Cathedral; today, the “big G” doodle “celebrates the greatest architect you've never heard of”: Sir George Gilbert Scott (though it seems only used in U.K. - that's one way to maintain such a reputation).

An eyeful of Piano's planned $803 million waterfront cultural center in Greece (aiming for LEED Platinum - and totally privately funded).

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A call to save 1980s "architectural stars" - "buildings of the excess era" have too few friends.

Glancy cheers the prospect of Rogers/Piano's Lloyd's of London making Grade 1 status, "an honor this modern marvel deserves...this hi-tech interloper is a monument of our times."

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We are saddened by the news that we've lost Larry Bogdanow, a master designer of “relaxed luxury” (and architect of some of our favorite places).

A call to “rediscover our planning heritage” and re-imagine Garden Cities for the 21st century.

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director of MoMA, quipped, "Das MoMA and das Auto will work together in a strong partnership." - AOL Autos

Writers' Theatre Hires Studio Gang Architects For New Theatre Building in Glencoe: "Jeanne Gang has a vision of architecture that is derived from her own equivalent of the word and artist: the material and the environment." - Broadway World

S.F. parklets emerge as neighborhood fixtures: ...silveres of open space are the most intriguing urban design innovation in today's San Francisco...What began last year as a form of ad hoc urbanism is emerging as a distinctive feature of neighborhood commercial districts...These spaces aren't a panacea...But they're becoming a regular element of our urban landscape - for better far more than for worse. By John King -- Shift Design Studio; Ogrydziak/Prillinger Architects [images] - San Francisco Chronicle

Parklets offer a place to pause on busy Powell St.: San Francisco's parklets have hit the big time...the 15th and most elaborate - a 2-block installation...between the cable car turnaround and Union Square...a far cry from the city's proto-parklet - a two-hour whim in 2005 where the design collective Rebar fed quarters into a Mission Street parking space, rolled out sod and plopped down a potted tree. By John King -- Walter Hood/Hood Design [images] - San Francisco Chronicle

NEA Chairman Rocco Landesman Announces Inaugural Our Town Grants: More than $6.5 million to be invested in 51 communities that are supporting the arts as part of a community revitalization strategy...Grants were awarded for planning, design, and arts engagement projects that strengthen arts organizations while increasing the livability of communities across America. - National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)

City Beautiful: The 2011 Public Design Award Winners: Because who says civic architecture has to be ugly? By Matt Chaban -- Michielli + Wyetruzer Architects; Steven Holl/Michael Van Valkenburgh; Deborah Berke/Monica Goetz; Toshiko Mori; Doyle Partners/Cozzolino Studio; Beyer Blinder Belle; Garrison Architects [slide show] - New York Observer

Call for entries: [HONG KONG] Alternative Car Park Tower open international ideas competition; cash prizes; registration deadline: August 12; submission deadline: October 15 - [AC-CA] Architectural Competition/Concours d'Architecture

Sir George Gilbert Scott in Google doodle honouring forgotten hero: ...celebrates the greatest architect you've never heard of...It's a good week for architecture fans at the big G: yesterday's doodle celebrated the 450-year-old onion-topped St Basil's Cathedral in Red Square, Moscow. - CNET UK

-- Celebration: John Lautner Turns 100
-- Belzberg Architects: Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust, Los Angeles, California