• The U.K. riots: Sennett, Rykwert, Till, de Bottom and Tavernor on why Britain is burning (special thanks to AJ for taking this out from behind its paywall).

• Jeh and Inglis weigh in on the London riots: "The message for architects, planners and developers is a chastening one" and "The importance of the built environment to people's investment in their communities is consistently underestimated."

• City planner Hornick weighs in with a (very) meaty analysis of what Rybczynski and Edward Glaeser are missing in their otherwise excellent tome: "In proposing how to revitalize modern cities, both books underplay the critical role of the government" (this is much, much more than a book review!)

• Reinmuth ruminates (at length) about the way cities are being made that "has drastically altered the context for architects" and "It's time for architects to stop acting like victims"; the answer is with architecture schools - but they seem to be "reluctant or incapable of addressing" the issues to "reconfigure the profession, so the architect re-appears in a central role in city-making."

• Jordan's "crazy" ($1.5 billion!) Star Trek Park "does have an eco upside" (let's hope so, anyway).

• Long cheers on AHMM's makeover of the Angel Building: does it deserve to win the Stirling Prize? "Probably not. But it certainly deserves to be a benchmark for quality as the city rebuilds buildings from the 70s and 80s that are coming to the end of their lives."

• A sequel in store for a historic Queens movie palace that's been an eyesore for 25 years.

• Here's to serious architectural goals for new recreation centers in Edmonton, including creating "a more walkable, integrated community."

• Geoffroy Bawa Award winner Thanapathy talks about what moves him as an architect, and why young professionals should not "get carried away with social prestige, wealth and ambition."

• Queensland's new government architect Middleton talks about the flood rebuilding process, working in China, and where the potential for urban design lies in the sunshine state.

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• Devlin delves into a mathematical equation to explain the essence of the architecture of the U.K.'s University of Cambridge.

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• Architecture Center Houston launches its first film fest on Friday + ArchCH gives grant for documentary film to advocate for the preservation of the city's mid-century modern architectural heritage.

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In Profile: Malcolm Middleton: ...recently appointed Queensland Government architect, has over 30 years experience in the industry...speaks about the flood rebuilding process in Queensland, working in China and where the potential for urban design lies in the sunshine state. - Architecture & Design (Australia)

Lagrange joining VOA Associates: He's back...last year shut down his firm in the wake of the building bust...The move appears to have benefits for both sides: It gives VOA a star designer and it gives Lucien Lagrange a corporate base and firm financial footing. By Blair Kamin - Chicago Tribune

Greg Lynn on calculus in architecture: ...talks about the mathematical roots of architecture - and how calculus and digital tools allow modern designers to move beyond the traditional building forms. A glorious church in Queens (and a titanium tea set) illustrate his theory. - TED (Technology, Entertainment and Design)

"Nova Cantabrigiensis" by John Devlin: ...obsessed with discovering the secret to "the Cambridge essence"...over 360 illustrations - dream-like sketches of redesigned collegiate-style buildings on an imaginary island...a semi-mathematical equation which he calls "The King's Constant"..."I am presently cautiously concluding that this ratio is 5:10:1." [images] - Wallpaper*

Finalists in Energy Star's 2011 National Building Competition: Battle of the Buildings: From a pool of 245 buildings nationwide...12 have achieved the greatest percent reduction of energy use within the individual building categories they represent. - Eco-Structure magazine

Architecture Center Houston Announces First Annual Film Festival, August 11-13: ...will feature "Citizen Architect: Samuel Mockbee and the Spirit of the Rural Studio," "Regular or Super" examines a Mies van der Rohe-designed gas station, and "VDL Research House: Richard Neutra's Studio and Residence"; also short films by students at the Rice School of Architecture and the University of Houston College of Architecture - Houston Press

High-powered filmmakers advocate for Houston preservation in new documentary: the Architecture Center Houston Foundation has awarded a $25,000 grant to fund a feature-length film about the city's mid-century modern architectural heritage...to Sam Wainwright Douglas..."I think a lot of folks just don't have any idea what gems are out there." - CultureMap Houston

A Rippling, Metallic Moonscape Made of 65,000 CDs: What to do with CDs in the age of Spotify, iPods, and the collective realization that CD sound totally sucks? ...Elise Morin and Clémence Eliard [turned] them into "WasteLandscape"...that shows off CDs' best (and arguably only) asset: They sure are shiny! ...artificial knolls at Le Centquatre, an art space, in Paris. [images, video] - Fast Company

Call for entries: Mayor's Urban Design Awards: ...biennial awards acknowledge the important contribution that urban design, landscape design and architecture make in improving the quality of life in Calgary (open to all, projects must be in Calgary); deadline: September 15 - City of Calgary (Canada)

Call For entries: Center for Architecture + Design's "Architecture Is..." 3 minute video contest: what does architecture means to you and your community; winners will be shown during the 2011 Architecture and the City Festival Film Series (open, no fee); deadline: September 8- Center for Architecture + Design / AIA San Francisco

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