• ArcSpace brings us eyefuls of Isozaki & Kapoor's planned ARK NOVA, a traveling concert hall in Japan (it's - um - interesting); and H&deM's stadium in Bordeaux.
• The NEA coordinates ArtPlace, a grand new initiative to help fund "groundbreaking work in creative placemaking" (and time to submit for next grant cycle).
• Research shows brains of city dwellers function differently from their country cousins, which "could help city planners determine which design features would provide the most solace" (and add fodder to grant submissions for ArtPlace?).
• Nobel takes a look what new architectural openings are on the horizon, but "the biggest metaphorical event in the year ahead may be the implosion" of Foster's never-completed Las Vegas tower, "sure to spark talk about the state of architecture today."
• Glancey's review of the week includes his take on the high-voltage shortlist of RIBA's pylon competition (and lots more).
• It's a starchitect kind of day: Denver hopes losing two starchitects in five years won't "hinder future efforts to attract the best in the business" + Calatrava makes first comments re: his Denver International Airport divorce.
• Heathcote has a hearty conversation with Viñoly re: past and current projects (he thinks Battersea and the Domino refinery "could be disposed of...what the buildings do to a forward-looking plan is enormously detrimental.").
• Moore wants to like Viñoly's Firstsite in Colchester, but it leaves him puzzled: "There is a pattern to his projects. They have whoosh and sparkle" that appeals to "the glitter-loving magpie inside us...But the closer you look...the less sense they tend to make."
Design Diva Hits a High Z: In cities around the world and at a splashy show in Philadelphia, Zaha Hadid is exciting eyes and teasing minds: Her firm has been growing nonstop, even as other architects have been hit hard by the recession. And she lambastes those who wish she’d have registered its impact too, at least in terms of damping down her work’s irrational exuberance. “We are in a period of economical decline — so we should give them bad buildings?” By Blake Gopnik - Newsweek

Zaha Hadid the Latest Starchitect to Design a Miami Beach Parking Garage: In other cities, starchitects are hired to build skyscrapers, theaters, stadiums, or art museums. In Miami Beach...they’re given parking garages...the latest in a long series of famous architects and firms to be selected to create a new parking structure. -- Frank Gehry; Herzog & de Meuron; Arquitectonica; Enrique Norten/TEN Arquitectos; Perkins + Will - UnBeige

A grand salaam to Le Corbusier: While in 1961 Swiss-French master architect designed the building of Chandigarh College of Architecture for future architects, 50 years later the college is going to dedicate its inaugural day to the memories of this modern architect during its upcoming golden jubilee celebrations from October 7 to 9...2011 Pritzket Prize winner Eduardo Souto de Moura to deliver a special lecture...-- Times of India

Bali Peace Park design steps closer to reality: Project plans to turn the Bali bomb site which was Kuta's Sari Club into a memorial park for the victims of terrorism have been boosted as the federal and state governments pledge financial contributions. -- Made Wijaya/P.T. Wijaya Tribwana International [images, links]- Architecture & Design (Australia)

Architectural hardware company Izé: ...decade-long collaboration with architects and designers has given ironmongery the attention it deserves...Edwin Heathcote, the Financial Times architectural critic and founder of Izé...“Handles matter because they are the first part of the building you touch and set up your whole experience of the building”... -- David Chipperfield; Eric Parry; Kenneth Grange; Sebastian Bergne; Aldo Bakker; 6a Architects; David Kohn; Schmidt Hammer Lassen; Patrick Lynch; Zaha Hadid; Amanda Levete [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Putting it into practice: Alex de Rijke’s appointment at the Royal College of Art/RCA heralds a welcome shift towards closer links between teaching and practice...It is an inspired appointment...De Rijke’s RCA looks like it is going to sport notably muddier boots than the one over which Nigel Coates presided. By Ellis Woodman -- DRMM- BD/Building Design (UK)

European winners of Holcim Awards 2011 competition announced -- realities united; Carlos Arroyo Arquitectos; Philippe Rizzotti Architects/Samuel Nageotte Architecture/Off Architecture; De Stuurlui Stedenbouw/Atelier Gras; Gramazio & Kohler/Architektur und Digitale Fabrikation – ETH Zurich; Barkow Leibinger Architects/Schlaich Bergermann und Partner/TRANSsolar; Sauerbruch Hutton/Arup/Experientia; AA School of Architecture; etc. [links to images, info]- Holcim Foundation

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Call for entries: "Design of the ground public space – University Parking: Technical Project" in Piata Universitatii, Bucharest; open to architects in Romania, the European Union and Switzerland; cash prizes; deadline: October 26- Architects Chamber of Romania / Ordinul Arhitectilor din Romania

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