• Zandberg zings Tel Aviv Museum’s new wing: it’s a “wow” at first sight, but ultimately a “beautiful waste of space” that is “all form and no function...its purpose seems to have been forgotten.”
• LaBarre cheers an “indescent music center” for a tiny village in Spain - that cost less than $1 million (gasp!).
• The “real marriage” about the new addition to the SCAD Museum of Art in Savannah, GA, is the “drastic juxtaposition” between the ruins of an 1853 railway depot and the soaring, light-filled spaces.
• Rybczynski is on a roll about “how the Brits stole high-tech” from American architects and “made it sing.”
• Woodman cheers Foster’s “extraordinary proposal to overhaul the UK’s transport infrastructure” + the ArcelorMittal Orbit “captures the present moment all too clearly - and what a frightening sight it is.”
• Wainwright finds the “lunatic red” Orbit “so willfully grotesque that it is almost likable.”
• More on the end of a decade of the U.K.’s starchitect-studded adventures in seeking the Bilbao effect in new regional fine-arts buildings.
• Hume discovers it’s not a good idea to tell Libeskind his buildings look like one another.
• Lewis is (mostly) impressed with the 2011 Solar Decathlon entries that “suggested the kinds of sustainable, affordable homes that America's home building industry could be producing for small household decades from now.”
• Q&A with Eco-Structure editor Weeks re: biomimicry, the importance of the post-occupancy performance of buildings, and why Ray Anderson deserves to be in a Hall of Fame.
• Many 21st-century rules could leave some NYC community gardens open to development.
• Jacobs Engineering swallows Philly-based firm KlingStubbins “to better compete with other big players.”
• Winners all: Public projects dominate the Australian Institute of Architects National Architecture Awards 2011 + WAF 2011 day two winners are lots of building types.
• Jacobs Engineering Expands Design Capability with KlingStubbins Purchase: ... justification for the purchase appears to be... 
• It's time to foster change: Foster's radical proposal for the transport system could be the kickstart the industry needs...After 18 months of penny-pinchning and emphasising the local, politicians may be prepared to think big...Britain wasn't always so aimless + Teetering on the edge of collapse, the ArcelorMittal Orbit captures the present moment all too clearly — and what a frightening sight it is. By Ellis Woodman -- Foster + Partners; Anish Kapoor; Arup; BD/Building Design (UK)
• Solar home exhibit on Mall foretold future of efficient small dwellings: Some of the 19 Solar Decathlon...suggested the kinds of sustainable, affordable homes that America’s home building industry could be producing for small households decades from now. By Roger K. Lewis - Washington Post
• A Conversation With Katie Weeks, Editor of Eco-Structure Magazine...discusses biomimicry...the growing importance of the post-occupancy performance of buildings; and why Ray Anderson deserves to be in a Hall of Fame for turning a carpet
Winners: Australian Institute of Architects National Architecture Awards 2011: Public projects dominated...34 awards and commendations were selected... -- Johnson Pilton Walker (JPW); Cox Architecture; Arkhefield; Total Project Group Architects; Hassell; WOHA; Neeson Murcutt Architects; Candalepas Associates; Kerry Hill Architects; NH Architecture; DesignInc; etc. - Architecture & Design (Australia)

WAF 2011: Day two winners announced: Four completed buildings and ten future projects have scooped awards at the World Architectural Festival. -- Studio MK27; Snøhetta; Architectenbureau Koen van Velsen; Bjarke Ingels Group (BIG); Oppenheim Architecture + Design; Sturgess Architecture; Kjellgren Caminsky Architecture; Sharon Davis Design; Miralles Tagliabue EMBT; AGI Architects; Rocco; Integrated Design Associates; VK, 2050 A+P, Nhat My; Gustafson Porter (images). - The Architects' Journal (UK)

"Supertall" Buildings Defy Cash Crunch, Ape Condoms, Deface Mecca: Hubris and scandals color the history of buildings that stretch the limits of engineering. Yet the "Supertall" exhibition at Lower Manhattan’s Skyscraper Museum shows that the allure of high buildings is stronger than ever... Though sleek, futuristic modernism prevails, cash-laden promoters ransack history to lay on gilded glitz. By James S. Russell -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Adrian Smith; Wilkinson Eyre; Dar Al-Handasah architects; Gensler; TFP Farrells (images). - Bloomberg News

"Building the Revolution: Soviet Art and Architecture 1915-1935": The show is prophecy and elegy at once... As either prophecy or politics, the architecture...largely fails. It served an idea of communism that fatally ignored its reality... They carry the idea that art and design can have a social purpose, which the best of them...actually achieved. By Rowan Moore -- Richard Pare; Vladimir Tatlin; Konstantin Melnikov; El Lissitzky; Liubov Popova; Rodchenko and Malevich; Aleksei Shchusev-Observer (UK)

Pavilion of Protest opens at RIBA: Collaboration between Zap Architecture and Sheffield University school of architecture:...presenting data from more than 1,400 surveyed students regarding the cost of tuition fees. (images). - BD/Building Design (UK)

Hong Kong: Worst Architecture in the World? Mathias Woo has this bit of tough love for Hong Kongers: You don't appreciate good design... He hopes to change that with... "Architecture Is Art" festival. It starts Saturday and runs to Dec. 11. "We need to remind people that architecture is not just building and not just investment..." -- Zuni Icosahedron - Wall Street Journal


Hagar Qim and Mnajdra Temples, UNESCO World Heritage Site, Island of Malta: To protect the 5,000-years-old temple runs against further deterioration, engineers developed two special membrane roof structures, which now cover and protect the archaeological excavation. -- Walter Hunziker Architekten; formTL

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