Tributes are paid to John Madin, architect of the controversial (and now demolished) Birmingham Central Library: “Future generations will regret the loss of many of his fine buildings.”

Two years after the earthquake, Haiti “is slowly moving from an aid-and-rescue approach towards comprehensive redevelopment...with AIA members playing key roles as architects, planners, and builders...” -- Patrick Delatour; Gina Architect; Harold Gaspard; Duany Plater-Zyberk (DPZ & Co.); The Prince’s Foundation; Janine Glaeser; Architecture for Humanity; All Hands Volunteers; Habitat for Humanity; Pan American Development Foundation; AIA Disaster Response Task Force; Architects Without Borders; Noushin Ehsan; Haiti Housing Collaborative [images, links] - AIArchitect

Do Architects Actually Exploit The Poor While Trying To Do Good? Jan Chipchase of Frog Responds: ...design for social good should almost always have a quantifiable impact. But bringing a product to market is often simply beyond nonprofits...humanitarian charity isn’t a sustainable model - the effects can be few, and the money pit bottomless...Many designers have become disillusioned with the nonprofit model. By Shoham Arad/See Why Studios -- Design That Matters

Two Years After Cataclysmic Quake, New Community Designs Take Shape in Haiti: “...the country is slowly moving from an aid-and-rescue approach towards comprehensive redevelopment...with AIA members playing key roles as architects, planners, and builders...” -- Patrick Delatour; Gina Architect; Harold Gaspard; Duany Plater-Zyberk (DPZ & Co.); The Prince’s Foundation; Janine Glaeser; Architecture for Humanity; All Hands Volunteers; Habitat for Humanity; Pan American Development Foundation; AIA Disaster Response Task Force; Architects Without Borders; Noushin Ehsan; Haiti Housing Collaborative [images, links] - AIArchitect

"The Mayor Has An [Arts] Plan" -- Where? With government support for the arts on the wane in most places, here’s a city singing a different tune...It’s Philadelphia...Mayor Michael Nutter is talking the difficult environment...By Judith H. Dobrzynski - ArtsJournal

Gardner shows off its graceful update: $114m wing unveiled with founder’s vision in mind...not to say it was a stress-free march to the finish line. Piano is very detailed-orientated and doesn’t hesitate to make changes..."Renzo will be drawing until you take the pencil away from him." -- Renzo Piano [images] - Boston Globe

Boston’s own West End persists as a ‘memory palace’:...surviving former residents...now live scattered all over the map...But as far as they’re concerned, they’re still members of a community...I don’t think there’s a comparable example of neighborhood loyalty to be found anywhere in the United States...There’s a lesson here for architects and city planners. What is it that makes the West End so intensely remembered?...By Robert Campbell - Boston Globe

At Lathrop Homes, Chicago Housing Authority’s talk of transformation brings worry: Residents fear the poor will be squeezed out by redevelopment...its architectural significance and community-friendly design make it public housing worth preserving..."It’s really beautiful. If it’s not broke, don’t fix it." -- Robert S. DeGolyer; Hugh M.G. Garden; Jens Jensen (1930s) - Chicago Tribune

Beverly Hills City Council Establishes Preservation Program for Historic Architecture: A new ordinance, commission and city staff position will focus on preventing the demolition of buildings with historic value...projects that pertain to structures at least 45 years old and designed by master architects... - Beverly Hills Patch

World roses and raspberries for 2011: ...buildings, people and events that moved the world as we know it closer to or farther from the world as we’d like to see it. By David Brussat...Daniel Libeskind; Frank Gehry; National Civic Art Society; Reconsidering Postmodernism; Institute of Classical Architecture & Art (ICAA); Driehaus Prize; Michael Graves; Léon Krier; Renzo Piano; Richard Meier [images] - Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

Eisenhower Family Says Frank Gehry’s D.C. Memorial Doesn’t Honor Ike as a “Serious Man”: On Monday the gloves came off...a letter representing the entire Eisenhower family...officially called for a stop to the project all together...Gehry’s design is also facing some flack from the National Civic Art Society..."...the Memorial competition, planning, and design were and are irredeemably flawed...secretive, exclusive, elitist, and undemocratic"... [links] - Artinfo

Yesterday's News
Op-Ed: Diminishing Dwight Eisenhower in D.C. memorial: Gehry's plan is to depict Eisenhower as the "barefoot boy"...The Eisenhower who lives in America's memory is not a barefoot boy...I suspect that we may just live in an age when glorifying avant-garde architects feels safer than honoring heroic generals...His exceptional leadership earned him a place...among the capital's memorials. But not the place Frank Gehry has in mind. By Kevin O'Brien - Cleveland Plain Dealer

The designer skin he lives in: is it time to bury Lenin's stage-managed show? Young Russians no longer pay homage to him, but the Bolshevik leader 'lives on' in a carefully choreographed show of solemnity inside a Moscow mausoleum. But for how long?...not withstanding the irony of a secular political system creating its own saint, there is something of Mecca about it... By Justin McGuirk -- Alexey Shchusev (1929) - Guardian (UK)

Studio Report | The Speculation Studio: Governors Island, The Sixth Borough? ...signals an overdue evolution in architectural education...explode the myth that considering financial implications in a student design process will constrain creativity and innovation...Q&A with Laurie Hawkinson about the studio's theme and site, about the nature of the collaboration between architecture and real estate students, and about the return of big ideas. -- Vishaan Chakrabarti; Smith Miller + Hawkinson Architecture [images, links]- Urban Omnibus

A Lisbon Architect Brings His Skills to MoMA: Pedro Gadanho...may represent the future of the profession, in that he doesn't do much actual building...spoke about his role at the museum and the challenges facing architects today..."Maybe architects have to get out of that high place in academia or in the corporate office and go back in the streets and find work there..."performance architecture.""- New York Times

The Cool Kid From Joplin, Mo.:...a 30-year-old underemployed architect, Faris Al-Shathir...has popped up around New York, transforming oddly configured or forgotten spaces into architecturally stunning retail installations...a creative matchmaker, pairing young fashion designers with emerging architects through Boffo... -- Marc Fornes/TEVERYMANY; Gage/Clemenceau; Spilios Gianakopoulos; Snarkitecture; Collective - New York Times

Steven Holl Architects: Cité de l'Océan et du Surf, Biarritz, France