

Today's News - January 3, 2006

A new year and much catching up to do — ArcSpace takes us to Barcelona and Tokyo. — Ouroussoff takes on Israel's barrier wall and some of the "bizarre design solutions" it fosters. — Rybczynski's prognosis for New Orleans is not good. — Official design guidelines for Ground Zero not yet issued, but designs move forward. — New Year predictions: budget challenges for good design, and a prayer for no more plate-glass façades. — A look back, a look ahead: "Narrow visions, not big egos, are the problem." — Year in review from Canada and U.K. — Goldberger finds some pleasant surprises in Shanghai. — NewcastleGateshead at the cultural forefront of urban regeneration. — A poor Alabama county is rich in modern architecture. — Why rural museums are struggling: they need to give "more bang for the buck, not more bucks for the same old bang." — A museum in Leipzig may be unfinished on the outside, but it is spectacular on the inside. — Nobel Peace Centre is a "a triumph of technology and MTV style."

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[-- Jean Nouvel: Torre Agbar, Barcelona](#)
[-- Kisho Kurokawa: Nakagin Capsule Tower, Tokyo](#)

[Architects and Israel's Barrier: A Line in the Sand: The forced segregation of two worlds that were until recently intertwined has fostered some bizarre design solutions. By Nicolai Ouroussoff \[images\]- New York Times](#)

[After Katrina: What is going on in New Orleans? Given weak demand and weak governmental leadership, the prognosis for recovery is not good. By Witold Rybczynski- Slate](#)

[At 9/11 Site, No Guidelines? No Problem. Design Away: How many commercial buildings will be designed...before the official World Trade Center Commercial Design Guidelines are issued? -- Daniel Libeskind; Norman Foster- New York Times](#)

[Labor Shortages, High Material Prices Made 2005 a Real Budget-Buster: In 2006...All will be challenged to achieve the difficult balance among aspirations and budgets, rising construction costs, available funding and long-term value. By Roger K. Lewis- Washington Post](#)

[New year revolutions: Giles Worsley prays for a time when the plate-glass façade is banned...How about frightening the horses with a bit of intelligent decoration...younger architects...investigating how decoration might be reintroduced into façades, with rich results... -- Herzog & de Meuron; Caruso St John- Telegraph \(UK\)](#)

[The Highs and Lows: A Vision of a Mobile Society Rolls Off the Assembly Line: We should be clearer about who the enemy is. Narrow visions, not big egos, are the problem. By Nicolai Ouroussoff -- Hadid; Koolhaas; Edward Durrell Stone; Kevin Roche; Hans Scharoun; Oswald Mathias Ungers- New York Times](#)

[Year in Review: By, of and for Canadians: Amid banal urban design, Lisa Rochon found three gems worth celebrating...Untested ideas almost always go over budget and past deadline... -- Raymond Moriyama/Griffiths Rankin Cook Architects; Patkau Architects; Goldsmith Borgal & Company; Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg; Libeskind; Hariri Pontarini; Arthur Erickson; James Cheng- Globe and Mail \(Canada\)](#)

[Our intelligent designs: No, 2005 wasn't the year Toronto came of age, but it was the year the city started to grow up. By Christopher Hume -- Will Alsop; Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg; Goldsmith Borgal and Co.; Libeskind; Gehry; architectsAlliance; Behnisch, Behnisch and Partner; Janet Rosenberg; Diamond Schmitt Architects- Toronto Star](#)

[Review 2005: architecture. By Giles Worsley -- Hadid; Herzog & de Meuron; Fuksas; Siza/Souto de Moura; McAslan; Mendelsohn/Chermayeff; Panter Hudspeth; Feilden Clegg Bradley; Alsop; Hopkins; Keith Williams- Telegraph \(UK\)](#)

[Shanghai Surprise: The radical quaintness of the Xintiandi district...a stage set of an idyllic past...a place to experience the public realm as something pleasant...how potent another Western idea has become here: old architecture is a very good way to make new money. By Paul Goldberger -- Benjamin Wood- New Yorker](#)

[Birthplace of a cultural revolution: Gateshead and Newcastle have led the way in using the arts as a tool for urban regeneration - but it hasn't always been plain sailing.- Telegraph \(UK\)](#)

[In Alabama, a Poor County Is Rich in Modern Architecture: Rural Studio...under the auspices of Auburn University, is sometimes called the "redneck Taliesin." By Fred A. Bernstein -- Samuel Mockbee; Andrew Freear \[images\]- New York Times](#)

[Why Rural Museums Are Becoming Ancient History- Wall Street Journal](#)

[Calling on an Inner Strength: Its Exterior Remains Unfinished, but Leipzig Museum Has a Healthy Glow...a spectacular feat of architectural space shaping. By Benjamin Forgey -- Hufnagel, Putz and Rafaelian \[image\]- Washington Post](#)

[Nobel: the remix: There's nothing quaint about David Adjaye's Peace Centre in Oslo. It's a triumph of technology and MTV style- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

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