SURFACE

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SHORE THINGS
THE MOST PROVOCATIVE AND PROMISING IN MEDITERRANEAN DESIGN
from RUDY RICCIOTTI’s architectural assaults to Turkey’s grand KANYON and the urban plantings of ECOSISTEMA

FUTURE SHOCK
ARNE QUINZE, SPHAUS and JURGEN MAYER H., propel design into the next dimension

NOUVEAU ITALIAN
Reinventing traditions and techniques with GIANVITO ROSSI, NICOLAS CAITO and 6267
Design of the Times

Green design reaches for the sky, Pasadena's Art Center goes domestic and designers hail a new generation of taxicabs

Writers TIFFANY JOW, SONYA MOONEY, DAN RUBINSTEIN

1 CLEANING HOUSE If the exhibition "Open House: Architecture and Technology for Intelligent Living" is any indication, the homes of the future will be surprisingly adaptive and completely connected (to the Internet). Sponsored by the Vitra Design Museum and the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California, where the traveling show will be on display through July 1, the exhibit presents proposals from around the world, including the Jellyfish House, which cleans up after itself through its own water reclamation systems, the Mix House, which connects its inhabitants to their aural environment, and a project called "Open the House!" that encourages homeowners to step outdoors through clothing that controls its wearer's microclimate.

2, 3 GREEN GIANTS The skyscraper, an immense and unmistakable symbol of urbanization, has recently become a powerful tool to help raise awareness of environmentally conscious design. New "green towers" are using cutting-edge techniques to reduce environmental impact, or even create a positive one by generating more power than they consume. Mixed Greens, a lecture series sponsored by Manhattan's Skyscraper Museum and The New York Academy of Sciences, is exploring the future of sustainable high-rise architecture with lecturers from the front lines of the movement, including Foster + Partners' Brandon Haw and SOM's Roger Frechette. A sure sign that eco-friendliness is reaching new heights. skyscraper.org/mixedgreens

4 DANISH DIMPLES This spring, Danish silver specialist Georg Jensen will elevate the luxury quotient of its entire Cavo collection of jewelry, which was first introduced in 1994. Most notably, the line's bulbous cocktail rings are being re-introduced, but this time around, their organically shaped forms are encrusted with either diamonds or rubies, giving new meaning to the term knuckle-duster. georgjensen.com

5 MARGINAL WRITING Moleskine, the notebook of choice for well-traveled cultural icons like Ernest Hemingway and Bruce Chatwin, has just launched a new series of journals called City Books. Specific to destinations in Europe and the United States, each book contains a detailed city map plus categorized, tabbed pages to jot down your personal hotspots such as antique stores in Barcelona or the best brunch in Paris. And for those whose wanderlust equals their passion for the written word, there are enough blank pages to pen your very own "movable feast." moleskine.com, moleskinecity.com

6 TAXI FAIR To celebrate the centennial of the New York City taxi in 2007, the Design Trust for Public Space organized Taxi 07, a project conceived to beam the beloved yellow cab into the 21st century. They invited world-class auto manufacturers, NYC regulators, the taxi industry and the country's top designers to exhibit revamped vehicles and street furniture at the New York International Auto Show this April. Prototypes are expected to include cabs that can be hailed by cell phone, next-generation driver relief stands and child-safe seating. taxi07.org

7 ARTISTIC DECONSTRUCTION On display through June 3 at the Whitney Museum of American Art, an aptly collage-like show entitled "You Are the Measure," displays the artifacts of Gordon Matta-Clark's "building cuts." Photographs of cut-up buildings are spliced and reassembled in modest frames. An old projector whirs, turning out fragments of a 1974 film that records the artist cutting an abandoned house in half with a chainsaw. The curator has strung artist's notebooks and drawings alongside small islands of building fragments - wallpaper, sheetrock and structural materials still clinging obscenely together, allowing Matta-Clark's "anarchitecture" to disorient visitors again, 30 years later. whitney.org