

Today's News - Wednesday, February 1, 2017

- Holl, Libeskind, and Snøhetta condemn Trump's travel restrictions.
- Kennicott ponders the possibility of the defunding of the NEA, NEH, and PBS: the "proposed budget cuts are part of a nascent but ominous larger movement to eliminate the last vestiges of a public realm free of the dictates of the market."
- Budds explains why "defunding the NEA would be incredibly stupid" - it "funds local community building, educational programs, job training, housing, and more."
- Though "research could still use an upgrade, everything we know about whether and how the arts improve lives should cheer any arts advocate."
- Betsky paints a rather bleak picture about our "pick-up truck nation" living in virtual and real bubbles that threaten to "tear us so far apart that nothing remains of human society."
- Darley says if Trump visits London, "let's harness the capital's most visible infrastructure [i.e. bridges] to show him exactly what we think" (Londoners did a great job doing just that on Jan. 21!).
- 20 years and \$15 million later, Christo walks away from his "Over the River" project because of Trump: "I can't do a project that benefits this landlord."
- Jacobs takes a deep - and fascinating - dive into architects' pursuit of disaster relief housing: "the typical architectural response to disaster may be fundamentally misguided - there's a better response to the refugee crisis."
- Wainwright x 2: he explains why Ikea's flatpack refugee shelter won London's Design Museum Beazley Design of the Year: it "has already changed the lives of thousands of refugees around the world - but the project hasn't always had an easy ride."
- He digs into the dilemma of land-banking, with developers "hoarding" enough land to solve the U.K.'s housing crisis.
- Moore has a few good things to say about UNStudio's new London tower: it "aims to be a new blueprint for communal living" - but "the rhetoric of connection paradoxically increases disconnection."
- Kamin parses Smith + Gill and Jahn's proposals to replace Jahn's "boldly curving" Thompson Center that could be tallest tower in Chicago.
- Díaz offers high praise for Hariri Pontarini's Bahá'í Temple, "a stunning landmark" outside of Santiago, Chile, on a site that "appears to be the temple's rightful destiny."
- It's an impressive team of 11 firms planning and designing Phase 2 of the massive, \$2 billion, 3.2-million-square-foot The Wharf in D.C.
- DesBrisay takes a look back at Kahn's Yale Art Gallery and "the lessons learned from restoring a modernist classic, as well as a look forward at the ongoing need for modernist preservation."
- Lubell lines up some "amazing things architects make when they aren't architecting" (fashion, food, and boat-building included).
- A new global survey reveals where architects get paid most: there are "huge salary disparities between North America and western Europe."
- One we couldn't resist: Wainwright named London's "hottest man" - he "attributes his victory" to his profile pictures in Lautner's Sheats Goldstein Residence (man bun included).
- Call for entries: ArchDaily's Architecture-Themed Valentine's Day Card 2017 + Vote for 2017 ArchDaily Building of the Year.

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Steven Holl, Daniel Libeskind and Snøhetta strongly condemn Trump's travel restrictions: ...statements from Holl and Libeskind, and our brief interview with Snøhetta... -- Steven Holl Architects; Studio Libeskind; Elaine Molinar; Craig Dykers - Dezeen

Philip Kennicott: A Trump attack on the arts would be more than just symbolic: Early reports suggest that not only the NEA, but also the NEH and PBS are on the chopping block: Will he really do it? ...proposed budget cuts are part of a nascent but ominous larger movement to eliminate the last vestiges of a public realm free of the dictates of the market. - Washington Post

Diana Budds: Defunding The NEA Would Be Incredibly Stupid - Here's Why: The National Endowment for the Arts funds local community building, educational programs, job training, housing, and more...The cost per American for all this? A paltry \$0.46 a year...A country that doesn't fund the arts is saying culture doesn't matter. It most definitely does. - Fast Company / Co.Design

Everything We Know About Whether and How the Arts Improve Lives: The research could still use an upgrade in many areas. But what we know so far should cheer any arts advocate. - Createquity

[virtual and real bubbles]

Aaron Betsky: Architecture that constructs a better world, not better bubbles, is the true task in this new year: ...the need for architecture that will bring America's isolated communities together, and not just benefit the world of pick-up-truck drivers. We live in a pick-up nation, and we have elected a president who represents that particular mobile bubble...It seems more likely to me that we will just build more and more resilient bubbles until total atomisation tears us so far apart that nothing remains of human society. - Dezeen

Gillian Darley: If Trump does visit London, our bridges could be very illuminating indeed: Before Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands starts work on its competition-winning scheme, let's harness the capital's most visible infrastructure to show the new US president exactly what we think. -- Illuminated River Foundation; Leo Villareal - BD/Building Design (UK)

Christo Walks Away from "Over the River" Battle: After over 20 years of trying to realize the installation over a Midwest river, the artist has abandoned one of his most prolific projects due to his disapproval of President Donald Trump: "I can't do a project that benefits this landlord"...he will now focus on "The Mastaba" in the United Arab Emirates... [images] - Architect Magazine

Karrie Jacobs: Rethinking the Refugee Camp: Architects have long been celebrated for their innovative designs for disaster relief housing. But there's a better response to the refugee crisis: ...the typical architectural response to disaster may be fundamentally misguided... "Architects and designers frequently overlook for whom they are designing"... -- Shigeru Ban; Sean Anderson/MoMA; Tyin Tegnestue Architects; Forensic Architecture; Brett Moore; Ikea Foundation; Johan Karlsson/Better Shelter; Tommy Sandløkk; Kilian Kleinschmidt/Switxboard; Don Weinreich/Eliza Montgomery/Ennead [images]-

Oliver Wainwright: Why Ikea's flatpack refugee shelter won design of the year: ...solar-powered Better Shelter lasts six times longer than a typical emergency tent and has already changed the lives of thousands of refugees around the world...but the project hasn't always had an easy ride..."It offers a chance for basic, dignified living." -- London's Design Museum Beazley Design of the Year - Guardian (UK)

Oliver Wainwright: Britain has enough land to solve the housing crisis - it's just being hoarded: Developers are sitting on land without building anything, then selling it for profit - a vicious cycle that can make it impossible to create affordable homes. What can be done to stop this speculative feeding frenzy? ...land banking is a symptom, not a cause, of our dysfunctional housing market... - Guardian (UK)

Rowan Moore: Canaletto - a utopia with its head in the clouds: With its private bar, cinema and pool, London's latest skyscraper aims to be a new blueprint for communal living. But why does it act as if its neighbours aren't there? At both a large and a small scale the rhetoric of connection paradoxically increases disconnection. -- Ben van Berkel/UNStudio [images] - Observer (UK)

Blair Kamin: Plan calls for replacing Thompson Center with new tower that would be tallest in Chicago: ...if one of two competing designs for redeveloping...Helmut Jahn's boldly curving but decaying state office building...comes to fruition. -- Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture [images] - Chicago Tribune

Francisco Díaz: In the Heights: South America's first Bahá'í Temple is a stunning landmark in the foothills of the Andes mountains - and a feat of architectural detailing and materials technology: Its most impressive feature, of course, is its floral shape, composed of nine ascending "petals"...While warm and welcoming Peñalolén [Santiago, Chile] in retrospect appears to be the temple's rightful destiny... -- Hariri Pontarini Architects; Juan Grimm [images] - Canadian Architect

The Wharf's phase two design team, revealed: 11 architects will plan the office, residential, and retail spaces for one of the largest projects in the nation's capital: ...a \$2 billion, 3.2-million-square-foot project... -- Perkins Eastman; SHoP Architects; WDG Architecture; ODA; Rafael Viñoly; Morris Adjmi Architects; Hollwich Kushner/HWK; S9 Architects; Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates; Wolf | Josey - Curbed DC (Washington, DC)

Lloyd DesBrisay: How the Restoration of Louis Kahn's Yale Art Gallery Helped Kickstart Modern Preservation: ...a look back at the lessons learned from restoring a modernist classic, as well as a look forward at the ongoing need for modernist preservation. -- DesBrisay & Smith Architects; James Stewart Polshek/Polshek Partnership (now Ennead Architects); James S. Russell; Meredith Bzdak/Docomomo - Common Edge

Sam Lubell: Amazing Things Architects Make When They Aren't Architecting: Designing a building takes ages, and actually building it longer still. That can frustrate architects, who have an almost compulsive need to design and create.

-- Pilar Proffitt/Poesis; Zaha Hadid; Jenny Wu/Oyler Wu Collaborative; Factory 15; Jose Sanchez; Debi van Zyl; Debi van Zyl; Julia Körner; Claus Voigtmann; Natasha Case/Freya Estreller; Anonymous Architects; Bureau V; Greg Lynn; Elena Manfredini/Atelier Manfredini; ArandaLasch - Wired

Global survey reveals where architects get paid most: The 2017 Architecture, Engineering and Construction (AEC) Industry Salary Report has revealed huge salary disparities between North America and western Europe for architects and construction professionals - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Guardian design critic named London's hottest man: Oliver Wainwright is "flattered speechless" after being named London's most eligible bachelor by a dating app...attributes his victory to the architectural icon in his profile pictures - the John Lautner-designed Sheats Goldstein Residence in Los Angeles... [images] - Dezeen

Call for entries: Architecture-Themed Valentine's Day Card 2017; deadline: February 11 - ArchDaily

2017 ArchDaily Building of the Year Awards: The Finalists: ...vote for your favorite projects until February 6...80 projects in 16 categories and 5 finalists per category. - ArchDaily

This week at ARCspace

Vo Trong Nghia Architects: Diamond Island Community Centre, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam: ...VTN seeks to expand the use of bamboo..."the green steel of the 21st century"...The elephant in the room is that there is no community to inhabit this 'Community Centre'...while the high-rise apartments are yet to be complete...structures may result as only aestheticised pavilions in the landscape. [images]

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Today's News - Thursday, February 2, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, February 7. Meanwhile, Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow today, so six more weeks of winter - oh joy...

- Architecture schools and firms are rocked by Trump's travel ban - "schools felt the effects immediately."
- Lange takes a long and fascinating look at "the forgotten history of Japanese-American designers' World War II internment" (a fab read!).
- Wood profiles a "new wave of European architecture collectives" and "spatial activists who operate from the sidelines as facilitators to pursue a specific objective."
- A new AIA report "identifies five 'keystones' themes and recommends 11 concrete actions to "pave the way" for the profession to be more diverse and inclusive.
- Eyefuls of Calatrava's first project in the U.K. (£1 billion and really big!).
- Meanwhile, Paris-based AWP takes on the task of designing a creative hub in Liverpool (also big).
- de Forest: parses projects by Drexel University and UPenn that "have dramatically reconstructed" a Philly intersection that proves "inventive urban planning and close attention to what happens at street level can overcome a multitude of architectural sins."
- A report on a Parks Without Borders program re: how cities are embracing innovative park planning to "create a more seamless public realm."
- Kimmelman considers how Parks Without Borders' "populist rhetoric" is being used "to argue against opening up a gated part" of the American Museum of Natural History's public park.
- Heatherwick's Pier55 on the Hudson "may not appear quite like the stunning first renderings," which "raises questions about a design process that's shaped a major public space largely outside of the public eye."
- Kirk's great Q&A with Burkhalter re: the history of playgrounds, helicopter parenting, and the potential for a renaissance of more stimulating, liberating [i.e. "riskier"] play spaces."
- Mendes da Rocha takes home RIBA's Royal Gold Medal.
- Architectural historian Hillary Lewis is named chief curator at Philip Johnson's Glass House.
- Call for entries: LA+ Design Ideas Competition for a new island anywhere in the world + 2017 RAMSA Travel Fellowship.
- Weekend diversions:
 - "Say It Loud: Distinguished Black Designers of NYCOBA | NOMA" at NYC's Center for Architecture "shines a light on the many achievements of black architects."
 - "Architecture in the Public Realm" at the Center for Architecture Sarasota highlights the "importance of public architecture" that "must be all things to all users."
 - "The Concrete Atlantis Revisited" at London's Museum of Architecture "takes Banham's 1986 book as a starting point to examine the influence of industrial architecture on the built environment."
 - "Evolution" at Toronto's Design Exchange "examines how biomimicry has given new rise to design thinking."
 - Harvard GSD's "Architectural Ethnography" showcases Atelier Bow-Wow's "unique perspective on the relationship between human interaction with architecture."

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Immigration Ban Rocks Architecture Community: Deans and firms respond to the mounting concerns about President Trump's executive order, which jeopardizes the status of thousands of students and workers: The shockwaves are resonating throughout the architectural community...Architecture schools felt the effects immediately. - Architectural Record

Alexandra Lange: The forgotten history of Japanese-American designers' World War II internment: Revisiting the link between detention and design history, 75 years after FDR's executive order: Once you start to look at postwar American design through the lens of Japanese-American history, you realize that the two are inextricable. -- Minoru Yamasaki; Gyo Obata; Ray Komai; Larry Shinoda; Willie Ito; S. Neil Fujita; Tomoko Miho; George Nakashima; Kay Sekimachi; Ruth Asawa; Hideo Sasaki; Isamu Noguchi; Joseph Yamada; Hideo Sasaki; Satoru Nishita; Alan Oshima; Alan Taniguchi; etc. [images]- Curbed

Hannah Wood: Spatial Activism: Profiling a New Wave of European Architecture Collectives and Their Spatial Manifestos: These spatial activists operate from the sidelines as facilitators, utilising design not as an end in itself but as a means to pursue a specific objective. -- InBetween Economies; La Rivoluzione Delle Seppie; Keller Easterling; New South; Architecture00; Forensic Architecture; etc. [images]- Archinect

AIA Releases Diversity and Inclusion Recommendations: ...intended to pave the way to a more inclusive field...report identifies five "keystones" themes and recommends 11 concrete actions... -- Equity in Architecture Commission [link to report]- Architectural Record

Calatrava's £1 billion Greenwich scheme unveiled: The Peninsula Place scheme features three towers rising to 30 storeys in height, as well as an 80 ft high winter garden...part of Knight Dragon's wider £8.4 billion Greenwich Peninsula development... -- Adamson Associates; Reardon Smith; Allies & Morrison [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Historic Liverpool docks to host creative hub: Paris-based architects AWP have unveiled plans for a new creative district next to the giant Tobacco Warehouse in Liverpool's Stanley Dock...50 hectare scheme...for the Ten Streets district... [images]- Construction News (UK)

Ann de Forest: Shaping A New Urban Crossroads At 33rd And Chestnut: Drexel University and the University of Pennsylvania together have dramatically reconstructed the intersection with four contemporary, high-performing (though mixed quality) buildings and distinctive landscape... inventive urban planning and close attention to what happens at street level can overcome a multitude of architectural sins. -- Diamond Schmitt; Robert A.M. Stern Architects; Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; Digsau; Studio Bryan Hanes [images]- Hidden City Philadelphia

Parks Without Borders: Creating a Seamless Public Realm: How can innovative park planning create a more seamless public realm? "...parks are as necessary to cities as sewers, roads, and schools..." [images]- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Michael Kimmelman: Fair Trade: A Museum Expansion for an Open Park: A New York story: a gated park, a museum seeking to expand, warring neighbors. Why the fight over a tiny patch of green matters: ...a now-closed quadrant of Theodore Roosevelt Park outside the American Museum of Natural History...Peter Wright [Friends of Roosevelt Park]...using Parks Without Borders' populist rhetoric to argue against opening up a gated part of a public park. -- Liz Farrell Landscape Architecture - New York Times

Keeping Up Ap-Pier-Ances: Pier 55 may lose one-third of its signature sculptural underside: The newest waterfront park on the Hudson may not appear quite like the stunning first renderings...The changes raise questions about its final appearance, and about a design process that's shaped a major public space largely outside of the public eye. -- Heatherwick Studio; Mathews Nielsen [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Mimi Kirk: Can We Bring Back Riskier Playgrounds? Until the 1980s, playgrounds were spaces of adventure and art: ...would likely horrify today's American parents.....edited the book ...Q&A with Gabriela Burkhalter/"The Playground Project" re: the history of playgrounds in the U.S. and Europe, helicopter parenting, and the potential for a renaissance of more stimulating, liberating play spaces.- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Brazilian architect picks up Royal Gold Medal: Paulo Mendes da Rocha is the second architect from the country to be handed the award after the late Oscar Niemeyer won it in 1998. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Hillary Lewis Named Chief Curator at Philip Johnson's Glass House: ...architectural historian...served as the site's Philip Johnson Scholar in 2007. - Interior Design magazine

Call for entries: LA+ IMAGINATION Design Ideas Competition: design a new island anywhere in the world, program it any way you want, and give it any form and purpose; cash prizes; deadline: June 2 - LA+ Interdisciplinary Journal of Landscape Architecture (University of Pennsylvania)

Call for entries: 2017 RAMSA Travel Fellowship: \$10,000 prize for travel and research; open to graduate students in their penultimate year of a professional or post-professional degree program at one of the 19 participating schools in the U.S. and Canada; deadline: April 14- Robert A.M. Stern Architects

Black architects, long underrepresented, are celebrated: "Say It Loud: Distinguished Black Designers of NYCOBA | NOMA" will shine a light on the many achievements of black architects...Q&A with curator, Pascale Sablan/FXFOWLE; at the Center for Architecture, NYC. -- Roberta Washington; Yolande Daniels/studioSUMO; Mark Gardner/Jaklitsch/Gardner Architects [images] - Curbed New York

The people's architecture: The importance of public architecture is the topic of "Architecture in the Public Realm" open through March 10 at the Center for Architecture Sarasota...public projects by local architects...The buildings must be all things to all users and do it with a style that reflects the aesthetic values of the community. [images] - Herald-Tribune (Florida)

"The Concrete Atlantis Revisited": takes Reyner Banham's 1986 book as a starting point to examine the influence of industrial architecture on the built environment...at the Museum of Architecture's (MoA) temporary exhibition space in South Kensington, London, through February 28 - Museum of Architecture (London, UK)

Design Exchange exhibition examines how design imitates nature's models: "Evolution"...examines how biomimicry...has given new rise to design thinking...asks, what is the future responsibility of the designer...can human intelligence design better than nature? -- Sanam Samanian; Mahtab Oskuee; Brent Corder; Philip Beesley; Iris van Herpen; Fugitive Glue; Robert Ouellette/Mesh Cities [images] - Canadian Architect

Harvard GSD Showcases Architectural Ethnography Exhibition: "Architectural Ethnography" explores Tokyo-based firm Atelier Bow-Wow's work and its unique perspective on the relationship between human interaction with architecture. [images] - Architect Magazine

This week at ARCspace

Vo Trong Nghia Architects: Diamond Island Community Centre, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam: ...VTN seeks to expand the use of bamboo..."the green steel of the 21st century"...The elephant in the room is that there is no community to inhabit this 'Community Centre'...while the high-rise apartments are yet to be complete...structures may result as only aestheticised pavilions in the landscape. [images]

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Today's News - Tuesday, February 7, 2017

- ArcSpace brings us Tory-Henderson's take on Karakusevic Carson's low-rise housing estate in London that "stands as a beacon of hope in our bleak housing climate."
- Dittmar is (somewhat) cheered by a new housing white paper that "contains some welcome measures - but I had hoped it would go further."
- McKay eloquently opines about the need for a "new definition of architectural beauty - our narrow concept has forgotten Virtue and prevents us from appreciating any beauty that isn't visual."
- Glancey considers beauty and virtue in his list of "the 10 buildings you must visit before you die."
- Three architects call for Australians to build cities that "better reflect Indigenous ownership and heritage," instead of architecture that "can often lead to a feeling of dispossession."
- Hawthorne considers "the airport as public square and protest central," and how protestors have turned "architectural deficiencies to their political advantage."
- Budds says "healthy architecture may have gotten its most powerful ally yet" in Google's collaboration with HBN to develop a green materials database that "has the potential to transform how the entire building industry thinks" ("or is this another tech-will-save-us moment of blind optimism?" We sure hope not!).
- Perhaps the second try will be the charm in transforming a former car factory on an island in Paris into a cultural hub (Nouvel's original master plan bit the dust).
- CTBUH lays out its "Top 12 Tall Building Predictions for 2017": crowdfunding, tall woodscrapers, and "'extreme' skyscraper experiences" included.
- Move over, MAD's Marilyn Monroe towers (a.k.a. Absolute Towers), CORE has designed an "undulating" tower that will be the tallest in Mississauga.
- Meanwhile, Quadrangle Architects has re-imagined Toronto's CN Tower as a condo: it's "a pipe dream (or nightmare) for now," but illustrates "how the city can adapt and transform buildings."
- A round-up of four upcoming projects, in celebration of Black History Month (no, Frederick Douglas is not one of the architects).
- The Astrodome joins the Alamo as a state landmark, which means it cannot be touched without permission from the Texas Historical Commission, but Houston still has plans for modifications.
- This year's Times Square Valentine's Heart celebrates diversity and immigration in NYC: "given the current political climate, the conversation couldn't be more timely" (we hope this drizzly day doesn't dampen its opening today).
- Mark x 2: "A quarter of a century after the Pritzker Prize failed to recognize her," Scott Brown wins Jane Drew Prize 2017.
- She has a great Q&A with Scott Brown re: prizes, Postmodernism, and Drew: "I hold very different opinions from the ones she held. She might mind that I have been given the prize - but I don't."
- Whiteread takes home the 2017 Ada Louise Huxtable Prize for her "significant contribution to architecture and the built environment."
- The Curry Stone Design Prize's Social Design Circle podcasts for February will explore the question: Is the Right to Housing Real?
- Call for entries: Mango Vinyl Hub architecture competition to transform an abandoned tin foil factory in Latvia.

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This week at ARCspace

Karakusevic Carson Architects: Bacton Low Rise Estate, London, U.K.: We hear the same stories in cities everywhere - of public assets lost to developers, of families driven to the urban fringe by exorbitant rent, of long-lasting communities erased to give way to luxury apartments. Counteracting these global trends, [this] stands as a beacon of hope in our bleak housing climate. By Nina Tory-Henderson [images]

Hank Dittmar: What the government simply can't grasp is that housebuilding is about creating communities, not just raising roofs: The housing white paper contains some welcome measures...remains woefully short-term: ...the biggest news...are provisions aimed at catalysing the build-to-rent sector, at providing housing for older people and at encouraging smaller builders...I am pleased by the shift in direction...but I had hoped it would go further in shaking up the housing market. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Graham McKay: It's Time for a New Definition of Architectural Beauty: We tiptoe around the concept of Beauty without questioning why we even need such a concept. We have our cultural history to blame...Our narrow concept of Beauty has forgotten Virtue ever existed and actively prevents us from appreciating any beauty that isn't visual...Our history of architecture is not a useful resource. It merely chronicles the pursuit of Beauty. - Common Edge

Jonathan Glancey: The 10 buildings you must visit before you die: Great buildings, ancient and modern, are history, written on an imposing scale...They are there for us to visit and gawp at...to be discussed, debated and even debunked...They shadow and measure our lives as they have done for generations... -- Ictinus and Callicrates; Isidorus and Anthemius; Elias de Dereham; John Vanbrugh; Nicholas Hawksmoor; Antoni Gaudí; Shreve, Lamb and Harmon; Jørn Utzon; Frank Gehry [images]- Telegraph (UK)

It's time to rethink how we design our cities: The way Australians build cities needs to change to better reflect Indigenous ownership and heritage, three architects...claimed Western architecture can often lead to a feeling of dispossession. They urge builders to...adopt design principles that reflect Indigenous Australian identity. -- Albert Refiti; Daniel J. Glenn/7 Directions; Carroll Go-Sam- Domain (Australia)

Christopher Hawthorne: Building Type: The airport as public square and protest central: ...what was new about the airport demonstrations was the way they used urban space - specifically, how they used...architectural deficiencies and turned them to their political advantage...The airport is a hospitable host for protest precisely because of how poorly it works in terms of civic design on an average day. - Los Angeles Times

Diana Budds: Google's Plan To Make Our Buildings Less Poisonous: ...the movement for healthy architecture may have gotten its most powerful ally yet: Healthy Building Network/HBN partnered with Google to develop Portico, a green materials database and decision-making tool that...has the potential to transform how the entire building industry thinks...Google's biggest contribution to healthy architecture might simply be that it's Google. - Fast Company / Co.Design

Will the latest plans for Île Seguin finally turn it into a key Paris culture destination? New project proposed...includes an art centre and art hotel...on an island in the western suburbs of Paris that once housed the Renault car factory...new development called S17 & S18... -- RCR Arquitectes; Baumschlager Eberle Architectes [images] - The Art Newspaper (UK)

CTBUH's Top 12 Tall Building Predictions for 2017: Crowdfunding emerges as a viable development option...Trend towards tall woodscrapers sees dividends...automobile industry continues to expand into the skyscraper business...a continued shift towards active "extreme" skyscraper experiences... [images] - Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH)

Design unveiled for Mississauga's tallest building designed by CORE Architects: Soaring 60 storeys...M City's flagship tower...The first of 10 towers in a \$1.5 billion, master-planned community...undulating geometry results from a unique application of seven floor plates that twist the building as it rises. - Canadian Architect

What the CN Tower would look like as a condo: When it made its debut in 1976, [it] was the world's tallest freestanding building...Quadrangle Architects has re-imagined the tower...added modular units made out of cross laminated timber (CLT)...Obviously, this proposal is a pipe dream (or nightmare) for now, but it indicates how the city can adapt and transform buildings as Toronto's needs continue to grow and change. - blogTO (Toronto)

4 upcoming projects will celebrate African-American history: Phil Freelon and Zena Howard of Perkins+Will's North Carolina practice are at the helm: ...set to focus on African-American contributions to U.S. culture. -- Freelon Adjaye Bond/SmithGroup; Hamilton Anderson Associates; Gallagher & Associates [images] - Curbed

Astrodome joins Alamo as historical state landmark: ...new designation means that the property cannot be removed, altered, damaged, salvaged or excavated without permission from the [Texas Historical Commission]. But the new status does not throw off the county's plans to modify... - Houston Chronicle

Times Square Valentine's Heart celebrates diversity and immigration in NYC: "We Were Strangers Once Too," the winning design...by The Office for Creative Research...to open a dialogue about the value of immigrants in making the city what it is today, and given the current political climate, the conversation couldn't be more timely. [images] - Inhabitat

Laura Mark: Denise Scott Brown wins Jane Drew Prize 2017: A quarter of a century after the Pritzker Prize failed to recognise [her] alongside her partner Robert Venturi...Those filling out the The Architects' Journal/Architectural Review's annual Women in Architecture survey overwhelmingly voted for her to

[be recognised...](#) - The Architects' Journal (UK)

[Denise Scott Brown: "People have learnt from Las Vegas, but they haven't learnt the half of it yet": As \[she\] is recognised with the 2017 Jane Drew Prize, Laura Mark talks to \[her\] about the Pritzker Prize, recognition and Postmodernism: "There is an irony in it because I knew Jane Drew. I hold very different opinions from the ones she held...She might mind that I have been given the prize – but I don't."](#) - The Architects' Journal (UK)

[Artist Rachel Whiteread wins 2017 Ada Huxtable Prize: The prize recognises women working in the wider industry who have made a significant contribution to architecture and the built environment...the first woman to win the Turner Prize in 1993, was the standout nomination for the honour which is voted for by respondents to the Women in Architecture survey.](#) - The Architects' Journal (UK)

[Curry Stone Design Prize announces February's Social Design Circle podcasts: Social Design Insights is addressing the question: Is The Right To Housing Real? -- Asian Coalition for Housing Rights \(ACHR\); David Baker; Breaking Ground; Jonathan Kirschenfeld; Lacaton & Vassal; Kraftwerk1; L'Oeuf Architects](#) - Curry Stone Design Prize

[Call for entries: Mango Vinyl Hub architecture competition \(international\): seeking visions for a multipurpose building in an abandoned tin foil factory in Cesis, Latvia; cash prizes; earlybird registration deadline \(save money!\): March 1; final registration: April 19 \(submissions due May 10\)](#) - Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert) / Cesis Municipality / Mango Vinyl

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Today's News - Wednesday, February 8, 2017

- Dickinson unravels the "uneasy relationship between architects and money": "Most of us would do it for free - and often do. We value the expression more than the compensation."
- Till takes on Trump, Brexit, RIBA, and AIA, and the "new obligations, new opportunities, for architectural activism. What roles might we play as citizen-architects?"
- King parses a panel that asks: "In the age of Trump, what do cities do?" ("thick clouds of gloom and thin rays of hope" included), but "if we're lucky, urgency might translate to a productive reaction."
- A RIBA survey shows that Brexit seems to be putting the "brakes on the architecture sector" on a number of levels.
- Park finds less to like about the U.K.'s housing white paper than Dittmar did yesterday: While "there are some welcome initiatives, too many of the proposals sound better than they are - and a lot of telling us what we already know."
- Mattern digs deep into why "urban intelligence is more than information processing" and turning the "Internet of Things into urban form. We need new models for thinking about cities that do not compute" (a great read!).
- Bliss delves into Hammond's efforts to use the High Line to "help other cities learn from its mistakes."
- Saffron cheers efforts to transform Philly's troubled Mifflin Square Park into "a peaceful commons to unite a diverse ethnic neighborhood."
- Moore has more than a few issues with the shortlisted designs for Britain's Holocaust Memorial: "They employ many of the tropes of modern memorializing, but there is too little sign of deep thought about the memorial's purpose" ("they are mostly trite" - ouch!).
- A look at why Apple's new "spaceship" campus is far behind schedule: "treating a 2.8-million-square-foot complex like a 5-inch iPhone" requiring "flawless" details may have "enhanced the final product but clashed with construction realities."
- Bevan parses the debate about how to "conserve heritage in an age of terrorism" - preserve what's left, or rebuild, which many consider "being tantamount to theme-park fakery."
- Meanwhile, M2R Arquitectos' Bamiyan Cultural Centre in Afghanistan, where the Taliban destroyed monumental Buddhas, should be ready for its close-up by next year (though UNESCO is none too pleased with some German archaeologists).
- On a lighter (and higher) note: some amusing takes by those who live in towers; on a darker note: skyscrapers may have started out as "barometers of corporate hubris," but "they now stand for personal excess."
- Five very worthy finalists now vie for the 2017 Rudy Bruner Award.
- An impressive line-up of emerging talent makes up the Europe 40 under 40 list.
- Eye-fuls of the winning design for a new eco-village for orphaned and abandoned children in Kenya.
- Call for entries: ASLA 2017 Professional and Student Awards (international).

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and the relative value our culture puts on the work we provide...We value the expression more than the compensation... - Common Edge

Jeremy Till: Reality in the Balance: The era of Trump and Brexit is opening up new obligations, new opportunities, for architectural activism that blends the professional and the political: What roles might we play as citizen-architects? ...there is a prevailing mood...of cynical pessimism...If cynical pessimism puts up any fight, it is only in reaction to the last battle, when what is needed is preparation for the coming one. - Places Journal

John King: In the age of Trump, asks a Berkeley panel, what do cities do? There were thick clouds of gloom and thin rays of hope. Philosophical what-ifs and pragmatic advice...If there was a takeaway from the evening, it was that the future is murky and there are reasons to be fearful. The flip side? ...if we're lucky, urgency might translate to a productive reaction. - San Francisco Chronicle

Brexit puts brakes on architecture sector, RIBA survey shows: More than 60% of practitioners see projects stall and close-on 40% report cancellation of schemes: ...also uncovered a picture of rising materials and construction costs [and] recruitment and retention issues... - BD/Building Design (UK)

Julia Park/Levitt Bernstein: The white paper that wasn't worth the wait: The housing white paper promises much but does little to tackle the real issues we're facing: ...there are some welcome initiatives...There's a lot of telling us what we already know (repeating back most of the things we've been telling them for the last five years) and too many of the proposals sound better than they are. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Shannon Mattern: A City Is Not a Computer: Urban intelligence is more than information processing: We're transforming the idealized topology of the open web and Internet of Things into urban form...appeals because it frames the messiness of urban life as programmable and subject to rational order...We need new models for thinking about cities that do not compute. -- Sidewalk Labs; Y Combinator - Places Journal

Laura Bliss: The High Line's Next Balancing Act: [It] may be a runaway success, but it's also a symbol of Manhattan's rising inequality. Can its founder help other cities learn from its mistakes? "We wanted to do it for the neighborhood. Ultimately, we failed." Now he's course-correcting....tackling a long overdue conversation about how to improve neglected neighborhoods, without pushing away the very people they intend to serve. -- Robert Hammond; Joshua David; Scott Kratz; Ryan Gravel - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Inga Saffron: Designing Mifflin Square Park to unite a diverse ethnic neighborhood: ...should be a peaceful commons that brings this ethnic stew into the American melting pot...in 2015...it became clear that the square's formal 19th-century design was a factor in keeping them apart...the park's old-fashioned design accentuated neighborhood divisions... -- Damon Rich/Hector - Philadelphia Inquirer

Rowan Moore: Britain's Holocaust memorial shortlist: right time, wrong place? The shortlist features some big names of art and architecture, but a muddled brief hasn't made it easy for them: They employ many of the tropes of modern

memorialising...but there is too little sign...of deep thought about the memorial's purpose...They are mostly trite... -- Norman Foster; David Adjaye; Ron Arad; Anish Kapoor; Zaha Hadid Architects; Daniel Libeskind; Rachel Whiteread; Marcus Taylor; Caruso St John [images]- Observer (UK)

Apple's new 'spaceship' campus a fitting tribute to Steve Jobs's obsessions: The construction...is far behind schedule...Apple required flawlessness in every aspect...But treating a 2.8-million-square-foot complex like a 5-inch iPhone frustrated many of those brought in for the build, who said it enhanced the final product but clashed with construction realities. -- Foster + Partners- Christian Science Monitor

Robert Bevan: Ruin or Rebuild? Conserving heritage in an age of terrorism: Debate is raging about how best to respond when historic monuments are targeted by extremists, now that digital technology enables monuments to be reconstructed...How will they avoid creating zombie monuments that are brought back from the dead with no authentic life of their own? -- ICOMOS/International Council on Monuments and Sites; UNESCO; Institute for Digital Archaeology/IDA- The Art Newspaper (UK)

Bamiyan Cultural Centre gets under way: Building at Unesco World Heritage site in Afghanistan, where the Taliban destroyed the monumental ancient Buddhas, due to open to the public in summer 2018: ...German archaeologists had partially rebuilt the eastern Buddha's feet and legs without authorisation from Unesco... -- M2R Arquitectos- The Art Newspaper (UK)

"The building creaks and sways": life in a skyscraper: From Chicago to Dubai, Manchester to Melbourne, our cities are climbing above the clouds. What's it like to live on the 64th floor? If skyscrapers broke ground as barometers of corporate hubris, increasingly they now stand for personal excess, applying gravity to the wealth divide. - Guardian (UK)

Five 2017 Rudy Bruner Award Finalists: The Gold Medalist will receive \$50,000 and four Silver Medalists will each receive \$10,000 to enhance their projects...that contribute to the economic, environmental, and social vitality of American cities. -- SasakiAssociates; Mecanoo; Ross Barney Architects; Kronberg Wall Architects/Planners; John Friedman Alice Kimm Architects; KostowGreenwood Architects; WRT; Spillman Farmer Architects; URS Corporation; USA Architects; L'Observatoire International; Artefact Inc. [images]- Bruner Foundation

Europe's most important and emerging young architects and designers as Europe 40 under 40 for 2016: ...hail from across ten European nations. [exhibition opens February 24 at Contemporary Space, Athens, Greece]- Chicago Athenaeum/European Centre for Architecture, Art, Design and Urban Studies

Winner of international design competition for Kenyan children eco-village: ...to masterplan and design a new eco-village for orphaned and abandoned children...Malaysian architectural firm O2 Design Atelier (O2DA) won the One Heart Foundation competition... [images]- Architecture & Design (Australia)

Call for entries: ASLA 2017 Professional and Student Awards (international); deadline: April 17 (professionals); May 15 (students)- American Society of

This week at ARCspace

[Karakusevic Carson Architects: Bacton Low Rise Estate, London, U.K.:](#) We hear the same stories in cities everywhere - of public assets lost to developers, of families driven to the urban fringe by exorbitant rent, of long-lasting communities erased to give way to luxury apartments. Counteracting these global trends, [\[this\]](#) stands as a beacon of hope in our bleak housing climate. By Nina Tory-Henderson [\[images\]](#)

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Today's News - Thursday, February 9, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, February 14. We now officially declare this a snow day - we're off to make snow angels and build snow creatures...

- Budds delves into free architecture schools, and finds it may not be "as crazy as it sounds ": "Could the solution to changing architecture lie in changing how architects are made?" (more than 30,000 have signed up for Harvard GSD's free online course!)
- Berg x 2: a great 4-part series (in 2 parts) that explores a variety of strategies for "future-proofing your firm" ("Learning to Share" sounds good!).
- Moore parses the "flamboyant" Calatrava, his huge London project, and his "checkered history" that seems to indicate "if the shape conflicts with function, function tends to lose."
- Eyefuls of the 5 shortlisted designs for a (gigantic!) Wall of Answered Prayer planned for "a prominent, yet-to-be-confirmed location on a motorway outside London" (some concepts of "wall" are interesting).
- Some surprises among the 2017 ArchDaily Building of the Year Awards winners.
- A fab presentation of the Fairy Tales 2017 Winners (some interesting tales, too).
- Call for entries: EOI for Ross Pavilion International Design Competition to re-imagine Edinburgh's West Princes Street Gardens + RFQ: Perth City Hall redevelopment (that's Perth, Scotland).
- Weekend diversions:
 - A round-up of 16 films from this year's Sundance/Slamdance festivals "where architecture and design are featured characters."
 - Q&A with BIG's Bjarke re: new Netflix docuseries "Abstract: The Art of Design" with a behind-the-scenes look at "this must-watch show."
 - A feature film about the Farnsworth House is in the works that promises to portray "the trials and tribulations behind Mies's magnum opus dwelling" (Bridges and Gyllenhaal together again - sort of).
 - The 2016 Venice Biennale's "The Architectural Imagination" brings the 12 proposed projects for Detroit back to their home city" (we wonder if the Detroit Resists folks will on hand).
 - "Visions of Southern California: Mid-Century Modern Designs of Paul Revere Williams and Maria Kipp" at the San Bernardino County Museum tells the story of how the duo overcame discrimination: "As corny as it sounds, [their story] is kind of the American dream."
 - UCLA cityLAB celebrates its 10th anniversary at L.A.'s A+D Museum by "casting an eye toward how livable cities will be designed during the next 10 years."
 - Belogolovsky's Q&A with Ambasz re: his "critical approach to architectural meaning and form-making which competes with many of architecture's more poetic practitioners" ("I detest writing theories. I prefer writing fables"); "Emilio Ambasz: Architecture Toward Nature" is on view at the Singapore's Urban Redevelopment Center.
 - Stephens parses Florida's "The New Urban Crisis" as "either a tardy, richly ironic attempt to undo damage for which Florida himself deserves partial blame - or as a timely, if lamentable, analysis of unintended consequences accompanied by an appropriate mea culpa."
 - Green cheers Beatley's "Handbook of Biophilic City Planning & Design" as and "excellent" book that "details the many ways cities can create room for nature."
 - Glancey's "What's So Great About the Eiffel Tower?" offers "a fresh set of eyes" looking at famous, forgotten, and underrated architectural gems.

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Diana Budds: Free Architecture School? It's Not As Crazy As It Sounds: Some schools are changing architectural education by eliminating tuition. Could it help make the profession more relevant and diverse? Could the solution to changing architecture lie in changing how architects are made? -- Harvard Graduate School of Design/GSD; Peter Zellner/Free School of Architecture; Nelly Ben Hayoun/University of the Underground - Fast Company / Co.Design

Nate Berg: Future-Proofing Your Firm, Part 1-3: Picking and Preparing Your Successors; Surviving the Good and Bad Times; Learning to Share - Architect Magazine

Nate Berg: Future-Proofing Your Firm, Part 4: Where to Invest Your Firm's Assets Today and Tomorrow - Architect Magazine

Rowan Moore: Santiago Calatrava, the man redesigning Greenwich peninsula: The flamboyant Spanish architect whose Peninsula Place will be the centrepiece of a new £1bn development has a chequered history that includes swelling budgets, leaking roofs and falling tiles: ...and if the shape conflicts with function, function tends to lose. - Observer (UK)

Revealed: Shortlisted designs for landmark Wall of Answered Prayer: ...five finalists in its contest for a 'dramatic and inspirational' roadside structure...structure is expected to equal the size of 62 semi-detached houses. -- Snug Architects; Stefano Baseggio; Quattro Design Architects; Mathias Bank Stigsen, Asbjørn Staunstrup Lund & Thomas Sigsgaard Jensen; Luke Macnab, Andrew Wardrope & Thu Nguyen-Phuoc (with Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios support) [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Winners of the 2017 ArchDaily Building of the Year Awards: ...Alongside high-profile, perhaps even predictable winners...are more niche and surprise winners... -- Dominique Perrault Architecte; COBE; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Herzog & de Meuron; WORKac; Foster + Partners; ARCHSTUDIO; Supermachine Studio; Nicolás Campodonico; 3Arquitectura; LEGORRETA + LEGORRETA + Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners; Secondfloor Architects; MVRDV; spaceworkers [images]- ArchDaily

Fairy Tales 2017 Winners Announced: ...4th annual competition...award-winning entries [+ 10 Honorable mentions] explore current events and the creative process through wonderfully crafted short stories and artwork. -- Mykhailo Ponomarenko; Terrence Hector; Ariane Merle d'Aubigné & Jean Maleyrat; Maria Syed & Adriana Davis [images]- Blank Space / National Building Museum / American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS)

Call for entries: Expression of Interest/EOI: Ross Pavilion International Design Competition: Reimagining Edinburgh's West Princes Street Gardens, a UNESCO World Heritage site; deadline: March 13 - Ross Development Trust / City of Edinburgh Council / Malcolm Reading Consultants

Call for entries: Request for Qualifications/RFQ: Perth City Hall redevelopment (international): transform 1915 building into a world-class visitor experience;

deadline: March 13- Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland / RIAS

Keeping it Reel: The best architectural films from this year's Sundance/Slamdance: ...a rundown of 16 films where architecture and design are featured characters. - The Architect's Newspaper

Inside the New Netflix Docuseries "Abstract: The Art of Design": Bjarke Ingels and executive producer Morgan Neville take AD behind the scenes of this must-watch show (Q&A) --BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Paula Scher; Cristoph Niemann; Platon; Tinker Hatfield; Ralph Gilles; Ilse Crawford/Studioilse; Es Devlin [video]- Architectural Digest

Jeff Bridges, Obviously: Feature film on Mies van der Rohe's Farnsworth House in the works: ...a film about the trials and tribulations behind Mies's magnum opus dwelling...Edith Farnsworth...will be played by Maggie Gyllenhaal... - The Architect's Newspaper

2016 Venice Biennale U.S. Pavilion to go on display in Detroit: "The Architectural Imagination"...at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit...will bring the 12 proposed projects for Detroit back to their home city. -- Cynthia Davidson; Monica Ponce de Leon; A(n) Office; BairBalliet; Greg Lynn FORM; Mack Scogin Merrill Elam Architects; Marshall Brown Projects; MOS Architects; Pita & Bloom; Present Future; Preston Scott Cohen; SAA/Stan Allen Architect; T+E+A+M; Zago Architecture [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

How the design duo behind 3,000 SoCal buildings overcame discrimination: "Visions of Southern California: Mid-Century Modern Designs of Paul Revere Williams and Maria Kipp" tells the story of that working relationship..."As corny as it sounds, [their story] is kind of the American dream"; at the San Bernardino County Museum- KPCC / Southern California Public Radio (SCPR)

UCLA cityLAB to headline Architecture and Design Museum exhibition: "cityLAB, times 10" marks 10 years of influential research from UCLA's urban planning and architecture think tank...casting an eye toward how livable cities will be designed during the next 10 years. -- Dana Cuff- UCLA Newsroom

Vladimir Belogolovsky: Q&A with Emilio Ambasz: "I Detest Writing Theories, I Prefer Writing Fables": His concept of "green over gray" has been pushing the debate around sustainability forwards since the 1970s...[and] a critical approach to architectural meaning and form-making which competes with many of architecture's more poetic practitioners. - ArchDaily

Josh Stephens: Richard Florida's Reckoning: "The New Urban Crisis: How Our Cities Are Increasing Inequality, Deepening Segregation, and Failing the Middle Class - and What We Can Do About It"...will be viewed as either a tardy, richly ironic attempt to undo damage for which Florida himself deserves partial blame - or as a timely, if lamentable, analysis of unintended consequences and plausible solutions accompanied by an appropriate mea culpa. - California Planning & Development Report

Jared Green: Harnessing the Power of Nature to Improve Our Cities: In his latest excellent book, "Handbook of Biophilic City Planning & Design," Timothy Beatley brings together all the established science, important case studies,

innovative code and design practices from around the world...details the many ways cities can create room for nature. [images]- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

"What's So Great About the Eiffel Tower? 70 Questions That Will Change the Way You Think about Architecture" by Jonathan Glancey: ...looks at the famous so-called masterpieces of architecture...with a fresh set of eyes. He also showcases some forgotten and underrated architectural gems. [images]- Design Week (UK)

This week at ARCspace

Karakusevic Carson Architects: Bacton Low Rise Estate, London, U.K.: We hear the same stories in cities everywhere - of public assets lost to developers, of families driven to the urban fringe by exorbitant rent, of long-lasting communities erased to give way to luxury apartments. Counteracting these global trends, [this] stands as a beacon of hope in our bleak housing climate. By Nina Tory-Henderson [images]

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Today's News - Tuesday, February 14, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Be sure to check out the last two entries with a most timely message: "If there was ever a time when the world needed a bit of extra love, that time is now." Happy Valentine's Day!

- ArcSpace brings us Kiser's take on Snøhetta's second Lillehammer Art Museum & Cinema expansion.
- Jolliffe tackles labels like "woman architect" that tend to marginalize issues that actually affect the entire profession.
- Florida and Small parse a recent working paper by economists that analyzes what makes cities too small or too big: "we might need more people to live in fewer (but bigger) cities."
- Marshall considers why having places to protest make cities happier and healthier: "Sometimes taking up space is political; sometimes it's personal. In cities, it can - and should - be both."
- King considers the challenges in "two initiatives at vastly different scales" to reinvent San Francisco's Civic Center Plaza (space for protest included).
- The first phase of the QueensWay in NYC gets underway as the design team assures residents along its 3.5-mile route that it will not "lead to new development that displaces existing residents," as the High Line has.
- O'Sullivan takes a deep - and fascinating - dive into the "passionate movement of locals" to save Venice, which "has never been more threatened."
- The architects tapped to design a bulletproof-glass wall around the Eiffel Tower "are taking extra steps to marry aesthetic considerations and new security measures" (alas, the architects are not named).
- Bernstein is quite taken by DS+R's Vagelos Education Center at Columbia University - a "delirious doodle against the neighborhood's 3D grid," where "form foments function."
- Diamond Schmitt is tapped to design intermodal transit hub for what is "the largest urban mixed-use development in Canada."
- Boeri is taking his "Vertical Forest" concept to China, with "two greenery-covered towers" in Nanjing that "will serve as a prototype for other pollution-threatened Chinese cities."
- A deep dive into the "unusual and radical" proposal to rebuild Penn Station as it was, "undoing a cultural crime" (fab images; tho' nary a fab word for Calatrava's WTC transit hub).
- Plans are moving forward to resurrect the "modern ruin" that is St. Peter's Seminary, west of Glasgow (the original drawings and plans, and vintage photos make this a must-see!).
- Mortice reports on the results of 2014 Wheelwright Prize winner Ahedo's two-year study that "confronts bizarrely opposed, parallel tracks of contemporary agriculture."
- Gerfen and Risen offer a terrific presentation of the 12 winners of the 64th Progressive Architecture Awards who "represent design that pushes the envelope."
- The impressive shortlists of women in the running for the 2017 Architect of the Year Award and the Moira Gemmill Prize for Emerging Architecture.
- Gehl gets the keys to Sydney for his more-than-a-decade of "driving" the city "to create a greener, more livable and better connected city."
- Call for entries deadline reminder: 2017 Modernism in America Awards.
- Two we couldn't resist: Arch Record and ArchDaly round up bunches of Valentine cards by (and for) architects: "If there was ever a time when the world needed a bit of extra love, that time is now."

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This week at ARCspace

Kirsten Kiser: Snøhetta: Lillehammer Art Museum & Cinema, Norway: 22 years after completing the first expansion...[the firm] has again expanded the project, creating a holistic expression for both the art museum and the adjacent cinema...The concept...came from the idea of art hovering above a transparent base. -- Erling Viksjø (1964) [images]

Eleanor Jolliffe: The problem of labels like 'woman architect': ...maternity/paternity leave and flexible hours is as much a people problem as a woman problem...a problem that faces around 50% of the profession has a chance of being ignored as a fringe issue; if it is recognised as a problem for the whole profession, it is more likely to be tackled. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Richard Florida & Andrew Small: Are Cities Too Small or Too Big? To get the most collective benefits out of urban life, we might need more people to live in fewer (but bigger) cities: A recent National Bureau of Economic Research working paper by economists...frames the issue in terms of a simple question: What is the optimal distribution of U.S. cities? - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Aarian Marshall: The Secret to a Happy, Healthy City? Places for People to Protest: Why open public spaces are good for your body, mind, soul, and democratic ideals: Sometimes taking up space is political; sometimes it's personal. In cities, it can - and should - be both. -- William H. Whyte; Justin Garrett Moore; Shin-pei Tsay/Gehl Institute; Claire Weisz/WXY Architects - Wired

John King: Rejuvenating SF Civic Center Plaza - a challenge beyond design: ...two initiatives at vastly different scales. One seeks nothing less than to remake the landscape from United Nations Plaza to City Hall. The other begins Tuesday with the...adventurous redo of two small playgrounds within the plaza...each tackles the quandary that defines Civic Center Plaza today. -- Andrea Cochran Landscape Architecture; Lawrence Halprin; Trust for Public Land [images] - San Francisco Chronicle

The First Phase of the QueensWay Takes Shape: ...3.5-mile rail line...closed in 1962...runs through six neighborhoods...The team is about halfway through schematic designs for the first phase...Will the QueensWay lead to new development that displaces existing residents? The speakers said no. -- Trust for Public Land; DLANDstudio; WXY Studio [images] - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Fergus O'Sullivan: Venice Fights Back: The world's most beautiful city has never been more threatened. But a passionate movement of locals is determined to keep it alive: It's not just the quantity of visitors...it's the quality of what they deliver in concrete benefits...“there are plans” recurs rather too often...

-- Jane Da Mosto/We Are Here Venice; Giovanni Di Giorgio/Generazione 90; Marco Secchi/Awakening; Gruppo 25 Aprile- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Paris Architects Are Designing a Bulletproof-Glass Wall Around the Eiffel Tower: ...officials are taking extra steps to marry aesthetic considerations and new security measures: ...the architects tapped for the project will reportedly design the walls and fencing so they blend in visually with the Seine River to the north and the Champ de Mars park to the south.- Architectural Digest

Fred A Bernstein: Vagelos Education Center, Columbia University by Diller Scofidio + Renfro: 'Rolling up the street' was the starting idea for this 14-storey addition to the Columbia Medical School...With it the practice has also realised a 20-year long exploration of a continuous surface building...The result is a delirious doodle against the neighbourhood's 3D grid...in a miraculous meeting of 'stylistic itch' and intuition about function...[it] has already transformed student life. -- Gensler- DesignCurial / Blueprint Magazine (UK)

Diamond Schmitt Architects design Transit Terminal for Vaughan Metropolitan Centre: ...playing a key role in the intermodal transit hub to support this burgeoning urban community adjacent to Toronto....VMC is the largest urban mixed-use development in Canada. [images]- Canadian Architect

China Welcomes Asia's First Vertical Forest: To help fight pollution, Stefano Boeri will build two greenery-covered towers in Nanjing: ...designer of Milan's Bosco Verticale will bring...the first of their kind in Asia...will serve as a prototype for Boeri's designs in other pollution-threatened Chinese cities. [images]- Architectural Digest

The Grand Gateway in Waiting: Envisioning the New-Old Penn Station: When we think of other design possibilities for Penn Station...We wouldn't immediately think of a beautiful beaux-arts design because, ironically, that idea is unusual and radical today...Like a phoenix, McKim's crowning masterpiece could rise from the ashes of its predecessor... -- McKim, Mead & White (1910); Richard Cameron/Jason Grimes/Atelier & Co.; Jim Venturi/ReThinkNYC; Justin Shubow/National Civic Art Society [images]- The Epoch Times

Life after death? Resurrecting a modern ruin: About 20 miles west of Glasgow lies a modern ruin. St Peter's Seminary was built only 50 years ago, yet by the 1990s it was derelict. However, plans to breathe new life into the building are now close to being realised. -- NVA; John Cowell/Andy MacMillan/Isi Metzstein/Gillespie, Kidd & Coia (1966); Hoskins Architects; Avanti Architects; ERZ Landscape Architects; NORD Architects [images]- BBC News

Zach Mortice: Livestock and the Rhythm of the Land: ...Spanish architect Jose Ahedo visited livestock farming landscapes in eight countries...Documented through his photography and funded by a \$100,000 Harvard Graduate School of Design Wheelwright Prize Fellowship [2014]...“Domesticated Grounds: Design and Domesticity Within Animal Farming Systems” confronts bizarrely opposed, parallel tracks of contemporary agriculture... [images]- Landscape Architecture Magazine

Katie Gerfen and Clay Risen: Winners of the 64th Progressive Architecture Awards: 12 winners represent design that pushes the envelope...and an

exploration of humble building types that can make peoples' lives better. If that isn't progressive, then what is? -- REX; Johnston Marklee; Steven Holl Architects; Modern Office of Design + Architecture; Sanjay Puri Architects; Morphosis Architects; Deegan-Day Design; The LADG; WOJR; EC3; NADAAA [images]- Architect Magazine

Women in Architecture Awards 2017 shortlists revealed: ...women in the running for the Architect of the Year Award and the Moira Gemmill Prize for Emerging Architecture. -- Julia Barfield, Marks Barfield; Gabriela Carrillo/Taller de Arquitectura Mauricio Rocha + Gabriela Carrill; Anouk Legendre/XTU Architects; Andrea Leers & Jane Weinzapfel/Leers Weinzapfel Associates; Ada Yvars Bravo/Mangera Yvars Architects; Johanna Hurme/5468796 Architects; Jing Liu/SO-IL; Rozana Montiel/Rozana Montiel Estudio de Arquitectura - Architectural Review (UK)

Jan Gehl handed keys to Sydney: His ideas have been driving the City of Sydney's plans to...create a greener, more liveable and better connected city as part of the Sustainable Sydney 2030 initiative...The City has been working with Gehl and his team for more than a decade... - Architecture & Design (Australia)

Call for entries: 2017 Modernism in America Awards to celebrate the documentation, preservation and re-use of modern buildings, structures and landscapes built in the U.S. or on U.S. territory; earlybird deadline (save money!): March 1, 2017 (final submissions due April 14, 2017) - DOCOMOMO US

105 Valentines for Architects (And Architecture Lovers): If there was ever a time when the world needed a bit of extra love, that time is now. [images]- ArchDaily

Spread the Love with Architect Valentines: Because nothing says 'I love you' like a handmade starchitect card: Anna Fixsen is back at it again with the scissors and glue, pulling inspiration from some of today's top designers to craft five punny love notes. Isn't architecture sweet? - Architectural Record

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Today's News - Wednesday, February 15, 2017

- Virginia Tech's recently-completed FutureHAUS and the facility it was built in go up in flames, but students and faculty are already working on their entry for the Solar Decathlon Dubai in 2018.
- Small has a great Q&A with "Bulldozer: Demolition and Clearance of the Postwar Landscape" author Ammon "to unpack urban renewal and what it tells us about the idea of waste in cities."
- Wainwright x 2 (two real ouchers!): Calatrava's £1bn Greenwich Peninsula project "reads as a series of tired tropes bodged together in one clichéd collage. But at least we'll be able to say we've got a Calatrava bridge" (ouch!)
- He minces no words about what he thinks of public art being used as "a developer's decoy strategy" with "lumps of 'public art' that you might wish would be hauled off to the furnace and boiled back down to the gloop from whence they came" (double ouch!).
- Gasp! A New York-based artist(?) argues against the NEA: "the basic problem with the government supporting the arts is that it stands in the way of free market competition" (shades of Schumacher?).
- More on the plans to transform the Thames Estuary into arts hub that "would be one of the biggest redevelopment projects since disused docklands were turned into the Canary Wharf financial hub in the 1980s."
- Two takes on Apple's "spaceship" HQ: Love says, "The project took a toll on contractors" (door handle approval process says it all).
- Bogost explains why Apple's new HQ "shows how its beauty has always been skin deep - a monolith meant to be worshiped at sight and by touch. Just don't ask too many questions about how it works in practice."
- Moore makes the case for why the University of Durham's student union building should be saved: it's "a Brutalist gem in need of renovation - its charms would be more obvious if it wasn't in its current shabby and neglected state."
- Byrnes cheers Meier's 1995 The Hague City Hall being "Mondrian'd" to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the De Stijl movement.
- Pedersen offers 10 seriously funny ground rules for design magazine editors: "1. Ugly buildings always photograph better at night - if a media kit's featured image is a nighttime shot, beware, they may be dressing up a turd."
- Eyefuls of the 5 finalists vying for the 2017 EU Prize for Contemporary Architecture - Mies van der Rohe Award.
- Eyefuls of the (fabulous!) winners of the Little Free Library Design Competition ("spoiler alert - we all win").
- Your eye candy for the day: eyefuls of "100 stunning architectural gems" in L.A. (what? no Watts Towers???)



"Bulldozer: Demolition and Clearance of the Postwar Landscape" author Francesca Russello Ammon to unpack urban renewal and what it tells us about the idea of waste in cities... - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Oliver Wainwright: Calatrava finally arrives in London - but is he rehashing old ideas? [He] is loved for his striking designs and loathed for cost overruns. Will his £1bn project for Greenwich Peninsula stay on course? ...reads as a series of tired tropes bodged together in one cliched collage...represents a total lack of imagination...But at least we'll be able to say we've got a Calatrava bridge. - Guardian (UK)

Oliver Wainwright: Urban public art: can it be more than a developer's decoy strategy? Expensive sculptures are often funded from the same small pot of money as affordable housing, public space...lumps of "public art" that you might wish would be hauled off to the furnace and boiled back down to the gloop from whence they came...The institutionalisation of the decorative decoy strategy has spawned an entire industry... - Guardian (UK)

As Trump Mulls Funding Cuts For The Arts, An Artist Argues Against The NEA: Scott Simon talks to David Marcus...artistic director of a theater company in New York City, about defunding the National Endowment for the Arts: ..."the basic problem with the government supporting the arts...is that it stands in the way of free market competition..." - NPR / National Public Radio

Thames Estuary to be transformed into arts hub bringing tens of thousands of new jobs and homes: Traditionally a place of fishing and heavy industry...scheme would be one of the biggest redevelopment projects since disused docklands were turned into the Canary Wharf financial hub in the 1980s. - Evening Standard (UK)

Julia Love: Channeling Steve Jobs, Apple seeks design perfection at new 'spaceship' campus: no aspect of the 2.8 million-square-foot main building has been too small to attract scrutiny...some in the architecture community question whether Apple has focused on the right ends...treating the construction the same way they approach the design of pocket-sized electronics...The project...took a toll on contractors. -- Foster + Partners - Reuters

Ian Bogost: The Myth of Apple's Great Design: ...new "spaceship" headquarters shows how its beauty has always been skin deep: Like every Apple product, the company's new headquarters is a monolith meant to be worshiped at sight and by touch. Just don't ask too many questions about how it works in practice. And work it surely will. Borg-like... - The Atlantic

Rowan Moore: Save Dunelm House from the wrecking ball: University of Durham's student union building, once graced by Thelonious Monk, is a brutalist gem in need of renovation, not demolition: [Its] charms would also be more obvious if it wasn't in its current shabby and neglected state...The University says that it is keeping an open mind... -- Architects Co-Partnership (1966); Twentieth Century Society [images] - Observer (UK)

Mark Byrnes: The Hague's City Hall Has Been Mondrian'd: To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the De Stijl movement, Richard Meier's only project in the Netherlands is getting an extremely Dutch treatment...Other buildings will get the Mondrian treatment throughout the year but city hall served as a good place to start. [images]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Martin C. Pedersen: Confessions of a Former Design Magazine Editor: ...after some trial and error...I eventually learned the following ground rules, both spoken and unspoken: 1.Ugly buildings always photograph better at night...if a media kit's featured image is a nighttime shot, beware, they may be dressing up a turd. - Common Edge

5 Finalists for the 2017 EU Prize for Contemporary Architecture - Mies van der Rohe Award. -- NL Architects/XVW architectuur; Alison Brooks Architects; Lundgaard & Tranberg Architects; BBGK Architekci; Rudy Ricciotti [images]- Mies van der Rohe Foundation / Fundació Mies van der Rohe

Winners of the Little Free Library Design Competition: Spoiler alert - we all win: The response floored us...300 designs from 40 countries... -- Bartosz Bochynski/FUTUMATA; Seth Thompson; Rachel Murdaugh/Clark Nexsen; Lea Randebrock; CIRCLE (Ryo Otsuka, Lin Zihao); etc. [images]- Little Free Library / AIA San Francisco / Chronicle Books

A Guide to the 100 Stunning Architectural Gems of L.A.: The burnished splendor of Art Deco. The clean grace of Modernism. When it comes to architecture, our city is a wonderland. [images]- Los Angeles Magazine

This week at ARCspace

Kirsten Kiser: Snøhetta: Lillehammer Art Museum & Cinema, Norway: 22 years after completing the first expansion...[the firm] has again expanded the project, creating a holistic expression for both the art museum and the adjacent cinema...The concept...came from the idea of art hovering above a transparent base. -- Erling Viksjø (1964) [images]

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Today's News - Thursday, February 16, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: A bit of "He who tooteth not his own horn, his horn shall not be tooteth-ed": February 18th marks the 15th(!) ANNiversary of launching ArchNewsNow (we hardly feel a day over 99!). To celebrate, we won't be posting tomorrow or Monday, but will be back Tuesday, February 21.

- ANN feature: Millard takes us on a deep dive into Humes's "Door to Door: The Magnificent, Maddening, Mysterious World of Transportation" that offers a fascinating, in-depth look at transportation systems - and the supporting infrastructure that is "breaking the world."
- Brook digs deep into the soggy, sad saga of Mexico's plan to build a \$13 billion airport on a sinking lakebed in a nature preserve - and "preposterously" seeking LEED Platinum (with reference to the "tin-pot banana-Republican" in the White House).
- Farago offers breathtaking - and heartbreaking - images in Getty's digital exhibition of 18th- and 19th-century Palmyra, now being leveled by ISIS: "To understand what's being lost, spend some time looking at "The Legacy of Ancient Palmyra."
- Wainwright cheers local authorities "becoming developers to tackle the homes crisis" - and showcases "six of the best new council-led housing projects" (one is "the UK's largest ever Passivhaus development").
- Eyefuls of Meier's "revolutionary" Teachers Village in Newark, where the "façades offer a delicate interplay between the architect's signature all-white aesthetic and, herein lies a major departure, brick" ("We basically had to learn how to do a brick building").
- BIG's bid wins the competition to design San Pellegrino's factory and HQ in Northern Italy (lots of archways! and "Experience Lab" included).
- Some in Parliament are raising questions about the "completely unsuited" site for the UK Holocaust Memorial + Rykwert's own (eloquent) objections.
- Murray ponders why women leave architecture: "Because it's a diseased profession" - but there is hope: "The future of the profession depends on you not falling silent again."
- NCARB launches a new program that will allow architects without a degree from an accredited program to pursue NCARB certification.
- After years in storage (in pieces) on Long Island, Frey's (formerly) much maligned 1931 Aluminaire House finds a new in Palm Springs.
- Speaking of which - Palm Springs' Modernism Week launches today!
- Call for entries: Building Voices International Design Competition for innovative built environments and systems-focused solutions in Hawai'i.
- Weekend diversions:
 - Walker has some issues with Netflix's "Abstract: The Art of Design" series: those profiled "are unquestionably stylish visionaries, but the focus on spectacular, dazzling achievements makes design feel like an Olympian feat, rather than something that touches the everyday."
 - Farrelly weighs in on DS+R's "Exit" show in Sydney: "So, does it work? It's not clear. It is interesting, like a news segment designed for people with no capacity for abstraction."
 - Welton cheers the Venice Biennale's "The Architectural Imagination" at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit: "the exhibition is nothing if not optimistic."
- There's still time to catch Mark Garcia's "Up Close: The Models of Zaha Hadid" at Cornell (until Feb. 25).

- "The Architect's Studio: Wang Shu - Amateur Architecture Studio" takes the spotlight at the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art in Denmark.
- Belogolovsky traveling "Harry Seidler: Painting Toward Architecture" lands in Shanghai.
- Lamb Hart offers a most thoughtful excerpt from his tome "A New Look at Humanism in Architecture, Landscapes, and Urban Design" that explores the different "dimensions" of beauty.
- How could we resist more luscious images from Goldin and Lubell's "Never Built Los Angeles."



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ANN Feature: Bill Millard: Book Review: "Door to Door: The Magnificent, Maddening, Mysterious World of Transportation" by Edward Humes: The systems that bring materials and goods from their far-flung sources to end-consumers' doorsteps, as this Pulitzer-winning author shows, are astonishing. The infrastructure supporting them is "breaking the world." - ArchNewsNow.com

Daniel Brook: History of the Present: Mexico City: An unpopular president, a myth-making architect, and a multibillionaire tycoon are building an oversize airport in a nature preserve. Can they make Mexico great again? ...a \$13 billion airport on a sinking lakebed...Preposterously, for a project built in a nature preserve, the architects hope to attain LEED Platinum certification. -- Alejandro Prieto Posadas/José María Gutiérrez Trujillo (1960); Fernando Romero Enterprise/FR-EE; Foster + Partners [images] - Places Journal

Jason Farago: The Ancient Syrian City ISIS Is Destroying, Preserved Online: A digital exhibition features 18th-century etchings and 19th-century photographs of Palmyra and classical antiquities being leveled by ISIS militants...To understand what's being lost, spend some time looking at "The Legacy of Ancient Palmyra" - - Getty Research Institute [images] - New York Times

Oliver Wainwright: Out of the box: councils try innovative projects to provide social housing: Constrained by government and with a lack of funding, local authorities are becoming developers to tackle the homes crisis: ...an "unapologetically commercial approach, but with a social purpose"... -- David Chipperfield; Paul Karakusevic/Karakusevic Carson Architects; Bell Phillips architects; Mikhail Riches; Peter Barber Architects; vPPR architects; Mae Architects [images] - Guardian (UK)

Richard Meier's Revolutionary New Project Aims to Give Newark a Boost: ...Teachers Village development is the first stage in a large plan to redevelop Manhattan's New Jersey neighbor: ...façades offer a delicate interplay between the architect's signature all-white aesthetic and, herein lies a major departure, brick...Teachers...have first dibs...set to receive LEED Neighborhood Development [LEED ND] certification... [images] - Architectural Digest

BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group Selected to Design San Pellegrino Factory and Headquarters in Northern Italy: ...will collaborate closely with San Pellegrino and local architects Studio Verticale over the next four years... [images] - ArchDaily

Questions raised in Parliament over 'completely unsuited' UK Holocaust Memorial site: ...the plot in Victoria Gardens is too small, prone to flooding, and the scheme would set a 'dangerous precedent' for parks in London + Joseph Rykwert's objections to the Holocaust Memorial site. -- Adjaye Associates; Allied

Works; Caruso St John; Diamond Schmitt Architects; Foster + Partners; Heneghan Peng Architects; John McAslan + Partners; Lahdelma & Mahlamäki Architects; Studio Libeskind; Zaha Hadid Architects [images] - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Christine Murray: Why do women leave architecture? Because it's a diseased profession: Unequal pay, the glass ceiling, bullying, sexism and long hours are leading to women quitting...Good news: you can change this: The future of the profession depends on you not falling silent again. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

NCARB opens up official certification to much wider field of architecture students: Architects without a degree from an accredited program can pursue NCARB certification through a new path. - Archinect

This Iconic House Launched a Movement Before Settling in Palm Springs; Following years of neglect in New York, the first metal prefab home is welcomed at Modernism Week with open arms...Just in time for Modernism Week...the iconic 1931 Aluminaire House has arrived in town...will soon be assembled and sited in a new downtown park, directly across from the Palm Springs Art Museum. -- Albert Frey; A. Lawrence Kocher [images] - Architectural Digest

Modernism Week, Palm Springs, CA: Be part of a cultural phenomenon: Highlights include architectural tours, talks, and parties in significant buildings rarely open to the public; February 16 - 26 - Modernism Week

Call for entries: Building Voices International Design Competition: ideas for potential prototypes for innovative built environments and systems-focused solutions in Hawai'i; cash prizes + exhibition; deadline: April 5 - University of Hawai'i at Manoa School of Architecture

Rob Walker: Celebrating Design Without Contending with It: The subjects profiled in the Netflix documentary series "Abstract: The Art of Design" are unquestionably stylish visionaries, but is that all there is to design? What is "design," anyway? Design is totally cool and, apparently, pretty chic and glamorous...show's focus on spectacular, dazzling achievements...makes design feel like an Olympian feat, rather than something that touches the everyday. -- Paula Scher/Pentagram; Ralph Gilles; Es Devlin; Tinker Hatfield; Christoph Niemann; Platon; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Ilse Crawford - New Yorker

Elizabeth Farrelly: Diller Scofidio + Renfro's "Exit": decoding the data [in Sydney]: ...explores how human displacement is impacted by political, economic and environmental factors...So, does it work? It's not clear, it's not poetic and it turns no new stones...It is interesting, like a news segment designed for people with no capacity for abstraction. It's also aurally cute. - ArchitectureAU (Australia)

J. Michael Welton: Detroit Welcomes the Venice Architecture Biennale: ...the timing could not be better... "The Architectural Imagination" at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit...the exhibition is nothing if not optimistic. -- Cynthia Davidson; Monica Ponce de Leon [images] - Huffington Post

"Up Close: The Models of Zaha Hadid": Using a macro lens to achieve a forensic quality, Mark Garcia's cropped and up close shots were intended to highlight details and different aspects of craft...first public exhibition at Cornell's

[John Hartell Gallery, Sibley Dome.](#) - Cornell University College of Architecture, Art, and Planning

["The Architect's Studio: Wang Shu - Amateur Architecture Studio": Louisiana Museum of Modern Art \[Humblebæk, Denmark\] introduces a new series of monographic architecture exhibitions... -- Lu Wenyu \[images\]](#) - Louisiana Museum of Modern Art

["Harry Seidler: Painting Toward Architecture": traveling exhibition tracing the work of Australia's most prominent architect of the 20th century...examines his distinctive place...within and beyond modernist design methodology; at the HKU/Shanghai Study Centre, Shanghai -- Vladimir Belogolovsky](#) - HKU/Shanghai Study Centre

[Robert Lamb Hart: What We're Feeling and Thinking When We Say: "Beautiful!": how biology and psychology shape our perceptions: ...when a place satisfies a search or stirs impulses that we enjoy..we experience the "delight" that's inherent in the art of architecture. We feel, in a sense, a "beauty for its own sake." In return, we attribute human qualities to the places we build. \(excerpt from "A New Look at Humanism in Architecture, Landscapes, and Urban Design"\)](#) - Common Edge

[Unbuilt Los Angeles: the city that might have been: From the offshore Santa Monica freeway to a mini Las Vegas with pyramids and the Parthenon, Greg Goldin and Sam Lubell look at the LA that never happened; "Never Built Los Angeles" \[images\]](#) - Guardian (UK)

This week at ARCspace

[Kirsten Kiser: Snøhetta: Lillehammer Art Museum & Cinema, Norway: 22 years after completing the first expansion...\[the firm\] has again expanded the project, creating a holistic expression for both the art museum and the adjacent cinema...The concept...came from the idea of art hovering above a transparent base. -- Erling Viksjø \(1964\) \[images\]](#)

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Today's News - Tuesday, February 21, 2017

- ArcSpace brings us eyefuls of Lewerentz's 1966 Church of St. Peter in Klippan, Sweden, that is "a strange and particular architecture that feels strikingly contemporary yet primitive, exceptional yet vernacular."
- Kimmelman kicks off a new series on climate change and cities by visiting "parched" and "sinking" Mexico City: "This city is full of brilliant people with good ideas," but "lacks the political will" (a timely companion to Brook's soggy, sad saga about the city's plan to build an airport on a sinking lakebed - click "Yesterday's News" if you missed it).
- Politically speaking: AIA issues a statement on immigration and travel restrictions and its effect on the design and construction industry.
- Jacobs ponders "public space in the Trump era" that is "putting new stress on the old fault lines that exist wherever public overlaps with private."
- Bentley parses the building industry's anxiety about the environment in the era of Trump: "I'm feeling pretty pessimistic these days," says Crispino.
- Hagberg Fisher calls for "leaders in architecture and design to join the resistance. We do not need to collaborate. We need to NOT collaborate."
- Giovannini closes the political punditry with an amusingly serious (or is it seriously amusing) ode to "our new decorator in chief" (his e-mail to us: "I only published it once I was sure I had insurance protection against the litigation that is now threatening to suppress press freedom").
- Emory University to replace a "remarkable" Portman building with a new campus center: "where does a school draw a line between saving a semi-dysfunctional building or demolishing it?"
- Big plans to transform Calgary's Victoria Park into a downtown "cultural and entertainment district," designed by Civitas and Gibbs Gage Architects.
- Sydney is "blindsided" by the deputy lord mayor's call for bike registration that would require a compulsory test, a license, and insurance (a bad idea - not only in our biking book).
- Karaim gives us an update on filmmaker Miner's Frank Lloyd Wright Revival Initiative to construct FLW's unbuilt and demolished buildings - a "simple idea, equal parts audacious and quixotic" that "has already made notable progress" (though not without skeptics).
- Wisconsin honors FLW's 150th birthday with a self-guided tour through nine counties to "nine of Wright's most iconic built structures."
- Welton brings us the little-known tale of the early 19th-century African-American architect Abele's drawings - few "carry his name or signature," but he "was the mastermind behind the planning and design" of two Duke University campuses - "he worked on them in relative anonymity."
- Gehry takes on an online class: "He may be 87, but the starchitect continues to prove that he is anything but old school."
- A day of winners: Kéré tapped to design the 2017 Serpentine Pavilion with a "tree-themed structure" and a "spectacular" waterfall effect.
- Melbourne to get a kool haas designed by Koolhaas and Gianotten, tapped to design the 2017 MPavilion (alas, no images yet).
- As the 2017 Young Architects Program winner, Jenny Sabin Studio's "Lumen" will light up MoMA PS1's courtyard with "a canopy of recycled, photo-luminescent textiles" (it looks to be stunning!).
- Six from around the world win Harvard GSD's inaugural Richard Rogers Fellowship.
- Winn wins the \$15,000 Stewardson Keefe LeBrun Travel Grant with her proposal "Public Architecture for Public

Good."

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This week at ARCspace

Sigurd Lewerentz: Church of St Peter (1966), Klippan, Sweden: ...embodies a holistic and obsessive architectural vision...manifesting a range of spatial references...all interpreted through the use of brick. The result is a strange and particular architecture that feels strikingly contemporary yet primitive, exceptional yet vernacular...managed to subvert constructional norms, redefine religious spatiality... [images]

Michael Kimmelman: Mexico City, Parched and Sinking, Faces a Water Crisis: Climate change is threatening to push a crowded capital toward a breaking point...There's much more at stake than this city's well being...This city is full of brilliant people with good ideas..."We have the resources, but lack the political will." -- Loreta Castro Reguera [images]- New York Times

Where we stand: AIA statement on immigration and travel restrictions: AIA publishes seven principles on immigration: ...statistics further support concern about the impact any newly imposed immigration or travel restrictions will have on the broader design and construction industry. - American Institute of Architects

Karrie Jacobs: Public Space in the Trump Era: The new administration has complicated the already hazy distinction between public and private space: Generally, we only notice the difference if we try to exercise our First Amendment rights...The amount of privately owned and operated "public" space appears destined to increase dramatically. -- Jerold Kayden [images]- Architect Magazine

Chris Bentley: Designers Anxious About the Environment in the Trump Era: The building industry hopes that the president's business background will lend some pragmatism to decisions related to energy efficiency and infrastructure: "I'm feeling pretty pessimistic these days..." -- James Crispino/Francis Cauffman; Elizabeth Beardsley/U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) - Architect Magazine

Eva Hagberg Fisher: It's Time for Leaders in Architecture and Design to Step Up and Join the Resistance: We do not need to collaborate. We need to NOT collaborate...I'm talking to people who are in positions to speak up...who are established in their careers...who can afford to turn down an assignment or seven or ten...If you, right now, feel like you're safe enough to make a stand, please make one. - Common Edge

Joseph Giovannini: The President Who Mistook his Wife for a Drape: He hung gold drapes behind his desk in the Oval Office...Hail to our new decorator in

chief! That's his expertise: decoration. Surfaces. Terrific shiny things...only boring critics who aren't rich anyway and write fake news for failing publications notice the cheap, stress-warped glass facades. Morons. Sad. - Los Angeles Review of Books

Emory University to replace a remarkable John Portman building with a new campus center: The new Campus Life Center, designed by Duda Paine Architects, addresses the DUC's shortcomings...where does a school draw a line between saving a semi-dysfunctional building or demolishing it...By choice or necessity, universities are essential custodians of modern architecture, but they also play to the market. [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

New master plan coming for Victoria Park: ...now planning...what it's calling a "cultural and entertainment district" in downtown Calgary's east end..."About \$150 million will go to infrastructure and placemaking initiatives"... -- Mark Johnson/Civitas; Stephen Mahler/Gibbs Gage Architects - Calgary Herald (Canada)

Sydney deputy lord mayor blindsides council with bike registration call: ...would require cyclists to sit a compulsory test, carry a licence and have insurance..."Anything that discourages the use of active transport is a bad idea"... - The Fifth Estate (Australia)

Reed Karaim: Re-Creating Wright's Lost Projects: The Frank Lloyd Wright Revival Initiative has an ambitious and potentially fraught goal: to construct the architect's unbuilt and demolished buildings...simple idea, equal parts audacious and quixotic...hoping to rebuild a park pavilion in Banff, Canada...designed in 1911...demolished in 1939...it has already made notable progress. -- Eric Lloyd Wright [images] - Architect Magazine

The Wright Way: Wisconsin establishes its own Frank Lloyd Wright Trail: In honor of FLW's 150th birthday on June 8th, the Wisconsin Department of Tourism has mapped a self-guided tour through nine of Wright's most iconic built structures. Winding through nine counties... [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

J. Michael Welton: African-American architect Julian Abele's drawings tell the story of Duke University: ...in 1902 became the first African-American to earn an architecture degree from the University of Pennsylvania. Few of these drawings carry his name or signature, but two facts are certain: Abele was the mastermind behind the planning and design of two campuses on Duke's grounds - and he worked on them in relative anonymity. [images] - Architectural Digest

Frank Gehry to Teach His First-Ever Online Class: Hosted by the website MasterClass, the \$90 course will begin this spring: He may be 87, but the starchitect continues to prove that he is anything but old school...there is homework...the course is aimed at amateurs—or Gehry fanatics who simply want more insight into his genius. - Architectural Record

Serpentine picks Diébédo Francis Kéré for 2017 pavilion: African-born architect unveils tree-themed structure for summer festivities...the structure's oculus would funnel rainwater from the roof to create a "spectacular" waterfall effect, before it was collected to irrigate the surrounding park. -- Kéré Architecture [images] - BD/Building Design (UK)

Rem Koolhaas to design 2017 Melbourne MPavilion: ...the first Australian project for...Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA)...will work with managing partner, David Gianotten who established a branch office in Australia in 2016...also working with Hassell on the design and development of the New Museum in Perth. - Architecture & Design (Australia)

Jenny Sabin Studio Wins 2017 Young Architects Program Competition: ...high-tech canopy will grace MoMA PS1's courtyard this summer...recycled, photoluminescent textiles..."Lumen"...highly responsive fabric, initially developed by Sabin for Nike, absorbs, collects, and releases sunlight, causing it to glow; it also holds the shape of passersby's shadows. [images] - Architectural Record

2017 Richard Rogers Fellowship Winners: Harvard GSD inaugurates residency program for architectural and urban research...fellows...hail from Austria, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, and the United States...hosted at the Wimbledon House [London], the landmarked residence designed by Rogers for his parents in the late 1960s. -- Namik Mackic; Maik Novotny; Jose Castillo; Saidee Springall; Shantel Blakely; Dirk van den Heuvel - Harvard University Graduate School of Design (GSD) / Richard Rogers Fellowship

2016 Stewardson Keefe LeBrun Travel Grant: Tya Winn, NOMA, LEED GA, SEED, awarded \$15,000 for her proposal, "Public Architecture for Public Good"...to create a global sample of current public housing projects and their effects on residents and the greater public. - AIANY/Center for Architecture Newsletter (formerly e-Oculus)

ANN Feature: Bill Millard: Book Review: "Door to Door: The Magnificent, Maddening, Mysterious World of Transportation" by Edward Humes: The systems that bring materials and goods from their far-flung sources to end-consumers' doorsteps, as this Pulitzer-winning author shows, are astonishing. The infrastructure supporting them is "breaking the world." - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Wednesday, February 22, 2017

- Betsky tours Taiwan and its plethora of half-built (and competition-winning but never-built) projects, and concludes the city's "era of big building projects over."
- AJ's findings in a Freedom of Information request indicate that critics of the Garden Bridge are being "shut out" by London's mayor.
- Hoskins and CDA's "contentious" project in Edinburgh is complete - but at the cost of one of the city's few Category B-listed post-war buildings.
- Wainwright x 2: He cheers that "developers have never been so green-fingered" - but considers that it could be just "a cynical means of raising property values in a new wave of "eco gentrification."
- He parses Kéré's Serpentine Pavilion that will "bring one of his characteristically stripped-back structures, honed in the villages of Burkino Faso, to leafy west London."
- The Queens Museum is a model "for cultural institutions wondering how best to support immigrant communities in a hostile political climate," starting with two bilingual community organizers on staff.
- Kimmelman seems quite taken by Duvall Decker, an Architectural League 2017 Emerging Voices winner whose "soup-to-nuts approach is leaving an indelible imprint on poor, once-neglected corners in and around" Jackson, Mississippi.
- Thomas tackles AIA's dearth of women convention speakers, offering "four women architects to fix your all-male panel" (a.k.a. "manel").
- Miller delves into how Forensic Architecture brought to light revealing details of Syria's secret - and brutal - military prison.
- King considers the public amenities that will be included in Piano's first U.S. high rise outside of NYC (if/when San Francisco approves).
- Two samplings from Curbed's "On race & architecture" series: "16 architects of color speak out about the industry's race problem."
- Sisson sizes up "11 pioneering architects of color who made their mark," but "that history often overlooks."
- Garrett takes us on a tour through miles of Malta's incredible secret tunnels, some dating back to the 16th century, and ponders whether they should be open to the public.
- A round-up of "the 9 best new university buildings around the world" (only 9?).
- Eyefuls of the winners in the Architecture in Virtual Reality Competition for a virtual exhibition space.

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Garden Bridge critics 'shut out' by London mayor: Only supporters of the Heatherwick-designed project have been granted access to Sadiq Khan's team: The revelation sparked anger across the political spectrum, with critics accusing Khan of engaging only with powerful supporters of the bridge...refusing to listen to those with serious concerns about the project. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Contentious Edinburgh World Heritage Site scheme finally completes: A controversial scheme...included the loss of one Edinburgh's few Category B-listed post-war buildings..."The loss of the Scottish Provident building is a tragedy." -- William G Leslie/Rowand Anderson, Kininmonth & Paul (1961); John Deffenbaugh; Hoskins Architects; Comprehensive Design Architects [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Oliver Wainwright: Plant power: why greenery is more than just a fig leaf for urban development: ...developers have never been so green-fingered. ...putting plants first can guide the rest of the development for the better...But are these plants being used as...a cynical means of raising property values in a new wave of "eco gentrification"? -- Liza Fior/muf architecture/art; Atelier d'Architecture Autogérée (Studio for Self-managed Architecture; EXYZT - Guardian (UK)

Oliver Wainwright: Francis Kéré becomes first African architect of Serpentine Pavilion: The architect is planning to bring one of his characteristically stripped-back structures, honed in the villages of his native Burkino Faso, to leafy west London: While the scorching sun might be the thing to shelter from in the deserts of west Africa, he has configured his London canopy more with rain in mind... [images]- Guardian (UK)

How a Museum in Queens Became a Neighborhood Ally: Rarely do art museums have bilingual community organizers on their payroll. The Queens Museum employs two. For cultural institutions wondering how best to support immigrant communities in a hostile political climate, the outer-borough landmark provides some clues. "The Art of Relevance" by Nina Simon - Next City (formerly Next American City)

Michael Kimmelman: On a Design Mission in Mississippi: An architectural firm's soup-to-nuts approach is leaving an indelible imprint on poor, once-neglected corners in and around this state's capital. -- Roy Decker/Anne Marie Duvall/Duvall Decker Architects [images]- New York Times

Kelsey E. Thomas: Four Women Architects to Fix Your All-Male Panel: Death to the "manel": Equal representation - particularly from top organizations such as the AIA - is crucial...I offer four brilliant women who are showing how to design for an ever moving and changing world. -- Marion Weiss/Weiss/Manfredi; Toni Griffin; Claire Weisz/WXY Studio; Hilary Sample/MOS Architects - Next City (formerly Next American City)

Meg Miller: How Forensic Architecture Revealed Details Of A Secret Military Prison In Syria: There are no images of Assad's brutal Saydnaya prison, so a group of architects relied on prisoners' sound memories to create a 3D model. -

John King: Public space tops plan for tower by celebrated architect: The roof terrace would sit atop 36 floors of hotel and residential space...The unusual space caps what otherwise would be a deceptively straightforward glass high-rise at 555 Howard St. -- Renzo Piano Building Workshop; Mark Cavagnero Associates [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

16 architects of color speak out about the industry's race problem: ...each offered advice about how the profession can break down barriers...and why this matters. -- Vishaan Chakrabarti/PAU; Roberta Washington/Roberta Washington Architects; Alfonso Medina/T38 Studio; Mabel O. Wilson/Studio &; Chris Leong/Leong Leong; Germane Barnes; Suchi Reddy/Reddymade Design; Michael Ford/Brandnu Design; Dong-Ping Wong/Family New York; Jing Liu/SO-IL; Phil Freelon/Perkins+Will; Nadine Maleh/Institute for Public Architecture ; Juan Gabriel Moreno/JGMA; Yolande Daniels/Studio SUMO; Mark Gardner/Jacklitsch/Gardner Architects; Eric Tan/Handel Architects- Curbed

Patrick Sisson: 11 pioneering architects of color who made their mark: The inspiring architects - and a multitude of buildings - that history often overlooks. -- National Association of Minority Architects (NOMA); Julian Abele; Vertner Woodson Tandy; Beverly Loraine Greene; Hilyard Robinson; Paul Revere Williams; Clarence Wesley "Cap" Wigington; Norma Sklarek; Gilbert Leong; Takeo Shiota; Iwahiko Tsumanuma (a.k.a. Thomas S. Rockrise); Wendell Jerome Campbell; John Chase- Curbed

Bradley L. Garrett: Malta's secret tunnels: inside the newly discovered underworld of Valletta: Malta's picturesque capital has been used as the set of Gladiator, Troy and King's Landing in Game of Thrones - but it is also riven by subterranean passages that go back to the legendary Knights of Malta. As the city prepares to be 2018 European Capital of Culture, should the tunnels be opened to the public? -- Leanne Wijnsma; Claude Borg; Edward Said [images]- Guardian (UK)

The 9 Best New University Buildings Around the World: Some of the world's most famous architects...went back to the books to marry design and academia. -- Michael Maltzan; Thom Mayne/Morphosis; Grimshaw Architects; Arkitema Architects/Arkitektgruppen Cubus; David Piscuskas/1100 Architect; Yazdani Studio of Cannon Design; Steven Holl; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Robert A.M. Stern [images]- Architectural Digest

Winners: Architecture in Virtual Reality International Competition for a virtual exhibition space. -- Boris Hilderl; Alžbeta Krbylová/Juraj Hornák/Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava; Paolo Antonio Zurk Castillo/Universidad de los Andes; etc. [images]- Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert)

ANN Feature: Bill Millard: Book Review: "Door to Door: The Magnificent, Maddening, Mysterious World of Transportation" by Edward Humes: The systems that bring materials and goods from their far-flung sources to end-consumers' doorsteps, as this Pulitzer-winning author shows, are astonishing. The infrastructure supporting them is "breaking the world." - ArchNewsNow.com

Sigurd Lewerentz: Church of St Peter (1966), Klippan, Sweden: ...embodies a holistic and obsessive architectural vision...manifesting a range of spatial references...all interpreted through the use of brick. The result is a strange and particular architecture that feels strikingly contemporary yet primitive, exceptional yet vernacular...managed to subvert constructional norms, redefine religious spatiality... [images]

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Today's News - Thursday, February 23, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, February 28.

- Walker wades deep into how cities are dealing with climate change "as the White House aims to stifle climate science": they're cooperating globally and planning locally.
- Speaking of politics, a good reason to be in NYC next week: Parsons' "Making Home in Wounded Places: Memory, Design, and the Spatial" 2-day symposium (impressive line-up of speakers!).
- Romero takes a totally fascinating tour of Fordlândia, Henry Ford's 1928 "failed utopia" deep in Brazil's Amazon: "It turns out Detroit isn't the only place where Ford produced ruin."
- Lenora Brown parses the fascinating history of Johannesburg's Ponte Tower, "an ode to the gods of brutalism" considered "an apartheid-era architectural triumph" - and now "a mainstay of movies about the end of the world."
- Waite ponders the sad fate of Hodder's once-lauded National Wildflower Centre - it's "a rotting mess" and "tragically decomposing" - and it's only 16 years old (before/after pix are heartbreaking).
- Rawn returns to Tanglewood with "ambitious" plans to add a new complex to its 1994 Seiji Ozawa Hall for the Boston Symphony Orchestra.
- A major donation brings the Denver Art Museum closer to completing its plan to renovate Ponti's North Building and add a welcome center by Fentress and Machado Silvetti.
- An impressive shortlist of five international teams now vying to design Toronto's Etobicoke Civic Centre.
- Kamin considers how architects and urban designers are preparing for the coming era of driverless cars: "The possibilities are dazzling. There is also a dystopian alternative of technology run amok."
- Call for entries: The Driverless Future Challenge (how timely!) + Architect magazine's 2017 R+D Awards + Hong Kong Pixel Homes Competition.
- Weekend diversions:
- Lambert reflects on her 75 years in architecture as part of "Phyllis Lambert: 75 Years at Work" at the Canadian Centre for Architecture.
- The Met Breuer revisits four of Breuer's buildings.
- In Austin, the goal of "Shape the Conversation" is to "to 'pull off the cloak of invisibility' of women in architecture."
- Toronto's Winter Stations are bringing Torontonians to their winter waterfront with what Rochon calls "gutsy" and "lyrical" installations.
- Hawthorne hails Krumwiede's "Atlas of Another America: An Architectural Fiction": it's a "satirical jolt for the earnest world of architecture publishing."
- Brownell cheers Rael's "Borderwall as Architecture: A Manifesto for the US-Mexico Boundary" as "an intrepid" book that "captivates readers with bittersweet tales and imaginative futures."
- Lewis parses four Jane Jacobs tomes: "The [two] new biographies are satisfying. But they leave nagging gaps."

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[Alissa Walker: How cities can stand up to climate change: As the White House aims to stifle climate science, cities cooperate globally and plan locally: There's](#)

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also a movement to educate lawmakers about resilience...“This is happening now...Not in 50 or 100 years - now.” - Curbed

Symposium Explores Design Responses To Political Trauma: "Making Home in Wounded Places: Memory, Design, and the Spatial" at the Parsons School of Design, March 3-4: Scholars, designers, and activists will discuss more than 30 case studies... -- Lina Sergie Attar - Parsons The New School for Design (NYC)

Simon Romero: Deep in Brazil's Amazon, Exploring the Ruins of Ford's Fantasyland: The town of Fordlândia, founded in 1928 by Henry Ford, stands as a crumbling testament to the folly of trying to bend the jungle to the will of man: ...ineptitude and tragedy plagued the venture...“It turns out Detroit isn't the only place where Ford produced ruin"... -- Albert Kahn [images] - New York Times

Ryan Lenora Brown: The South African Building That Came to Symbolize the Apocalypse: Ponte City, Africa's tallest apartment block, is a mainstay of movies about the end of the world - but it was once an apartheid-era architectural triumph: An ode to the gods of brutalism...a projection of white South Africa's desire to be seen as Western and sophisticated... -- Rodney Grosskopff/Manfred Hermer (1976) [images] - The Atlantic

Richard Waite: 'A rotting mess' - the sad fate of Hodder's National Wildflower Centre: The latest of a number of Millennium projects to fail, the much-admired Merseyside visitor facility is closed and decaying. What went wrong? ...tragically decomposing...afflicted with problems which go deeper than the cosmetic. -- Stephen Hodder/Hodder+Partners (2001); Will Alsop/Bill Dunster/Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios; Richard Rogers; BDP [images] - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Tanglewood presents plan for big expansion: The Boston Symphony Orchestra is set to launch an ambitious expansion of its Tanglewood campus in Lenox, creating a new \$30 million complex. -- Dongik Lee; William Rawn Associates; Reed Hilderbrand [images] - Boston Globe

Sie family donates \$12 million for Denver Art Museum renovations: Museum more than halfway to \$150 million needed [for the North Building Revitalization project]: ...welcome center will unify the building's design and appear more welcoming. -- Gio Ponti; James Sudler Associates (1971); Fentress Architects; Machado Silvetti [images] - Denver Post

Five shortlisted teams announced in Etobicoke Civic Centre design competition: "Build Toronto and the City are driving the focus on City-Building by exploring creative and innovative design ideas..." -- Adamson Associates Architects/Henning Larsen Architects/PMA Landscape Architects; Diamond Schmitt Architects/Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates; KPMB Architects/West 8; Montgomery Sisam Architects/Adjaye Associates/OLIN; Moriyama & Teshima Architects/MacLennan Jaunkalns Miller Architects/FORREC - Canadian Architect

Blair Kamin: Driverless cars could change urban landscape: Architects and urban designers...have started shaping bold new city planning ideas to prepare for the coming era of the self-driving car...The possibilities are dazzling...There

is also a dystopian alternative...of technology run amok... ["The Driverless City" by Marshall Brown, Lili Du, Laura Forlano, Ron Henderson and Jack Guthman]- Chicago Tribune

Call for entries: The Driverless Future Challenge (international): proposals that actively shape New York City's response to driverless technology. It's not about the cars themselves, but everything else; ore than \$60k worth of resources to help finalists; earlybird registration (save money!): March 3 (submissions due May 19)- Blank Space / NYC Mayor's Office / New Lab / AIANY / Fast Company

Call for entries: 2017 R+D Awards: 11th annual awards program celebrates the research, materials, and technologies that have advanced the profession at every scale; earlybird deadline (save money!): April 14 (submissions due April 19)- Architect Magazine

Call for entries: Hong Kong Pixel Homes Competition (international): fill HK's vacant pixel-sized spots of the land with designs for...buildings that could work to alleviate the city's affordable housing crisis; cash prizes; earlybird registration deadline (save money!): March 8 (submissions due May 17)- Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert)

Phyllis Lambert: A Reflecting Lens: She looks back on her 75 years in architecture: ...taken from the exhibition "Phyllis Lambert: 75 Years At Work"...at the Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal: "Art has always been for me the essence of existence." - The Architect's Newspaper

Met Breuer Exhibition Revisits Namesake Architect's Contemporary Buildings: "Breuer Revisited: New Photographs by Luisa Lambri and Bas Princen" explores the complexity of four buildings...focusing on the evolution of the building and the concept of post occupancy. - Architect Magazine

Where are the women in architecture? New exhibit tries to answer that: "Shape the Conversation" asks...has its roots in a national survey of architects that came out of San Francisco...showcases the variety and breadth of women's contributions...the goal was to "pull off the cloak of invisibility" of women in architecture; at the University of Texas School of Architecture, Austin. -- The Missing 32 Percent- Austin American-Statesman (Texas)

8 art installations on Toronto beaches aim to draw people outside: ...temporary artworks are helping to make the city 'winter-friendly'...Lisa Rochon [said they] are "gutsy" and "lyrical." -- RAW Design; Ferris and Associates; Curio; Asuka Kono/Rachel Salmela; Joao Araujo Sousa/Joanna Correia Silva; Mario García/Andrea Govi; Dionisios Vriniotis/Rob Shostak/Dakota Wares-Tani/Julie Forand [images]- CBC news (Canada)

Christopher Hawthorne: Keith Krumwiede's satirical jolt for the earnest world of architecture publishing: "Atlas of Another America: An Architectural Fiction"...cribs the basic designs of the houses in Freedomland from the big U.S. home-builders...stringing or mashing them together to form an odd new kind of communal housing...accompanied by a series of Old Master and landscape paintings...to which he has added renderings of the Freedomland houses... [images + Q&A]- Los Angeles Times

Blaine Brownell: The Borderwall as a Physical and Cultural Divide: Ronald Rael's "Borderwall as Architecture: A Manifesto for the US-Mexico Boundary"...an intrepid new book...is not one-dimensional. Part historical account, part theoretical appraisal, and part design manifesto...captivates readers with bittersweet tales and imaginative futures... -- Rael San Fratello-Architect Magazine

Michael J. Lewis: What Jane Jacobs Saw: ...the centenary of the birth...was marked by the publication of two ambitious biographies, an anthology of essays, and a book of interviews...Her message was first, do no harm; it was not do nothing at all. And yet this is the distorted lesson that architects and planners drew...The new biographies are satisfying...But they leave nagging gaps. -- "Eyes on the Street" by Robert Kanigel; "Becoming Jane Jacobs" by Peter L. Laurence; "Jane Jacobs: The Last Interview and Other Conversations"; "Vital Little Plans: The Short Works of Jane Jacobs" - First Things magazine (Institute on Religion and Public Life)

ANN Feature: Bill Millard: Book Review: "Door to Door: The Magnificent, Maddening, Mysterious World of Transportation" by Edward Humes: The systems that bring materials and goods from their far-flung sources to end-consumers' doorsteps, as this Pulitzer-winning author shows, are astonishing. The infrastructure supporting them is "breaking the world." - ArchNewsNow.com

This week at ARCspace

Sigurd Lewerentz: Church of St Peter (1966), Klippan, Sweden: ...embodies a holistic and obsessive architectural vision...manifesting a range of spatial references...all interpreted through the use of brick. The result is a strange and particular architecture that feels strikingly contemporary yet primitive, exceptional yet vernacular...managed to subvert constructional norms, redefine religious spatiality... [images]

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Today's News - Tuesday, February 28, 2017

- Merkel pens a thoughtful tribute to Abba Tor, "the engineer of the almost impossible" for the likes of Saarinen and Kahn, who has passed away at 93.
- Evans considers what "ingredients" it takes to create "buzzing small business communities without developers or architects": creative vision instead of master planning, and risk-sharing instead of risk-taking.
- GovHack's Keith delves into how "data will become as fundamental to cities as infrastructure."
- Tierney, on the other hand, considers how both urban and software architects share "responsibility for the social and political consequences of their design decisions" when it comes to public space (there's a move to make protest a felony in some states - yikes!).
- Capps reports that almost 200 firms have already expressed interest in building Trump's border wall before the official solicitation goes live March 6, with "concept prototypes" due March 10: "Any company picked for the job faces a sincere reputational risk" (two artists "may be trying to punk the process").
- Vonier and Nadel weigh in on how "architecture is the newest anti-terror weapon" as Paris prepares to build a bulletproof wall around the Eiffel Tower ("it will be an upgrade from the current hideous metal gates").
- The Australian Institute of Architects no longer opposes plans for a security fence around Parliament House in Canberra - a briefing left AIA satisfied that it "will be undertaken in a well-considered matter."
- Birnbaum makes another plea to the powers-that-be to reconsider plans for D.C.'s Pershing Park - it is a poster child for "how first tier works of landscape architecture too often are still treated like second-class amenities."
- Kamin is none too happy that first hints of what the Obama Presidential Library might be were dropped in NYC, "to the frustration of Chicago journalists, me included."
- Lynch reports on what Williams and Tsien said at the NYC event re: the Obama library: "[Obama] looked at what we did and he said, 'I said you could be sort of quiet, but I think you're a little too quiet.'"
- SHoP's winning design for a wooden tower in Manhattan bites the dust ("Talk about logging off.").
- On a brighter note, SHoP, with Hamilton Anderson Associates, has towering plans for the Hudson department store site in Detroit - a "shimmering, futuristic" mixed-use tower that "looks like nothing in Detroit now."
- After some strong criticism, next week, Adjaye will present revised plans (and pix, we hope!) to transform old government property into "luxe condos" in D.C.'s tony Georgetown.
- IBI Group - Gruzen Samton's winning design in the Home Today, Home Tomorrow Design Challenge has been built and donated to a veteran and his family in Memphis.
- Anderson of EduColor considers some "initiatives, both new and established," that are tackling how architecture schools can increase diversity.
- Arch Record has extended its deadline to Friday to respond to a survey re: "attitudes toward climate change" - please respond!
- Addington leaves Yale to head UT Austin School of Architecture.
- One we couldn't resist: a Brixton architect wants "to recreate David Bowie's iconic lightning flash" as a public sculpture.
- Call for entries deadline reminder: 5th International LafargeHolcim Awards for Sustainable Construction (\$2 million in prizes!) + Open call for Curator of Stad en Architectuur's "architecture as a laboratory" lecture series in Leuven, Belgium.

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Obituary: Abba Tor (1923-2017), the engineer of the almost impossible: The two most daring architects of the middle of the 20th century, Eero Saarinen and Louis Kahn, both went to [him] when they needed help designing groundbreaking buildings. By Jayne Merkel - The Architect's Newspaper

Martyn Evans: Successful places need creativity, enthusiasm and collaboration, not money and masterplanners: Buzzing small business communities like the former Old Truman Brewery on London's Brick Lane have boomed without developers or architects. What are the ingredients of success? - BD/Building Design (UK)

Kevin Keith/GovHack: Data, cities and a new civic pride: A web of information woven into the very fabric of cities...is providing a living, breathing picture of how we and our cities operate...Data will become as fundamental to cities as infrastructure...the Internet of Things will not change the world, it will enable the world to change. - The Fifth Estate (Australia)

TF Tierney: Public Space Rewired: Architects, both urban and software, have a shared responsibility for the social and political consequences of their design decisions...It is one thing to collect and model data to understand the complex interactions of a city, it is quite another to see authoritarian regimes use those same methods of data collection to discipline urban residents and silently go forward. - Architectural Review (UK)

Kriston Capps: Almost 200 Firms Have Bid To Build Trump's Border Wall: More may answer the call when the federal government lists its formal solicitation on March 6...will call for concept prototypes, due March 10...a set of finalists will be required to answer a full request for proposals (RFP), including costs, by March 24...Any company (or companies) picked for the job faces a sincere reputational risk. - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Bulletproof Eiffel Tower Wall Proves Architecture Is The Newest Anti-Terror Weapon: "The real front line becomes the public realm...architects are on the front line"...it will be an upgrade from the current hideous metal gates... -- Thomas Vonier; Barbara Nadel Architect/"Building Security: Handbook for Architectural Planning and Design" - Forbes

Australian Institute of Architects accepts Parliament House security fence plans: ... has retreated from its position of opposition...satisfied that it "will be undertaken in a well-considered matter, and with minimal visual impact." -- Guida Moseley Brown; Romaldo Giurgola - Architecture & Design (Australia)

Charles A. Birnbaum: Pershing Park and the World War I Memorial: Moving Beyond an Accumulation of Pieces: One of the most important parks on the most significant stretch of America's Main Street - Pennsylvania Avenue...remains under threat...an example of how first tier works of landscape architecture too often are still treated like second-class amenities. -- The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF); M. Paul Friedberg; Wolfgang Oehme/James van Sweden/Oehme, van Sweden & Associates [images] - Huffington Post

Blair Kamin: Obama's reaction to architects' first design for his library: "He said it

was too unflashy": ...it would be reasonable to think that the first hints about the project's design would be dropped somewhere in Chicago...To the frustration of Chicago journalists, me included, who've been denied interviews...hints were divulged last week at an event [in New York]. -- Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects - Chicago Tribune

Patrick Lynch: Tod Williams + Billie Tsien Win 2017 LongHouse Award, Discuss Design Ideas for Obama Presidential Library: In a lively discussion with...Paul Goldberger, the architects revealed the nature of their working relationship with the President and First Lady..."He looked at what we did and he said, 'I said you could be sort of quiet, but I think you're a little too quiet.'" - ArchDaily

Deadwood: Plans for SHoP Architects's Chelsea wooden tower scrapped: Ownership team dissolves partnership at 475 West 18th Street. Talk about logging off...project, which was awarded \$1.5 million from the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture in 2015 for research and development, would've been the first of its kind - a 10-story building constructed of mass timber. - The Real Deal (NYC)

Tallest building in Detroit planned for Hudson site: The project for the empty Woodward Avenue block where the J.L. Hudson department store once stood is one of the most expensive and ambitious plans introduced in a decade...looks like nothing in Detroit now...shimmering, futuristic 734-foot [mixed-use] tower... -- SHoP Architects; Hamilton Anderson Associates [images] - Detroit News

David Adjaye: Beyond the Monumental: He Has Turned His Eye Toward Georgetown, Designing a Residential Building That Could Change How We See the Town: Four Seasons Residences...old government property to become luxe condos...latest version...is said to return to a partial-preservation approach. -- Freelon Adjaye Bond/SmithGroup; William Dewey Foster (1941); Paul Goldberger; Deborah Berke; Robert A.M. Stern; Laurie Olin - The Georgetowner

The Winning Vision From a Universal Design Competition Is Brought to Life For a Veteran: After months of planning and construction, the Memphis house that's been renovated as a result of the Home Today, Home Tomorrow Design Challenge is being...being donated to a veteran and his family. -- Home Matters/AARP/AARP Foundation/Wells Fargo Housing Foundation; IBI Group – Gruzen Samton [images] - Dwell

Melinda D. Anderson/EduColor: How can architecture schools increase diversity? Solving the pipeline problem is the key to a less homogenous architecture industry: ...initiatives, both new and established, share one vital aspect: They attempt to create a new generation of architecture students from diverse backgrounds. - Curbed

Survey: Attitudes Toward Climate Change: Help Architectural Record with research on understanding attitudes toward climate change by completing this survey; deadline: March 3 - Architectural Record

Michelle Addington to Fill Dean Vacancy at UT Austin [University of Texas at Austin]: ...will fill the position left vacant by Frederick Steiner, who resigned last year due to a Texas law that allowed for people to conceal and carry weapons on the campus. - Architectural Record

Brixton architect plans Bowie bolt from blue: Zac Monro unveils plans to recreate David Bowie's iconic lightning flash from his 1973 Aladdin Sane album as a sculpture a stone's throw from the legendary musician's birthplace in Brixton, south London. [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Call for entries (deadline reminder): 5th International LafargeHolcim Awards for Sustainable Construction 2016/2017: ideas with the highest potential to tackle today's challenges to increasing urbanization and to improve quality of life; \$2 million in prizes; no fee; deadline: March 21 - LafargeHolcim Foundation for Sustainable Construction

Call for entries: Open call for Curator of Stad en Architectuur's AUDITORIUM 17/18 lecture series in Leuven, Belgium: propose a program that treats "architecture as a laboratory" - looking at architecture from an experimental viewpoint; deadline: March 27 - Stad en Architectuur (Belgium)

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