

Today's News - Tuesday, April 4, 2017

- Such a sad way to start the day: we've lost Howard Elkus, who "uniquely brought joy to every endeavor, and made everyone he met feel special" (we couldn't agree more!).
- Bernstein talks to a number of architects re: Trump's border wall, which is dividing the profession: "Where some architects see opportunity, others feel outrage."
- McGuigan parses Detroit's "remix": while "Motown thrums with new architecture and construction" and the "the mood is upbeat - will the investment trickle down to the city's forgotten neighborhoods?"
- A look at NYC's "Renaissance" in public architecture that proves "good design can help overcome public aversion to some of the least beloved urban infrastructure - and the world is taking note" (starchitects included).
- D.C.'s Georgetown has high hopes for its under-appreciated C&O Canal park by bringing in a High Line star.
- Schwab talks to 5 Chief Resilience Officers from around the world re: how each is "preparing for the next 50 years": "one of the greatest challenges is to explain why resilience is important - which depends on who's asking."
- Is Cairo's "burgeoning bureaucracy" ready to tackle smart building systems to improve the city's sustainability?
- Hosey x 2: he offers "five steps architects can take on the road to redemption - to atone for the built environment's impact" on climate change.
- He parses a new report from AIA's COTE re: "the best practices of leading design firms: What's their secret?"
- Yesterday's Google Doodle honored Fazlur Rahman Khan, whose "radical rethinking of how skyscrapers were structured proved a game-changer - the sky was quite literally the limit."
- Sharon Sutton talks about the "dual fronts of gender and ethnicity," and her book "When Ivory Towers Were Black."
- Kolson Hurley makes the case for why Weese's masterful Washington, D.C., stations should not be painted white.
- RIBA North is set to open on Liverpool's waterfront in June (yay!).
- Philly's 1908 Metropolitan Opera House renovation plan clears the latest hurdle - 1930s-era LED signs included.
- Phoenix and AIA Arizona plan to launch a \$100,000 sustainable home competition in May (we'll keep an eye out for the call for entries!).
- Eyefuls of the 2017 Architectural Review MIPIM Future Project Awards winners.
- One we couldn't resist: Bjarke's Instagram burns up the Interweb - followed by BIG's CEO Sheela Maini Søggaard defense of "the firm's gender balance and equal opportunity culture."

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no to that." -- Brian Johnson/Collaborative Design Architects; Larry Strain/Siegel & Strain Architects; Architecture Lobby; William Huchting/makeArchitecture; Nicholas Gillock/Mertzel & Gillock Architects; John Sanford; Wyly Brown/Leupold Brown Goldbach Architects - Architectural Record

Cathleen McGuigan: Detroit: The Remix: Motown thrums with new architecture and construction - but will the investment trickle down to the city's forgotten neighborhoods? ...the mood is upbeat...initiatives range from the hugely ambitious...to the smallest interventions... -- Lorcan O'Herlihy; SHoP Architects; Hamilton Anderson Associates; HOK; Mies van der Rohe; Merge; Studio Dwell; Christian Hurtienne; Edwin Chan/EC3; Maurice Cox; SOM; Michel de Vigne; Design Workshop; Gensler; Walter Hood; McIntosh Poris [images] - Architectural Record

Public Architecture Is Having a Renaissance: Starchitects are changing the municipal landscape of New York City - and the world is taking note: ...good design can help overcome public aversion to some of the least beloved urban infrastructure. -- Rafael Viñoly; Annabelle Selldorf; Steven Holl; Studio Gang; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill/ SOM; Dattner Architects; WXY Architecture and Urban Design; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group [images] - Architectural Digest

Can the C&O Canal make Georgetown hip again? New York's High Line architects are going to try: For all its rustic beauty, the slender park is mainly used as a pass-through...that's what Georgetown boosters are hoping to change...building an education center and a replica of a historic boat that will travel the canal for tours. -- James Corner Field Operations - Washington Post

Katharine Schwab: How 5 Chief Resilience Officers Are Preparing For The Next 50 Years: From Oakland, California, to Semarang, Indonesia, these CROs are fighting to make their cities stronger: ...one of the greatest challenges...is to explain why resilience is important - which depends on who's asking. -- Rockefeller Foundation; 100 Resilient Cities - Fast Company / Co.Design

Introducing Sustainability to Cairo's Bureaucracy: Can smart building systems improve the sustainability of [its] burgeoning bureaucracy? "Unfortunately, green architecture has a reputation of being another way of tricking people into paying a lot of money in vain"...Egypt Green Building Council...Tarsheed rating system was established in 2016. -- Ahmed Abou Zeid; Sarah ElBattouty/ECONsult - Progress

Lance Hosey: Architects' Original Sin: To atone for the built environment's impact on the climate, the profession must demonstrate leadership.: By far the biggest challenges with climate change are in the built environment... Here are five steps we can take on the road to redemption. - Architectural Record

Lance Hosey: On the Habits of High-Performance Firms: A new report from the AIA Committee on the Environment [COTE] reveals the best practices of leading design firms: What's their secret? What practices do they cultivate, and what can other firms learn from their success? - Architect Magazine

Fazlur Rahman Khan: Why is this skyscraper architect so important? ...known as "the Einstein of structural engineering"...Khan's radical rethinking of how skyscrapers were structured proved a game-changer...the sky was quite literally the limit... -- Bruce Graham; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) - Independent (UK)

"When Ivory Towers Were Black": Sharon Sutton on the Dual Fronts of Gender and Ethnicity: GSAPP Conversations #3: ...her new book...tells the story of how an unparalleled cohort of ethnic minority students earned degrees from Columbia University's School of Architecture during a time of fierce struggles to open the ivory tower to ethnic minority students. - ArchDaily

Amanda Kolson Hurley: Why Painting the Union Station Metro Cheapens an Architectural Masterpiece: The moody atmosphere of the stations is their strength, not a flaw. -- Harry Weese - Washington City Paper (Washington, DC)

RIBA's New National Architecture Centre Will Celebrate Liverpool's Architectural History: Occupying a part of the Mann Island Buildings designed by Broadway Malyan in 2013...on Liverpool's waterfront, RIBA North is set to open on June 17th... [images]- ArchDaily

Philadelphia Metropolitan Opera House renovation plans clear latest hurdle: ...approved plans to install multiple 1930s-era LED signs...There are a lot of moving parts with this particular project...all attention will be focused on the theater, which these days goes largely unnoticed by passersby. -- William H. McElfatrick (1908); AOS Architects [images]- Curbed Philadelphia

Phoenix To Launch \$100,000 Sustainable Home Competition: ...they hope the winning design will lead to at least ten homes being built right away. - KJZZ Phoenix

Winners of the 2017 Architectural Review MIPIM Future Project Awards Announced: ...a wealth of international projects, ranging from a 'dematerialising' office to an ecclesiastical library. -- Tabanlıoğlu Architects; Allies & Morrison; Studio Pei-Zhu; Rafael Vinoly Architects; REX Architecture; Wright and Wright Architects; Utopia Arkitekter; Steven Christensen Architecture; AndArchitects; Tan'ck Architect; PES-Architects; GAD Architecture [images]- Architectural Review (UK)

Bjarke Ingels's Instagram post draws attention to architecture's gender gap: Update: BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group CEO Sheela Maini Søgaard has defended the firm's gender balance and equal opportunity culture following the social media backlash [to "BIG BOYS&GIRL"]- Curbed

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Today's News - Wednesday, April 5, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: We're taking off for a (much-needed) family gathering, returning Monday night. The newsletter will be back Tuesday, April 11 (with lots of catching up to do, no doubt!).

- A day for coalitions: Budds looks inside the \$90 million, 3-year urban design initiative "to reverse urban inequality" in six U.S. cities.
- An alphabet soup of U.S. built environment and public health organizations has signed on to "A Joint Call to Action to Promote Healthy Communities."
- London architects sign on to Londonon, a forum to explore post-Brexit opportunities (what about the rest of the U.K.?).
- Budds revisits designers who voiced concern about Brexit a year ago: "There's still uncertainty, frustration, and anger - but also some reluctant optimism."
- Capps introduces us to a confederation of housing advocates that's closely monitoring the not-very-forthcoming (and no housing expert) HUD Secretary Ben Carson's every move (housing advocates everywhere should keep an eye on CarsonWatch.org, too!).
- Franklin Ross almost runs out of adjectives for Snøhetta's Lascaux IV Museum that "reminds us we are all part of a 20,000-year continuum - they created a whole new world worth every hour of your time and then some" (great pix, too!).
- One can never have too much happy panda news: BIG is designing a yin/yang panda habitat for the Copenhagen Zoo (we wanna go!).
- A report on the recently ended Design Shanghai 2017 that learned the right lessons from last year's edition (we want Mouse Lamps for our cats!).
- RAIC honors Hariri Pontarini with the Innovation in Architecture Award for its "luminous worship space" that is the Bahá'í Temple of South America (totally worthy!).
- Eyefuls of the winners of the New York Affordable Housing Challenge.
- Call for entries deadline reminder: The Driverless Future Challenge.
- Weekend diversions (a little early this week):
- Hawthorne heads to Palm Springs to explore Aitken's "Mirage," a "funhouse mirror" for selfies that is "as much an advertisement for the Desert Palisades development as a critique of it."
- Saffron has high hopes that Philly will soon have a neon sign museum; in the meantime, some of this "extraordinary collection" can be seen in "See the Light" in (fittingly) a former Firestone tire store.
- "The Japanese House: Architecture and Life after 1945" at the Barbican explores Japan's "unique 'scrap and build' design culture" in "the land of the disposable building."
- Granberry cheers "Louis Kahn: The Power of Architecture" at the master's masterpiece, the Kimbell Art Museum, "the first major retrospective of his work in two decades."
- In Pittsburgh, "Action, Ideas, Architecture: Arthur Lubetz/Front Studio" is a "remarkable exhibit": "He's a love it or dislike it kind of architect, but that is his intention."
- "Spaces without drama or surface is an illusion, but so is depth" at Chicago's Graham Foundation "examines the recent proliferation of collage in architectural representation in relationship to scenography and theatrical set design" (lots of images!).
- Campbell Gallagher parses Settis's "If Venice Dies," a "brilliant polemic" that "argues that the enemies of historic

cities are universally the same: greed and ignorance of history" (great review!).

- Flynn parses Flynn's "Chandigarh Revealed: Le Corbusier's City Today," a "fascinating" book that tackles the good, the bad - and the sad.
- Hawthorne hails Podair's "City of Dreams: Dodger Stadium and the Birth of Modern Los Angeles": it "makes an implicit argument that the fissures opened up by the fight to get the stadium built have yet to close."
- Koolhaas's film-maker films talks about following his father around for four years: he "doesn't respond well to having a lens shoved in his face."

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Diana Budds: Inside The \$90 Million Initiative To Reverse Urban Inequality: Bad urban design has disproportionately made cities inequitable. Can affirmative development flip the script? ...every development needs to be community driven and prioritize resiliency (both from an environmental and economic standpoint), health, and equity. -- Strong, Prosperous, and Resilient Communities Challenge (SPARCC) - Fast Company / Co.Design

A Joint Call to Action to Promote Healthy Communities: ...leaders of the nation's built environment and public health organizations pledged their support to promote greater collaboration to advance healthier, more walkable communities...Working together will create new momentum towards the common objective of creating and sustaining healthy buildings and spaces. - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Architects launch forum to explore Brexit opportunities: Group aims to capture global business as UK leaves EU: ...Londonon – seeks to increase research and residency programmes for London-based architects in cities around the globe... [http://londonon.global/] - BD/Building Design (UK)

Diana Budds: Brexit Is Official. Here's What That Means For Designers: Designers consider their role in the U.K.'s transition out of the EU: There's still uncertainty, frustration, and anger - but also some reluctant optimism...Redesigns are sometimes stronger than the initial design. When it comes to rewriting policy, the same notion can hold true. - Fast Company / Co.Design

Kriston Capps: Who's Following Ben Carson? CarsonWatch.org, that's who. The HUD secretary's every move is being closely monitored online by a confederation of housing advocates: ...the brainchild of Public Advocates... - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Michael Franklin Ross: Lascaux IV Museum: Snøhetta masterfully creates a new museum setting for 17,000-year-old cave art: ...reminding us we are all part of a 20,000-year continuum...With imagination, innovation, and technology, they created a whole new world worth every hour of your time and then some. -- Duncan Lewis; Casson Mann [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group to Design Panda Habitat at Copenhagen Zoo: ... will mimic the hilly bamboo forests of western China, but with a symbolic twist. "The habitat is formed like a giant yin and yang symbol"...designed to feel like humans are the visitors in the pandas' home. [images] - Interior Design magazine



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A remarkable growth for the recently ended Design Shanghai 2017: This year's edition not only followed on seamlessly from its success in 2016, but significantly improved in many areas. [images]- Design Wanted

RAIC names recipient of the Innovation in Architecture Award: A luminous worship space designed and built with the creative use of computer modeling, measuring, and fabrication software, and custom glass...The Bahá'í Temple of South America, by Hariri Pontarini Architects... [images]- Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC)

Winners of the New York Affordable Housing Challenge selected -- Lap Chi Kwong/Alison Von Glinow (USA); Peter Wong/Christopher Jarrett/Nazinin Modaresahmadi/Robert Stubbs (USA); Liyang Chen/ao Zheng (China); Antonio Gonzalez Viegas/Escuela Tecnica Superior de Arquitectura de Sevilla in Spain; Ryan Ball [images]- Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert)

Call for entries deadline reminder: The Driverless Future Challenge (international): proposals to shape New York City's response to driverless technology; more than \$60k worth of resources to help finalists; deadline: May 19- Blank Space / NYC Mayor's Office / New Lab / AIANY / Fast Company

Christopher Hawthorne: Doug Aitken's "Mirage": a funhouse mirror for the age of social media: ...one of 16 artworks scattered around the Coachella Valley as part of the inaugural Desert X...The house...is especially well designed for selfies...Once you see it in person, it becomes clear that it's as much an advertisement for the Desert Palisades development as a critique of it. -- Studio AR&D Architects- Los Angeles Times

Inga Saffron: Philadelphia collector inches closer to establishing neon sign museum: ...[it] wouldn't have to be fancy; in fact, the grittier the better, Len Davidson believes...extraordinary collection has been out of public view...experience a sampling at Drexel University, where Davidson has just installed 29 neon signs in the former Firestone tire store..."See the Light" -- ISA - Interface Studio Architects; Groundswell Design- Philadelphia Inquirer

Understanding Japan's unique 'scrap and build' design culture: Rather than renovate, remodel or re-use, [they] have long favored simply knocking down and starting again. It is the land of the disposable building, where a 20-year-old home is considered old..."The Japanese House: Architecture and Life after 1945" at the Barbican Art Gallery...looks at extraordinary residential architecture... -- Sarah Ichioka; Florence Ostende [images]- CNN Style

Michael Granberry: Kimbell Art Museum focuses on the extraordinary career of Louis Kahn, 'My Architect': "Louis Kahn: The Power of Architecture" is the first major retrospective of his work in two decades. -- Nathaniel Kahn; Wendy Lesser, "You Say to Brick: The Life of Louis Kahn" [images, audio]- Dallas Morning News

5 decades of design highlighted in "Action, Ideas, Architecture: Arthur Lubetz/Front Studio" (Heinz Architectural Center at Carnegie Museum of Art): Strident in appearance, his buildings represent physical forces that can be described in action words... "He's a love it or dislike it kind of architect, but that is his intention"... remarkable exhibit... -- Charles L. Rosenblum [images]- Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

"Spaces without drama or surface is an illusion, but so is depth" at the Graham Foundation, Chicago: ...examines the recent proliferation of collage in architectural representation in relationship to scenography and theatrical set design. -- Ruth Estévez; Wonne Ickx; LIGA, Space for Architecture [images]- Graham Foundation (Chicago)

Mary Campbell Gallagher: La Serenissima no more?: "If Venice Dies" by Salvatore Settis: In this brilliant polemic, he argues that...the enemies of historic cities are universally the same: greed and ignorance of history...Venice is the archetype of all of our historic cities...they are dying an agonizing death...dwindling...into theme parks and movie sets...this book should be required reading for every citizen of a historic city. [via Save Paris]- The New Criterion

Jared Green: Chandigarh: Where Modernism Met India: ..."Chandigarh Revealed: Le Corbusier's City Today," a fascinating new book by photographer and designer Shaun Flynn...the city today has one of the happiest and wealthiest populations in all of India, and the city itself is one of the cleanest...But the state of ruin of many of the buildings can also be seen as a commentary on the lack of progress towards Nehru's vision... - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Christopher Hawthorne: Just in time for opening day, a new book on the (complicated) history of Dodger Stadium: "City of Dreams: Dodger Stadium and the Birth of Modern Los Angeles," by Jerald Podair...makes an implicit argument that the fissures opened up by the fight to get the stadium built have yet to close. -- Emil Praeger (1962)- Los Angeles Times

Rem Koolhaas "doesn't respond well to having a lens shoved in his face" says his movie-maker son: Tomas Koolhaas...spent four years following his father around the world to make the film called "REM"... "Rem is a fast walker...I was...running behind him, filming him from behind...this is an incredible angle, because you're seeing what he's seeing." - Dezeen

This week at ARCspace

Michael Maltzan Architecture: Moody Centre for the Arts, Rice University, Houston, Texas: Billed as a "transdisciplinary" building...soaring, open, and daylit. What sets it apart from its contemporaries, however, is its uniquely flexible spaces...serves dual roles as a learning space and artist incubator. [images]

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Today's News - Tuesday, April 11, 2017

- ArcSpace brings us Grafton Architects' University Campus UTEC in Lima, Peru - a "man-made cliff" that is "redefining the dramatic edge of the city."
- A lovely tribute to Howard Elkus, and how "he left a particular visual legacy in Greater Boston."
- Gendall speaks with "brave" Syrian architect al-Sabouni about "the role of architecture in mending a country ravaged by war."
- Denhardt profiles three architects in Lebanon, where the "ongoing conflict has crippled the progression of architecture" - and how the "festering bias among competitions has tarnished the profession and what it means to call oneself an architect."
- Hawthorne parses Zumthor's latest designs for LACMA: "Goodbye, black flower. Hello, Inca temple": it's losing its "oozing oil-slick quality" for "a less fluid, harder-edged and more muscular form in sand-colored concrete."
- Giovannini x 2 (from Paris!): He takes in the sight - and sound - of Gehry's Pierre Boulez Saal: the concert hall is "more than just a beautiful space" - it is an "understated work of a master confident of what he's doing, knowing just how much to say before stopping."
- He parses Perrault's "bold plan" to remake the Île de la Cité that "unobtrusively grafts a glass city of crystal barnacles onto the stone city, leaving the stone architecture dominant."
- Another D.C. memorial flying under the radar "without a design competition or invitation process" is "already getting the beginnings of pushback from the public."
- Hosey takes issue with Rybczynski's take on "what if" architecture: "Dwelling narrowly on the legacy of designers gives the impression that architectural history concerns great men, not great places."
- Kimmelman visits China's Pearl River Delta, where "breakneck development is colliding with the effects of climate change," but planners and environmentalists see "a chance to rebrand the province as a global leader in green, cutting-edge industrial technology and urbanism."
- Lind cheers cities that, "without waiting for federal approval or funding, are devising their own solutions to inequality and social segregation" by investing in social infrastructure.
- Jaramillo observes an "icebreaker" exercise with very diverse neighbors to re-imagine Philly's Mifflin Square through memories and Damon Rich's cardboard model.
- Now there's an online green infrastructure guidebook that "works as a one-stop hub for city planners, engineers, and community leaders" - architects, too (very cool!).
- Q&A with Handel Architects' Middleton re: how the firm approached designing the world's tallest Passive House building for Cornell Tech on NYC's Roosevelt Island.
- Pilloton's Project H has evolved to include Studio H "to educate and empower young girls to follow their passion into construction," and "demolish stereotypes of what the construction industry should look like."
- Kirk cheers the Chicago Architecture Foundation's graphic novel "No Small Plans" that "aims to empower the city's youth through stories about their neighborhoods" (a Kickstarter campaign is underway).
- Pawson and Senju take home the 2017 Isamu Noguchi Award.
- Eyefuls of the 2017 Skyscraper Competition winners and honorable mentions (some way-out-there stuff!).

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Obituary: Howard Elkus, 78; architect transformed parts of Boston: ...[he] designed buildings and mixed-use projects from New York City to West Palm Beach to Abu Dhabi, but he left a particular visual legacy in Greater Boston...“He didn’t have employees, he didn’t have clients, he had friends...and to him, it was this great symphony of life.” -- David Manfredi; Elkus Manfredi Architects - Boston Globe

John Gendall: A Young Syrian Architect's Vision for Rebuilding Her Country: AD speaks with a brave local architect on the role of architecture in mending a country ravaged by war: ...Marwa al-Sabouni, has dealt with the ravages of conflict by thinking ahead to the postwar rebuilding process. ("The Battle for Home") [images] - Architectural Digest

Thomas Denhardt: Architects amidst conflict: Lebanon is a nation of only 4.5 million people, yet it hosts over 1.1 million refugees, including about 600,000 children...What is the architect’s role during war and conflict? ...festering bias among competitions has tarnished the profession and what it means to call oneself an architect...[these] stories exemplify the vast challenges and changes faced by designers who conduct professional services in a divergent context. -- Omar Samir Harb/Omar Harb Architects; Steven Townsend/SOMA; Michel Abboud; Riccardo Luca Conti/Joana Dabaj/CatalyticAction - ArchitectureNow (Architecture New Zealand)

Christopher Hawthorne: Here are the latest designs for LACMA's \$600-million makeover: Goodbye, black flower. Hello, Inca temple...has become a less fluid, harder-edged and more muscular form in sand-colored concrete. It has moved away from an oozing oil-slick quality...the newest version...suggests that the grid will have the last laugh. Or at least the final say. -- Peter Zumthor; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Robert Irwin; Olin [images] - Los Angeles Times

Joseph Giovannini: Inside Frank Gehry's Pierre Boulez Saal: No Gehry project makes his underlying humanism more explicit than the...683-seat concert hall...More than just a beautiful space...Surprising for a Gehry building is the visual tranquility...understated work of a master confident of what he’s doing, knowing just how much to say before stopping. -- HG Merz; Yasuhisa Toyota/Nagata Acoustics [images] - Architect Magazine

Joseph Giovannini: A Bold Plan to Remake the Historic Heart of Paris: Dominique Perrault and the Center for National Monuments have unveiled a glass-and-steel re-imagining of the Île de la Cité: ...plan is both a daring act of urban renewal and a new paradigm for renewing historic urban cores...unobtrusively grafts a glass city of crystal barnacles onto the stone city, leaving the stone architecture dominant. [images] - Architect Magazine

Desert Storm Memorial Flies Under the Radar (But is Already Law): According to a joint resolution, the memorial will be constructed in Area I, which surrounds the National Mall in Washington, D.C.: ...renderings were published in 2013 without a design competition or invitation process...already getting the beginnings of pushback from the public... -- CSO Architects; Context Design [images] - Architect Magazine

Lance Hosey: Architecture and What Not: “What If” histories are fascinating but

misleading: Which is a better measure of a building's success - its influence on other architects or its contribution to the community? Dwelling narrowly on the legacy of designers gives the impression that architectural history concerns great men, not great places. -- Witold Rybczynski; Peter Eisenman; Zaha Hadid; Eliel Saarinen; Raymond Hood; Mies van der Rohe - Huffington Post

Michael Kimmelman: Rising Waters Threaten China's New Megacities: In the Pearl River Delta, breakneck development is colliding with the effects of climate change..."there's reluctance to address the issue. What's the business model?" That's a trillion-dollar question...Planners and environmentalists here talk about a chance to rebrand Guangdong Province as a global leader in green, cutting-edge industrial technology and urbanism. [images] - New York Times

Diana Lind: Civic Lesson: New Social Infrastructure: Cities are finding new ways to invest in social infrastructure, helping to bridge gaps among diverse socioeconomic groups and foster a greater sense of community: Without waiting for federal approval or funding, cities are devising their own solutions to inequality and social segregation. -- Carol Coletta; Theaster Gates; Maurice Cox; Studio Gang; OMA; OLIN - Architectural Record

Catalina Jaramillo: Imagining a better Mifflin Square through memories and a cardboard model: The exercise served as an icebreaker for a group that mixed refugees, new immigrants, and long-time residents who've never spoken to each other...organizations...have worked hard to make everyone feel included. -- Damon Rich/Hector; Alexa Bosse/Community Design Collaborative; Marc Norman/Ideas and Action; V. Lamar Wilson Associates - PlanPhilly (Philadelphia)

Krutika Pathi: A Green Infrastructure Guidebook for City Planners: This new online resource showcases how communities...have successfully mitigated the effects of extreme weather by relying on green infrastructure: "Naturally Resilient Communities"...works as a one-stop hub for city planners, engineers, and community leaders. -- Nature Conservancy; American Planning Association (APA); American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE); etc. - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Jason Sayer: Cornell Tech: AN speaks to one of the architects behind the world's tallest Passive House building: ...going up on Roosevelt Island in New York...26-story residential tower that will house roughly 350 units for students and save 882 tons of CO2 per year...Blake Middleton of Handel Architects...discusses how the firm approached the project. [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Emily Pilloton Is Building an Inspirational Path for Young Girls: This remarkable entrepreneur builds with her students and demolishes stereotypes of what the construction industry should look like: With Project H...through design and building to solve social problems...evolved to include Studio H, which is an in-school designing and building education program for high school students. - Education and Career News

Mimi Kirk: Drawing Up an Urban Planning Manual for Chicago Teens: The graphic novel "No Small Plans" aims to empower the city's youth through stories about their neighborhoods...Like Wacker's Manual [a 1911 textbook fashioned from Daniel Burnham's 1909 plan], it will also be taught in the city's public

[schools...strategy to get teens involved in urban planning and civic life. -- Gabrielle Lyon/Chicago Architecture Foundation - CityLab \(formerly The Atlantic Cities\)](#)

[2017 Isamu Noguchi Award bestowed to John Pawson and Hiroshi Senju: ...London-based architect and Japanese-born painter...individuals whose work embodies the collaborative, multi-disciplinary, and cross-cultural qualities of influential landscape architect and artist... - Bustler](#)

[2017 Skyscraper Competition Winners: 3 winners and 22 honorable mentions from 444 projects received. -- Pawel Lipinski/Mateusz Frankowski \(Poland\); Tianshu Liu/Lingshen Xie \(U.S.\); Javier López-Menchero Ortiz de Salazar \(Spain\); etc. \[images\]- eVolo Magazine](#)

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Today's News - Wednesday, April 12, 2017

- Wainwright weighs in on some of the proposed designs for Trump's border wall (with no small dose of sarcasm), "but they provide a fascinating window into the lurid anxieties of Middle America."
- Hurst x 2 re: the Garden Bridge: he cheers an MP's report about "a project born of shady deal-making and arrogance" - the "political Rottweiler" is right to call out the powerful people behind the bridge."
- He continues to cheer the "damning" Garden Bridge report - and Marks Barfield breaking "their silence about the tender process."
- Jolliffe sees the Garden Bridge as a student project: "glorious ideas that would be truly magnificent when built if only reality didn't have to be factored in."
- Hosey reports on a survey about "where architects stand on climate change": "if the survey reveals anything, it's that the profession's passion and information are out of sync."
- L.A. voters defeating Measure S that would have curtailed new construction is "a very clear statement that they're interested in a different Los Angeles," sayeth Hawthorne.
- King x 2: he reviews three new low-rise housing developments "packaged deftly by the architects," but "even the most nimble architect can do only so much."
- He queries Pelli about whether "he'd rather pursue a precise elegance than tackle huge projects"; the answer: "a straightforward comment, free of the rhetoric that most other architects use to wrap themselves in an artistic mystique" ("I love the complex projects").
- Florida x 2 most excellent excerpts from "The New Urban Crisis," the first tackling "winner-take-all urbanism."
- He then tackles "the growing cleavage between superstar cities and those left behind" (both worth spending time with).
- P+W transforms a 1980s suburban office building into Memorial Sloan Kettering Monmouth using "biophilic and other evidence-based design principles - based on a walk through the woods."
- Eyefuls of the 8 AIA/ALA 2017 Library Building Awards winners (great presentation).
- The RAIC 2017 Green Building Award goes to a LEED Platinum public library in suburban Montreal.
- Eyefuls of the 200+ (!) winners of the 2017 A+Awards.
- One we couldn't resist: Wall Street's "Charging Bull" sculptor sues "Fearless Girl" (never mind he installed his "bronze beast" in the dead of night without a permit - we'd like to use a less-polite term, but we'll just call it chutzpah - and hope he loses).
- Call for entries: 2018 Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise in Architecture: \$50,000 each to 3 young immigrant professionals + Imagine London as a National Park City International Ideas Competition.

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Will Hurst: A project born of shady deal-making and arrogance: Margaret Hodge is right to call out the powerful people behind the Garden Bridge...investigation was driven by my anger over the brazenness and arrogance of that procurement exercise and the subsequent dismissal of those raising concerns. -- Heatherwick Studio; Marks Barfield; WilkinsonEyre- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Will Hurst: Cancel the Garden Bridge, says Hodge inquiry: ...and accept that £46 million of public money has been lost...in a damning report on the project's procurement and value for money...Marks Barfield Architects have broken their silence about the tender process... -- Thomas Heatherwick/Heatherwick Studio; WilkinsonEyre- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Eleanor Jolliffe: The Garden Bridge is like a student project - good on paper but impossible to realise: With government cuts and increasing global tensions it's not the time to waste money on a costly folly: ...glorious ideas that would be truly magnificent when built if only reality didn't have to be factored in. -- Heatherwick Studio- BD/Building Design (UK)

Lance Hosey: Where Architects Stand on Climate Change: ...RECORD polled architects and designers to gauge their interest and knowledge about climate change and energy-efficient design. The results were eye opening...if the survey reveals anything, it's that the profession's passion and information are out of sync. - Architectural Record

"A Different Los Angeles": The City Moves to Alter Its Sprawling Image: After voters defeated a measure that would have curtailed construction, the city's future looks much denser: ...the votes are "a very clear statement from the voters that they're interested in a different Los Angeles," said Christopher Hawthorne... - New York Times

John King: Full-block housing developments meet challenge of staying low-rise: Each tops off at six stories and is packaged deftly by the architects...includes enticing public space...also shows the strain of inserting ample new growth into a constrained setting...even the most nimble architect can do only so much. -- BAR Architects; David Baker Architects; Kava Massih Architects; CMG Landscape Architecture; Jeffrey Miller/Miller Company Landscape Architects [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

John King: Transformative towers in SF intriguing to top architect: ...when I asked Cesar Pelli...if he'd rather pursue a precise elegance than tackle huge projects...the 90-year-old designer didn't even pause..."I love the complex projects, the ones that so many people are going to use"...It's a straightforward comment, free of the rhetoric that most other architects use to wrap themselves in an artistic mystique. -- Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

Richard Florida: Confronting the New Urban Crisis: how "winner-take-all urbanism" has deepened inequality, segregation, and poverty - and what cities can do about it. [excerpt from "The New Urban Crisis: How Our Cities Are Increasing Inequality, Deepening Segregation, and Failing the Middle Class -

and What We Can Do About It"]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Richard Florida: The Roots of the New Urban Crisis: he warns of “the central crisis of our times” - the growing cleavage between superstar cities and those left behind. [excerpt from "The New Urban Crisis: How Our Cities Are Increasing Inequality, Deepening Segregation, and Failing the Middle Class - and What We Can Do About It"]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Memorial Sloan Kettering Monmouth: Previously a vacant 1980s suburban office building, the new facility transforms the space into a modern cancer care center...employed biophilic and other evidence-based design principles to improve healing...based on a “walk through the woods”... -- Perkins+Will [images]- Healthcare Design magazine

AIA and American Library Association Announce AIA/ALA 2017 Library Building Awards: ...eight projects - seven domestic and one international - for reflecting their local communities. -- William Rawn Associates; Jonathan Barnes Architects/JBAD; Gunnar Birkerts Architects and Gelzis-Smits/Arhetips; Andrew Berman Architect; Eskew+Dumez+Ripple; Opsi Architecture; BCWH and Tappe Architects [images]- Architect Magazine

RAIC announces recipient of the 2017 Green Building Award: A public library...that combines high-performance standards with design quality and responsiveness to community needs...Bibliothèque du Boisé in Montreal's Saint-Laurent borough...LEED Platinum certified... -- Cardinal Hardy | Labonté Marcil | Eric Pelletier architecte - Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC) / Canada Green Building Council (CaGBC)

The World's Best Architecture: Announcing the Winners of the 2017 A+Awards: Over 200 total winners. This is what great architecture looks like today. [images]- Architizer

"Charging Bull" sculptor says New York's "Fearless Girl" statue violates his rights: Arturo Di Modica says ‘advertising trick’ placed in Wall Street before International Women’s Day infringed artistic copyright...by changing the creative dynamic to include the other bold presence. -- Kristen Visbal- Guardian (UK)

Call for entries: 2018 Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise in Architecture: \$50,000 each to 3 young immigrant professionals in fields related to the built environment (including Architecture, Urban Planning, Landscape Architecture, Architectural Engineering, Architecture Criticism); must be 38 or younger; deadline: May 31 - Vilcek Foundation

Call for entries: Imagine London as a National Park City International Ideas Competition to inspire greener living, promote London as a Green World City, etc; deadline: May 19 - London National Park City Foundation / Time Out London

This week at ARCspace

Grafton Architects: University Campus UTEC, Lima, Peru: Universidad de

Ingeniería & Tecnología...a "vertical campus," an "arena for learning," and a "man-made cliff" ...stands boldly in the middle-class Barranco district...redefining the dramatic edge of the city... -- Shell Arquitectos [images]

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Today's News - Thursday, April 13, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, April 18. Zissin Pesach and Happy Easter!

- The Garden Bridge Trust's Davies hits back at Hodge's report, "stopping short of accusing her of bias" - and Hodge responds (succinctly).
- Buday bursts a few theoretical bubbles re: architecture being able to change behavior: "Architects may soon need a better value proposition - or go extinct" (you be the judge re: reference to Goldhagen's book - excerpt below).
- Zieger zings around Vegas to determine if starchitecture can survive in Sin City: "The celebrity factor of Gehry or Koolhaas can't outpace a reunion tour by the Backstreet Boys at Planet Hollywood."
- Flatman explains "why we should appreciate London's success while it lasts": it "might be struggling to accommodate its burgeoning population - but that's surely better than the Detroit-style decline it once faced."
- Kamin x 2: He has high hopes for the latest phase of Wrigley Field's renovation (a side that once looked "ragged as an old, dog-bitten blanket"), though "nothing is ever easy at Wrigley."
- He parses Landmarks Illinois' latest list of the Chicago's most endangered places.
- Wainwright wanders the newly opened Leaway path along London's once-forgotten river of "fridge mountains, distilleries, and scrap yards," now "a green playground."
- Saffron takes issue with Philly's City Council "effectively" killing the city's the 10-year-old electric-car program (and spots for the 56 electric car owners): "The real driver of this moratorium is parking envy."
- Waite parses AJ's 2017 Life in Practice survey that "shows a profession under pressure - it makes for a sobering read."
- Weekend diversions:
 - On a brighter (with a touch of sad) note: watch the AJ documentary "Zaha: An Architectural Legacy."
 - Mural Arts Philadelphia exhibition "Park Powers & Trash Academy" showcases the investigation into Philly's aging Mifflin Park, spearheaded by Damon Rich.
 - Budds cheers Pentagonum's construction wall around the Philadelphia Museum of Art "that's actually beautiful. This is one wall that earns our seal of approval."
 - Hawthorne hails Sutton's "When Ivory Towers Were Black": it is "most valuable as an instruction manual for a new effort to diversify the field. If we can only show the resolve to follow it, the road map is there."
 - Goldhagen offers us two meaty chapters from "Welcome to Your World: How the Built Environment Shapes Our Lives."
 - Cipriani cheers AI's "The Strip: Las Vegas and the Architecture of the American Dream," an "entertaining, muscular, often funny book" that chronicles the "seven aesthetic waves in the city's history of tourist-driven architecture," that is "exuberant, embarrassing, sometimes hideous, sometimes fabulous."
 - Davidson takes us on a tour of Manhattan's 42nd Street, yesterday and today, "where fine instincts and modern technology fuse into a boulevard of noble ambitions."
 - Budds cheers Fynn's effort to document the complexities of Corbu's Chandigarh, 70 years later.
 - Lasky talks to "The Gargoyle Hunters" Freeman Gill: "Did you mean to make baby boomers weep with nostalgia?" + "Encounters with Gargoyles as They Gobble Up Buildings."

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Hodge report was 'skewed', says Garden Bridge boss: Mervyn Davies accuses MP of mainly speaking to opponents of project: Stopping short of accusing her of bias.. "It is a shame that [she] has shown disregard for the facts and been selective in her use of evidence to support her own opinions"; Margaret Hodge responds. Heatherwick Studio - BD/Building Design (UK)

Richard Buday: We Shape Buildings, But Do Buildings Really Shape Us? Most of the societal problems architects would like their buildings to shape are behavioral, not architectural...there is a difference between a building triggering a physiological response and architecture changing behavior...Architects may soon need a better value proposition than their current services, or go extinct. -- Archimage; Bob Borson; Sarah Williams Goldhagen - Common Edge

Mimi Zieger: Starchitects in Sin City: Can high-profile architecture survive in Las Vegas? The celebrity factor of Frank Gehry or Rem Koolhaas can't outpace a reunion tour by the Backstreet Boys...The most important piece of architecture to come out of Las Vegas was...a research-heavy book that taught architects to find meaning in the decorative and ordinary. "Learning From Las Vegas"... -- Paul R. Williams (1961); Robert Venturi; Steven Izenour; Denise Scott Brown/OMA; Jerde Partnership; Ehrenkrantz Eckstut & Kuhn (EE&K); Helmut Jahn; Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF); Pelli Clarke Pelli; Rafael Viñoly; Foster + Partners; Daniel Libeskind; David Rockwell/Rockwell Group - Curbed

Ben Flatman: We should appreciate London's success while it lasts: The capital might be struggling to accommodate its burgeoning population - but that's surely better than the Detroit-style decline it once faced: ...with far fewer opportunities for architects...The turn-around has been impressive, but it's easy to forget that London's population is still only really the same size it was 80 years ago... - BD/Building Design (UK)

Blair Kamin: New plaza connects Wrigley to its neighborhood - most of the time: Wrigley Field and its neighborhood have come up winners in the latest phase of the...multiyear \$600 million renovation...the worst fears for the project - that it would produce a visually toxic combination of theme-park nostalgia and rampant commercialization - have not been realized. At least not yet...nothing is ever easy at Wrigley. -- Stantec [images] - Chicago Tribune

Blair Kamin: Thompson Center among Illinois' most endangered places, advocacy group says: Landmarks Illinois...also cited potential danger to buildings at O'Hare International Airport and the former Michael Reese Hospital... -- Helmut Jahn (1985); Gertrude Kerbis/Naess & Murphy (later C.F. Murphy & Associates) (1960s); Walter Gropius; Loeb, Schlossman and Bennett (1951) - Chicago Tribune

Oliver Wainwright: The river London forgot: how the Lea is being reborn: For years...a place of fridge mountains, distilleries and scrapyards, but now there's a fresh plan to turn this ancient valley back into a green playground. We walk the newly opened Leaway riverside path...a project that's been 74 years in the making...has been an uphill struggle. -- Patrick Abercrombie (1944); Tom Holbrook/5th Studio; Jonathan Cook Landscape Architects [images] - Guardian (UK)



Inga Saffron: Killing exclusive electric-car parking spots is 'a bait-and-switch': Philadelphia's City Council...voted to approve a bill that would...effectively kill the 10-year-old electric-car program...Since 2007...precisely 56 people have qualified...The real driver of this moratorium...[is] parking envy...early adopters were mocked as wealthy takers who "steal spots" from everyday folks. - Philadelphia Inquirer

Richard Waite: Stressed and overworked: AJ's 2017 Life in practice survey shows a profession under pressure: ...shines a light on the daily worries...gives more evidence of the pay gap between men and women...paints a worrying picture...where architects regularly struggle with heavy workloads, long hours and maintaining their own mental health... it makes for a sobering read. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

AJ documentary - Zaha: An Architectural Legacy: One year after she died, this film takes a look at her career, and legacy, through five stages which signal significant progressions in her work. -- Patrik Schumacher; Eva Jiricna; Nigel Coates; Ricky Burdett; Christine Murray; Hanif Kara - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Taking an Investigative Approach to Park Design: ...every design decision "is imbued, especially in civic and public projects, in this infinitesimal fracturing of politics." This idea is at the center of a Mural Arts Philadelphia exhibition "Park Powers & Trash Academy" ...part of an investigation into an aging public park [Mifflin Park] in one of city's most diverse census tracts... -- Damon Rich/Hector-Next City (formerly Next American City)

Diana Budds: Pentagonam's Latest: A Construction Wall That's Actually Beautiful: While the Philadelphia Museum of Art undergoes a three-year expansion, it's putting some of its favorite pieces outside for the public to enjoy...This is one wall that earns our seal of approval. -- Paula Scher; Frank Gehry [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

Christopher Hawthorne: Challenging the whiteness of American architecture, in the 1960s and today: ...Sharon Egretta Sutton's "When Ivory Towers Were Black," an unusual hybrid of memoir, institutional history and broadside against the entrenched whiteness of the architecture profession...most valuable as an instruction manual for a new effort to diversify the field...If we can only show the resolve to follow it, the road map is there. - Los Angeles Times

Sarah Williams Goldhagen: Excerpts from "Welcome to Your World: How the Built Environment Shapes Our Lives": A new account of cognition is emerging from the combined fruits of many research fields. -- Louis Kahn - Architectural Record

Christine Cipriani: The Architecture of the American Dream: The Vegas Strip is exuberant, embarrassing, sometimes hideous, sometimes fabulous: "The Strip: Las Vegas and the Architecture of the American Dream" by Stefan Al...in this entertaining book he creates a taxonomy, identifying seven aesthetic waves in the city's history of tourist-driven architecture...a muscular, often funny

[book...Sometimes he succeeds too well... - Wall Street Journal](#)

[Justin Davidson: Avenue of the Idealists: A Walking Tour of 42nd Street: This has long been New York's most idealistic street, where fine instincts and modern technology fuse into a boulevard of high-minded civic aspiration. Even its roster of vanished landmarks is a testament to loftiness...a boulevard of noble ambitions. \(from "Magnetic City: A Walking Companion to New York"\) \[images\]- New York Magazine](#)

[Diana Budds: Life In Le Corbusier's Utopian City, Photographed By A Resident: Shaun Fynn documents the complexities of Chandigarh, 70 years later: He hopes his series sparks more curiosity and introspection about Chandigarh and a deeper understanding of Le Corbusier's vision. "Chandigarh Revealed: Le Corbusier's City Today" \[images\]- Fast Company / Co.Design](#)

[Julie Lasky: Hunting Gargoyles and Other Architectural Treasures: "The Gargoyle Hunters" author John Freeman Gill...spoke about this curious form of preservation and where to spot a good gargoyle today...Did you mean to make baby boomers weep with nostalgia? + Encounters with Gargoyles as They Gobble Up Buildings \[images\]- New York Times](#)

This week at ARCspace

[Grafton Architects: University Campus UTEC, Lima, Peru: Universidad de Ingeniería & Tecnología...a "vertical campus," an "arena for learning," and a "man-made cliff"...stands boldly in the middle-class Barranco district...redefining the dramatic edge of the city... -- Shell Arquitectos \[images\]](#)

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Today's News - Tuesday, April 18, 2017

- ArcSpace brings us Gehl's Risom re: the term "livability," and why "more disciplines need to be involved in the conversation and citizen perspectives included - the most important question is: livable for whom?"
- Jacobs parses the "enduring legacy" of the Rebuild by Design competition, and what the Trump administration could learn from its "enlightened political thinking" and "unconventional approach."
- Kamin parses the first batch of designs for Trump's border wall ("perfumed pigs" included): "the best and brightest architects appear to be staying away - designing the wall would make them complicit in a project many regard as reprehensible."
- Cramer poses the question: "'What won't you build?' Maybe we should ask ourselves that question more often, as individuals, as firms, and as a profession."
- Finch cheers RIBA's soon-to-be-released book on social housing, which proves that local authorities are "part of a movement - re-asserting their responsibilities to house their populations in a civilized manner."
- Campbell-Dollaghan, on a darker note, parses a new report on migrant workers: the profession "can't keep turning a blind eye to the mistreatment of the people who build their work."
- Hall Kaplan minces no words about what he thinks of the newest variation on LACMA's "immodest plans": he describes Govan and Zumthor's latest "dog and pony show" as "putting a mustache on a pig" (what - no perfume?).
- Residents of RSH+P's Neo Bankside take the H&deM-designed Tate Modern to court to force the museum to close the part of its viewing platform that gives the public a peek into their flats.
- The Garden Bridge Trust's Davies continues slamming the Hodge report: beyond its inaccuracies - "the manner in which it was published was 'discourteous'; Hodge didn't expect the Trust "to support the conclusions I came to."
- Moore x 2: the Garden Bridge project "is nothing if not a landmark of the post-truth era" - Boris Johnson should "be held accountable more vigorously than Hodge was able to do."
- He ponders "how down-at-heel Lisbon became the new capital of cool" as "an enclave" for "techpreneurs" to "get in touch with their inner lotus-eater," but are the less fortunate being pushed out?
- Wood wonders what it means "for architectural originality and innovation, when a 'copy-paste' strategy is normalized."
- Rybczynski ruminates about how some stellar architects' legacies would have been altered if some of their "most notable unbuilt projects had actually been constructed" (Hadid is the only one who wins).
- Saffron minces no words about what she thinks of the new Museum of the American Revolution: "how is it that Philadelphia had to end up with this retro-monster?" (ouch! well, at least its historian-curators got things right).
- Betsky, on a brighter note, cheers the Katyn Museum in Warsaw that "shows just how much architecture you can make out of found space" (and hopes it wins the Mies van der Rohe Award).
- Cheers for how Seattle is dealing with what the city should do with its aging KeyArena: it's "architects who have answered the question," and prove that "cities can preserve sports assets, even supposed lost causes."
- Buxton wanders - and wonders at - some new public spaces in London: "It's good to see tiny slithers of public space receiving the same attention as grand squares."
- Sander parses new research that shows "hot-desking and activity-based work isn't so positive. These negatives potentially outweigh the benefits."
- A good reason to be in Rotterdam later this week: the Games for Cities International Conference re: how games "have the potential to facilitate more effective and inclusive city-making."

- ANN is nominated for JDR Industry Blogger Award in Architecture, and voting closes on April 24 (yes, we're tooting our own horn - vote now, please!).

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This week at ARCSpace

Jeff Risom/Gehl: Livability - Numbing the Urban Experience: The term livability...what we associate with the welfare of a city...current definitions create a clear hierarchy where architecture and design is at the top...more disciplines need to be involved in the conversation and broader citizen perspectives need to be included...the most important question here is: livable for whom? [images]

Karrie Jacobs: Rebuild by Design's Enduring Legacy: How enlightened political thinking inspired this post-Sandy design competition - and the lessons the new administration could learn from the unconventional approach. -- MIT Center for Advanced Urbanism; ZUS; De Urbanisten; Shaun Donovan; Henk Ovink; Scape; AECOM [images] - Architect Magazine

Blair Kamin: Even serious designs for Trump's border wall are hard to take seriously: The first batch of designs...range from the bizarre...to the patently ridiculous...Notably, the best and brightest architects appear to be staying away, heeding the argument...that designing the wall would make them complicit in a project many regard as reprehensible. [images] - Chicago Tribune

Ned Cramer: What Won't You Build? Architecture is innately political. And before accepting a commission, an ethically minded architect always weighs its ramifications: ...who doesn't ask themselves, now and again, "Where should I draw the line?" Maybe we should ask ourselves that question more often, as individuals, as firms, and as a profession. - Architect Magazine

Paul Finch: Let's hear it for the return of council housing: RIBA Publications will launch a book on social housing which is proof positive that...local authorities are re-asserting their responsibilities to house their populations in a civilised manner...part of a movement, minded to determine its own future, rather than...endlessly bemoaning an inability to produce the housing it knows is necessary. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Kelsey Campbell-Dollaghan: How Migrant Workers Literally Pay To Build Architecture: Designers, architects, consultants, and engineers can't keep turning a blind eye to the mistreatment of the people who build their work...While architects may not be able to control every subcontractor, they do have the power to be informed and vocal about the systemic abuse of the people who build their designs. -- "Making Workers Pay" by David Segall & Sarah Labowitz - Fast Company / Co.Design



Sam Hall Kaplan: Hype and Hustle Continue to Threaten LACMA: Michael Govan and Peter Zumthor staged another dog and pony show...another variation on their immodest plans...I would describe the effort ...putting a mustache on a pig...It is about power and egos...and wannabe celebrity architects, and not about architecture's noble purpose of creating spaces and places for human endeavor. - City Observed

Neo Bankside residents head to court over Tate Modern extension 'nuisance': ...launched a legal bid to force the Tate Modern to shut part of a viewing platform on the new Herzog & de Meuron extension...preventing members of the public from peering into their flats. -- Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Mervyn Davies: Why Hodge's Garden Bridge report is inaccurate: chair of the Garden Bridge Trust, has slammed the findings...reliant on the "selective use of evidence"; and that the manner in which it was published was "discourteous"...Hodge said she "did not expect the [Trust] to support the conclusions I came to." -- Heatherwick Studio- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Rowan Moore: Garden Bridge project is a landmark of the post-truth era: London mayor, Sadiq Khan, should walk away: ...[bridge] is nothing if not a landmark of the post-truth era...It was Boris Johnson's project and it shows the vanity, entitlement, duplicity and disregard for detail...He must be held accountable more vigorously than Hodge was able to do. -- Thomas Heatherwick; Arup- Observer (UK)

Rowan Moore: How down-at-heel Lisbon became the new capital of cool: Four years ago, Portugal's capital felt like a 'city on its knees'. Now it is being touted as hip, cheap and innovative...Now it resembles a speeded-up east London, moving rapidly through the gears of dereliction, artistic renewal, entrepreneurial action, rising prices and gentrification. -- Selgas Cano; Ana Jara/Lucinda Correia/Arteria; Amanda Leveté/AL_A; Aires Mateus- Observer (UK)

Hannah Wood: Never Meant to Copy, Only to Surpass: Plagiarism Versus Innovation in Architectural Imitation: What does it mean for architectural originality and innovation, when a 'copy-paste' strategy is normalized? -- Zaha Hadid; Rem Koolhaas; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Daniel Libeskind; Dilya/Kazgor Design Academy; Moisei Ginzburg; Le Corbusier [images]- Archinect

Witold Rybczynski: What If: The Unbuilt Legacy: How would the architects' legacies have been altered if some of history's most notable unbuilt projects had actually been constructed? ...the Peak would have established Hadid...a full decade before her first built commission - not inconsequential in what would turn out to be a truncated career. -- Robert Venturi; Denise Scott Brown; Peter Eisenman, FAIA's House X or Zaha Hadid; Eiel Saarinen; Eero Saarinen; Mies van der Rohe; Frank Lloyd Wright; Le Corbusier; Louis Kahn; Archigram [images]- Architect Magazine

Inga Saffron: Museum of the American Revolution's building at odds with revolutionary content: The story [it] tells is a refreshingly inclusive one...But at some point...the goals of its historian-curators and its architects diverged in a big way...amounts to a major communications misfire...feels like a sprawling

[banquet hall that happens to operate a small museum. -- Robert A.M. Stern \[images\]](#)- Philadelphia Inquirer

[Aaron Betsky: Found Space and Memory: A museum in Warsaw remakes a 19th century fort into a memorial to a World War II massacre: The Katyn Museum...shows just how much architecture you can make out of found space...I certainly hope the Mies van der Rohe Award jury recognizes its power when it announces the prize winner in May. -- BBGK Architekci \[images\]](#)- Architect Magazine

[Give architects a mission and some money, and KeyArena looks pretty good all of a sudden: ...it's the architects who have answered the question...No, the sports world doesn't always need to throw away and start over. Cities can preserve sports assets, even supposed lost causes... -- Ryan Sickman/AECOM; Chris Carver/Populous; Gensler; Rossetti](#)- Seattle Times

[Pamela Buxton: Public Spaces: a look at some new public spaces that are introducing a fresh aspect to the cityscape: It's good to see tiny slithers of public space receiving the same attention as grand squares. -- New Ludgate/Gustafson Porter; London Bridge Station/Grimshaw/Arcadis/WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff; Greenwich Market/Barr Gazetas \[images\]](#)- FX Magazine / DesignCurial

[Libby Sander: The research on hot-desking and activity-based work isn't so positive: ...plenty of research shows negative effects of shared-desk workplaces. These negatives potentially outweigh the benefits...found to result in higher levels of distrust, fewer co-worker friendships...- The Conversation \(Australia\)](#)

[Games for Cities International Conference, Rotterdam, April 20-21: ...a platform for knowledge exchange on games that have the potential to facilitate more effective and inclusive city-making.](#)- Play the City (NL)

[ArchNewsNow nominated for JDR Industry Blogger Award in Architecture: Vote Today! Voting Closes on April 24.](#)- Jackson Design and Remodeling

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Today's News - Wednesday, April 19, 2017

- Betsky tackles architects' dilemma re: Trump's border wall: "Where do we draw the line? Down and down the rabbit hole we go."
- Bhatia tackles density and voting behavior: "If you want to predict how someone will vote, ask: How near are your neighbors?" (some amazing drawings, too!)
- Florida explains why "we need a stronger word than 'NIMBY' to describe how destructive 'winner-take-all' urbanism can be" (Luddites involved).
- King parses a draft of a new Bay Area regional plan: "the first time around," the plan "drew opposition. So far, the update seems to be moving forward without fireworks."
- Add to that, an interesting Q&A with San Francisco's planning director re: architects alleging obstruction: "It's not about creating great architecture. It's about preventing really egregious architecture."
- Kamin cheers Detroit's "evolving new ideas for how to revive its stricken neighborhoods" to "make a new kind of city - not with big plans, but with small steps."
- Filion & Keil re: how and why both "growing and shrinking suburbs offer fertile ground for infrastructure experimentation and innovation" (both "hard" and "soft" sorts).
- Pondering the two "movements" advocating for and against glass skyscrapers - they could soon be a thing of the past, or we can "just be more careful with where and how we use glass."
- Feldman cheers an initiative at the University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture that "wants to disrupt conventional notions of planning" when it comes to diversity (the tale of "Freedom Colonies" is fascinating!).
- Iovine gives RAMSA's Museum of the American Revolution in Philly two thumbs-ups for "how seamlessly it contributes to a historic and proud sense of place. For Stern, classicism remains as genuine a language today as it was in the past."
- Florida (the state) on our mind to coincide with AIA confab in Orlando next week: Bentley dives into turning the tide when it comes to overhauling the urban landscape to save it from rising seas (and 500% increase in flood insurance premiums!).
- Santa Lucia cheers as Miami, once "equal parts parking lot and low-key laboratory for designers," welcomes a "new species of architectural element."
- Dickinson relates his 12-year journey from being an AIA "outsider" to getting his FAIA: "Is it disingenuous for me to be in the '3%' of AIA architects declared to be a 'Fellow'? Maybe."
- Meanwhile, the AIA tries to clarify who should be dubbed "intern" to make it feel a little less "trivializing."
- Heading Down Under: What is giving Tasmania what appears to be "disproportionate design clout. Is there something in the water? Something unique about the education?"
- Profiles of 7 Australian firms that "should be on your radar" this year (heartening to see so many women!).
- 2017 UDIA National Awards for Excellence celebrate Australia's "skills and innovation in the urban development."
- Congrats to Architizer's Firm of the Year and 5 special honorees in the 2017 A+Awards.

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[Aaron Betsky: Architects may, heaven save their mortal souls, have to work on](#)

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Trump's wall: For most of the chattering class in architecture the choice is pretty simple...I do not know of any instances of theoreticians...suggesting that designing the wall is a good thing...But where do we draw the line? Down and down the rabbit hole we go...- Dezeen

Neeraj Bhatia: Environment as Politics: If you want to predict how someone will vote, ask: How near are your neighbors? ...Clinton, households are 215 feet apart on average...in Trump territory, they are nearly half a mile distant...Who we are is largely defined by where we are. For architects and urban designers, this is an important reminder that space is and always has been political... -- The Open Workshop [images]- Places Journal

Richard Florida: Meet the 'New Urban Luddites': We need a stronger word than 'NIMBY' to describe how destructive "winner-take-all" urbanism can be: Certainly, there is much that can and should be done...to streamline outdated land use restrictions. But the basic notion...that we can make our cities more affordable, more equal, and more productive simply by getting rid of existing land use restrictions is one of those ideas that is too good to be true. [adapted from "The New Urban Crisis: How Our Cities Are Increasing Inequality, Deepening Segregation, and Failing the Middle Class - and What We Can Do About It"]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

John King: Blueprint for Bay Area aims to 'change the dynamics' of housing crisis: The only way...to become a relatively affordable place to live again is...to be more tolerant of different types of housing, according to the draft of a new regional plan...Plan Bay Area 2040...the first time around [the plan] drew opposition...So far, though, the update seems to be moving forward without fireworks. - San Francisco Chronicle

Interview: SF planning director defends city as more architects allege obstruction: Eight-year City Hall vet John Rahaim says we'd be sorry if planning rules weren't in place: "It's not about creating great architecture. It's about preventing really egregious architecture." - Curbed San Francisco

Blair Kamin: Detroit's downtown revival is real, but road to recovery remains long: ...evolving new ideas for how to revive its stricken neighborhoods...Make a new kind of city...a must-see laboratory for the reimagining and remaking of a shrinking city. ...not with big plans, but with small steps. -- Maurice Cox; Studio Dwell; SHoP Architects; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM)- Chicago Tribune

Pierre Filion & Roger Keil: Why suburban tensions and inequality will drive infrastructure innovation: In both growing and shrinking suburbs, decisions on infrastructure...have been central...Suburban areas feel infrastructure stress most acutely. Having to deal with severe inadequacies, suburbs offer fertile ground for infrastructure experimentation and innovation. - The Conversation US

Can we finally say goodbye to glass skyscrapers? ...two movements within the design community have formed...The first aims to improve the performance of glazing...The second advocates...more solidity in façade design...we might have to reassess this dichotomy. -- Mies van der Rohe; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Ken Shuttleworth; Foster + Partners; David Coley; Alistair Guthrie/Arup;

Jean Nouvel/PTW Architects; Bureau Proberts; Stefano Boeri [images]-
Architecture & Design (Australia)

Nina Feldman: Confronting Urban Design's Diversity Crisis With a Return to Black Places: An initiative...at the University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture wants to disrupt conventional notions of planning: ...to both increase diversity...and facilitate innovative approaches to thinking about race and gender...points to...archaeology and cultural anthropology, whose methods embrace a more complex definition of citizenship and stakeholders. -- Andrea Roberts- Next City (formerly Next American City)

Julie V. Iovine: A Building With a Sense of Place: Robert A.M. Stern Architects' design for the Museum of the American Revolution offers a starter course in the elements of traditional style: Few architects can beat Stern...at giving designs pleasing proportions and retaining a sense of human scale...For [him], classicism remains as genuine a language today as it was in the past. -- Healy Kohler Design [images]- Wall Street Journal

Chris Bentley: Turning the Tide: Facing rising sea levels and greater insurance risk, Southern Florida braces for relocations, new flood design standards, and more: Architects, planners, and developers are just beginning to overhaul the urban landscape...that could save Miami from rising seas...it's not just coastal communities that are at risk. -- Jean Nouvel; Rene Gonzalez; Anthony Abbate; Reinaldo Borges- The Architect's Newspaper

Andrew Santa Lucia: Miami embodies challenging stereotypes, but generates new architectural identities in spite of them: Miami has been equal parts parking lot and low-key laboratory for designers...A new species of architectural element has exploded...the mediated facade. -- Arquitectonica; Roney Mateu; Philip Johnson; Enrique Gutierrez; Roberto Burle Marx; Rene Gonzalez- The Architect's Newspaper

Duo Dickinson: Confessions of a New AIA Fellow, or "Getting the "F": The architect's 12-year journey from "outsider" to "insider": Is it disingenuous for me to be in the "3%" of AIA architects declared to be a "Fellow"? Maybe...many of the writings fully cited my problems with the profession...and, to their great credit, even the AIA itself. There is honor and generosity in this recognition, especially for earnest disagreement. - Common Edge

AIA Pushes for Elimination of "Intern" Title for Young Architects: ...the traditional title of "intern" can feel a little trivializing...[AIA] clarifying "intern" to refer to a student working in an architectural office while still pursuing an architecture degree...those who have already earned a NAAB-accredited degree and are currently working towards licensure...AIA now recommends the use of the titles "architectural associate" or "design professional." - ArchDaily

Why some of our most creative architects are coming from Tasmania: Tasmania appears to have...disproportionate design clout...Is there something in the water? Something unique about the education? -- Alex Schweder/Ward Shelley; Heath Drew Architects; Jeremy McLeod/Breathe Architecture; Austin Maynard Architects; Claire Austin/Alysia Bennett/Bernadette Wilson/Cumulus Studio- Domain (Australia)

Seven Australian architects who should be on your radar in 2017: Australia lays claim to numerous architects responsible for catapulting the nation to the forefront of the international design scene. "For a little country, we take up a good chunk of airspace"... -- Jesse Bennett Studio; Board Grove architects; Wowowa architects; Welsh + Major; Austin Maynard Architects; Aileen Sage architects; Make Architecture- Domain (Australia)

...2017 UDIA National Awards for Excellence: Celebrating Australia's contemporary knowledge, skills and innovation in the urban development industry... -- Urban Development Institute of Australia; Rothelowman; C4 Architects; Stephen Birrell; Oxigen; Sid Thoo Architect; McCabe Architects; Eugene Marchese [images]- Architecture & Design (Australia)

Architizer's Firm of the Year and 5 More Special Honorees for the 2017 A+Awards -- Adjaye Associates; Odile Decq; Tatiana Bilbao; Carlo Ratti; Buro Koray Duman; DJI Drones- Architizer

ArchNewsNow nominated for JDR Industry Blogger Award in Architecture: Vote Today! Voting Closes on April 24.- Jackson Design and Remodeling

This week at ARCspace

Jeff Risom/Gehl: Livability - Numbing the Urban Experience: The term livability...what we associate with the welfare of a city...current definitions create a clear hierarchy where architecture and design is at the top...more disciplines need to be involved in the conversation and broader citizen perspectives need to be included...the most important question here is: livable for whom? [images]

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Today's News - Thursday, April 20, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, April 25. Don't forget to cheer Mother Earth Day on Saturday (keeping our fingers crossed we're not really doomed)!

- Krumwiede digs deep into how and why the American Dream has begun to fail: "We'll need new dreams" that "prioritize community."
- Davidson x 2: In a similar vein, he explains why it "would be more accurate to talk of swing neighborhoods than swing states" in our "cities vs. Trump" world (both are excellent companions to Bhatia's analysis of density and voting behavior - click "Yesterday's News" above).
- On a lighter note, his eloquent paean to Pei, who celebrates his 100th birthday April 26: "The best of his creations look at once audacious and inevitable," yet "his belief in the redemptive power of architecture, could lead him fantastically astray."
- Wainwright takes a "luxury property safari": their billboards "show expensive developments bustling with white 30-somethings - the new real-estate concept of ethnic cleansing" (though some signs are "mutating" into "instruments to appease the local community").
- Just in time for Earth Day 2017 on Saturday: the AIA issues a statement that includes "8 principles governing how architects can mitigate climate change," and "urges policymakers to keep carbon neutral goals for built environment."
- Speaking of the AIA, a good reason to head to Orlando next week: "Anticipate need, challenge, change" is the theme for this year's AIA confab, with a keynote by Michelle Obama (cool!).
- Call for entries: RFP for Gateways to Chinatown: a functional landmark for NYC's Canal Street Triangle + MAD Architecture Travel Fellowship 2017 for 5 global and 5 Chinese students + UIA World Congress, Seoul 2017 International Ideas Competition for Student and Young Designers.
- Two we couldn't resist: Philip Johnson's 1946 Booth House needs "appreciative stewards" to buy it before a developer snaps it up to replace it with a McMansion or two (if we had \$1 million...).
- A must see: a hilarious (and depressing), animated intro to a 1976 Soviet rom-com TV show: an architect's creative designs morph into drab cookie-cutter apartment blocks that spread across the country by politics and red tape (Russian not required).
- Weekend diversions:
 - "Architecture of Independence: African Modernism" at NYC's Center for Architecture explores how five countries "started to build following colonial rule - asserting their identities in avant-garde architecture."
 - Also in Manhattan, the Cooper Union presents "one of Hejduk's most provocative sociopolitical works. The gravitas of his work is still relevant today."
 - St. Hill cheers Denmark's Louisiana Museum of Modern Art for offering "wonderful insight" into Wang Shu and Amateur Architecture Studio's "intentions and methods."
 - Hawthorne gives thumbs-up (with caveats) to "Citizen Jane: Battle for the City" that leaves "Jacobs trapped in the rubble of old arguments" (along with her "Goliath - the slimily self-confident Robert Moses").
 - Roston cheers "Citizen Jane": a must-see for "anyone looking for some uplift with substance in these troubling Trumpian times."
 - Murrian feels much same about "Citizen Jane": a "lean and punchy documentary about an underdog triumph of the past that is just what we need right now."
- In "The Strip: Las Vegas and the Architecture of the American Dream," AI shows that, "far from being an outlier,"

Sin City "has become a model for cities around the globe."

- A great Q&A with Davidson re: his NYC walking guide "Magnetic City": "All of the arguments that we have now have been had before."
- Heathcote parses the "stars of London's architecture renaissance" that are "bringing about the most radical shifts in scale and skyline that the city has seen since the medieval era" (the best are "modest pieces of infill").

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Keith Krumwiede: As the American Dream dies, we must rethink our suburbs, homes, and communities: ...the magic formulas...began to fail. The dream quickly became a nightmare...the suburban house...masked our delusions...as the distance between us increases - we vote more myopically...In the future...We'll have to prioritize community...We'll need new dreams. [author, "Atlas of Another America: An Architectural Fiction"]- The Architect's Newspaper

Justin Davidson: Cities Vs. Trump: Red state, blue state? The urban-rural divide is more significant: The political gulf between city and non-city has deepened even as the physical boundaries between them have blurred. Cities have become more suburbanized and suburbs more citified...Density makes towns more liberal. So does public transit. - New York Magazine

Justin Davidson: A Portrait of I.M. Pei at (Nearly) 100: ...the aristocrat of American architects...has drawn on a dazzling range of influences...He blended the austere modernism of the Bauhaus with opulent Beaux-Arts classicism, technological daredevilry with reverence for precedent...The best of his creations...look at once audacious and inevitable...his belief in the redemptive power of architecture, could lead him fantastically astray. - New York Magazine

Oliver Wainwright: The property billboards that reveal the truth about Britain's luxury housing market: The glossy advertising...show expensive developments bustling with white thirtysomethings...The new real-estate concept of ethnic cleansing..."We spend a lot of time discussing what kind of clothes people are wearing, not what colour their skin is"...traditional site hoarding is mutating from a device to sell flats into an instrument to appease the local community. -- Frank Gehry; Foster + Partners; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group [images]- Guardian (UK)

Where we stand: Architects respond to climate challenges: AIA urges policymakers to keep carbon neutral goals for built environment: ...issued 8 principles governing how architects can mitigate climate change...the design and construction of sustainable and resilient buildings is already creating jobs and growing the American economy. - American Institute of Architects (AIA)

2017 American Institute of Architects National Conference: "Anticipate need, challenge, change"; Orlando, Florida, April 27 - 29; keynote by Michelle Obama- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Call for entries: Request for Proposals/RFP: Gateways to Chinatown: design and construct a symbolic and functional landmark on Canal Street Triangle for Chinatown, Little Italy, and the surrounding Lower Manhattan neighborhoods; budget: \$900,000; deadline: June 19 - Van Alen Institute / NYC Department of Transportation / Chinatown Partnership



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Call for entries: Ma Yansong / MAD Architecture Travel Fellowship 2017: 5 global architecture students (for travel in China) and 5 architecture students of Chinese-nationality (for worldwide travel); deadline: May 14 - MAD Architecture

Call for entries: UIA World Congress, Seoul 2017 International Ideas Competition for Student and Young Designers: "Post-human Urbanity: A Biosynthetic Future on Namsan": new visions for a central site in Seoul; cash prizes; deadline: May 31 - International Union of Architects (UIA)

Threatened Philip Johnson Booth House seeks buyer - now: Booth House, built in 1946 [in Bedford, New York]...was the architect's first built work...Sirikka Damora wants "appreciative stewards"...the house's fate uncertain...a future developer could demolish the (small by today's standards) home and build a McMansion or two... [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

"The Irony of Fate" (or "Enjoy Your Bath"): a hilarious, animated intro to a 1976 Soviet roamtastic comedy TV show - an architect's creative designs morph into drab cookie-cutter apartment blocks that spread across the country by politics and red tape. [under 3 minutes - must-see TV!]. - Mosfilm (Russia)

Africa's avant-garde architecture: A symbol of independence: "Architecture of Independence: African Modernism"...how five countries started to build following colonial rule...asserting their identities in avant-garde architecture...despite international designs...buildings invariably ended up being shaped by local aesthetics...employed many of the same architects but with radically different outcomes; at the at the Center for Architecture, Manhattan -- Manuel Herz [images] - CNN

Cooper Union exhibition reveals the life and work of John Hejduk: Seven works from the New York-born architect are on display inside with his Jan Palach Memorial exhibited outside...offers insight into his career as an architect, teacher, and person...one of his most provocative sociopolitical works..."House of the Suicide" and "House of the Mother of the Suicide"...The gravitas of his work is still relevant today. -- Nader Tehrani; H  l  ne Binet [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Cate St Hill: Wang Shu at the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Denmark: Amateur Architecture Studio goes against the tabula rasa approach...exhibition provides a wonderful insight into the studio's intentions and methods... -- Lu Wenyu [images] - DesignCurial / Blueprint Magazine (UK)

Christopher Hawthorne: A new documentary leaves Jane Jacobs trapped in the rubble of old arguments: "Citizen Jane: Battle for the City,"...Chutzpah was probably central to getting the movie made...It's not often we see debates about urban planning and the design of cities hashed out on the big screen...a David and Goliath story in which Goliath, in the person of the slimy self-confident

Robert Moses... -- Robert Moses; Paul Goldberger; James Howard Kunstler; Michael Sorkin; Alexander Garvin - Los Angeles Times

Tom Roston: "Stop being victims. I think it's wicked, in a way, to be a victim": Matt Tyrnauer's documentary "Citizen Jane: Battle for the City": A David and Goliath battle pitted Jane Jacobs against Robert Moses...Anyone looking for some uplift with substance in these troubling Trumpian times...If you're freaking out about Donald Trump, these are seven takeaways from [the film] and the High Line to put in your toolkit. -- Robert Hammond - Salon

Samuel R. Murrin: "Citizen Jane: Battle For the City" Is a Timely, Inspiring Documentary You Can't Miss: Fascinating, relevant and only about a million-and-a-half times more entertaining than you'd expect a documentary about urban planning and housing developments to be...lean and punchy documentary about an underdog triumph of the past that is just what we need right now...Seek it out, and take it to heart. -- Robert Moses - Parade

Las Vegas an architectural wasteland? No way, says author of new book: In "The Strip: Las Vegas and the Architecture of the American Dream," Stefan Al argues that the city's ever-changing design landscape has reflected decades of important cultural, societal and economic trends...Far from being an outlier, he contends, Las Vegas has become a model for cities around the globe. - Las Vegas Sun

Q&A: Justin Davidson on "Magnetic City," his NYC walking guide: ...critic and urbanist discusses more than a century of change - and resilience - in New York: "All of the arguments that we have now have been had before...The fact that New York even continues to exist and is at a peak population now goes counter to what anybody in the mid-'70s would have predicted." - Curbed New York

Edwin Heathcote: Modern icons: The stars of London's architecture renaissance: ...the 21st century is arguably already bringing about the most radical shifts in scale and skyline that the city has seen since the medieval era...a skyline that once combined commercial development with social housing into one that celebrates the victory of private wealth...Many of the best new works appear...as pieces of infill - considered, modest... [images; excerpt from "New London Architecture"] - CNN Style

ArchNewsNow nominated for JDR Industry Blogger Award in Architecture: Vote Today! Voting Closes on April 24. - Jackson Design and Remodeling

This week at ARCspace

Jeff Risom/Gehl: Livability - Numbing the Urban Experience: The term livability...what we associate with the welfare of a city...current definitions create a clear hierarchy where architecture and design is at the top...more disciplines need to be involved in the conversation and broader citizen perspectives need to be included...the most important question here is: livable for whom? [images]

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Today's News - Tuesday, April 25, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: We're trying something new! You can now link to articles directly from our Intro note. In the e-mailed version, the underlined bullets are the links. On the newsletter's web page, the entire sentence is hyperlinked. As always, the actual headlines with notable names called out still follow the Intro.

- ArcSpace offers Kiser's tour through Perrault's New Mechanics Hall - ME Building on the EPFL campus in Lausanne that "serves as a large-scale experimental playground and laboratory for research scientists."
- Atlee explains how architects, community developers, and others are "taking on finance and economics as a design challenge to support progressive design."
- ElDeeb talks to security experts Nadel and Bakheit re: how urban security can combat terrorism, and the "collaborative process" involved.
- Q&A with EDSA's Torti re: the challenge of giving Savannah a makeover while staying true to the city's historic roots: "it was an appropriate time to improve the public realm."
- Bozikovic hails the new African American museum in D.C.: there's "a lot of symbolism for concrete and aluminum to carry, but this museum succeeds" with "architecture that strives to invent a new language," and "also draws upon the language of the past."
- Denton Corker Marshall wins the Shepparton Art Museum competition with a "small and tall" design that "conceives the total building as an art container."
- Meanwhile in Melbourne, an appreciation of the city's "portfolio of works by of some of the architectural giants of their age," even if their "dominance is receding" on the growing skyline.
- Neutra's once "down-at-the-heels" (and facing demolition) Painted Desert Community Complex in Arizona's Petrified Forest National Park is restored to the architect's original vision.
- Hawthorne has a hearty Q&A with 2 deans - UCLA's Abe and USC's Ma re: "the ugliness of L.A. architecture, 'Uberism' and more": "Arranging the conversation wasn't easy. There has sometimes been tension in their relationship."
- Meanwhile, Milton Curry will succeed Qingyun Ma as dean of the USC School of Architecture.
- St. Hill offers a fascinating profile of Hong Kong-based Rural Urban Framework, winner of RIBA's first International Emerging Architect: "It revels in working with low budgets and minimal resources."
- Hucal profiles Decq, the "punk rock architect" who "is used to hearing the word 'no.' Heeding it, however, is not her specialty."
- Frida Escobedo "plans to take the future of Mexican architecture into her own hands."
- One we couldn't resist: the Dutch city of Amersfoort now sports a building with "emoji cast in concrete as modern gargoyles - the architect says it's better than using 'heads of the king or whatever.'"
- A good reason to head to Sydney next week: Australian Institute of Architects National Conference: "Praxis: Process. Propositions. Production" (great roster of speakers - women included).
- Winners all: eyefuls of AIA Committee on the Environment 2017 COTE Top Ten Awards & Top Ten Plus + 2017 AIA Housing Awards (both great presentations!).
- Eyefuls of the WT SmartCity 2017 International Award for Urban and Architectural Design winners.
- Foster + Partners' designer Jennifer Ly wins the 2016/2017 Rotch Travelling Scholarship.

- Call for entries: Docomomo US Modern Mexico Study Grants (must be U.S. citizens).

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This week at ARCspace

Kirsten Kiser: Dominique Perrault: New Mechanics Hall - ME Building, Lausanne, Switzerland: Science is the essence of the ME building...a new milestone in the history of the EPFL (École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne) campus...serves as a large-scale experimental playground and laboratory for research scientists... -- Zweifel + Stricker + Associates (1970s) [images]

Jennifer Atlee: Embracing the Economy as a Design Challenge: How architects, community developers, and others are experimenting with new models to support progressive design: These examples show that our economic system is not cast in stone...By taking on finance and economics as a design challenge, we discover that many perceived barriers are not as immovable as we think. -- Maclay Architects; Holland & Foley Architecture; PUSH Buffalo; Groundswell-BuildingGreen.com

Leena ElDeeb: How Can Urban Security Combat Terrorism? Experts Explain: ... [it] is a collaborative process...From architects, engineers and planners...to security tech gurus...building owners, facility managers, law enforcement, military and intelligence agencies...each group has a unique role in contributing to public safety..."Semper Vigilo! Remain ever vigilant!" -- Barbara A. Nadel; Mohamed-Omer "Mo" Bakheit- Progress

One of America's Most Historic Small Towns Is Getting a Redesign: Urban design firm EDSA takes on the challenge of remaking a city with a celebrated past: Q&A with John Torti...about the firm's design plans, the obstacles they faced, and how they intend to stay true to Savannah's historic roots..."it was an appropriate time to improve the public realm." [images]- Architectural Digest

Alex Bozicovic: A building that speaks to the black experience: African American culture, in all its upheavals and expressions, is captured with eloquence in the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, DC: This is a lot of symbolism for concrete and aluminum to carry, but this museum succeeds...architecture that strives to invent a new language also draws upon the language of the past. -- David Adjaye/Adjaye Associates; Philip Freelon; Davis Brody Bond; SmithGroupJJR (Freelon Adjaye Bond/SmithGroupJJR) [images]- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Denton Corker Marshall's 'small and tall' design wins Shepparton Art Museum competition: ...heralded as a "beacon in the landscape" by the jury..."the design conceives the total building as an art container"... [images]- Architecture & Design (Australia)



Melbourne skyline: Landmark buildings designed by internationally renowned architects: As the city's skyline goes up, the prominence of buildings...is challenged and their dominance is receding...But that doesn't lessen the fact that we have a portfolio of works by some of the architectural giants of their age. -- I.M. Pei & Partners; Harry Seidler; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Kisho Kurokawa; Johnson/Burgee Architects; Denton Corker Marshall; Philippe Starck; Edwin Lutyens; Marion Mahoney; Walter Burley Griffin [images]- Domain (Australia)

Painted Desert Community Complex's Return To Its Modernist Roots: ...represents [1960s] just as much as the stretch of Route 66 that crosses the park...In 1993, the down-at-the-heels facility was even slated for demolition...today, a determined park superintendent...and the National Trust have undertaken restoration...giving visitors a new chance to experience Neutra's original vision... -- Richard Neutra; Robert Alexander; John Rollow; Historic Resources Group [images]- Preservation Magazine/National Trust for Historic Preservation

Christopher Hawthorne: UCLA's Hitoshi Abe and USC's Qingyun Ma on the ugliness of L.A. architecture, 'Uberism' and more: ...a kind of exit interview about the decade they've spent running the two departments. Arranging the conversation wasn't easy. There has sometimes been tension in their relationship... - Los Angeles Times

Milton Curry named dean at USC School of Architecture: ...to succeed Qingyun Ma, who served two five-year terms as dean and will remain on the faculty...He was chosen for...his expertise "at the forefront of disciplinary areas on race, architecture and urbanism that engages cultural theory and humanities research." -- CriticalProductive Journal; Appendix Journal- Los Angeles Times

Cate St Hill: Meet: Rural Urban Framework: Hong Kong-based [RUF] has won the RIBA's first International Emerging Architect prize for its work on new models of rural development in China: It revels in working with low budgets and minimal resources... -- John Lin; Joshua Bolchover [images]- DesignCurial / Blueprint Magazine (UK)

Sarah Hucal: Odile Decq: Punk rock architect: The French designer on gender and the future of the field: [She] is used to hearing the word "no." Heeding it, however, is not her specialty...one of the most successful women in the field...a role model to many others...she has no aim to become a "starchitect." -- Confluence Institute for Innovation and Creative Strategies in Architecture; Benoît Cornette; ODBC [images]- Curbed

The Future of Mexican Architecture with One of Its Leading Young Architects: Frida Escobedo's practice elevates Mexican design in a way that's beneficial to a swath of socio-economic classes: Nothing is off-limits...Prioritizing community needs, cultural identity, and sustainability...[she] plans to take the future of Mexican architecture into her own hands. - Architectural Digest

This building uses emoji cast in concrete as modern gargoyles: The architect responsible says it's better than using "heads of the king or whatever": ...cast 22

of them in concrete and use them as decoration for a building in the Dutch city of Amersfoort. -- Changiz Tehrani/Attika Architekten [images]- The Verge

Australian Institute of Architects National Conference: "Praxis: Process. Propositions. Production"; Sydney, May 4 - 6: explore processes of thought, engagement and action; an international roster of speakers includes Glenn Murcutt; Emma Williamson/CODA; John Wardle; Neil Durbach/Durbach Block Jagers Architects; Rachel Nolan/Patrick Kennedy; Rodney Eggleston/March Studio; Megan Baynes/Room 11; Penny Collins/Hu Turner - Australian Institute of Architects (formerly RAIA)

AIA Committee on the Environment 2017 COTE Top Ten Awards + Top Ten Plus: ...celebrating sustainable design excellence. -- Sasaki; SmithGroupJJR; Mithun; VMDO Architects; Dattner Architects/WXY architecture + urban design; Payette/Ayers Saint Gross; HOK, USA; CPG, Singapore; Studio 505, Australia; HOK/Ferraro Choi & WSP; Bruner/Cott & Associates; ZGF Architects [images]- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

2017 AIA Housing Awards: ...now in its 17th year...to recognize the best in housing design and promote the importance of good housing as a necessity of life. -- Paulett Taggart Architects; ISA - Interface Studio Architects; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group/SLCE Architects; Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture; William Rawn Associates, Architects/Tao + Lee Associates; Brooks + Scarpa; etc. [images]- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

WT SmartCity 2017 International Award for Urban and Architectural Design winners and honorable mentions: ...visionary and sustainable ideas and projects to transform the urban landscape... -- aMDL; Lissoni Architettura; Studioata; AM Project, Joseph Di Pasquale Architects; Progetto CMR; Richard's Architecture + Design; OXO Architectes + Laisne Roussel; LABSCAPE Design and Architecture; Urbanplunger; SIARQ Advanced Solar Design [images]- Well-Tech / Municipality of Milan

Jennifer Ly wins 2016/2017 Rotch Travelling Scholarship: ...a designer at Foster + Partners...won the jury's favor with "New Common". Based in Silicon Valley, Ly...will receive \$38,500 to fund at least six months of travel...runner-up project was "Reflecting the past" by Austin Ward, who gets an automatic pass into next year's final competition. [images]

. - Archinect

Call for entries: Docomomo US Modern Mexico Study Grants: related to subjects of exploration during the Modern Mexico City travel tour October 14-22; open to full-time graduate and doctoral students, emerging professionals, artists, etc.; must be U.S. citizens; deadline: June 1 - DOCOMOMO US

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Today's News - Wednesday, April 26, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE - Day 2: Just a reminder that we're trying something new. You can now link to articles directly from the Intro note. In the e-mailed version, the underlined bullets are the links. On the newsletter's web page, the entire sentence is hyperlinked. As always, the actual headlines with notable names called out still follow the Intro.

- Happy 100th Birthday, I.M. Pei! Wiseman waxes poetic (with humor): "he has consistently gone against the received wisdom - and he has been proved right in almost every case."
- Just because: fabulous slide show of I.M. Pei and his projects.
- Anderton hails Pei; cheers Neutra's VDL Studio in Silver Lake being landmarked; a tour of Mayne's home (any Bradbury ghost sightings?); and Paul Revere Williams' AIA Gold Medal.
- Bentley explores whether architects should step into the political ring: the Trump administration's "proposed budget cuts to environmental programs and research have many designers wondering if they need to take a stand in politics."
- Gould and Hosey revisit "Women in Green" 10 years later to parse what impact gender equity has had on activism to combat climate change: "A lot, it turns out."
- Hillam ponders the impact and cost of the profession's "exploitative" and "dangerous culture of working late" (as chair of the Australian Institute of Architects' National Committee for Gender Equity, she would know).
- Florida is leading the way in showing what the next generation of retail centers will look like with "street-mall hybrids on a scale that has not been seen before."
- A walk-about shows "why design buffs must visit" Tokyo, where buildings that last about 26 years "go up and down like yo-yos" in a city that "never fails to surprise."
- Sydney's "Silicon harbor" plans to redevelop a disused power station loses power because Google walks away: "the failure to provide public transport upgrades was cited as a reason."
- Adelaide and Manchester team up for the EU World Cities program: "the link between the two 'advanced digital cities' would have economic and environmental benefits" (the Internet of Things included)
- The best sister city pairing yet: Boring, Oregon, and Dull, Scotland (we kid you not): "the sisters may soon be triplets. In Australia, there's a nice little shire called Bland."
- Betsky ponders augmented and virtual reality: "past and future will soon merge, with nostalgia and proposal" using "the past to inform the future - just as architecture has always done."
- A new reality for Betsky: the FLW School of Architecture is renamed School of Architecture at Taliesin; he becomes president, Lasch will be dean, and Pentagram designs its new logo (we picked the story that actually shows the logo).
- A look at what the proposed tariff on Canadian lumber will mean for the construction industry (some groaner puns, and links to detailed reports).
- RAIC and The National Trust for Canada bestow Ontario Place Cinesphere and Pods and CN Tower with the 2017 Prix du XXe siècle "for their enduring excellence and national significance to Canada's architectural legacy."
- Plan to spend some time with the Berkeley Prize 2017 Essay Competition and Travel Fellowship Competition winners.
- Call for entries (deadline looms!): 10 to 10 Infrastructure to recognize resilience-building infrastructure (10 globally and 10 in U.S.) + A' Design Award and Competitions (international).

- In your spare time, tool around the 1,958 winners of the latest A' Design Awards.

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Carter Wiseman: Happy 100th Birthday, I.M. Pei: The legendary architect celebrates a century of life on April 26: No one would describe Pei as a revolutionary. But he has consistently gone against the received wisdom - and he has been proved right in almost every case. - Architectural Record

I.M. Pei turns 100! Happy birthday to one of the world's most famous and prolific architects...born on April 26, 1917, in Guangzhou, China. [29 images!]- USA Today

DNA/Frances Anderton: Richard Neutra landmark, Thom Mayne's home, I.M. Pei turns 100: Pioneering architect's VDL Studio in Silver Lake home added to the list of national historic landmarks...Mayne's new house in Cheviot Hills replaces the former home of writer Ray Bradbury, and the neighbors like it! Paul Revere Williams posthumously gets AIA Gold Medal, and I.M. Pei turns 100. - KCRW (Los Angeles)

Chris Bentley: Should Architects Step Into the Political Ring? Concerns about the Trump administration's agenda and proposed budget cuts to environmental programs and research have many designers wondering if they need to take a stand in politics. -- Duane Carter/Solomon Cordwell Buenz; Philip Black/Simonton Swaika Black Architects; David Lake/Lake|Flato - Architect Magazine

Kira Gould and Lance Hosey: "Women in Green": A Decade Later: What impact does gender equity have on activism to combat climate change? A lot, it turns out: ...design companies who frequently win COTE Top Ten Awards have far greater gender parity than the industry at large...Gender-balanced companies...are 15% more likely to outperform their competitors. - Architect Magazine

Lee Hillam/Dunn Hillam Architects: Long hours: Go hard or go home! What impact is this dangerous culture of working late having on the profession, and what is the real cost of this exploitative practice? - ArchitectureAU (Australia)

The old mall is dead and Florida's largest retail developments are showing what comes next: New retailers and new customer expectations are being formalized as street-mall hybrids on a scale that has not been seen before...shoppers may soon be more likely to run into dapper flaneurs than escalator-riding mall rats. -- Victor Gruen; Cooper Robertson; Local Office Landscape Architecture; Elkus Manfredi Architects [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Why design buffs must visit Tokyo, 'an architectural riddle of a city': ...its architectural landscape is as chaotically eclectic as its society is efficient...buildings go up and down like yo-yos..."The average lifespan of a Tokyo building is just 26 years"... a city that excels at balancing the eclectic with the peaceful - and never fails to surprise. -- Darryl Jingwen Wee; Kengo Kuma; Mario Botta; Takamitsu Azuma; Jun Aoki; Herzog & de Meuron; Tadao Ando- Telegraph (UK)



Setback for Sydney's Bays Precinct 'Silicon harbour' redevelopment as tech giant Google walks: ...technology company walked away from negotiations to move...to the currently disused White Bay Power Station in Rozelle.... "the failure to provide public transport upgrades...was cited as a reason"... - ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Adelaide teams up with Manchester for EU World Cities program: ...pairs leading smart and sustainable cities together in order to share experiences and best practice on urban innovation, green development and start-up policy...the link between the two "advanced digital cities" would have economic and environmental benefits. - The Fifth Estate (Australia)

Most Clever Sister Cities Pairing Ever? Boring, Oregon, meets Dull, Scotland: The Boring story is anything but dull...it's also a good reminder of the power of sister cities to cross-pollinate economic investment, foster tourism and serve as a relatively cheap marketing strategy...the sisters may soon be triplets. In Australia, there's a nice little shire called Bland. - Next City (formerly Next American City)

Aaron Betsky: Breaking Down the Barriers of Time with Virtual Reality: Alternate facts are coming to architecture...helping to bring fantasies and alternate realities to life: ...past and future will soon merge, with nostalgia and proposal fusing into spaces that improve on historical sites and use the past to inform the future - just as architecture has always done... - Architect Magazine

Frank Lloyd Wright School changing name as it splits from namesake foundation: ...will now be called the School of Architecture at Taliesin...follows up on the school's reaccreditation process that called for the school to separate from the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation...Aaron Betsky will become president...Chris Lasch...will take over as dean. -- Michael Bierut/Pentagram-Milwaukee Business Journal

Wood Yew Beleaf It? U.S. to tax Canadian lumber - what could this mean for the construction industry? ...a study by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) estimates that a tariff of 15% could raise new home prices by around 4%... - The Architect's Newspaper

Ontario Place Cinesphere and Pods and CN Tower receive 2017 Prix du XXe siècle: ...recognized for their enduring excellence and national significance to Canada's architectural legacy...The Prix will be presented at the RAIC/OAA Festival of Architecture taking place May 24 - 27 in Ottawa. -- Eberhard Zeidler (1971); Webb Zerafa Menkes Housden Architects/John Andrews Architects (1976) - Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC) / The National Trust for Canada

19th Annual Berkeley Prize 2017 Essay Competition and Travel Fellowship Competition winners: "Architecture Reveals Communities" - Berkeley Prize / Department of Architecture, University of California, Berkeley

Call for entries: 10 to 10 Infrastructure: Projects That Could Change Cities: to recognize resilience-building infrastructure - 10 projects globally that are either underway or completed, and 10 shovel-ready projects in the U.S.; no fee; deadline: May 5 - 100 Resilient Cities / Rockefeller Foundation (100RC) / AECOM

[Call for entries: A' Design Award and Competitions \(international\); earlybird registration \(save money!\): June 30- A' Design Award & Competition](#)

[Results Announced: 2016 - 2017 A' International Design Award & Competition: 1,958 Winners from 98 countries in 97 different design disciplines- A' Design Award & Competition](#)

This week at ARCspace

[Kirsten Kiser: Dominique Perrault: New Mechanics Hall - ME Building, Lausanne, Switzerland: Science is the essence of the ME building...a new milestone in the history of the EPFL \(École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne\) campus...serves as a large-scale experimental playground and laboratory for research scientists... -- Zweifel + Stricker + Associates \(1970s\) \[images\]](#)

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Today's News - Thursday, April 27, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE - Day 3: Something new - and improved. The Intro note "bullet" links to articles in the e-mailed newsletter were a bit difficult to target, so now the first few words are also highlighted. As always, the actual headlines with notable names called out still follow the Intro.

EDITOR'S NOTE Part Deux: Tomorrow and Monday are no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, May 2.

- ANN feature: Q&A with 2017 AIA Architecture Firm Award winners Bill Leddy, Marsha Maytum, and Richard Stacy on the eve of their award ceremony: "Our track record of pushing to make a difference shows that a small firm can make a difference."
- Wainwright parses how/why luxury-flat owners are trying to close the Tate's viewing platform: "It's part of a wider hijacking of cultural hotspots - relentlessly lobotomizing the cities they want to call home," and "ironing out the edgy 'vibrancy.'"
- Finch makes the case for why the Garden Bridge should be built: It's "a sophisticated folly" - when the number-crunchers and bureaucracy step in, "you know the drearies are in charge. Shame on them."
- Ritchie takes issue with Finch's "impassioned plea to let creatives be given free rein - the era of follies is over"; it's the "dishonest procurement process, lack of business plan, and misuse of public funds that is being attacked - not creativity."
- Harper explains why, "to confront populism, all architects should become classicists": "architects with any social conscience must wake up and smell the acanthus" - the Modernist agenda "damages our capacity to create much-needed public buildings."
- Moore considers Terry fills as he strikes out on his own: Francis "seems to have more fun" and is "less dogmatic. I find the reduction in dogma welcome" (he's no "Quinlan II" - "ho-ho birds" included).
- Lackmeyer parses Pei's c. 1960s legacy in Oklahoma City: "not many cities can boast of an entire downtown reshaped by the architect" - but many "who remember his legacy are generally pretty critical of his unfinished vision."
- Keats offers a most interesting take on visionary Soviet architecture and Trump's border wall: "Infrastructure can be powerful propaganda even when it isn't built - as long as the border wall remains on paper, there is ample opportunity for alternate visions."
- Eyefuls of the winners of the 2017 Architectural League Prize for Young Architects + Designers (an eclectic bunch!).
- Call for entries: UIA-HYP Cup 2017 International Student Competition.

Weekend diversions:

- Bozikovic cheers "Citizen Jane: Battle for the City" - a "gorgeous, tightly written and entertaining film."
- Wainwright cheers "Langlands & Bell: Infinite Loop" in London that "exposes the 'fantasy of total control' that is Silicon Valley architecture - as seen through detached, deadpan eyes."
- King says San Francisco can learn from Davidson's "Magnetic City: A Walking Companion to New York": "his impressions pertain to other prosperous cities in a perennial struggle between the future and the past."
- Q&A with Davidson re: "Magnetic City," his "atmospheric guide capturing the texture of urban life in print."
- Goldhagen's "Welcome to Your World: How the Built Environment Shapes Our Lives" gives "designers the

language to communicate the importance of their trade - a task they've been attempting for centuries, but with little success."

- Brownell cheers Goldhagen's "Welcome to Your World": "Refreshingly, her condemnation eschews favoritism towards renowned architects. Rather, she focuses on what science tells us about good and bad design."
- Green gives Brownell's own "Transmaterial Next" two thumbs-ups for doing "a great job of explaining the environmental costs of our exploding resource use and how new, less wasteful materials will help."
- James-Chakraborty hails O'Toole's "One Hundred & One Hosannas for Architecture" that offers "some of the finest pieces of recent writing on Irish architecture" ("although I dread the many late night e-mails from my students on how to cite a book that lacks page numbers").
- O'Sullivan cheers the "delicious ambiguity" in O'Toole's new tome: "By highlighting what has been done he shows us what can be done, what should be done, and what is often not done."
- Coggan considers Andraos and Akawi's "The Arab City: Architecture and Representation" to be "an endlessly handsome volume of poetic dialogue about the region."

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ANN feature: 2017 AIA Architecture Firm Award Winners: An Interview with Bill Leddy, Marsha Maytum, and Richard Stacy of LEDDY MAYTUM STACY Architects: "Our track record of pushing to make a difference shows that a small firm can make a difference." - Marsha Maytum [images] - ArchNewsNow.com

Oliver Wainwright: Gawpers go home: how luxury flat-owners [in Neo Bankside] could shut down the Tate's viewing platform: ...[thy] are taking the gallery to court, arguing its viewing platform invades their privacy. It's part of a wider hijacking of cultural hotspots...relentlessly lobotomising the cities they want to call home, ironing out the edgy "vibrancy" on which they were sold their dream of urban living. - Guardian (UK)

Paul Finch: Why the Garden Bridge should be built: The focus of some critics on procedure has become the enemy of creativity: ...the project is not a conventional bridge...but a sophisticated folly...The moment people with ideas are subjected to the grinding apparatus of...compulsory competition and 100-page form-filling, you know the drearies are in charge. Shame on them. -- Marks Barfield; Margaret Hodge; Thomas Heatherwick Studio - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Ian Ritchie: The era of follies is over: The architect defends the critics of the Thames Garden Bridge proposal: In spite of Paul Finch's impassioned plea to let creatives be given free rein...the "heart of the problem" [is] dishonest procurement process, lack of business plan, and misuse of public funds. This is what is being attacked by the [Hodge] report, the critics and the public - not creativity...The competition was a charade and all involved know it. -- Thomas Heatherwick - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Phineas Harper: To confront populism, all architects should become classicists: If today's architects abandoned their modern vocabulary in favour of populist traditional or classical styles, they could achieve more progressive social goals: ...architects with any social conscience must wake up and smell the acanthus...Our stylistic reticence to even consider pre-modern sources damages our capacity to create much-needed public buildings. - Dezeen

Rowan Moore: Francis Terry: "Architects tend to think if it's popular, there's something wrong": The neoclassical country piles designed by Quinlan Terry and his son Francis are adored by the royals and multimillionaires. Now Francis



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is striking out on his own: It's tempting to cast the younger one as Quinlan II... [He] differs from his father in important respects. He seems to have more fun. He's less dogmatic. He expresses doubt...I find the reduction in dogma welcome. - Observer (UK)

Steve Lackmeyer: I.M. Pei legacy in Oklahoma City mixed on his 100th birthday: ...not many cities can boast of an entire downtown reshaped by the architect. OKC, however, hasn't boasted of Pei's work here in decades. Many of those who remember his legacy are generally pretty critical of his unfinished vision. [images] - The Oklahoman

Jonathon Keats: Can Visionary Soviet Architecture Give Shape To Trump's Designs On American Infrastructure? "Imagine Moscow" at the Design Museum explores the ways in which this work of architecture-on-paper attained an oversized presence...without ever being built...Infrastructure can be powerful propaganda even when it isn't built...as long as the border wall remains on paper, there is ample opportunity for alternate visions...to topple the bigotry inherent in blockading assimilation. - Forbes

Winners of the 2017 Architectural League Prize for Young Architects + Designers and dates for lectures & exhibition. -- Jonathan Louie/Nicole McIntosh/Architecture Office; Michelle JaJa Chang (Houston, TX); Kevin Hirth/KEVIN HIRTH Co.; Mustafa Faruki/theLab-lab for architecture; Isabel Martínez Abascal/Alessandro Arienzo/LANZA Atelier;; Greg Corso/Molly Hunker/SPORTS - Architectural League of New York

Call for entries: UIA-HYP Cup 2017 International Student Competition: Architecture in Transformation - Transformation and Reconquest: What vital and disruptive architectures can you come up with to transform the existing spaces of your choice? cash prizes; registration deadline: July 31 (submissions due August 31) - International Union of Architects (UIA)/School of Architecture, Tianjin University/Urban Environment Design Magazine (UED)

Alex Bozickovic: "Citizen Jane: Battle for the City" elicits challenging discussion on urbanization: Matt Tyrnauer tells the tale of Jane Jacobs vs. Robert Moses well in this gorgeous, tightly written and entertaining film. - Globe and Mail (Canada)

Oliver Wainwright: "Langlands & Bell: Infinite Loop": With their eerily pristine models of Apple and Facebook's offices, [they] expose the "fantasy of total control" that is Silicon Valley architecture: These bleached bodies are the headquarters buildings of the world's biggest technology companies, as seen through the detached, deadpan eyes...at Alan Cristea Gallery, London [images] - Guardian (UK)

John King: SF can learn from new book on 'Magnetic' New York: Anyone who knows and cares about a city like San Francisco carries fragments of the city that are gone...."Magnetic City: A Walking Companion to New York" by Justin Davidson...his impressions resonate much further, and they pertain to other prosperous cities in a perennial struggle between the future and the past. - San Francisco Chronicle

Justin Davidson discusses "Magnetic City: A Walking Companion to New York," his walking guide to New York's architecture and history: ...his atmospheric

guide...capturing the texture of urban life in print..."one central aspect of the urban experience...that sense that the past and the present and the future are all intertwined." - NY Newsday

Feeling Sad? Blame the Building: ...Sarah Williams Goldhagen sets out to quantify how the built environment affects our lives: "Welcome to Your World: How the Built Environment Shapes Our Lives" pulls from new research in psychology and neuroscience...gives designers the language to communicate the importance of their trade - a task they've been attempting for centuries, but with little success. - Surface magazine

Blaine Brownell: Assessing Architecture Through Neuroscience and Psychology: "Welcome to Your World: How the Built Environment Shapes Our Lives" by Sarah Williams Goldhagen: Refreshingly, the expansive sweep of her condemnation eschews favoritism towards...renowned architects or vernacular builders. Rather, she focuses on what science tells us about good and bad design... - Architect Magazine

Jared Green: Future Materials Here Today: Self-Healing Concrete, Biological Bricks, and More: ...Blaine Brownell in his excellent new book "Transmaterial Next: A Catalog of Materials That Define Our Future"...does a great job of explaining the environmental costs of our exploding resource use and how new, less wasteful materials will help. - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)


Kathleen James-Chakraborty: Our exquisite recent Architecture: Even if most of the recent legacy is subpar: "One Hundred & One Hosannas for Architecture"...by Shane O'Toole, Ireland's most celebrated critic of the island's contemporary architecture...eloquent prose...His appreciations of the pioneering Irish modernism...are some of the finest pieces of recent writing on Irish architecture. -- Group 91 [images]- Village Magazine (Dublin, Ireland)

Des O'Sullivan: Vintage view: Shane O'Toole's new collection of writing from 1999-2016: A delicious ambiguity is contained in the title "One Hundred & One Hosannas for Architecture." ...is it a hymn of praise or a plea for salvation? Anything that focuses Irish minds on architecture is always welcome...By highlighting what has been done he shows us what can be done, what should be done, and what is often not done. - Irish Examiner

Annie Coggan: "The Arab City: Architecture and Representation" edited by Amale Andraos and Nora Akawi: ...26 essays discussing not just the state of Arab architecture but the state of architecture in an endlessly fluid political landscape...an endlessly handsome volume of poetic dialogue about the region. - AIANY/Center for Architecture Newsletter (formerly e-Oculus)

This week at ARCspace

Kirsten Kiser: Dominique Perrault: New Mechanics Hall - ME Building, Lausanne, Switzerland: Science is the essence of the ME building...a new milestone in the history of the EPFL (École Polytechnique Fédérale de



[Lausanne\) campus...serves as a large-scale experimental playground and laboratory for research scientists... -- Zweifel + Stricker + Associates \(1970s\)](#)
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