

Today's News - Tuesday, April 3, 2018

- [Hume explains](#) why Toronto's new city planner "has his job cut out for him. Bad planning has left the city ill-prepared for the 21st century - to be fair," it's "an admittedly thankless task. Though nothing the municipal bureaucracy does is more fundamental than planning, neither is anything more political."
- [One day](#), Handel Architects will find out what it's "like to design a major building in Boston that everyone loves" - in the meantime, even though the third version of its Winthrop Square skyscraper "is sleeker than the second," it's still back to the drawing board: "It's an exercise in politics as much as design."
- [Lee Koe](#) eloquently expresses her concerns about Singapore losing its "vernacular post-independence architecture in one fell swoop" - no matter what you think of the Metabolist/Brutalist/Corbusian-inspired architecture by "local architectural pioneers," these developments are "uniquely Singaporean" and "a public good under threat."
- [Rogers Partners'](#) public pavilion for Galveston's Stewart Beach will reorganize the mix of facilities and services - once parks officials get the "money from the federal RESTORE program created in 2012 in response to the Deepwater Horizon offshore oil spill."
- [Meanwhile](#), can post-Harvey "Houston apply New York's big thinking on flood projects?"
- [Mun-Delsalle's](#) Part 2 ponders Nakamura's Kamikatz Public House in the "trashless town" of Kamikatsu, Japan - it is "truly the perfect example of how small-scale, low-cost architecture can embrace the grand dream of contributing to the creation of a sustainable social system" (click "Yesterday's News" back to March 27 for Part 1).
- [Kafka delves](#) into "how Forensic Architecture is harnessing the power of the public to investigate the Grenfell Tower disaster via an open-ended, crowd-sourced initiative - the first to be initiated by the agency itself."
- [Moore cheers](#) Feilden Clegg Bradley's "mercifully modest makeover" of South Bank's Queen Elizabeth Hall/Purcell Room that "revives something of Brutalist beauties' 60s soul, though certain details lack a guiding hand" (like "a bathetic splodge of blue carpet" seen on his tour with Crompton, the original architect).
- [Miranda](#) sees L.A.'s Wilshire Boulevard Temple as "leaning into the future" with a (leaning) event pavilion by OMA that "avoids copycat Byzantine forms in favor of fluid lines that gently echo aspects of the historic building."
- [A look at](#) what went into creating new algorithms and new techniques for the futuristic (to put it mildly) façade of Hadid's King Abdullah Financial District Metro Station in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
- [First look](#) at the Dutch Pavilion exhibition "Work, Body, Leisure" for the Venice Biennale that "explores the different forms of creativity and responsibility that architecture has in response to emerging technologies in automation" (looks very cool!).
- [Makovsky](#) parses "Take Shape," a new journal "devoted to architecture and politics - who says design publishing is dying?"

Winners all!

- [A look at](#) Metropolis mag's 2018 Game Changers, "5 remarkable individuals who are transforming architecture,

design, and cities."

● [Ohio-based](#) Cañizares and Sang Delgado win the 2018 Ragdale Ring design competition with their "quirky" temporary outdoor theater called "Noodle Soup."

● [Eyefuls](#) of the 2018 Fairy Tales Architecture Competition winners, along with their "wonderfully crafted short stories and artwork" (great presentation).

Deadlines:

● [Deadline](#) extended for hospitality concepts in the 2018 Radical Innovation Awards: Rethink. Reimagine. Redefine.

● [Call for](#) entries: 2nd "Natian" Cup International Design Competition: A New-tech Led Intelligent Urban Life: Sustainable Design, Sustainable Life" for Suqian, China (big(!) cash prizes; winning entries could be built).

● [Call for](#) entries: Kemeru National Park Observation Tower Competition in Latvia, the "third-largest national park in one of Europe's greenest countries."

● [Call for](#) entries: Open call for curator of "Auditorium 18/19" lecture series on architecture, urbanism, and design at the STUK Arts Centre, Leuven, Belgium.



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Christopher Hume: Toronto's chief planner must articulate his vision for the city: Past chief planners, including Jennifer Keesmaat, have realized that communicating vision is the real purpose of the job...Gregg Lintern has his job cut out for him. Bad planning has left the city ill-prepared for the 21st century...to be fair, city planners merely advise council, an admittedly thankless task. Though nothing the municipal bureaucracy does is more fundamental than planning, neither is anything more political. - Toronto Star

For planned Winthrop Square skyscraper, a design challenge: What's it like to design a major building in Boston that everyone loves...Maybe one day we'll find out...trying to balance elegance worthy of a prime spot on the downtown skyline with the economics of a \$1.3 billion construction project...third version...is sleeker than the second...which was widely panned...[developer and architect] need to do better to earn the board's blessing...Much is expected of this building...city officials need to balance the quality of the building and...purchase price of the site, all without alienating neighbors...It's an exercise in politics as much as design. -- Blake Middleton/Handel Architects [images] - Boston Globe

Amanda Lee Koe: If this is home, truly, it should look like home: Architectural heritage is a public good: Money can buy the gloss of an international architect's grandiloquent design...but money can't buy a heterogeneous urban fabric and the patina of lived-in memory...local architectural pioneers...produced several ambitious developments...the Big Four are a bold amalgam of western and eastern architectural theories...Uniquely Singaporean, they exemplify the can-do spirit...we risk losing our vernacular post-independence architecture in one fell swoop...they are a public good under threat...the free market is never incentivised to defend a public good... - The Straits Times (Singapore)

A Tour Through Rogers Partners' Planned Public Pavilion for Galveston's Stewart Beach: The structure would reorganize the mix of concessions, patrol facilities, parks offices, storage, restrooms, and community meeting space...linked by overhead walkways...parks officials are waiting on money from



the federal RESTORE program created in 2012 in response to the Deepwater Horizon offshore oil spill... [images] - Swampplot: Houston's Real Estate Landscape (Texas)

Can Houston Apply New York's Big Thinking On Flood Projects? As Houston recovers from Hurricane Harvey's floodwaters, architects in New York City are re-imagining resilient design: ...designers are generally happy with how the [Buffalo Bayou] park fares during flooding events. After all, it was redesigned to handle them...[Rebuild by Design] asked participants to address structural and environmental vulnerabilities exposed by Sandy...The Big U: a multi-purposed flood protection system, hugging 10 miles of lower Manhattan. -- Scott McCready/SWA; Jeremy Siegel/BIG - Bjarke Ingles Group [images] - Houston Public Media

Y-Jean Mun-Delsalle: The Design Of Kamikatz Public House In A Trashless Town Takes Sustainability To A New Level, Part 2: ...eight-meter high window made of fittings from abandoned houses is a local symbol, serving as a lantern of hope for the town...For the local residents who gather at the pub, this space embodying the town's zero-waste vision has become a part of their everyday lives and they now view recycling and conservation as fun and creative...[It] is truly the perfect example of how small-scale, low-cost architecture can embrace the grand dream of contributing to the creation of a sustainable social system. -- Hiroshi Nakamura & NAP [images] - Forbes

George Kafka: How Forensic Architecture Is Harnessing the Power of the Public to Investigate the Grenfell Tower Disaster: The architectural research organization has announced an open-ended, crowdsourced initiative to reconstruct and analyze the June 2017 blaze: This is the latest in a series of investigations by the agency, which uses architectural thinking and spatial technology to probe incidents of violence and human rights abuses...[has] launched with an open-ended call for footage and testimonies...project is the first to be initiated by the agency itself. [images] - Metropolis Magazine

Rowan Moore: Queen Elizabeth Hall/Purcell Room refurbishment: glowing with renewed lustre: A mercifully modest makeover (thank the skateboarders) of these brutalist beauties revives something of their 60s soul, though certain details lack a guiding hand: ...Thameside complex is inching towards being the place that Dennis Crompton and his comrades had wanted. The craggy, layered geology of the Southbank Centre...Some guile was needed to smuggle the radical design into being...Now, finally, the Hayward and the building that contains both [the hall and gallery] have been renovated...and it turns out that the best thing to do was not very much at all. -- Ron Herron; Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios [images] - Observer (UK)

Carolina A. Miranda: Leaning into the future: Rem Koolhaas' OMA releases first

look of Wilshire Boulevard Temple event space: The first rendering of the 55,000-square-foot Audrey Irmas Pavilion...reveals a trapezoidal form that leans away from the temple...original temple [1929]...designed in a Byzantine Revival style...pavilion avoids copycat Byzantine forms in favor of fluid lines that gently echo aspects of the historic building. -- Office for Metropolitan Architecture; Shohei Shigematsu; Mia Lehrer [image]- Los Angeles Times

Zaha Hadid Architects' King Abdullah Financial District Metro Station [in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia] incorporates futuristic façade: The façade required the creation of new algorithms by Newtecnic: ...the façade, meant to represent patterns generated by desert winds...design-engineered...to reduce solar gain and produce air currents that help cool the building...this world-first-façade and the new techniques used to create it is an undulating, futuristic building that will be delivered for the price of a more traditional structure and last twice as long. [images]- Building Design & Construction (BD+C)

First glimpse: "Work, Body, Leisure", the Dutch Pavilion exhibition for the 2018 Venice Biennale: In response to the "Freespace" theme...explores the different forms of creativity and responsibility that architecture has in response to emerging technologies...examines historical and present-day case studies in Rotterdam, as well as utopian and dystopian visions of a society where full automation is the norm...[and] how full automation will change society...argues that these visions are already shaping present-day....-- Constant Nieuwenhuys; Het Nieuwe Instituut [images]- Archinect

Paul Makovsky: New Journal Delves into the Political Realities of Architecture and Urban Planning: The debut issue of "Take Shape," which centers on the re-use of lofts, features a mix of long-form journalism and critical essays: Who says design publishing is dying? ...new journal devoted to architecture and politics is the brainchild of editors Nolan Boomer (formerly of Princeton Architectural Press)...and Julia Llinas Goodman, a legal reporter on labor and civil rights...third editor, Cole Cataneo, and designer Sean Suchara. - Metropolis Magazine

2018 Game Changers: 5 Remarkable Individuals Who Are Transforming Architecture, Design, and Cities: Doreen Toutikian is Shaking Up Beirut's Design Scene/Beirut Design Week (BDW); Carol Ross Barney is Chicago's New Daniel Burnham; Dan Chong Transformed Legacy Furniture Manufacturer HBF; Kenneth Frampton Isn't Done Changing Architecture; Anna Puigjaner/MAIO (Barcelona) Wants to Revolutionize the Home - by Getting Rid of Kitchens- Metropolis Magazine

NOODLE SOUP is the winning 2018 Ragdale Ring design: ...quirky concept by young Columbus, Ohio-based design team...a temporary outdoor theater...features a set of fixed structures around which are soft, linear, pliable pieces of furniture. The soft elements can interact with the hard structures to serve functional purposes such as seating, but they can also act as oversized toys, freely configurable in a variety of ways. -- Galo Cañzares and Stephanie Sang Delgado [images]- Archinect

Winners Announced: 2018 Fairy Tales Architecture Competition: With submissions from 65 countries, the award-winning entries explore current events and the creative process through wonderfully crafted short stories and artwork...

jury selected three prize winners, a runner up and 9 honorable mentionss. --
Louis Liu/Senyao Wei; Sasha Topolnytska; Ifigeneia Liangi; NEMESTUDIO
[images]- Blank Space / National Building Museum

Call for entries - deadline extended: 2018 Radical Innovation Awards: Rethink.
Reimagine. Redefine. (international): submit hospitality concepts that provide
new meaningful travel experiences, and new revenue growth opportunities for
owners, investors, etc.; open to professionals and students; cash prizes; new
deadline: April 30- The John Hardy Group / Global Allies / Sleeper

Call for entries: 2nd "Natian" Cup International Design Competition: A New-tech
Led Intelligent Urban Life: Sustainable Design, Sustainable Life (international):
open to designers in landscape, architecture, urban design and art; select a site
in Suqian, China; winning entries have the possibility to be implemented; 1st
prize: \$58,000+; registration deadline: June 30 (submissions due July 30)-
Suqian Municipal People's Government / Suqian Urban Planning Bureau / CBC (China
BuildingCentre) / Urban Environment Design (UED) Magazine

Call for entries: Kemeru National Park Observation Tower Competition by Bee
Breeders: Third-largest national park in one of Europe's greenest country,
Kemeru is a stunning and eclectic mix of forests, lakes, swamps and ancient
raised bogs...a 1-hour train ride from Riga, Latvia...design a new tower that will
allow visitors to view and experience the Kemeru Bog in a new way; cash prizes;
registration deadline: April 27 (submissions due May 31)- Bustler

Call for entries: Open call for curator of "Auditorium 18/19" - lecture series on
architecture, urbanism, and design, October 2018 to May 2019 in the STUK Arts
Centre, Leuven, Belgium...propose a programme that treats "the matter of
architecture,"space as a tactile place and its creation; deadline: April 27
. - Stad en Architectuur vzw (Leuven, Belgium)

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Yesterday's News

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Today's News - Wednesday, April 4, 2018

- [Prevost](#) delves into the details of an Elkus Manfredi-master-planned smart city not far from Boston's "booming technology hub" where "smart technology is embedded into water, light, energy and transportation systems" (while "setting boundaries on data collection and use").
- [While Paris](#) is "not a place you'd expect to find chickens, beehives, and planted cabbages - urban farming is flourishing" with a project that "aims to cover the city's rooftops and walls with 100 hectares (247 acres) of vegetation by 2020."
- [Vande Panne](#) parses how Dayton, Ohio, is making its public library branches "must-visit destinations": "With recording studios, dazzling art installations, and rooms equipped for virtual reality, the city is future-proofing an oft-neglected urban amenity" (meanwhile, "the federal government seems committed to keeping libraries trapped in the dusty, distant past" - sad).
- [Safdie's](#) "modernistic" Medal of Honor Museum design "was sent back to the drawing board, with little hope the town would ever approve it without some big changes": "If they wanted the support of our community, they should have included us, as well."
- [The Italian](#) far right wants to turn Terragni's 1936 Fascist HQ in Como into a mega-museum of Modern art, architecture and design, though its "manifesto does not include details of what would actually go on display there."
- [The team](#) of Moriyama & Teshima and Acton Ostry is tapped to design The Arbour at George Brown College - it "would be Ontario's first tall wood institutional building" on Toronto's waterfront (looks cool!).
- [Wisconsin-based](#) Kubala Washatko wins its second school project in China, the 1-million-square-foot Xiang Lake Academy campus in Hangzhou; the shape of the buildings "mimic a Chinese dragon" that will curve along a river bank.
- [AIANY posts](#) its position re: the proposed demolition of SOM's 270 Park Avenue/Union Carbide building: "Without a better understanding of how it will be dismantled and what is going to replace it, demolishing such a recently renovated green building would represent a shift away from the values of sustainability and responsibility in building design."
- [Bernstein](#) talks to Eva Franch i Gilabert, the first woman to be elected director of the AA: "First she will have to manage the AA's budget shortfalls": "It is in moments of crisis that opportunities for redefinition emerge," sayeth she.
- [Snarkitecture](#) will make its second showing at the National Building Museum's 2018 Summer Block Party with "Fun House," where rooms will convey its 10-year story "while underlining the studio's peculiar, yet accessible way of reinterpreting the built environment."
- [A good reason](#) to head to Hawaii (today!): AIA Honolulu launches its 12th Annual Architecture Month, themed "Community: Design Matters," tonight, followed by "free and low-cost activities for the public during the month of April" (staring at snow, rain, and fog - we're ready to go!).
- [One we couldn't](#) resist: Elon Musk's Boring Company will (soon?) offer "LEGO-like interlocking bricks made from tunneling rock" that "will be rated to withstand California's earthquakes" - launch date is unknown because

"there is not enough upturned rock to begin making these bricks yet."

Winners all!

- [AIA grants](#) \$100,000 to four Upjohn Research Initiative projects - biophilic architecture and 3D concrete printing included.
- [Eyefuls](#) of the projects by women-led teams that have won Gold, Silver, and Bronze in the 2018 Global LafargeHolcim Awards for Sustainable Construction + inaugural Ideas Prize winners.
- [Brussels-based](#) architect Aude-Line Dulière wins Harvard GSD's 2018 Wheelwright Prize - \$100,000 traveling fellowship to fund her research in "construction methods and supply systems in the global film industry - film-set construction is the ideal incubator for testing innovative practices of material reuse."
- [RAIC honors](#) Toronto-based Luc Bouliane with the 2018 Young Architect Award: "He's on a different trajectory for a young office. He has pursued larger public work from the very beginning, which is unusual," sayeth the jury.
- [Hopkirk](#) & Ijeh talk to the eight firms in the running for BD's Young Architect of the Year 2018, who muse "about the challenges, aspirations, and the difficulties facing young architects today" ("No one said becoming an architect is easy").



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[Lisa Prevost: Building a Connected City From the Ground Up: A developer of planned communities is joining with General Electric to build a smart city near Boston with driverless cars and heated sidewalks: Union Point...a place where smart technology is embedded into water, light, energy and transportation systems...setting boundaries on data collection and use. -- Elkus Manfredi Architects; Sidewalk Lab/Quayside, Toronto \[images\]](#) - New York Times

[Paris to turn a third of its green space into urban farms: ...not a place you'd expect to find chickens, beehives and rows of neatly planted cabbages - but urban farming is flourishing...Parisculteurs, a project which aims to cover the city's rooftops and walls with 100 hectares \(247 acres\) of vegetation by 2020...Since \[it\] launched in 2016, 75 projects have been approved...will create more than 500 tons of produce...there are plenty of projects in the works. \[images\]](#) - CNN Style

[Valerie Vande Panne: Dayton, Ohio, Is Making the Library a Must-Visit Destination: With recording studios, dazzling art installations, and rooms equipped for virtual reality, the city is future-proofing an oft-neglected urban amenity: ...a holistic process...Architects and library administrators listened to residents at heavily attended forums to learn...what their priorities were for the library branches serving them...While Dayton sits on the forefront of bringing libraries...into the future, the federal government seems committed to keeping them trapped in the dusty, distant past. -- David Schnee/Group 4 \[images\]](#) - Next City (formerly Next American City)

[Medal of Honor Museum design fails to impress Mount Pleasant council committee: The controversial design...was sent back to the drawing board, with little hope the town would ever approve it without some big changes...foundation spent \\$3.5 million on Moshe Safdie's modernistic concept...Committee members said they hope the foundation will withdraw the plan for the \\$100 million project and submit a more modest one for consideration...."If they wanted the support of our community, they should have included us, as well." \[via Post & Courier,](#)



Architecture Magazine Library
Masters Gallery
Podcast

Charleston, South Carolina]- Architectural Record

Italian far right wants to turn Fascist HQ into mega-museum: The Lega party - which may soon be in power - believes that Italy, through its culture, can lead the world: ...wants to turn [Casa del Fascio/Palazzo Terragni] in Como...into northern Italy's biggest museum of Modern art, architecture and design...manifesto does not include details of what would actually go on display there. -- Giuseppe Terragni (1936) [image]- The Art Newspaper (UK)

George Brown College selects Moriyama/Acton design team for tall wood build: ...Moriyama & Teshima Architects and its partner Acton Ostry Architects to design...The Harbour, would be Ontario's first tall wood institutional building [on Toronto's waterfront]...will host Canada's first Tall Wood Research Institute...the college's School of Computer Technology and a new child care facility... [image]- Daily Commercial News (Canada)

The Kubala Washatko Architects wins second large Chinese school project: ...building a name for itself as the country considers reforms to its educational systems...recently hired for the approximately 1-million-square-foot Xiang Lake Academy school and housing campus in Hangzhou...shape of the long, narrow school buildings mimic a Chinese dragon...to curve along the bank of a river that arcs around the 148-acre property. -- Guoli Liang/Bridge3 Architectural Planning Group; China Architecture Design & Research Group/CADREG [images]- Milwaukee Business Journal

AIA New York Expresses Concerns Regarding Proposed Demolition of 270 Park Avenue: AIA NY's chief concern is the precedent this may set for sustainable design...The Union Carbide building was recently retrofitted in 2012, achieving LEED Platinum...Without a better understanding of how it will be dismantled and what is going to replace it, demolishing such a recently renovated green building, particularly one as prominent...implies that sustainable design is a low priority...would represent a shift away from the values of sustainability and responsibility in building design... -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM)- AIA New York

Fred A. Bernstein: Interview with Eva Franch i Gilabert, director-elect of the Architectural Association School of Architecture in London: [She] received 67% of the votes cast, far more than the other finalists...the first woman to be elected director of the AA...First she will have to manage the AA's budget shortfalls...In a "vision statement"...she listed reasons to believe that architecture is in crisis..."Yet it is in moments of crisis that opportunities for redefinition emerge." -- Storefront for Art and Architecture- Architectural Record

After bringing "The BEACH" to Washington, D.C., Snarkitecture returns to National Building Museum's 2018 Summer Block Party: ...Brooklyn-based

collaborative practice...will be setting up..."Fun House"...rooms convey the 10-year story of Snarkitecture while underlining the studio's peculiar, yet accessible way of reinterpreting the built environment. [opening July 4]- Archinect

2018 Architecture Month in April: AIA Honolulu is celebrating its 12th Annual Architecture Month [themed] "Community: Design Matters"...to offer free and low-cost activities for the public during the month of April....Opens tonight with "Free PechaKucha: Night of Design Presentations" at the Center for Architecture, Honolulu.- AIA Honolulu

Boring Company to start selling LEGO-like interlocking bricks made from tunneling rock: ...that [Elon Musk's] tunneling machines excavate from the earth...bricks will be sold in "kits" and will be rated to withstand California's earthquakes. The date of availability or cost...is unknown. While his company has only started digging shorter tunnels there is not enough upturned rock to begin making these bricks yet.- Archinect

AIA grants \$100,000 to four Upjohn Research Initiative projects: ...the grant, now in its 11th year, is to provide base funds for applied research projects that will advance the design profession's knowledge and practice. -- James Determan/Hord Coplan Macht & Mary Anne Akers/Morgan State University; Kyoung-Hee Kim/University of North Carolina at Charlotte; Keith Van de Riet/University of Kansas; Tsz Yan Ng/Wesley McGee/University of Michigan- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Women-led teams win 2018 Global LafargeHolcim Awards for Sustainable Construction + inaugural Ideas Prize winners announced: Gold: Hydropuncture - Publicly accessible water retention and treatment complex in Mexico City, by Loreta Castro Reguera/Taller Capital & Manuel Perló Cohen/Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; Silver: Legacy Restored - Religious and secular complex in Dandaji, Niger, by Mariam Kamara/atelier masomi & Yasaman Esmaili/studio chahar; Bronze: Grassroots Microgrid – Bottom-up neighborhood planning in Detroit, USA, by Constance C. Bodurow, studio[Ci] [images]- Archinect

Belgian Architect Aude-Line Dulière wins Harvard GSD's 2018 Wheelwright Prize: \$100,000 traveling fellowship to fund her research proposal "Crafted Images: Material Flows, Techniques, and Uses in Set Design Construction": ...aims to examine construction methods and supply systems in the global film industry...film-set construction, through its cyclical and fast-paced nature, is the ideal incubator for testing innovative practices of material reuse.- e-flux

RAIC announces 2018 Young Architect Award recipient: Luc Bouliane, MRAIC, a Toronto architect whose designs are inspired by the geology of Northern Ontario..."He's on a different trajectory for a young office. He has pursued larger public work from the very beginning, including commercial work, which is unusual"...Award recognizes architects 40 years or younger for excellence in design, leadership, and service to the profession. -- Architects Luc Bouliane [images]- Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC)

Elizabeth Hopkirk & Ike Ijeh: Young Architect of the Year 2018: Our shortlisted firms profiled: No one said becoming an architect is easy. BD talks to the practices...about the challenges and aspirations and the difficulties facing young

architects today. -- Patrick Michell/Platform 5 Architects; Emily Burnett/Rhys Cannon/Gruff Limited; Richard Bell/Richard Bell Architecture; Paul Ruff/Ruff Architects; Samuel Kapasa/Cian Glasheen/Group Ginger; Ben Ridley/Amrit Marway/Architecture for London; Andrew Clancy/Colm Moore/Clancy Moore Architects; Mark Marshall/James Daykin/Daykin Marshall Studio - BD/Building Design (UK)

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Today's News - Thursday, April 5, 2018

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, April 10.

- [ANN feature](#): Belogolovsky's very interesting Q&A with Fumihiko Maki, who talks about why he avoids using exposed concrete outside of Japan, why the Metabolist movement didn't quite catch on, and Yoshio Taniguchi's buildings: "He is our Mies van der Rohe."
- [Sad news](#) x 2: We lose Hank Dittmar much, much too soon - sometimes we agreed with him, sometimes not - either way, we will miss his always thoughtful, informative, and engaging prose.
- [Finch reflects](#) on the life and times of Peter Davey, whose "passing marks the end of a way of life - it is difficult to overestimate the contribution he made both to architectural journalism and the profession itself" (he also "enjoyed being an anachronism").
- [C. Moore](#) rounds up a selection of architects who are "employing a new concept that uses parasitic dwellings attached to existing buildings as a potential measure to ease homelessness. It's a controversial and drastic step towards attacking the crises."
- [Flynn considers](#) open source architecture and its cheerleaders who "say it could solve the global housing crisis. The reality is a little more complicated" - while concepts are being developed around the world, "the supply chain technology available has yet to catch up."
- [Imber ponders](#) whether architecture is still art by considering "the effects of digital renderings and algorithms against traditional methods" like hand-drawing. "As we give ourselves over to the machines, can we really understand humanity through building?"
- [Salone del Mobile](#) issues its latest manifesto calling for Milan and the design industry "to promote innovation and sustainability, encourage sharing of ideas, and champion the work of young designers - the event has faced some criticism in recent years that the new manifesto targets."
- [Miletic](#) rounds up the "Top 10 architectural disasters of all time - architects being human don't always get it right."
- [Call for entries](#): ARCHITECT's 12th Annual R+D Awards (early bird deadline (save money!) is April 13!).

Weekend diversions:

- [Wainwright](#) x 2: He cheers "Hope to Nope: Graphics and Politics 2008-18" at London's Design Museum: it's "a broad and provocative mix contrasting the slick output of commissioned campaigns with homemade memes and protesters' hastily daubed placards that fizz with visceral anger" (other museums are acquiring such ephemera).
- [He also](#) cheers "Junya Ishigami, Freeing Architecture" at the Cartier Foundation in Paris: The Japanese architect is a "structural alchemist and defier of physics," and his show "is a tranquillizer dart of pure poetry - the simplicity with which he explains his projects belies the fiendish complexity behind the façade" (so does his book).
- ["No dust goggles or potable water supply required"](#) to see "No Spectators: The Art of Burning Man" at the

Smithsonian in Washington, DC: "Inside the 1859 building, the pieces take on an almost Rococo vibe, adding their trippy, futuristic detail to the grandiosity of the space" (fab photos - especially those showing desert then museum installations!).

- In "[Naoya Hatakeyama: Excavating the Future City](#)" at the Minneapolis Institute of Art (and in the book), the Japanese photographer considers urban landscapes, and reflects that "taking a photograph of architecture by using a camera is tantamount to placing a small architecture against another large architecture and having the small one swallow the larger one."

- "[Lived Space: Humans and Architecture](#)" explores "our psychological and physical attachments to the spaces we build and inhabit," at the deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum in Lincoln, Massachusetts.

Page-turners:

- [Betsky parses](#) "Handbook of Tyranny," in which Deutinger superbly "draws the ways we kill, harm, and exclude - with beauty - it is amazing how creative designers can be when they are trying to harm, contain, or keep out people."

- [Zepp Jamieson](#) hails Cohen's "The Sustainable City," which "clearly defines the direction in which we need to move - for anyone looking for a cleaner and most sustainable urban lifestyle, it is required reading."

- [Cohen "fleshes](#) his argument out" in "The Sustainable City", in a podcast that offers "a glimpse of the urban systems of the future."

- [Seward sees](#) Lerup's findings in "The Continuous City" to be "as revelatory as they are perturbing. If humankind is to survive the era of global warming, there remains much more work to be done."

- [AN editors](#) round up their favorite climate change books of 2018 (a great round-up!).

- [Grabar cheers](#) Freeman's "Behemoth: A History of the Factory and the Making of the Modern World," an "immersive, trivia-packed history, in part a story of factory tourists," that explains why "the symbols of technology and modernity" now "symbolize something very different - the final product is the space itself."

- [Hill hails](#) Gil's "Concrete Chicago Map" - it's "ideal for travelers less versed in its architectural wonders. But surprises there are" (great pix!).



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ANN feature: Vladimir Belogolovsky: One-on-One: Architecture is an Endless Process for Learning: Interview with Fumihiko Maki: The multi-award-winning architect talks about why he avoids using exposed concrete outside of Japan, why the Metabolist movement didn't quite catch on, and Yoshio Taniguchi's buildings: "He is our Mies van der Rohe." [images]- ArchNewsNow.com

Obituary by Kate Youde: Former Prince's Foundation chief Hank Dittmar, 62: Tributes have been paid to leading urbanist: During his time in charge between 2005 and 2013, he oversaw the development of its urban projects and education qualifications in areas including sustainability and heritage crafts...He was chairman of the Congress for the New Urbanism [CNU] between 2003 and 2008, and founding president and chief executive of Reconnecting America...-- Ben Bolgar/Prince's Foundation; Peter Murray/New London Architecture; Robert Adam/Adam Architecture; Lynn Richards/CNU- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Obituary by Paul Finch: Peter Davey's passing marks the end of a way of life: Finch reflects on the life and times of [the] former editor of The Architectural Review and one-time AJ features editor, who died, aged 78: Recollections of life with Peter at the old Architectural Press were a sharp reminder about how working practices in the world of journalism have changed...it is difficult to

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overestimate the contribution he made both to architectural journalism and the profession itself...he enjoyed being an anachronism...Peter was fundamentally decent: it was a life well-lived. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Clayton Moore: Architects around the globe are exploring "vertical land" to solve homelessness: ...employing a new concept described as "vertical space" that uses parasitic dwellings attached to existing buildings as a potential measure to ease homelessness: It's a controversial and drastic step towards attacking the homeless crises... -- Andreas Tjeldflaat/Framlab/"Homed"; Panoramic Interests/"Micropad"; James Furzer/Spatial Design Architects; James Law Cybertecture/OPod Tube Housing [images]- Digital Trends

Katherine Flynn: Open Source for Everyone? Proponents of open source architecture say it could solve the global housing crisis. The reality is a little more complicated: The WikiHouse concepts are being developed by more than 30 teams worldwide...But the supply chain technology available...has yet to catch up. -- Alejandro Aravena/Elemental; Matthew Claudel/Carlo Ratti/"Open Source Architecture"; Alastair Parvin/Nick Ierodiaconou/WikiHouse; John Bentley Mays- Architect Magazine

Michael G. Imber: Is Architecture Still Considered an Art? Imber considers the effects of digital renderings and algorithms against the time-honored traditional methods architects have employed for centuries: ...by drawing our environment we came to understand our world through an empirical process - through observation and experience...As we give ourselves over to the machines, can we continue to understand nature? Can we know history and culture, and can we really understand humanity through building? Is architecture still art?- Architectural Digest

Salone del Mobile launches manifesto calling on Milan to "up its game": ...calling for the city and the design industry to promote innovation and sustainability...encourage sharing of ideas, and champion the work of young designers...the event has faced some criticism in recent years, over both its organisation and its content...new manifesto targets these issues and more... Salone del Mobile, Milano, April 17-22- Dezeen

Branko Miletic: Top 10 architectural disasters of all time: Like any other profession, architects being human don't always get it right. Over the centuries and throughout the world, there are a number of examples of designs that didn't quite 'make the cut' as it were. [images]- Architecture & Design (Australia)

Call for entries: ARCHITECT's 12th Annual R+D Awards (international): honors the research and technologies that have advanced the profession at every scale; early bird deadline (save money!): April 13; regular deadline: April 20- Architect Magazine

Oliver Wainwright: From Trump to Brexit: how bad graphics triumphed over slick design: Forget flash campaigns. Political battles are now won with knocked-up placards, beer mats, hats and memes. And museums are scrambling to scoop them up: "Hope to Nope: Graphics and Politics 2008-18" takes in an illuminating

sample from the tidal wave of graphic ephemera...contrasting the slick output of commissioned campaigns with homemade memes and protesters' hastily daubed placards that fizz with visceral anger. It's a broad and provocative mix. Design Museum, London, thru August 12 [images]- Guardian (UK)

Oliver Wainwright: Junya Ishigami: 'I want to make the sky': The Japanese architect designs buildings that float or are almost invisible - but now his fairytale visions are becoming a reality: ...his poetic visions have often seemed too radical to be realised...So it comes as a surprise to learn that this structural alchemist and defier of physics is now erecting substantial structures around the world...as "Junya Ishigami, Freeing Architecture" at the Cartier Foundation in Paris [thru June 10] shows, they are buildings but not as we know them...the simplicity with which he explains his projects...belies the fiendish complexity behind the facade...[show] is a tranquilliser dart of pure poetry. [images]- Guardian (UK)

The Art Of Burning Man Looks Amazing Inside the Smithsonian: ...no dust goggles or potable water supply required..."No Spectators: The Art of Burning Man"...a collection of medium- and large-scale sculptures, rescued from the desert...Inside the 1859 building, the pieces take on an almost Rococo vibe, adding their trippy, futuristic detail to the grandiosity of the space. Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC, thru January 21, 2019- Fast Company / Co.Design

Naoya Hatakeyama: The Photographer and Architecture: Photography is a ship carrying light and space and heading toward the future: ...taking a photograph of architecture by using a camera is tantamount to placing a small architecture against another large architecture and having the small one swallow the larger one. (from "Naoya Hatakeyama: Excavating the Future City," book and exhibition at the Minneapolis Institute of Art thru July 22) [images]- Places Journal

"Lived Space: Humans and Architecture": photographs, paintings, and drawings that explore our psychological and physical attachments to the spaces we build and inhabit, at the deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum in Lincoln, Massachusetts, thru September 30 [images]- deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, Lincoln, MA

Aaron Betsky: The Pond as a Deadly Device and Other Architectural Terrors: Theo Deutinger draws the ways we kill, harm, and exclude - with beauty: "Handbook of Tyranny"...shows just how ingenious we have become at harming others through both architecture and its adjuncts...it is amazing how creative designers can be when they are trying to harm, contain, or keep out people. And Deutinger's graphic sensibility in presenting all of this is superb...Let's confront ourselves with [his] drawings, and then let's make sure...that what he draws becomes a historical record. [images]- Architect Magazine

Bryan Zepp Jamieson: In "The Sustainable City," Steven Cohen, eminently qualified to discuss such matters, clearly defines the direction in which we need to move...he ranges widely, searching for projects that have been successful in the past, explaining why they've worked, or sometimes, why they've failed...for anyone looking for a cleaner and most sustainable urban lifestyle, it is required reading.- The Electric Review

Think About Living In "The Sustainable City": Cities are where most of the people live, and they will have to pave the way...in demonstrating that people can live in harmony with the planet, putting back what we take from it. That's the view of Steven Cohen, who runs the Earth Institute at Columbia University. He fleshes his argument out in [his book], a glimpse of the urban systems of the future. Join us for a journey to a world not quite here yet. [podcast]- Jefferson Public Radio / Southern Oregon University / NPR / National Public Radio

Aaron Seward: City, City Everywhere: Lars Lerup's "The Continuous City" presents the Swedish-American designer and writer's latest thoughts on architecture, cities, and the people who inhabit them by way of 14 disparate but interconnected essays....His findings are as revelatory as they are perturbing. If humankind is to survive the era of global warming (the Anthropocene's most threatening result), there remains much more work to be done. - Texas Architect magazine (Texas Society of Architects)

The Climes They Are A' Changin': AN rounds up our favorite climate change books of 2018: "Toward an Urban Ecology" by Kate Orff; "Blue Dunes: Climate Change by Design" by Jesse Keenan & Claire Weisz; "Extreme Cities: The Peril and Promise of Urban Life in the Age of Climate Change" by Ashley Dawson; "Adaptive Ecologies/Correlated Systems of Living" by Theodore Spyropoulos, John Frazer & Patrik Schumacher; "Climates: Architecture and the Planetary Imaginary" by James Graham, Caitlin Blachfield, Alissa Anderson, Jordan Carver & Jacob Moore (The Avery Review); "BIG, HOT TO COLD: An Odyssey of Architectural Adaptation" by Bjarke Ingels; "New York 2140" by Kim Stanley Robinson- The Architect's Newspaper

Henry Grabar: Why Factories Aren't Tourist Attractions Anymore: For a long time, American factories were symbols of technology and modernity. They symbolize something very different now: Joshua Freeman's "Behemoth: A History of the Factory and the Making of the Modern World" is in part a story of factory tourists...and the displays that lured them...This relationship was predicated on a shared assumption that great factories represented the cutting edge of both technology and social relations...Freeman's immersive, trivia-packed history explains what happened...The factory no longer stands for modernity...The final product is the space itself. - Slate

John Hill: "Concrete Chicago Map" edited by Iker Gil: ...ideal for travelers less versed in its architectural wonders. But surprises there are...extends well beyond the academic bastions of concrete and those notable examples in around the Loop, and it shows how some great architecture is right around the corner from where we live or work - we just have to know where to look. [images]- A Daily Dose of Architecture

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Today's News - Tuesday, April 10, 2018

- [Betsky is](#) pleased that more and more architecture awards are going to projects that make a difference ("It's not enough to be pretty any more"), and cheers the four finalists vying for the MCHAP.emerge prize who "represent directions that architecture should be exploring - producing the kind of results of which we can only dream" (look to South and Central America).
- [Kimmelman](#) visits Forensic Architecture in London, which "acts more or less like a detective agency - its investigations [Grenfell Tower fire most recently] are whodunits" resulting in reports that have "annoyed," "frustrated," and "infuriated" politicians and officials around the world (all explored in "Counter Investigations" at the Institute of Contemporary Arts).
- [Kamin says](#) "its time to fly the 'W' - not for 'Win,' but for 'Warning,'" as a \$3 billion "high-stakes urban design drama plays out" around Wrigley Field: TODs "may sound good in theory," but can be used "as an pretext for bulked-up buildings that are oversized eyesores" that can erase the quirky, human-scaled charm" of neighborhoods.
- [Saffron](#) doesn't have high hopes for Philly's preservation reform effort as the task force seems to have "lost its way - unable to agree on the problem that they are supposed to fix" (and a "recent 'white paper' is as weak and colorless as the name suggests").
- [K. Jacobs](#) channels Don Quixote with a "crazy" idea for saving SOM's Union Carbide/270 Park Avenue: "Instead of agitating to prevent the destruction of one building, we should be fighting" to save that entire stretch of Park Ave.
- [Meanwhile](#), Halprin's 1983 "urban, indoor Garden of Eden" at the SOM-designed Wells Fargo Center in L.A., demolished last year "without announcement," will "now give way for a new kind of 'amenity-rich' Eden" with a \$60 million "amenity plaza" - designed by SOM.
- [Puay-peng](#) makes the case for saving Hong Kong's post-war buildings: "the lack of protection points to a gap in our conservation efforts that should be plugged before it's too late - an increasing number are facing a cull."
- [O'Connor](#) says "move over Gaudí" - and takes in Bofill's must-see's in "architecture-drenched" Barcelona: While "La Fabrica has the breathtaking charm of that perfect village church, Walden 7 knocks the wind out of you like a Gothic cathedral" (and other projects that encompass "ego and baroque planning" to a "deft and playful mind").
- [McNearney](#) considers whether prejudice killed Hadid's 1994 Cardiff Opera House: "Maybe her radical vision was a little daunting for the Welsh. But, really, the only explanation left for her horrendous treatment was prejudice. Many have noted her ethnicity and gender as playing a part in debacle that ensued - the rejection only added to her resolve."
- [Tom Jacobs](#) (of Krueck + Sexton), co-founder of Architects Advocate for Action on Climate Change, explains the group's new Catalytic Action Platform to "make it easy for both citizen architects and firms to act. The stakes couldn't be higher because we are on the shore of the climate Rubicon."
- [A \(great\)](#) look at "how floating architecture could help save cities from rising seas - rather than simply building higher seawalls to hold back floodwaters," many architects and urban planners "are turning to floating and amphibious architecture."

- [Garfield](#) takes a deep dive into BIG/ONE/Sherwood's plan for the San Francisco Bay Area that includes floating villages - and so much more - to help withstand flooding and rising sea levels.
- [Q&A](#) with Yan Chu of Adamson Associates re: how architects can design façades for the age of climate change, which "presents new challenges to building envelopes."
- [Zacks spent](#) some serious time in Moscow to report on the "harrowing, sometimes heroic process" of getting Zaryadye Park and other public spaces built where the term "free public space had almost no precedent in the language before a series of convergences brought" them "into being" (great read!).
- [Gallagher](#) reports on the team picked for Detroit's 22-acre West Riverfront Park: MVVA, Adjaye, et al. "aim to create a park that appeals to a diverse population, not just a lucky few - the goal is to create 'beauty without the tyranny of elitism.'"
- [Even though](#) the winner was named this morning, Mortice's parsing of the four finalists' plans for Detroit's West Riverfront Park is well worth checking out.
- [A look at](#) Sydney Park: "From a brickworks site and then a dump yard to the wetlands wonder it is today, its transformation is a case study worthy of emulation."
- [McNearney](#) brings us the fascinating tale of Franklin Webster Smith's "grandiose" (and "crazy") plan to redesign D.C.'s National Mall, a 62-acre National Gallery of History and Art: He staked his considerable fortune on it, "it would ultimately be his downfall. He died in 1911, 'living in poverty and obscurity in rural New Hampshire.'"



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[Aaron Betsky: Glittering Prizes for Sober Buildings: It's not enough to be pretty any more. Now you have to make a difference to get the top recognition in architecture: MCHAP.emerge \(Mies Crown Hall Americas Prize for emerging architecture\)...all four finalists represent directions that architecture should be exploring to their fullest potentials...We should look to South and Central America, where decades of tactical urbanism, innovative solutions for building with no money, and a concentration by some of the best architects on how they can make their environment and society better is producing the kind of results of which we can only dream. -- Alejandro Aravena; Balkrishna Doshi; EPArquitectos/Estudio Macías Peredo Arquitectos; David Benjamin/The Living; Aleph Zero/Rosenbaum; Rozana Montiel Estudio de Arquitectura \[images\]- Architect Magazine](#)

[Michael Kimmelman: Forensics Helps Widen Architecture's Mission: Instead of building a house or skyscraper, Forensic Architecture builds cases against human rights violators, scouring for evidence through social media: \[It\] acts more or less like a detective agency...its investigations are whodunits. Eyal Weizman...founder and resident Columbo...Its reports have annoyed...frustrated...and infuriated... -- Rafi Segal; "Counter Investigations: Forensic Architecture," Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, thru May 13 \[images\]- New York Times](#)

[Blair Kamin: Around Wrigley Field, a high-stakes urban design drama plays out as buildings fall and rise: It's a classic Chicago contrast of destruction and regeneration...in Cub terminology, its time to fly the "W" - not for "Win," but for "Warning"...developments...could fuel a new era of growth in already-vibrant Wrigleyville...Or they could scar \[its\] very heart...and erase its quirky, human-scaled charm...Transit-oriented development...may sound good in theory, but some developers use it as an pretext for bulked-up buildings that are oversized eyesores and dwarf their delicate-scaled neighborhoods. -- Stantec; Solomon](#)



Cordwell Buenz - Chicago Tribune

Inga Saffron: Philadelphia's preservation reform effort has lost its way: Of all the sleight-of-hand maneuvers available to modern politicians, nothing requires so little effort, or offers so much in return, as the task force...the group appears to be stuck in neutral...The divide between the ardent preservationists and the pro-development faction is so deep that the members have been unable to agree on the problem that they are supposed to fix...The result of the disarray can be seen in the...recent "white paper"...It is as weak and colorless as the name suggests. [images] - Philadelphia Inquirer

Karrie Jacobs: A Radical Proposal to Save Union Carbide: ...how we should fight JPMorgan Chase's impending demolition of this Natalie Griffin de Blois-designed skyscraper [270 Park Avenue]: To see this stretch of Park Avenue through the eyes of [Ada Louise Huxtable]...is to visit a version of the city that embodies the optimism and power of the emerging American culture in the postwar decades...I was struck by a crazy idea: Instead of agitating to prevent the destruction of one building...we should be fighting for all of them...maybe best way to counter the dumb mulishness of our current political leaders is with ideas that are big enough to be borderline crazy. -- Gordon Bunshaft; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Emery Roth & Sons; Hugh Stubbins; Justin Davidson; Alexandra Lange; Theodore Prudon/Docomomo; Charles Bagli; Robert A.M. Stern [images] - Architect Magazine

SOM to replace Lawrence Halprin's only atrium with \$60 million amenity plaza: ...new renderings for a forthcoming \$60 million renovation of...public plaza and atrium spaces located at the foot of the [SOM-designed] Wells Fargo Center towers in Downtown Los Angeles...Originally designed [in 1983] as an "urban, indoor Garden of Eden"...atrium space was demolished in late 2017 without announcement and will now give way for a new kind of "amenity-rich" Eden..."The entire Los Angeles Open Space Network is at the tipping point." -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Charles Birnbaum/The Cultural Landscape Foundation/TCLF [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Ho Puay-peng: Post-war buildings deserve a place in Hong Kong's architectural history: the lack of protection for the iconic Garden Company headquarters, and many other examples...points to a gap in our conservation efforts that should be plugged before it's too late: ...Antiquities and Monuments Office dismissed its architecture as functional, hence ordinary...Such misguided remarks...highlight systemic weaknesses in the protection of these precious buildings...an increasing number...are facing a cull. -- National University of Singapore Department of Architecture; Chu Pin [images] - South China Morning Post

William O'Connor: Move Over Gaudí: Inside Barcelona's Latest Architectural Must-See: ...two of starchitect Ricardo Bofill's works have become the architecture-drenched city's must-see spots: It would be hard to imagine that the ego and baroque planning of Abraxas could be the same deft and playful mind

behind La Muralla Roja...That willingness to leap from style to style can be seen in his two masterpieces - Walden 7 and La Fabrica...La Fabrica has the breathtaking charm of that perfect village church, Walden 7 knocks the wind out of you like a Gothic cathedral...Since the new millennium...his works have run the gamut from soaring glass and steel works...to fusions of his architectural evolution... [images]- The Daily Beast

Allison McNearney: Did Prejudice Kill This Zaha Hadid Opera House In Wales? In 1994, a still relatively unknown Hadid won a competition to design the new opera house in Cardiff, Wales. But despite coming in first, her design was rejected by locals: Over the course of her career, she fought for a place in an industry that was largely male and largely white, and also stretched the limits of architecture itself...Maybe her radical vision was a little daunting for the Welsh. But, really, the only explanation left for her horrendous treatment was prejudice. Many, including Hadid herself, have noted her ethnicity and gender as playing a part in debacle that ensued...the rejection only added to her resolve. - The Daily Beast

Tom Jacobs: How Architects Can Fight Climate Change During the Midterm Elections: Architects Advocate for Action on Climate Change, an activist network of architects focused on climate change, describes the new tools it's releasing: The stakes couldn't be higher because we are on the shore of the climate Rubicon...Architects...have a special responsibility - and opportunity - to help...introducing the Catalytic Action Platform to make it easy for both citizen architects and firms to act. - Metropolis Magazine

How floating architecture could help save cities from rising seas: Raftlike homes and buoyant buildings may be a fix for rising sea levels: ...rather than simply building higher seawalls to hold back floodwaters, many builders and urban planners are turning to floating and amphibious architecture - and finding ways to adapt buildings to this new reality..."an excellent adaptation strategy"... -- Elizabeth English/Buoyant Foundation Project; Baca Architects; Illya Azaroff/+LAB Architect; Koen Olthuis/Waterstudio; Barcode Architects; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Seasteading Institute [images]- NBC News

Leanna Garfield: Architects designed these floating villages that would withstand flooding in the San Francisco Bay Area: Instead of fighting the rising tides, a group of architects and urban designers...unveiled a regional design involving floating villages, an elevated park, tide barriers, a fast lane for buses, roads for autonomous electric vehicles, and more for the Bay Area. -- Rebuild By Design: Bay Area Challenge; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group/One Architecture + Urbanism/Sherwood Design Engineers (BIG/ONE/Sherwood Design Engineers) [images]- Business Insider

How can architects design facades for the age of climate change? ...rising tides, heat waves, extreme winds and other climate change-driven conditions present new challenges to building envelopes...AN sat down with Yan Chu of Adamson Associates Architects to discuss what can be done differently..."The passive house strategy is brilliant...a holistic way of thinking of design, and moving forward, it's the kind of mentality we need to adopt." - The Architect's Newspaper

Stephen Zacks: Soft Power in Moscow: An expansive park at the foot of the Kremlin helped drive a series of revolutionary improvements to the Russian

capital: Zaryadye Park is an entertaining landscape...a free public space - a term that Russian architects agree had almost no precedent in the language before a series of convergences brought the park into being...A harrowing, sometimes heroic process...The concept of public space...brought about a paradigm shift that delivered far more than a park...Zaryadye Park and the My Street program reveal a more nuanced view of the workings of Russian government at the level of the municipal bureaucracy. -- Anna Kamyshan/Project Meganom; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Mary Margaret Jones/Hargreaves Associates; Citymakers; Strelka Institute; Strelka KB; Wowhaus; Antoine Grumbach; Wilmotte & Associates; Sergey Kuznetsov/SPEECH; West 8; OKRA; Gillespies; Snøhetta; Djao-Rakutine; Buromoscow [images]- Landscape Architecture Magazine

John Gallagher: Design team picked for Detroit's 22-acre West Riverfront Park to start with a beach and a band shell: ...proposal is viewed as a starting point for further discussion, not a finished product...would reshape the site in significant ways...would aim to create a park that appeals to a diverse population...not just a lucky few...the goal...is to create "beauty without the tyranny of elitism"... "Building a park is the ultimate act of democracy." -- Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates; David Adjaye; PEA Inc.; NTH Consultants; Limnotech [images]- Detroit Free Press

Zach Mortice: Re-growing Detroit's Urban Edge: ...the future West Riverfront Park could become the city's new civic front yard. A design competition hosted by the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy has collected a short list of plans to fill this need...part of the...larger plan to rejuvenate 5.5 miles of the Detroit Riverfront. -- Gustafson Guthrie Nichol; James Corner Field Operations/nARCHITECTS/Detroit Collaborative Design Center; Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates/David Adjaye; Walter Hood/Hood Studio [images]- Landscape Architecture Magazine

Wasteland to wetland: The transformation of Sydney Park: From a brickworks site and then a dump yard to the wetlands wonder it is today, [its] transformation is a case study worthy of emulation: ...multi-award winning water reuse project...As part of rainwater harvesting, stormwater is captured and reused to top up the wetlands, irrigate the 44-hectare park and supply the neighbouring Council depot. -- Turf Design Studio and Environmental Partnership; Alluvium; Dragonfly Environmental; Turpin + Crawford Studio [images]- Architecture & Design (Australia)

Allison McNearney: Franklin Webster Smith Wanted to Redesign D.C.'s National Mall. It Ruined Him: [He] staked his fortune on the 62-acre plan he called the "National Gallery of History and Art"...New York Times labelled a "stupendous scheme." It would ultimately be his downfall...The plan was grandiose...[his] crazy plan wasn't widely derided as crazy; he had the support of business leaders and some politicians. But their interest wasn't strong enough to actually earn him a green light...He died in 1911, "living in poverty and obscurity in rural New Hampshire"... -- James Renwick [image]- The Daily Beast

ANN feature: Vladimir Belogolovsky: One-on-One: Architecture is an Endless Process for Learning: Interview with Fumihiko Maki: The multi-award-winning architect talks about why he avoids using exposed concrete outside of Japan, why the Metabolist movement didn't quite catch on, and Yoshio Taniguchi's buildings: "He is our Mies van der Rohe." [images]- ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Wednesday, April 11, 2018

- [Abousleiman](#) eloquently explains why the best response to tragedies like the Grenfell Tower fire shouldn't begin with a memorial: "Rather than investing money and time into a memorial, those resources can be put towards studying and prototyping social housing" - Newtown, Connecticut, following the Sandy Hook shooting, got it right.
- [On a more](#) glum (and incomprehensible) note: The "construction products approval body has defended its decision not to follow the example of its French equivalent and downgrade the fire performance of the cladding used on Grenfell Tower" (huh?!?!?).
- [UT Sydney's](#) Morris parses research into why, despite Sydney's "best intentions" to increase its affordable housing supply, it is a "mission nearly impossible - it is vital that the state and federal governments play a major role. Local governments cannot do it by themselves" (not only in Sydney).
- [Geographer](#) Bonnett explores some of the hidden spaces and overlooked zones of the modern city, from urban spikescapes (started as an art installation) to guerrilla gardening, and "why these odd little places have come to feel so important."
- [Moore cheers](#) London's Centre Point and the Hoover building, once "deplored" by Pevsner, being transformed "from beasts to beauties," after being "spun around in the great washing machine of taste."
- [Veteran](#) New Yorker Libeskind (finally!) gets to actually build a project in his home town: affordable housing for seniors - the "design is a definite break from the boxy brick buildings" used for the building type - "twisting and cutting away at the typical rectangular form to create an almost crystalline structure" ("crystalline structure" - where have we heard that before?).
- [Weder cheers](#) KPMB /HCMA's Ponderosa Commons complex for the University of British Columbia, "an ambitious mixed-use project" that "creates a microcosm of urbanism," and is "a test case for the myths and realities about creating a vibrant community" (though "the landscaping underwhelms").
- [Denmark's](#) Dissing+Weitling heads to China to design "Xiamen Footpaths" - seven bridges and about 12 miles of footpaths to carry cyclists and pedestrians "across the city and away from car traffic."
- [Willis wades](#) into how "acoustics can make the difference between a good building and a bad one. Contemporary architects are fond of everything acoustic engineers despise [including "the Gandalf of acoustic engineering"]. The challenge is to dampen sound without ruining style" (with a dab of interesting history, too).
- [While SOM](#) may be demolishing Halprin's L.A. atrium, his 1976 highway-capping Freeway Park in Seattle is heading towards a "preservation-minded renovation."
- [Vitullo-Martin](#) offers a look at Saarinen's 1960 U.S. Embassy in London, soon to be a hotel, and its journey "from promising symbol of a cooperative future in the Kennedy-Macmillan era to an often unloved, heavily armed citadel of iron and concrete barriers" - Goldberger thinks its not such a bad idea (not mentioned: David Chipperfield is designing the hotel).
- [Eyefuls](#) of the six winners of the 2018 AIA/ALA Library Building Awards (great presentation).
- [A good reason](#) to head to Saint Paul, Minnesota next week: Society of Architectural Historians 71st Annual International Conference kicks off Wednesday (hopefully no blizzards on the horizon!).

- [One we couldn't](#) resist: A most amusing catty e-mail spat between Chicago and Houston columnists re: Kapoor's newly-installed "Cloud Column" outside Houston's new Glassell School of Art building: "Dear Chicago: Houston's bean is better. Dear Houston: "It's a leftover bean, a second-rate bean. Your bean is inferior."



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Rima Abousleiman: Why the Best Response to the Grenfell Tower Fire Isn't a Memorial: ...what if memorials sought to preserve the memory of those affected by offering a solution that addressed how the tragedy occurred...not just a plaque...Rather than investing money and time into a memorial, those resources can be put towards studying and prototyping social housing...where tragedy unfolds around us in a constant series of news cycles, we cannot succumb by simply building memorials...We must build better societies. Safe buildings - for students and residents, for people - aren't optional. -- Svigals + Partners- Common Edge

Approval body defends decision not to downgrade Grenfell cladding: BBA says it was given no reason to alter fire rating - unlike its French counterpart: Construction products approval body has defended its decision not to follow the example of its French equivalent and downgrade the fire performance of the cladding used on Grenfell Tower...had the French ratings been used in the UK, the cladding would not have been allowed. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Alan Morris: Mission nearly impossible: the City of Sydney's efforts to increase the affordable housing supply: Our research includes in-depth analysis of the experiences of local governments...Despite the city council's best intentions...housing stock has hardly grown over the last decade. The social housing stock has increased from 9,397 in 2007 to 9,561 dwellings in June 2017. Affordable rental housing has gone from 447 to 835 dwellings...it is vital that the state and federal governments play a major role. Local governments...cannot do it by themselves. -- University of Technology Sydney- The Conversation (Australia)

Alastair Bonnett: Beyond the Map: Spikescapes and Wild Strawberries: The maps of human and physical geography can seem overwhelming...That's why we need to attend to the hidden places, like the overlooked zone of anti-pedestrian cobbles...And why odd little places...have come to feel so important...it's the modern city... -- Steven Flusty/"Building Paranoia" [adapted from "Beyond the Map: Unruly Enclaves, Ghostly Places, Emerging Lands and Our Search for New Utopias"]- Places Journal

Rowan Moore: Centre Point and the Hoover building - from beasts to beauties: Denounced as vulgar when they were built, these newly desirable London landmarks have been reborn as luxury flats boasting distinctive dimensions as well as chequered pasts: These two white edifices, the temple and the tower, have something in common. Both were deplored by Nikolaus Pevsner...Spun around in the great washing machine of taste, both are now listed as buildings of architectural interest. -- Richard Seifert; George Marsh; Wilem Frischmann (1966); Conran and Partners; MICA Architects; Wallis Gilbert and Partners (1933); Interrobang [images]- Observer (UK)

Studio Libeskind's first New York City building: ...geometric Sumner Houses Senior Building, set to rise in Bed-Stuy [Bedford-Stuyvesant], Brooklyn...part of



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the broader Housing New York 2.0's "Seniors First" program...The 10-story, 129,928-square-foot apartment building will hold 197 permanently affordable units...design is a definite break from the boxy brick buildings commonly seen in affordable housing...twisting and cutting away at the typical rectangular form to create an almost crystalline structure. [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Adele Weder: Big Pond: An ambitious mixed-use project creates a microcosm of urbanism within a sprawling campus: The University of British Columbia's new Ponderosa Commons complex - designed for teaching, research, art-making, lounging, eating, living and sleeping - is conceived as something of a full-service community. The multi-phase project...is in many ways a test case for the myths and realities about creating a vibrant community...a varied massing that evokes the jogged silhouette of an organically evolved cityscape. -- Shirley Blumberg/KPMB Architects; Karen Marler/HCMA Architecture + Design; Hapa Collaborative [images]- Canadian Architect

Danish architects designing Chinese experience: Dissing+Weitling, known in Denmark for designing the Great Belt Connection and the Cykelslangen cycling bridge in Copenhagen, will design seven bridges and 20 km worth of footpaths ["Xiamen Footpaths"] that will lead cyclists and pedestrians across the city and away from car traffic. - The Copenhagen Post (Denmark)

Simon Willis: The wall of sound: Acoustics can make the difference between a good building and a bad one...the architects and engineers finding new ways to control the cacophony...the science of architectural acoustics...was invented in 1895 by a young Harvard physicist...Wallace Sabine...Contemporary architects are fond of everything acoustic engineers despise...The challenge is to dampen sound without ruining style. -- Brad Cloepfil/Allied Works Architecture; Jaffe Holden; John Meyer; Kvadrat [images]- The Economist / 1843 (UK)

Preservation-minded renovation of Lawrence Halprin's Freeway Park moves forward: Even as SOM bulldozes [his] Los Angeles atrium...officials 1,000 miles to the north are gearing up to preserve [the] landscape architect's highway-capping park in Seattle. Designed by Halprin and Angela Danadjieva and built in 1976, the Brutalist park had fallen into severe disrepair... -- The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF); SiteWorkshop Landscape Architects- The Architect's Newspaper

Julia Vitullo-Martin: A Look at Saarinen's Modernist U.S. Embassy in London, Now Becoming a Hotel: ...opened in 1960 at a high point in US-Anglo relations...journeyed from promising symbol of a cooperative future in the Kennedy-Macmillan era to an often unloved, heavily armed citadel of iron and concrete barriers after 9/11...Paul Goldberger commented: ..."of all the things that could have happened to the building, a hotel is not so bad, and may end up being more open to the public than the embassy had been in its last few years." [images] - Untapped Cities

The Six Winners of the 2018 AIA/ALA Library Building Awards: ...winners located in Oklahoma, Texas, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Maryland, and California. -- American Library Association; Lake|Flato|Shepley Bulfinch; Oudens Ello Architecture; The Clark Enersen Partners; Grimm+Parker Architects; Koning Eizenberg Architecture; MSR Design [images] - Architect Magazine

Society of Architectural Historians 71st Annual International Conference, April 18–22, Saint Paul, Minnesota: Architectural historians, art historians, architects, museum professionals, and preservationists from around the world will convene to present new research on the history of the built environment and explore the architecture of the Twin Cities. - Society of Architectural Historians (SAH)

Dear Chicago: Houston's bean is better. And so is Houston: An email fight between Chicago Tribune columnist Kim Janssen and the Houston Chronicle's Lisa Gray: Dear Kim: ...you wrote a column with the headline "Unoriginal Houston gets its own bean sculpture ... whatever." You grumbled that...Anish Kapoor's "Cloud Column" is basically a rip-off of Chicago's "Cloud Gate," better known as "The Bean"...Is Chicago feeling defensive? To: Lisa Gray: It's a leftover bean, a second-rate bean...Your bean is inferior. - Houston Chronicle

ANN feature: Vladimir Belogolovsky: One-on-One: Architecture is an Endless Process for Learning: Interview with Fumihiko Maki: The multi-award-winning architect talks about why he avoids using exposed concrete outside of Japan, why the Metabolist movement didn't quite catch on, and Yoshio Taniguchi's buildings: "He is our Mies van der Rohe." [images] - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Thursday, April 12, 2018

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, April 17.

- [Menking](#) raises some serious issues about QS's world ranking of architecture schools that is "is so myopically concerned with academic citations as to be nearly worthless as a guide for what comprises quality architecture education in all its 21st-century variety and subtlety" (Yale's architecture school "ranked a lowly 100th in the world behind the University of Kebangsaan in Malaysia").
- [Hume minces](#) no words re: his concerns about the future of Toronto's infrastructure, seeing it cling to its "old auto-dependent ways - the expenditure of public money is always political, but that doesn't justify or excuse the hubris - not to mention the stupidity - of squandering billions doing the wrong thing for the wrong reason."
- [DnA's Anderton](#), Artsy, and Hamel offer "Bridges and Walls: The Complete Set," their 8-part series that explores "the human and environmental impacts of connection and division" in the age of Trump (definitely worth bookmarking and listening to! If you're in L.A. tonight, they're hosting a (free) celebration of the series' conclusion at the Helms Bakery Design Center).
- [London-based](#) architect Tszwai So wins the competition to design a memorial to victims of totalitarianism in Brussels with "Echoes of the Past," which will include heartrending "large-scale letters from victims and their relatives" set into a plaza (three top designs will be on view at the European Parliament starting April 24).
- [Eyefuls](#) of "Miami's crazy Museum Garage" and its "animated, wildly varied façades" by WORKac, J. Mayer H., Clavel Arquitectos, Nicolas Buffe, and Keenan/Riley (wild, indeed!).
- [Jeffries](#) has a fascinating conversation with Christo re: his (huge!) 7,506-oil barrel "The Mastaba" soon to float on the Serpentine Lake in London's Hyde Park - "but can I still swim in the Serpentine? 'Of course!'" (his first London sort-of project: he wrapped a naked journalist - who knew?!?!?).

Deadlines:

- [Call for](#) entries/RFQ: 3-stage Detroit Institute of Arts/DIA Public Plaza + Midtown Cultural Connections Design Competition.
- [Call for](#) entries: World Monuments Fund/WMF/Knoll Modernism Prize Nominations: 10th anniversary of the biennial award recognizing extraordinary modern architecture preservation.
- [Apply to](#) be the new director of NYC's Storefront for Art and Architecture (Eva Franch i Gilabert, "Storefront's inimitable curator and director," is heading to London's AA - our loss!).

Weekend diversions:

- [Rybczynski](#) cheers Chow's documentary "Face of a Nation," a film about world's fairs "that uncovers why American pavilions of late have been a national embarrassment" of "uninspired architecture and mediocre exhibits."

- [Greg Durrell's](#) crowd-sourced "Design Canada," which profiles how "Canada's design movement, born in the mid-20th century, helped transform the country from vast wild outpost to a thriving, unified nation," will premiere in June - but the trailer is ready now!
- [14 must-see](#) exhibitions and installations at Milan design week, April 17-22.
- [Top picks](#) to see at the Australian Heritage Festival, a celebration of Australia's built and cultural heritage that kicks off April 18, include the opening keynote by Farrelly (whose mindful musings we've missed!).
- [The Utzon](#) Center in Aalborg, Denmark, kicks off "Utzon100," a year-long celebration of the architect's centenary with exhibitions and events around the world.
- [Dezeen collaborated](#) with the Utzon Center in a round-up of 10 of Utzon's most important projects.
- ["Evicted"](#) at the National Building Museum in Washington, DC, is an immersive exhibition about "the causes and fallout of eviction" that also highlights affordable housing projects - the NBM "wants to empower patrons to leave with ideas on how to help those on the precipice in their own neighborhoods."
- [Campbell-Dollaghan](#) talks to over,under's Chris Grimley re: his "Brutal Destruction," which opens tonight at Boston's pinkcomma gallery: the "stark photos of important architecture as it's being razed - grisly yet beautiful portraits of buildings with one foot in the metaphorical grave."
- [Lloyd parses](#) the Sainsbury Centre's "Superstructures: The New Architecture 1960-1990," a "thorough (and thoroughly enjoyable) exhibition prompts one central question: how is it that a group of architects from Britain - a country often cast as an architectural backwater - came to rule the world?"
- ["The Senses: Design Beyond Vision"](#) at NYC's Cooper Hewitt offers "multisensory experiences from some of the world's most creative thinkers - an inclusive celebration of the sensory richness of design."

Page-turners:

- [Collie explains](#) why it's time to revisit to Ruth and Maurie Crow (Australia's own Jane Jacobs), and their 1969-72, three-volume "Plan for Melbourne" that "provides a counterbalance to evaluate the motivations for the transformations of our cities today," and "warned 50 years ago that, without a clear justice intent driving metropolitan development, we risk looking back with regret."
- [Romeo interviews](#) photographer Katsiaris re: her cover and other shots found in "Dream of Venice in Black and White" (luscious photos!).



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[William Menking: How should we really rank architecture schools? What are we to make of a recent survey that claims MIT, the Bartlett, and Delft University of Technology are the best architecture schools in the world? ...Yale University came in 16th in the QS world ranking of universities, but its architecture school ranked a lowly 100th in the world behind the University of Kebangsaan in Malaysia...Sorry, MIT, but this QS ranking is so myopically concerned with academic citations as to be nearly worthless as a guide for what comprises quality architecture education in all its 21st-century variety and subtlety. -- Quacquarelli Symonds - The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Christopher Hume: Concerns About Toronto's Infrastructure Grow, Plans To Fix It Seem To Shrink: ...we are uncertain whether spending on the infrastructure should be used as an opportunity to prepare the city for the future or bolster decisions of the past...we have opted emphatically for the latter...In a more heroic age...infrastructure was a source of civic pride...But before long new attitudes prevailed...Instead of...installing 21st-century infrastructure...we stick with old auto-dependent ways...the expenditure of public money is always](#)

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political, but that doesn't justify or excuse the hubris - not to mention the stupidity - of squandering billions doing the wrong thing for the wrong reason. - Toronto Storeys

DnA/Frances Anderton & Avishay Artsy & Jenny Hamel: Bridges and Walls: The Complete Set: In response to candidate Donald Trump's focus on the border wall, DnA launched a series of eight reports that explored the human and environmental impacts of connection and division in California. - KCRW (Los Angeles)

London architect wins Brussels memorial competition: Spheron Architects director Tszwai So picked for monument to victims of totalitarianism... "Echoes of the Past" ...features large-scale letters from victims and their relatives arranged around a central installation naming places of punishment, such as gulags... The three top designs are due to be displayed in an exhibition at the European Parliament from April 24. [images] - BD/Building Design (UK)

Artsy Parksy: Miami's crazy Museum Garage is finally complete and set to open: ...animated, wildly varied facades are designed by five architecture and design firms: WORKac, J. Mayer H., Clavel Arquitectos, Nicolas Buffe and Keenan/Riley...each firm designed an individual and radically different facade as disparate and unconnected pieces, creating a multifaceted tapestry for the utilitarian structure. Emphasizing the cultural purposes of Museum Garage and the Miami Design District as a whole, each facade is titled as a standalone curatorial work. [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Stuart Jeffries: He has wrapped the Reichstag - now Christo is heading to the UK with 7,506 barrels: Christo and Jeanne-Claude...became famous for their extraordinary sculptures...Now he's coming to Britain, what surprises can we expect? Is it an allegory of the west's oil dependency, an indictment of how we're polluting the planet, or both? As well as being 20 metres tall, "The Mastaba" will be 30 metres wide and 40 metres long...but can I still swim in the Serpentine? "Of course!"... "Christo and Jeanne-Claude" at the Serpentine Gallery, London, June 19 - September 9. The London Mastaba will be completed by June. - Guardian (UK)

Call for entries: Request for Qualifications/RFQ: Detroit Institute of Arts/DIA Public Plaza + Midtown Cultural Connections Design Competition (international): 3-stage competition to create a strong and innovative design vision that reimagines the DIA's grounds, making them highly visible, welcoming, flexible and functional; RFQ deadline: April 30 (deadline for questions: April 16) - Detroit Institute of Arts / Midtown Detroit, Inc.

Call for entries: WMF/Knoll Modernism Prize Nominations Open: biennial award recognizes extraordinary modern architecture preservation; Prize: \$10,000 + Knoll Barcelona chair + travel expenses to attend the December 4 award ceremony at MoMA, New York City; deadline: June 15 - World Monuments Fund/WMF

Who will replace Eva? Storefront for Art and Architecture seeks new director: Eva Franch i Gilabert, Storefront's inimitable curator and director, is leaving New York for London to lead the Architectural Association (AA); application deadline: May 4 - The Architect's Newspaper

Witold Rybczynski: What Happened to the World's Fair? ..."Face of a Nation," a film that uncovers why American pavilions of late have been a national embarrassment...It's been 50 years since Montreal's Expo...world's fairs have lost their luster - at least in the United States...What happened? The answer is the subject of Mina Chow's documentary...In short, U.S. world's fair pavilions were outsourced...[film] convincingly demonstrates that the result of this shortsighted decision has been...uninspired architecture and mediocre exhibits...The unanswered question that hangs over [the film] is: Do we really need world's fairs anymore? - Architect Magazine

First Look At The Documentary On Canada's Unsung Design: Canada's design movement, born in the mid-20th century, helped transform the country from vast wild outpost to a thriving, unified nation..."Design Canada" is about just that transformation...filmmaker Greg Durrell has released the first trailer in anticipation of the film's inaugural tour...will premiere this June in Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver...screenings in the U.S. and Europe will be announced soon....will have a global digital release this September. [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

14 must-see exhibitions and installations at Milan design week, April 17-22: ...the best shows to visit, from a decked-out American diner to a celebration of vegan design...As well as...the annual Salone del Mobile furniture fair... [images]- Dezeen

Australian Heritage Festival: The National Trust's festival, which celebrates Australia's built and cultural heritage across hundreds of events in every state and territory, kicks off April 18...The start of the festival will be marked by a keynote speech from Elizabeth Farrelly in Sydney...While dozens of architecture-flavoured events will take place over the course of the festival, we've assembled a few of our top picks. - ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Utzon100: It all began in Aalborg in 1918. In 2018 Jørn Utzon would have turned 100 years old...Join us in celebrating the most important Danish architect with exhibitions and events in Aalborg; Copenhagen; Brussels; Salone del Mobile.Milano, April 17-22; New York City Symposium, April 26; Venice Biennale, May 24-25; London Design Festival, September; Sydney, October; etc. - Utzon Center (Aalborg, Denmark)

10 key projects by Sydney Opera House architect Jørn Utzon: To celebrate what would have been the 100th birthday of Danish architect, we've collaborated with the Utzon Center in Denmark to highlight 10 of his most important projects... [images]- Dezeen

Eviction is the subject of the National Building Museum's immersive spring show: Inspired by Matthew Desmond's Pulitzer Prize-winning "Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City," the NBM in Washington, D.C...hosting "Evicted," an immersive exhibition meant to expose visitors to the causes and fallout of eviction...Far from simply presenting the problem of eviction in a void...will highlight affordable housing projects and how local and state governments - as well as nonprofits - are tackling the issue...NBM wants to empower patrons to leave with ideas on how to help those on the precipice... thru May 19, 2019 [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Kelsey Campbell-Dollaghan: The Strange Beauty Of Brutalist Architecture, Mid-Demolition: A new exhibition collects stark photos of important architecture as it's being razed - a phenomenon that's as wasteful as it is heartbreaking.: "Brutal Destruction" at Boston's pinkcomma gallery...Curated by the architect Chris Grimley...features mid-20th-century architecture as it's being demolished - grisly yet beautiful portraits of buildings with one foot in the metaphorical grave...."to take them down, without thinking of their potential for reinvention or renewal, is a nearsighted act." thru May 3 -- over,under; Rami el Samahy; Mark Pasnik; Michael Kubo [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

Joe Lloyd: How British architects conquered the world: A new exhibition examines how the "high-tech" style of Norman Foster and Richard Rogers became so dominant: Sainsbury Centre is hosting "Superstructures: The New Architecture 1960-1990," a thorough (and thoroughly enjoyable) exhibition...prompts one central question: how is it that a group of architects from Britain - a country often cast as an architectural backwater - came to rule the world? The answer is that they synthesised...the technological architecture of people like Jean Prouvé...the optimistic derring-do of the space age; and a British tradition of inventive engineering. thru September 2 -- Foster + Partners; Nicholas Grimshaw; Michael and Patty Hopkins [images]- The Economist / 1843 (UK)

"The Senses: Design Beyond Vision": Explore experimental works and practical solutions designed to inspire wonder and new ways of accessing our world...multisensory experiences from some of the world's most creative thinkers...With over 65 design projects and more than 40 objects and installations to touch, hear, and smell...an inclusive celebration of the sensory richness of design. Cooper Hewitt, NYC, thru October 28- Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum (NYC)

Claire Collie: There's more to the compact city than getting dense: Ruth and Maurie Crow were early champions of functional mix and compact urban development...In their three-volume "Plan for Melbourne," published from 1969-72, they argued for compact urban development driven by spatial justice ambitions. Revisiting their work provides a counterbalance to evaluate the motivations for the transformations of our cities today...a prescient awareness of the need to design cities to maximise access and interaction...to create an inclusive, accessible and convivial city...warned 50 years ago that, without a clear justice intent driving metropolitan development, we risked looking back with regret- The Conversation (Australia)

Why photograph Venice in Black and White? Stripped off of any vulgarity or distracting details, Venice is portrayed as a powerful icon of the harmonious dialogue between architecture, design and nature...Readers...will be left wondering which way they can bear respect to this beauty, without violating it any further. Sometimes small steps can do a lot and this book ["Dream of Venice in Black and White"] is one of them...Luisella Romeo interviews Lisa Katsiaris about photographing Venice and her cover photograph for the new book. -- JoAnn Locktov [images]- ArtTrav

ANN feature: Vladimir Belogolovsky: One-on-One: Architecture is an Endless Process for Learning: Interview with Fumihiko Maki: The multi-award-winning architect talks about why he avoids using exposed concrete outside of Japan,

[why the Metabolist movement didn't quite catch on, and Yoshio Taniguchi's buildings: "He is our Mies van der Rohe." \[images\]](#)- ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Tuesday, April 17, 2018

- [Volner takes](#) a deep (and fascinating!) dive into the U.S./Mexico "ongoing cross-border pollination in architecture - since the 2016 election, architectural offices on both sides of the border have found themselves in a strange new climate," but "ideas continue to flow freely across the border despite the bellicose rhetoric surrounding the immigration debate."
- [Princeton](#) art history professor Okeke-Agulu explains why Ghana deserves Adjaye's "awesome cathedral," and why, though the issues they raise are right, the naysayers are wrong: "Africa has to aim beyond basic needs" - this project "will inspire ambitious civic architecture projects across the continent."
- [Campbell](#) Gallagher continues to raise the alarm about proposed Paris skyscrapers "threatening the beauty of the City of Light. Today's feverish, high-pressure, campaign for skyscrapers looks more like power politics than like thoughtful policy. But excellent, indeed, conclusive, counter-arguments exist."
- [Sneider](#) delves into how the "winds have begun to change" when it comes to Moscow's modernist buildings, denounced by Stalin as "a failed experiment," and then neglected - but "now being restored by a new generation of architects" that is "helping to shift perceptions" (though many such treasures "still face dilapidation and destruction").
- [Kershner](#) digs into the saga of how Israel's National Memorial Hall for fallen soldiers came about: It is "the product of decades of political wrangling, emotional strife and procrastination," where "commemoration has been pared down to bare essentials" with a "minimalist design" that "sidesteps internal conflicts over what should be memorialized."
- [Davidson](#) cheers "a much more promising attempt to fix the Frick," with a new plan by Selldorf that "finds space within, below, and above" by "unearthing unsuspected space that's been there all along" - the "future Frick emerges organically from the architecture like new growth on an old tree."
- [Kamin cheers](#) "a water-filled vision" for Chicago's Jackson Park - "even though it won't solve the most nettlesome issues associated with the proposed Obama Presidential Center, it's worth stepping back to glimpse the bigger picture: Water is back on the design agenda - and in a smart way."
- [Speaking](#) of green on a different scale, Lau parses Bruner/Cott's mass-timber Kern Center at Hampshire College that is now the largest higher education project to be certified as a Living Building by the International Living Future Institute, joining an "elite group of 17 projects (and one park) that have earned what is arguably the most rigorous green-building certification."

The profession evolves (we hope!):

- [AIA and](#) the University of Minnesota partner to develop "Guides for Equitable Practice" that "will provide architects and firms with guidance on best practices in equity, diversity, and inclusion principles," and "include attention to professional ethics and sexual harassment."
- [Arizona](#) State University architecture juniors establish the Student Organization of Women Architects and Allied Arts that "seeks to represent the often-underrepresented female minority in the field of architecture. The girls plan to mold SOWA+ into a platform to connect students with professionals" ("The girls"?!?!?).

- [One more](#) thing to add to your Venice Biennale dance card: Sexual harassment experiences highlighted in "Just so f***ing beautiful," an Australian exhibit at a satellite show organized by the European Cultural Centre.

- [Morais talks](#) to Alda Ly about what a workspace designed for women looks like "at a moment when more buildings are being reconfigured and reapportioned to take women into account" - not just "man-cavey environments" (the "underside of gender-specific spaces": NYC is investigating the women's club The Wing for possible discrimination).

- [Bernard](#) looks into a very gender-specific space in the work environment: lactation rooms that "can also double as wellness rooms that are available to all employees": San Francisco now requires such spaces, and provides technical specs and design recommendations - a "model for future code amendments."

Winners all:

- [The 2018](#) AIA Education Facility Design Award winners are "vibrant examples of contemporary educational architecture" (great presentation!).

- [The Arch](#) League/Socrates Sculpture Park Folly/Function 2018 winner is "RRRolling Stones," HANNAH's "playful, movable outdoor seating made from 3D-printed concrete" (very cool!).

Three we couldn't resist:

- [Premiering](#) tonight: PBS's 9-part CIVILIZATIONS "reveals the role art and the creative imagination have played across multiple cultures and civilizations" (not specifically architecturally-focused, but sounds fab!).

- [Absolutely](#) stunning aerial images "showing the vast diversity of landscapes across China."

- [Absolutely](#) "weird and wonderful" images of 7 iconic buildings reimaged in 7 architectural styles: Sydney Opera House - Tudor style; Fallingwater - Classical style; Buckingham Palace - Bauhaus style (you get the picture).



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Ian Volner: Regardless of Trump's wall talk, the border's always been blurry to these architects: ...given the close physical quarters of Mexico and the United States, it seems only natural that the two would cross-pollinate architecturally...But since the 2016 election, architectural offices on both sides of the border...have found themselves in a strange new climate...As applied to architecture, the concept of transnationality can take many forms...ideas continue to flow freely across the border despite the bellicose rhetoric surrounding the immigration debate. -- Estudio Teddy Cruz + Fonna Forman; Henry Muñoz/Muñoz and Co.; Alfonso Medina/T38 Studio; Frida Escobedo; Andrea Steele/TEN Arquitectos; Fernando Romero/FR-EE [images] - Washington Post Magazine

Chika Okeke-Agulu: Ghana Deserves This Cathedral. Don't Fight It: National Cathedral of Ghana...government will build in Accra...will inspire ambitious civic architecture projects across the continent...Not everyone is cheering...Some have complained that the mixing of church and state is ill advised...Others say the money...should [be] invested in schools, hospitals and infrastructure...They are right to point to these endemic problems; but they are wrong to connect them with the cathedral...Africa has to aim beyond basic needs...Adjaye belongs to a generation of African architects...[whose] works will be seen around the world as among the great structures of our era. We need more architects like them and far more projects like Adjaye's awesome cathedral. -- David Adjaye; Diébédo Francis Kéré; Kunlé Adeyemi; Mphethi Morojele; Mokena Makeka - New



York Times

Mary Campbell Gallagher: Stop Skyscrapers in Paris: Skyscrapers are threatening the beauty of the City of Light: ...political pressure is gutting the law...Residents feel powerless. And the world does not know...City Hall, developers and star architects say that Paris needs skyscrapers to be modern, by which they seem to mean, more like Dubai...Today's feverish, high-pressure, campaign for skyscrapers...looks more like power politics than like thoughtful policy...But excellent, indeed, conclusive, counter-arguments exist. -- SOS Paris; International Coalition for the Preservation of Paris/ICPP; Renzo Piano; SANAA [illustrations by Liana Finck]- Traditional Building magazine

Noah Sneider: Reconstructivism: Moscow's modernist buildings were denounced by Stalin and then neglected. But they are now being restored by a new generation of architects with a different view of history: exemplified this radical reimagining of domestic space...Narkomfin's [1928] influence was international...Stalin's reign...recast [it] as a failed experiment...Activists and preservationists...helping to shift perceptions. For a new post-Soviet generation, constructivism looks less like a failed experiment than a potential point of pride...Melnikov House...is on the road to a restoration...city authorities have also begun to embrace the avant-garde...Tagansky Telephone Station and the Shukhov Radio tower still face dilapidation and destruction. -- Moisei Ginzburg/Organisation of Contemporary Architects; Alexei Ginzburg; Konstantin Melnikov (1920s); Natalia Melikova/Constructivist Project [images]- The Economist / 1843 (UK)

Isabel Kershner: In Memorial to War Dead, Israel Avoids Addressing Its Conflicts: The product of decades of political wrangling, emotional strife and procrastination, the [National Memorial Hall for fallen soldiers] reveals little about Israel's wars with its external enemies. Instead, its minimalist design sidesteps internal conflicts over what should be memorialized...Lacking a consensus around a single national narrative, commemoration has been pared down to bare essentials...Israelis cannot even agree on what to call some hostilities... -- Michal Kimmel-Eshkolot/Kimmel Eshkolot Architects; Etan Kimmel [images]- New York Times

Justin Davidson: This Time, a Much More Promising Attempt to Fix the Frick: It's gratifying to see the Frick wind up where it should have been all along...The new plan preserves - or rather rips out and then rebuilds - Russell Page's gated oblong of look-but-don't-touch landscape intervention...finds space within, below, and above...unearthing unsuspected space that's been there all along...future Frick skirts the garden, respects the skyline, and emerges

organically from the architecture like new growth on an old tree. -- Thomas Hasting (1914); John Russell Pope (1935); Davis Brody Bond (2011); Annabelle Selldorf/Selldorf Architects [images]- New York Magazine

Blair Kamin: Look beyond the Obama center plans - here's a water-filled vision for Jackson Park

South Lakefront Framework Plan...seeks to restore water's prime place in Jackson Park...That's good news, even though it won't solve the most nettlesome issues associated with the proposed Obama Presidential Center...it's worth stepping back from the battles over the Obama center to glimpse the bigger picture: Water is back on the design agenda - and in a smart way - in Jackson Park. -- Frederick Law Olmsted/Calvert Vaux (1871); SmithGroupJJR [image]- Chicago Tribune

Wanda Lau: Hampshire College's R.W. Kern Center [in Amherst, Mass.] Is a Living Building: Designed by Bruner/Cott & Associates, [it] is the largest higher education project to earn the green certification: ...has become certified as a Living Building by the International Living Future Institute (ILFI). Among the elite group of 17 projects (and one park) that have earned what is arguably the most rigorous green-building certification...the mass-timber building...must document one year's worth of post-occupancy performance data to prove they are in fact net-zero water...energy [and] waste...also won a 2017 AIA COTE Top Ten Award... [images]- Architect Magazine

AIA and the University of Minnesota partner to develop "Guides for Equitable Practice": Recommendation from the AIA Equity in Architecture Commission report: ...will provide architects and firms with guidance on best practices in equity, diversity, and inclusion principles...will address such issues as career progression, work culture, leadership development, pay equity, talent recruitment and more...Topics under work culture include attention to...professional ethics and sexual harassment. - American Institute of Architects

Introducing the Student Organization of Women Architects and Allied Arts: SOWA+, created by architecture juniors [at ASU], seeks to inspire and advance women in design: The club seeks to represent the often-underrepresented female minority in the field of architecture...The girls plan to mold SOWA+ into a platform to connect students with professionals...Despite the closing gender gap in architecture school, there remains a significant disparity in the number of women that move on to become licensed architects. -- Ali Patrick; Nenwe Geeso; Cecile Kim - The State Press (Arizona State University)

Sexual harassment experiences highlighted in Australian exhibit at Venice Biennale satellite show: ...forms part of "Time - Space - Existence"... organized by the European Cultural Centre..."Just so f***ing beautiful"...is based on XYX Lab's ongoing research work with CrowdSpot, a community-based digital mapping tool, and children's rights organization Plan International. -- Monash University Art Design and Architecture's (MADA); Nicole Kalms/XYX Lab; Gene Bawden - ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Betsy Morais: What Does a Workspace Built for Women Look Like? Enter Alda Ly: ...during early design meetings for The Wing, a women's club...bathrooms were discussed at length...first location opened in [NYC] in 2016...at a moment when...more buildings are being reconfigured and reapportioned to take women

into account, only a quarter of all architects in the U.S. are female...Solving for feminism in architecture...is a matter of making room for choice...some design features...are explicitly and thoughtfully female: "Like having a pumping station"...It's about offering a variety of spaces in which women feel comfortable. This is different from the man-cavey environments of certain start-ups. -- Alda Ly Architecture and Design; Zaha Hadid- The Atlantic

Murrye Bernard: Priming the Pump: Lactation Room Design Guidelines: Companies with well-furnished mother's rooms can empower new parents to care for their family without sacrificing career goals: ...nursing or mother's rooms should be comfortable, private, and accessible environments...San Francisco...one of the first cities to require the inclusion of lactation rooms and to provide technical specifications and design recommendations. This landmark legislation may serve as a model for future code amendments...Nursing rooms can also double as wellness rooms that are available to all employees. Architects should then be mindful of helping to facilitate space-sharing... -- Liz York, FAIA/CDC; Perkins+Will; Elliott + Associates Architects [images]- Architect Magazine

AIA Education Facility Design Awards 2018: The year's best school and college facilities, presented by the AIA Committee on Architecture for Education: 8 Awards of Excellence and 2 Awards of Merit were vibrant examples of contemporary educational architecture. -- Mithun; MSR Design; Perkins+Will Canada; archimania; Shepley Bulfinch; Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; Open Architecture; LMN Architects; Mahlum [images]- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Folly/Function 2018: "RRRolling Stones" by HANNAH: ...movable outdoor seating to be used in Socrates Sculpture Park...made from 3D-printed concrete...playful design encourages creative interaction and emboldens park visitors to configure them in original arrangements based on preference and need... -- Leslie Lok; Sasa Zivkovic [images]- Architectural League of New York / Socrates Sculpture Park

Liev Schreiber to Narrate PBS's Nine-part Global Series CIVILIZATIONS: ...will premiere on PBS on Tuesday, April 17...broadens the canvas to reveal the role art and the creative imagination have played across multiple cultures and civilizations. - Broadway World

China Viewed From Above: Simply a collection of some amazing recent aerial images showing the vast diversity of landscapes across China, from cities to mountains, deserts to sea shores, and much more. [images]- The Atlantic

Seven Iconic Buildings Reimagined In Seven Architectural Styles: Weird and wonderful indeed: Sydney Opera House - Tudor style; Fallingwater - Classical style; The Louvre - Brutalist style...Erno Goldfinger would have been proud; Buckingham Palace - Bauhaus style; CN Tower - Egyptian style; Petronas Towers - Gothic style; Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Niterói - Sustainable style -- Jørn Utzon; Frank Lloyd Wright; I.M. Pei; Edward Blore; Aston Webb; César Pelli; Oscar Niemeyer [images]- Forbes

Some pages may expire after a few days.

Yesterday's News

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Today's News - Wednesday, April 18, 2018

- [Leaked Grenfell](#) Tower report "recounts in forensic detail how the original concrete building was turned from a safe structure into a tinderbox," and "exposes hitherto unknown areas of incompetence - the fire would not have claimed even a single life if the original façade had not been re-clad."
- [Goldblatt](#) parses how Ho Chi Minh City and World Bank teams are connecting AI, emerging technology, and machine learning to key development stakeholders to help improve lives, and how "this new wave of technology will allow making smarter decisions, thus smarter cities."
- [Kamin & Ori](#) report on the proposed AS+GG-designed tower next to Chicago's Tribune Tower that would be the city's second-tallest skyscraper - "a tapering shaft of metal and glass" that "resembles the top of Batman's black mask" (though the "proposal is 'aspirational' and could change," it would certainly benefit the city's affordable housing fund).
- [Eyefuls](#) of AS+GG's Tribune Tower addition that would "shake up Chicago's skyline with a striking 96-story skyscraper."
- [Moore \(waxing](#) almost poetic) parses Britain's giant distribution centers supporting online businesses (a place called Dirft included), "where the virtual becomes physical, with a vengeance" - they're a "new breed of superstructures trying very hard to disappear" (with the help of architects).
- [Rybczynski](#) ponders Calatrava's bridge in Venice, which, though "full of novelty," is a reminder "of the dangers of architectural experimentation. Beware of architects bearing shiny new gifts."
- [Trufelman](#) offers a most engaging (and rather romantic) profile of Las Vegas, Venturi, Scott Brown, and Postmodernism: as it "became sillier and sillier, it strayed further and further from what they were originally trying to do" (a great read).
- [Sarasota](#) architect Parks takes issue with three master plan schemes for the city's Bayfront that call for the "elimination of two architecturally significant buildings" (by SOM's Netsche): it would "bring us closer to being just another faceless coastal community."
- [Schumacher](#) discovers murals in Milwaukee's 1963 State Office Building that are now in jeopardy: 93-year-old Marjorie Kreilick "was a woman in a boy's club - there should be public debate about" their fate that "should include Kreilick. To meet her is to understand she's lived the life of a pioneering artist with much to offer a rising generation of feminists."
- [Baldwin](#) parses architectural criticism and what seems to be a growing role for in-house critics, a.k.a. Design Editors, who are "bringing systematic, critical conversations of design to architects themselves. In doing so, they join journalists and activists in beginning to move criticism forward. Now more than ever, we need critics outside practice and within it."
- [Frampton](#) will take home the 2018 Venice Biennale Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement.
- [A long-overdue](#) tribute - in English - to Lin Huiyin and Liang Sicheng: In the 1930s, they "began surveying and recording China's overlooked ancient buildings, in an effort to begin preserving them. Their efforts have since inspired generations - they've become folk heroes, their lives recounted in novels, films and a documentary series" (Maya Lin is Lin's niece).

Of housing - and the lack thereof:

- [Florida](#) & Schneider crunch the numbers and parse reports re: the global housing crisis - the world's most unaffordable cities are not where you might think (check out the Comments section, too!).
- [Wagner \(of McMansion Hell fame\)](#) tackles "architecture, aesthetic moralism, and the crisis of urban housing": "new-build apartment architecture, specifically, has become a social media scapegoat for today's urban housing crisis - there's a reason developer-chic architecture has become so loathed by those fighting for the right to affordable housing."
- [Bouw explains](#) how "a coalition of urban designers and residents are planning their neighborhood from the ground-up" in a tiny Amsterdam neighborhood that serves as "a prototype for grassroots urban planning - instead of letting the highest-paying developers take the reins" (toolkits on collaborative urbanism and grassroots city-making included).
- [Kolson Hurley](#) reports on how a Chicago suburb is "wooing millennials" by billing itself "as a hip, diverse, urban neighborhood that they can afford" - via a new comic-strip ad campaign ("the old dichotomy of city vs. suburb is blurring").
- [O'Sullivan](#) reports on how Barcelona is attempting to solve an affordable and interim housing shortage, a "problem that many cities face," by "forcing banks to find tenants for properties they own, but leave empty."

At the opposite end of the housing scale - and your eye candy for the day: a double dose of Zaha!

- [A 360-degree](#) video tour of Hadid's 520 West 28th Street, along the High Line in New York City.
- [The "spaceship has landed"](#): if you happen to have \$140 million lying around, you might be interested in Hadid's 36,000-square-foot home set in a forest outside of Moscow - not for the acrophobic - the master bedroom is about 117 feet above the ground (watch the video!).

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[Leaked Grenfell Tower dossier reveals how disastrous refurbishment turned tower into a 'tinderbox': Report lays bare the failures that caused the fire to spread, killing 71: ...recounts in forensic detail how the original concrete building was turned from a safe structure into a tinderbox by the refurbishment between 2014 and 2016. It not only finds the cladding material and insulation was combustible, but also exposes hitherto unknown areas of incompetence...\[fire\] would not have claimed even a single life if the original facade of the building had not been re-clad. - Evening Standard \(UK\)](#)

[Ran Goldblatt: Artificial intelligence for smart cities: insights from Ho Chi Minh City's spatial development: AI...can help improve lives...machine learning and AI are increasingly used to provide near real-time analysis of how cities change in practice...But the barriers to applying these technologies can still seem daunting for many cities...World Bank \[teams are\] helping connect emerging technology and machine learning to key development stakeholders in Ho Chi Minh City...This new wave of technology will allow making smarter decisions thus smarter cities. - WorldBank.org](#)

[Blair Kamin & Ryan Ori: Developers plan city's second-tallest skyscraper next to new Tribune Tower condos: ...a tapering shaft of metal and glass...resembles the top of Batman's black mask...only 29 feet shorter than Willis Tower...\\$1 billion-plus...developers' proposal is "aspirational" and could change...To increase the density, the developers would pay about \\$14 million into a city fund](#)



that seeks to encourage commercial development in struggling areas of the South and West sides, as well as \$12 million into the city's affordable housing fund. -- Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture; SCB/Solomon Cordwell Buenz; Vinci Hamp Architects [image]- Chicago Tribune

1,422-foot Tribune Tower addition would be Chicago's second tallest building: The mixed-use skyscraper...to shake up Chicago's skyline with a striking 96-story skyscraper...will eclipse both Trump International Hotel & Tower and the under-construction Vista Tower while coming up just 29 feet shy of the roof of Chicago's Willis (formerly Sears) Tower. -- Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture [images]- Curbed Chicago

Rowan Moore: A shed the size of a town: what Britain's giant distribution centres tell us about modern life: These boxes are of such importance that some are classed as "nationally significant infrastructure projects"...where the virtual becomes physical, with a vengeance...a "new breed of superstructures trying very hard to disappear"...It's welcome that architects and developers should try...mitigate their impact with woods, ponds...these uncompromising building types will only become more essential to our lives. The contrast between what was previously thought of as natural and urban landscape will only become more stark. -- Chetwoods [images]- Observer (UK)

Witold Rybczynski: A Bridge Too Far: Reading about Venice's Ponte della Costituzione I was reminded - again - of the dangers of architectural experimentation. The bridge, designed by Santiago Calatrava, is full of novelty...All these innovations have created problems...Beware of architects bearing shiny new gifts, whether in terms of untested materials, new technologies, or unusual solutions...Traditional building is not about nostalgia or sentimentality as its critics would have it, but rather about imitating what works.- WitoldRybczynski.com

Avery Trufelman: Lessons from Las Vegas: To this day, architects tend to turn their noses up at Las Vegas...The 1960s Strip was the exact opposite of what Modern architects thought the world should look like..."Learning from Las Vegas" forced architects to consider design...and the kinds of everyday places people occupy (and love)...as Postmodernism became sillier and sillier, it strayed further and further from what Denise Scott Brown and Robert Venturi were originally trying to do...a lot of clients and architects went back to Modernism...the Strip continued to reinvent itself...Soon, without a doubt, the Strip will shift shape again...if one wants to observe the ever-shifting state of the American landscape, there's still no better place... - 99% Invisible

Dale Parks: Architectural heritage at risk: ...three master plan schemes for the Bayfront...what was evident was the elimination of the Van Wezel and the former county library, also known as G.Wiz...two architecturally significant buildings...The city seems to place no value on the architecture that defines our sense of place that is Sarasota. Further destruction of this fabric only brings us closer to being just another faceless coastal community...these structures should be saved, repurposed and worked into the long-term goals for which this master plan seeks to be a solution. -- D/Parks Architect; Walter Netsche/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (1975)- Herald-Tribune (Florida)

Mary Louise Schumacher: State Office Building [1963] murals by pioneering feminist artist in jeopardy: Public art projects become...taken for granted until we learn we might lose them...93-year-old Marjorie Kreilick says..."I think people are walking in out of the cold and suddenly they are doing a double take"...She's right. I did a double take. We all should...she's not a famous artist. She was a woman in a boy's club...there should be public debate about the fate of this little-known, taxpayer-funded art project...should include Kreilick, who says the destruction of her work "would be just stupid"...To meet her is to understand she's lived the life of a pioneering artist with much to offer a rising generation of feminists. - Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Eric Baldwin: The Practice of Criticism: How does the practice of architecture itself stay informed and self-critical? ...who is bringing systematic, critical conversations of design to architects themselves? ...the in-house critic...Design Editor, providing informed feedback...is there a suggestion...[t]hat practice isn't already nimble, self-critical? To an extent, yes...the work of the Design Editor must be a self-aware, systematic study and disciplined exercise. In doing so, they join journalists and activists in beginning to move criticism forward...Now more than ever, we need critics outside practice and within it. -- Mimi Zeiger; Blair Kamin; Christopher Hawthorne; Sam Lubell; Christopher Hawthorne; Alexandra Lange; Ian Volner; Jenna McKnight/SOM; Philip Nobel/SHoP; Trevor Boddy; John J. Parman/Gensler; Alan Maskin/Olson Kundig; Reinier de Graaf/OMA - Archinect

Kenneth Frampton: Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement of the Biennale Architettura 2018: Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara: "...he occupies a position of extraordinary insight and intelligence combined with a unique sense of integrity. He stands out as the voice of truth...His humanistic philosophy...is embedded in his writing and he has consistently argued for this humanistic component throughout all the various 'movements' and trends often misguided in architecture in the 20th and 21st century." - La Biennale di Venezia/Venice Biennial

Overlooked No More: Lin Huiyin and Liang Sicheng, Chroniclers of Chinese Architecture: In the 1930s, the couple began surveying and recording the country's overlooked ancient buildings, in an effort to begin preserving them: ...were among the first preservationists to operate in China, and by far the best known. Their efforts have since inspired generations of people to speak out for architecture threatened by the rush toward development..."Liang and Lin: Partners in Exploring China's Architectural Past," the English-language story of their lives by Wilma Fairbank [1994]...They have also become folk heroes in China, their lives recounted in novels, films and a documentary series. - New York Times

Richard Florida & Benjamin Schneider: The Global Housing Crisis: Scarce, unaffordable housing is not a local problem in a few places, but is baked into the 21st-century global city. It's time for cities, nations, and global leaders to start acting like it: ...housing has been financialized and turned into an investment vehicle...higher levels of government and international development organizations will need to step in to rein in financialization...But if past is precedent, cities...will have to come up with creative solutions to this crisis...we must no longer see housing primarily as a financial instrument or investment vehicle, but as a basic human right. - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Kate Wagner: Architecture, Aesthetic Moralism, and the Crisis of Urban Housing: ...architecture is not urban planning...new-build apartment architecture specifically, has become a social media scapegoat for today's urban housing crisis: escalating developer-driven gentrification...Aesthetic moralism is unfortunately trenchant...Modernist public housing was not the failure of architecture it was the failure of people - through racial prejudices, misguided and poorly thought out policies, ugly politics...there's a reason developer-chic architecture has become so loathed by those fighting for the right to affordable housing...When a city requires any new building to look a certain way as a condition of its being built, judging a book by its cover is certain to backfire. - Common Edge

Matthijs Bouw: This Tiny Amsterdam Neighborhood Is a Prototype for Grassroots Urban Planning: ...a coalition of urban designers and residents are planning their neighborhood from the ground-up: Beleef Buiksloterham ("Experience Buiksloterham") pitched a new direction...what if, instead of letting the highest-paying developers take the reins, Buiksloterham became a living laboratory...the brownfield has become a long-term experiment prototyping the potential of organic, bottom-up planning...The Hackable City recently released a series of informal toolkits on collaborative urbanism and grassroots citymaking. - One Architecture and Urbanism; The Mobile City; DELVA Landscape Architects [images] - Metropolis Magazine

Amanda Kolson Hurley: The Suburb Wooing Millennials With Avocados, Kombucha, and Cheap Houses: In a new comic-strip ad campaign, Homewood, Illinois, bills itself as a hip, diverse, urban neighborhood that Millennials can afford. The only catch: It's in the suburbs: ...about 25 miles south of downtown Chicago, just launched a new advertising campaign called "Think Homewood"...reveals just how much the old dichotomy of city vs. suburb is blurring...proves a fact that would have been unthinkable 20 years ago: Suburbs now have to work to attract the cohort they were built for. - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Fergus O'Sullivan: In Search of Affordable Housing, Barcelona Turns to Repossessed Homes: Spain's second city is forcing banks to find tenants for properties they own, but leave empty: ...part of a broader general assault on a specific problem that many cities face - where to house people waiting for public housing while new units...are still under construction...The plan could help find medium-term homes for people on the waiting list [for homes], as could a pilot scheme to build 92 sustainable temporary homes...this year. - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Take a 360 Video Tour of Zaha Hadid's 520 West 28th Street in New York: Clad

in patinated stainless steel that references the adjacent High Line, the residential complex features 40 units that bear a light touch of ZHA's signature flowing forms. [images, video]- Metropolis Magazine

Zaha Hadid's Only Private Residential Home Is Now Completed: The \$140 million project is half submerged into the ground and located in the heart of Russia's Barvikha forest: ...the Capital Hill Residence is a neo-futuristic building that stands apart from the thick forest...roughly two miles west of central Moscow...36,000-square-foot home..."She created the perfect livable sculpture."
-- Vladislav Doronin; Patrik Schumacher [images, video]- Architectural Digest

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Today's News - Thursday, April 19, 2018

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, April 24. Of special note: Sunday is Earth Day 2018, dedicated to reducing plastic litter and pollution. It's also International Dark Sky Week (see "One we couldn't resist," below - very cool). Of interesting note: "blah" and "meh" are Kamin and Keegan's critical takes...

- [Kamin weighs](#) in on AS+GG's Tribune Tower in Chicago: "What we get is 96 stories of tasteful blah - tall enough to make jaws drop, but not strong enough to stir the soul" (a little "tinkering and rethinking" by a talented team should help).
- [Keegan calls](#) the proposed Tribune Tower "a whole lot of 'meh' - stridently bland and banal; it is different, and yet hardly distinctive - it's not that the design is particularly bad," but "show us what Chicago's architecture can be in the 21st century."
- [Much of](#) the design of KPMB/ Public: Architecture + Communication's Wilson School of Design at Kwantlen Polytechnic University in British Columbia "reflects the difficult site conditions - 'including a very high water table. In essence, the structure had to perform like a ship."
- [Walker has](#) a great Q&A with Allison Arieff re: the changing landscape of design criticism, working with SPUR on solutions for the Bay Area's housing crisis, and more: "What's it like doing research and policy at the frontlines of the city's housing crisis? 'Bleak? Some days it's just devastating.'"
- [A very interesting](#) Q&A with MIT's Neri Oxman re: "breaking boundaries in a male-dominated world" - she "has no time for boxes. What's changing to make architecture and design a better atmosphere for women? 'The women.' What needs to change to get women into key positions? 'The men.'"
- [One we couldn't](#) resist: A video of what NYC's skies would look with stars if there was no light pollution, part of the International Dark Sky Week, April 15-21.

Winners and shortlists galore!

- [Eyefuls](#) of AIA's 2018 COTE Top Ten that are "setting the standard in design and sustainability" by meeting "rigorous criteria for social, economic, and ecological value" (great presentation).
- [A team including](#) Fujimoto, Laisné, and Roussel wins the "Inventons la Métropole du Grand Paris" competition with a timber-frame "Village Vertical" that will be a new gateway to the city of Rosny-sous-Bois: "While the structure is certainly imposing, the materials and shapes lend it lightness."
- [Rozana Montiel](#) Estudio de Arquitectura takes home the 2018 MCHAP Prize for Emerging Architecture (MCHAP.emerge) for its reclamation of public space that had been empty for decades in a housing complex in Mexico City (very cool!).
- [eVolo 2018](#) Skyscraper Competition winners include a foldable skyscraper inspired by origami, and a Shinto Shrine/Urban Rice Farming Skyscraper (with links to full descriptions and lots of images).
- [Five in](#) the field of architecture are among the National Trust for Historic Preservation's "40 Under 40: People

Saving Places."

- [Erin Besler](#) of Besler & Sons, and Marcel Sanchez-Prieto of CRO Studio are among the American Academy in Rome's Rome Prize winners.
- [An impressive](#) shortlist of 6 in the running to win the University College of Dublin Future Campus International Design Competition (4 from NYC!).
- [An impressive](#) shortlist of 5 now vying to design the new Ottawa Public Library and Library and Archives Canada.

Deadlines (and lots of 'em!):

- [Call for](#) entries: Displaced: Design for Inclusive Cities international design ideas competition to address "the urgent need to welcome, support, and empower urban immigrants and refugees."
- [Request](#) for Qualifications/RFQ: International Urban Design Competition for the Regeneration of Tongyeong Dockyard, South Korea.
- [Call for](#) entries: Faith & Form/Interfaith Design International Awards for Religious Art & Architecture.
- [Call for](#) entries: 2018 AL Light & Architecture Design Awards honoring outstanding and innovative architectural lighting design.
- [Call for](#) entries: Interior Scholarship 2018/2019 - The AIT Scholarship by Sto Foundation (must be enrolled at a European university).

Weekend diversions + Page-turners:

- [Farago cheers](#) "The Metropolis in Latin America, 1830-1930" at NYC's Americas Society that "turns the clock back 100 years on six Latin American capitals," which "were laboratories for experiment and risk long before the International Style learned Spanish and Portuguese - they were already cities of dreams" (great pix!).
- [Bennun cheers](#) "America's Cool Modernism: O'Keeffe to Hopper" at the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford, U.K.: "The most striking thing is the near-absence of the human figure. We see land and cityscapes, structures and objects - the America they show is one that has clearly risen in power and splendor, the colossus of the 20th century" (great images!).
- [Minutillo](#) hails "Beauty's Rigor: Patterns of Production in the Work of Pier Luigi Nervi": "only a few investigations have documented his work in English. Leslie fills out the picture in a consistently engaging manner," and "writes about complex structural elements with incredible ease and clarity while solidly establishing Nervi's place in architectural history."
- ["California](#) Captured: Mid-Century Modern Architecture, Marvin Rand" is a "spectacular" book by Bills, Sam, Serraino: "Rand's interest was the structures themselves, rather than the lifestyle they embodied, and his talent was capturing their essence - his instincts produced pictures that continue to exceed expectations, even today" (fab photos!).
- [A gathering](#) of "10 of the world's most unusual buildings" from "Amazing Architecture: A Spotter's Guide" (don't miss the guesthouse in Vietnam: "think of Gaudí and Tolkien dropping acid together" - indeed!).

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enough to make jaws drop, but not strong enough to stir the soul. -- Raymond Hood/John Mead Howells/Howells & Hood (1925); Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill; Solomon Cordwell Buenz; Vinci Hamp Architects - Chicago Tribune

Edward Keegan: A whole lot of 'meh': Proposed Tribune tower: While remarkably tall at 1,422 feet, the design is stridently bland and banal; it is different, and yet hardly distinctive. This is the sort of streamlined mush that Chicago firms...have been proliferating around the world...it's not that the design is particularly bad...But there is nothing to distinguish this building from so many others...Don't bore us with the merely competent - show us what Chicago's architecture can be in the 21st century. -- Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture [images] - Crain's Chicago Business

Wilson School of Design celebrates opening at Kwantlen Polytechnic University's campus in Richmond, B.C.: ...much of the design also reflects the difficult site conditions..."In essence, the structure had to perform like a ship...\$36-million, high-tech space...for existing design programs...will also house the university's product design and technical apparel design programs, which educate students in the development of performance, technical, medical and protective wear. -- KPMB; Public: Architecture + Communication [images] - Canadian Architect

Alissa Walker: Making design criticism matter: A chat with Allison Arieff: The design critic's work will be honored by AIGA with the Steven Heller Prize for Cultural Commentary: Q&A re: the changing landscape of design criticism, what it's like to work on solutions for the Bay Area's housing crisis, and why we should plan cities for people - not cars....You're currently the editorial director at SPUR. What's it like doing research and policy at the frontlines of the city's housing crisis? "Bleak? ...Some days it's just devastating." - Curbed

Neri Oxman: Breaking boundaries in a male-dominated world: ...leads a radical lab at MIT, has no time for boxes...architecture, in particular, has been a male-dominated ecosystem for a long time. How do you navigate this world? On good days with grace, on bad days - by 'being a man'...What's changing to make architecture and design a better atmosphere for women? "The women." What needs to change to get women into key positions? "The men." - CNN Style

See how NYC's skies would look with stars if there was no light pollution: ...Harun Mehmedinovic and Gavin Heffernan, of the gorgeous Skyglow Project, created time lapses from the night skies at the Grand Canyon and Death Valley National Park and superimposed those images on the NYC sky. Their new video is part of the International Dark Sky Week (April 15-21) which is a campaign to get communities to turn off their lights. [video] - 6sqft (New York City)

2018 COTE Top Ten: Setting the standard in design and sustainability: Now in their 22nd year, the Awards highlight projects that meet the AIA Committee on the Environment's rigorous criteria for social, economic, and ecological value. -- Perkins+Will; Lake|Flato/Cooper Carry; Studio Twenty Seven Architecture; Leddy Maytum Stacy Architects; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); DLR Group; Olson Kundig; WRNS Studio; KieranTimberlake [images] - American Institute of Architects (AIA) / Committee on the Environment (COTE)

Sou Fujimoto, Nicolas Laisné and Dimitri Roussel to Build 28,000 sqm "Village Vertical" in Grand Paris: ...a new gateway to the city of Rosny-sous-Bois...the winning proposal for the "Inventons la Métropole du Grand Paris" competition...17,000 square meters of housing, including 5,000 square meters of social housing...timber frame, 120 meters in length, with elegant white columns, irregular balconies and glazed facades. While the structure is certainly imposing, the materials and shapes lend it lightness. -- Atelier Georges; La Compagnie de Phalsbourg; REI Habitat [images]- ArchDaily

Reclamation of Public Space in a Mexican Housing Complex Wins 2018 MCHAP Prize for Emerging Architecture [MCHAP.emerge]: Common Unity [in Mexico City]... had an immediate impact on the safety of the area, activating a space that had been empty for decades...This urban design is as much about the resulting public space and the programs that did not exist before as it is about the design of a social process - all in a single project. -- Rozana Montiel Estudio de Arquitectura [images]- ArchDaily

eVolo Announces 2018 Skyscraper Competition Winners: ...3 winners and 27 honorable mentions...from a pool of 526 entries. Among this year's winners are a foldable skyscraper inspired by origami, an urban building for rice farming [Shinto Shrine/Urban Rice Farming Skyscraper], and a prototype for vertical housing in areas damaged by wildfires. -- Damian Granosik/Jakub Kulisa/Piotr Panczyk (Poland); Tony Leung (Hong Kong); Claudio C. Araya Arias (Chile) [images]- ArchDaily

National Trust for Historic Preservation Lists 40 Next Generation Preservationists: These individuals work in architecture, historic preservation, community activism, business development, and more: Among NTHP's "40 Under 40: People Saving Places" are five people who practice in the architecture industry. -- Roy Ingraffia Jr./International Masonry Institute; Nina Mahjoub/Holmes Structures; Mark Stoner II/Ratio Architects; Zulmilena Then/Preserving East New York (PENY)/McCaw Michael Ivanhoe Architect; Sara Zewde/landscape designer; Bryan Lee Jr./Colloqate Design - Architect Magazine

American Academy in Rome Names Rome Prize Winners: Erin Besler of Los Angeles-based Besler & Sons and Marcel Sanchez-Prieto, co-founder of San Diego-based CRO Studio, are the winners in architecture: ...recipients from 928 applicants. [images + complete list]- Architect Magazine

University College of Dublin Future Campus International Design Competition announces masterplan finalists: Of the 98 firms that submitted proposals, 6 have been chosen. -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro (New York); John Ronan Architects (Chicago); O'Donnell + Toumey (Dublin); Steven Holl Architects (New York); Studio Libeskind (New York); UN Studio (Amsterdam)- The Architect's Newspaper

5 teams bidding to design Ottawa's new central library: ...will be competing to design the new Ottawa Public Library and Library and Archives Canada joint facility. -- Bing Thom Architects [Revery Architecture]/GRC Architects; Diamond Schmitt Architects/KWC Architects; Mecanoo International/NORR Architects; Patkau Architects/MSDL Architects/GRC Architects; Schmidt/hammer/lassen/KPMB Architects/Hobin Architecture- CBC (Canada)

Call for entries: Displaced: Design for Inclusive Cities (international design ideas competition): develop game-changing ideas that apply the power of design thinking to the urgent need to welcome, support and empower urban immigrants and refugees; cash prizes; earlybird submission deadline (save money!): May 15 (submissions due June 12)- Design in Public / AIA Seattle

Call for entries: Request for Qualifications/RFQ: International Urban Design Competition for the Regeneration of Tongyeong Dockyard, South Korea: create an international hub of culture and tourism and reactivate the neighborhood around the former Shina ship-building yard; deadline: May 18- Korea Land and Housing Corporation / Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements

Call for entries: Faith & Form/ID International Awards for Religious Art & Architecture: categories: Categories include New Facilities, Renovation/Restoration, Adaptive Re-Use, Liturgical/Interior Design, Sacred Landscape, Unbuilt, Religious Arts, and Student Work; winners will be published in Faith & Form magazine and exhibited at the 2019 AIA Convention; deadline: June 30- Faith & Form Magazine / Interfaith Design (ID, formerly IFRAA/Interfaith Forum on Religion, Art, & Architecture)

Call for entries: 2018 AL Light & Architecture Design Awards (international): honoring outstanding and innovative projects in the field of architectural lighting design; earlybird deadline (save money!): May 18 (submissions due June 1)- Architectural Lighting Magazine

Call for entries: Interior Scholarship 2018/2019 - The AIT Scholarship by Sto Foundation: up to four students of interior architecture, interior design, etc. enrolled at a European university will receive a monthly grant for one year, totalling 24,120 EUR; deadline: June 20- AIT-Dialog / Sto Foundation / Sto Stiftung (Germany)

Jason Farago: How Latin America Was Built, Before Modernism Came Along: "The Metropolis in Latin America, 1830-1930" at the Americas Society [in NYC], is a tale of ambition, nationalism, violence, technical innovation and economic transformation: ...turns the clock back 100 years on six Latin American capitals...These cities, it turns out, were laboratories for experiment and risk long before the International Style learned Spanish and Portuguese...they were already cities of dreams. thru June 30 [images]- New York Times

David Bennun: How America's modernists played it cool: An exhibition in Oxford takes us back to the birth of precisionism: The Ashmolean museum has undersold..."America's Cool Modernism: O'Keeffe to Hopper"...The most striking thing...is the near-absence of the human figure. We see land and cityscapes, structures and objects, but people almost never...the America they show is one that has clearly risen in power and splendour, the colossus of the 20th century. thru July 22 -- Paul Strand; Joseph Stella; Paul Klee; George Ault; Charles Sheeler; etc. [images]- The Economist / 1843 (UK)

Josephine Minutillo: "Beauty's Rigor: Patterns of Production in the Work of Pier Luigi Nervi" by Thomas Leslie: Aside from Ada Louise Huxtable, who would write a short book about Nervi in 1960, only a few investigations have documented his work in English...Leslie fills out the picture in a consistently engaging manner...he also writes about complex structural elements with

incredible ease and clarity while solidly establishing Nervi's place in architectural history, which had faltered following his death in 1979. -- Gio Ponti; Harry Seidler; Marcel Breuer - Architectural Record

How Architectural Photographer Marvin Rand Defined Mid-Century California: A spectacular new book of his photography serves as a visual index of Modernist landmarks: "California Captured: Mid-Century Modern Architecture, Marvin Rand" by Emily Bills, Sam Lubell, Pierluigi Serraino makes a case for his significant role in defining the mid-century California style...a survey of Modernist landmarks and lesser-known buildings as seen through his singular lens...His interest was the structures themselves, rather than the lifestyle they embodied, and his talent was capturing their essence. ...his instincts produced pictures that continue to exceed expectations, even today. [images]- AnOther Magazine (UK)

10 of the world's most unusual buildings: "Amazing Architecture: A Spotter's Guide" from Lonely Planet...reveals 120 of the world's great human constructions, and where to see them...Hang Nga guesthouse, popularly known as the Crazy House in Dalat, Vietnam..."think of Gaudí and Tolkien dropping acid together." -- Santiago Calatrava; Oscar Niemeyer; Woha; etc. [images]- Lonely Planet

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Yesterday's News

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Today's News - Tuesday, April 24, 2018

- [Lange makes](#) the case for ending the "architect profile" and "perpetuating the myth of the lone genius - a fiction: that one man (or Zaha) does it all. Whither the boring architect who just likes to work? What about a more soft-spoken collaborator? Great architecture can be made by those who fail to charm."
- [Jolliffe](#) ponders why "the best thing the Venice Biennale could do is leave Venice - tourism is slowly choking the last of the life left" in the city - "leaving a city-shaped heritage theme park - should architects be complicit in contributing to the decline of this architectural jewel of a city?"
- [Quito x 2](#): She uses eVolo's Skyscraper Competition as the jumping-off point to ponder the value of "architecture fiction": "writing about these conjectural designs as if they were actual proposals is propagating misinformation. When taken out of context, fictional buildings are essentially a form of fake news, or clickbait at the very least."
- [She's less](#) than enthralled with Adjaye's new Spyscape museum in NYC that "perfectly captures how boring espionage has become," including "an altar to the museum's martyr: Edward Snowden - its true hero is an IT guy" (that it "feels like a slick, heavily branded video arcade" is "hardly the architect's fault").
- [Bucknell](#) takes a deep and thoughtful dive into why Snøhetta's "A House to Die In," a "luminescent, UFO-like living sculpture," is "Norway's most controversial" and "buzzed-about building, and why the controversy cuts so deep into Norwegian culture" (even though the third iteration is smaller, and "once inward-facing delights are now extroverted").
- [Saffron x 2](#): The first 1/4-mile leg of Philadelphia's Reading Viaduct Rail Park is almost ready for its close-up, but the challenges facing completing the 3-mile (mostly) elevated park "go beyond money. What the park will need most as it forges ahead are the dreamers who can keep its vision alive."
- [She considers](#) the possible sad fate of yet another "ornate" and "distinctive" Philadelphia church facing the wrecking ball to make way for an apartment building: "It is more than dazzling architecture that makes Christ Memorial stand out."
- [The sad](#) tale of KieranTimberlake's "blighted Make It Right home to be demolished after standing vacant, half-repaired for two years": The NYT "called the development 'Brad Pitt's Gifts to New Orleans.' But this house tells a different story" (H/T to Brussat/Architecture Here and There).
- [Meyer, on](#) a brighter note, tours Sugimoto's Enoura Observatory, which he designed for his Odawara Art Foundation: "a visit is not so much about seeing his photos, but about his latest ambition of becoming an architect - and landscape architect. He displays a lot of talent" (with Ulf's own photos to prove it).
- [Stathaki](#) talks to Frida Escobedo about her 2018 Serpentine Pavilion: "A courtyard design that unites Britain and Mexico via a journey through space and time; an emerging Mexican architect; the youngest ever participant, and indeed only the second female one, after Zaha Hadid; there are many reasons to sit up and take notice."
- [The Royal](#) College of Art's Myerson explains why he believes that data and "real-time real estate" are "the key to understanding tomorrow's workplace design - the workplace is no longer a dumb container for work. It is intelligent and predictive" - and "will become part of a bigger community space."
- [Speaking](#) of technology, Christensen explains how he uses "architectural biometrics," similar to facial

recognition, on buildings "to unlock architectural secrets" of late 19th-century railway stations across Canada and the Ottoman Empire to find the "figurative fingerprints" left by the on-site construction supervisors, engineers, and workers.

- [Garfield](#) parses a one-bedroom house prototype designed by WATG being built on a Chattanooga campus using Branch Technology's 3D-printing robots (Branch Tech is also developing methods for constructing habitats on Mars for NASA).

- [Diaz delves](#) into what went into making Laarman's 3D-printed steel bridge to span an Amsterdam canal - "a process that seemed as simple as wheeling the printer to the edge of the canal and hitting 'print.' It wasn't actually that easy."

- [Call for](#) entries: Rethinking The Future Global Architecture and Design Awards 2018 (early-bird registration deadline looms!).

Winners (and hopefuls) all!

- [DS+R and](#) Liz Diller make Time Magazine's TIME 100 annual list of the 100 most influential people in the world.

- [An impressive](#) list of winners make BD's Architect of the Year 2018: Carmody Groarke "crowned" with top honors; Young Architect of the Year Award is "scooped" by Clancy Moore.

- [Also on](#) the other side of the Big Pond: 6 emerging practices are shortlisted for the 2019 Dulwich Pavilion outside John Soane's Dulwich Picture Gallery: "We're living in such chaotic, confusing times; what's astonishing is the confidence and optimism this generation is showing in making sense and giving form to the future," sayeth Dyckhoff (no images - yet).

- [Must-reads](#) and a must-see take home the Society of Architectural Historians' 2018 SAH Publication Awards and the SAH Award for Film and Video.



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[Alexandra Lange](#): The end of the architect profile: It's time to stop perpetuating the myth of the lone genius: ...a fiction: that one man (or Zaha) does it all...The template is the same as that of the celebrity profile...This model of coverage has already begun to fragment...Whither the boring architect who just likes to work? What about a more soft-spoken collaborator? Great architecture can be made by those who fail to charm. - Curbed

[Eleanor Jolliffe](#): Probably the best thing the Venice Biennale could do is leave Venice: The architectural profession needs to face up to some uncomfortable questions: Tourists...outnumber residents by 140:1...a Catch-22 situation. Its magnificent, slowly decaying architecture and infrastructure needs massive investment which its tsunami of tourism does allow...However, tourism is slowly choking the last of the life left in Venice, robbing it of its soul and leaving a city-shaped heritage theme park...should architects be complicit in contributing to the decline of this architectural jewel of a city? - BD/Building Design (UK)

[Anne Quito](#): "Architecture Fiction" is the Design World's Clickbait: Why do architects celebrate impossible structures? Is there any practical use...Architects argue that these fictions are necessary for real-world development...useful in much the same way as literary fiction is: to fuel our imagination...in some cases, these seemingly implausible "what ifs" actually shape the built world...But writing about these conjectural designs as if they were actual proposals is propagating misinformation. When taken out of context, fictional buildings are essentially a



form of fake news, or clickbait at the very least. [images]- Quartz

Anne Quito: A New Spy Museum Perfectly Captures How Boring Espionage Has Become: ...spying today has become, well, banal...In attempting to highlight all the high-tech marvels 21st-century snooping has introduced, Spyscape in New York City...exposes surveillance's screen-based drudgery...aspires to give visitors a taste of what it takes to be an intelligence operative...As it turns out, it's pretty boring...surveillance room...the emotional climax of the entire museum - contains an altar to Spyscape's martyr: Edward Snowden...[its] true hero is an IT guy...[It] feels like a slick, heavily branded video arcade...But perhaps that's hardly the architect's fault. -- David Adjaye [images]- Quartz

Alice Bucknell: Inside the Design of Norway's Most Controversial Building: Snøhetta's "A House to Die In" has become one of the most buzzed-about architectural proposals in recent years...why the controversy cuts so deep into Norwegian culture: The brainchild of Norway's enfant terrible artist Bjarne Melgaard, the proposal...is a luminescent, UFO-like living sculpture that doubles as a studio and home...has been met with opposition... "as a desecration of holy ground because of its connection to Edvard Munch"...third and current redesign is a considerably shrunken permutation...many of the proposed building's once inward-facing delights are now extroverted...Today, the proposed project once again finds itself up against the heritage council. [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Inga Saffron: The First Piece of Philadelphia's Reading Viaduct Rail Park Opens in June. Then What?: It took more than six years and cost \$10.3 million to build the park's first quarter mile...master plan calls for a three-mile trail...will have to raise vast sums of money...well over \$100 million...challenges go beyond money...They're looking into the possibility of simply paving an asphalt path down the middle and opening it to the public. And why not? Its wildness is a big part of its allure...What the Rail Park will need most as it forges ahead are the dreamers who can keep its vision alive. -- Studio Bryan Hanes - Philadelphia Inquirer

Inga Saffron: Another ornate Philadelphia church faces the wrecking ball: Philadelphia, which has been experiencing a wave of church demolitions, could lose its one of its largest and most distinctive sanctuaries if...apartment

developer goes ahead with a plan to raze a 19th-century church...has long been a neighborhood beacon...It is more than dazzling architecture that makes Christ Memorial stand out...it would be the largest church demolition in the city since...2013. -- Isaac Pursell, of Pursell & Fry (1888) [images] - Philadelphia Inquirer

Blighted Make It Right home to be demolished after standing vacant, half-repaired for two years: ...Foundation wants to demolish the building [in the Lower 9th Ward] just seven years after it was built...The New York Times called the development "Brad Pitt's Gifts to New Orleans." But this house tells a different story...Make It Right...provided warranties...and arrangements were made for repairs...Two years later, the property is a half-finished construction site...It's unclear what will happen to the site after the home is torn down. -- KieranTimberlake; John C. Williams Architects - The Lens (New Orleans)

Ulf Meyer: Hiroshi Sugimoto: Enoura Observatory: ...new "museum"...sits atop a hill and allows for great panoramic views...to the shimmering waters of Sagami Bay...[visitors] can spend no more than two hours...The art experience begins with a long list of "Dos and Don'ts...seemingly the new norm in Japan's more exciting art spaces...a visit...is not so much about seeing Sugimoto's photos...but about his latest ambition of becoming an architect - and landscape architect. He displays a lot of talent...his buildings have elegant details...his strong sense of composition helps all ingredients of the observatory...to interact well with their natural surroundings. -- Tomoyuki Sakakida/New Material Research Laboratory [images] - World-Architects.com

Ellie Stathaki: Frida Escobedo discusses her design for the 2018 Serpentine Pavilion: A courtyard design that unites Britain and Mexico via a journey through space and time; an emerging Mexican architect; the youngest ever participant, and indeed only the second female one, after Zaha Hadid; there are many reasons to sit up and take notice..."It is about encounter - encounters with other people, but also with yourself." [images] - Wallpaper*

Jeremy Myerson: Data Is the Key to Understanding Tomorrow's Workplace Design: the Helen Hamlyn Chair of Design at the Royal College of Art says he believes the hyperbole around transformational change in the workplace: ...soon [architects and designers] will have much more dynamic big data...to allow them to map organizational networks over physical office landscapes..."landscape" is going to be a big theme in 2018. The idea of it is more holistic...Biophilic design will be big...real-time real estate...the workplace is no longer a dumb container for work. It is intelligent and predictive...will become part of a bigger community space, not a hermetically sealed box. - Metropolis Magazine

Peter Christensen: I run 'facial recognition' on buildings to unlock architectural secrets: ...revealing previously hidden elements of history..."architectural biometrics"...In the late 19th century, railway stations were built across Canada and the Ottoman Empire...a centralized team of architects...designing dozens of similar-looking buildings...construction supervisors...had to do their best to reconcile the official blueprints with what was possible on the ground...engineers and workers...left their figurative fingerprints...laser scanners to take detailed 3-D measurements...revealed the hands of the builders, highlighting the geographic and multicultural influences that shaped the resulting buildings. [images] - The Conversation US

Leanna Garfield: In under six months, a robot can produce this home for as little as \$300,000: ...Branch Technology uses 3D-printing robots...will build a prototype of its first home, designed by WATG, this year in Chattanooga, Tennessee...machines will print the walls, roof, and interior architectural elements of the 1,0000-square-foot model...larger goal is to push the boundaries of 3D printing in construction...Curve Appeal...will feature a bedroom, bathroom, and living room. [images]- Business Insider

Jesus Diaz: This Bridge Is The Product Of 6 Straight Months Of 3D Printing: ...4.5 tons of steel, and 684 miles of metal cable went into the making of the first 3D-printed steel bridge: Four years ago, the designer Joris Laarman had a crazy idea for a bridge over a canal in Amsterdam...using a robotic arm and 3D printer - a process that seemed as simple as wheeling the printer to the edge of the canal and hitting "print." It wasn't actually that easy...the next step is to test its load capacity before installing it... -- MX3D [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

Call for entries: Rethinking The Future Global Architecture and Design Awards 2018; 40+ categories, 3 winners in each; earlybird registration deadline (save money!): April 30 (submissions due June 30)- Re-thinking The Future (RTF)

Elizabeth Diller Named to Time Magazine's TIME 100: ...its annual list of the 100 most influential people in the world...Diller Scofidio + Renfro (DS+R), which is led by four partners: Elizabeth Diller, Ricardo Scofidio, Charles Renfro, and Benjamin Gilmer is the only design firm to be featured...Architects who have received the honor in past years include David Adjaye and Bjarke Ingels.- Architectural Record

Carmody Groarke crowned BD's Architect of the Year 2018: Young Architect of the Year Award was scooped by Clancy Moore. -- Studio Bark; what if: projects; Levitt Bernstein; Piercy & Company; Cottrell and Vermeulen; Sheppard Robson; Universal Design Studio; Haworth Tompkins; pH+; Tsuruta Architects; Soda; Group Ginger - BD/Building Design (UK)

Emerging practices shortlisted for 2019 Dulwich Pavilion: ...six teams shortlisted in the second design contest for a temporary events pavilion outside John Soane's Dulwich Picture Gallery: ...juror Tom Dyckhoff said: "We're living in such chaotic, confusing times; what's astonishing is the confidence and optimism this generation is showing in making sense and giving form to the future." -- Casswell Bank Architects; PUP Architects; e10 studio; FleaFollyArchitects; Pricegore/Yinka Ilori; Projects Office - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Society of Architectural Historians Announces 2018 SAH Publication Awards and the SAH Award for Film and Video: Kathryn E. O'Rourke: "Modern Architecture in Mexico City: History, Representation, and the Shaping of a Capital"; Mrinalini Rajagopalan: "Building Histories: The Archival and Affective Lives of Five Monuments in Modern Delhi"; Nina Stritzler-Levine and Timo Riekko: "Artek and the Aaltos: Creating a Modern World" (exhibition catalogue); John North Hopkins: "The Genesis of Roman Architecture"; Peter Rosen: "Eero Saarinen: The Architect Who Saw the Future" (film)- Society of Architectural Historians (SAH)

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Today's News - Wednesday, April 25, 2018

- [Jessel parses](#) U.K.'s gender pay gap data, "the blunt instrument that could smash architecture's glass pyramid," though "the apparently dispiriting figures have been sidelined by a wider debate focusing more on what the data does not tell us - the government's 'name and shame' approach does not reflect the wider issues in the industry."
- [Brown, Pojani](#) & Wardale, from Down Under, parse "sexism and the city, and how urban planning has failed women" and "affects all other 'vulnerable group' considerations": "Patriarchy in city planning is not just a failure of society - it is a failure of the imagination - we need to imagine entirely new ways of ordering our cities."
- [Cooke delves](#) into how Mexico City's urban innovation lab tackles the "impossible possible" city's challenges: "the Laboratorio has rounded into its final year of existence," and "its sprawling initiatives are bearing concrete results."
- [On a less](#) optimistic note, "pedestrians are dying in Phoenix; advocates blame city's street design - a series of bureaucratic hurdles have stalled the implementation of 'Complete Streets' design guidelines" approved last July, but never enacted.
- [On a brighter](#) note: six firms offer redevelopment concepts for 40 acres in Milwaukee's Menomonee Valley that could "make the Menomonee River a recreation destination," and provide a link to "the buzzing 3rd Ward neighborhood."
- [Hume cheers](#) plans by the Royal Ontario Museum to "take community engagement to the street" and "do its bit for Toronto's public realm."
- [It looks](#) like Heatherwick's Pier 55 in NYC is back on track, "after a year of feuds, cancellations, and dramatic revivals" - and "last-minute mediation," though "outside factors might still be able to throw the Pier's construction off track yet again."
- [Nemo reports](#) on new research intended to "make green roofs more biodiverse" by "choosing unpredictability - it may be more ecologically rewarding than plopping down proven species" (with some useful links).
- [Rinaldi](#) offers a rave review of H3/ Semple Brown's "shiny new" arts center in Colorado Springs that "arrives with all the optimism that forward-thinking architecture can deliver" - it is "the revolution that architects can start when they understand their job is to lead clients to create audacious buildings that act out, sing loud and show off."
- [Sisson says](#) MASS Design Group's new National Memorial to Peace and Justice and the Legacy Museum in Montgomery, Alabama, "reach for truth and reconciliation" and "show architecture's power to confront, and learn from, the past."
- [McKnight](#) walks us through KPMB's update of a gothic-style academic building at Princeton University.
- [New images](#) of RSH+P's 3 World Trade Center that will be ready for its close-up in June.
- [Pittsburgh](#) architect Roth pens a plea to the Post-Gazette to "credit the architect when writing about buildings and development. Buildings don't design themselves. The public needs to be educated about what we do and how it impacts daily life" and "readers deserve to know who is shaping our built world."
- [Piedmont-Palladino](#) is struck by an ad showing "an aspirational view into a starchitect-designed residence"

with "the fine print in the corner of the page: 'This is an actual photograph'" - should we be troubled to learn it's a photo and not a rendering or "troubled because we cannot tell the difference?" (great read).

One we couldn't resist:

- [Wainwright](#) has a barking good time parsing the "mutts-have pooch palaces concocted by dog-loving architects" for tomorrow's BowWow Haus pet charity auction (you're mutt-see of the day!).

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Ella Jessel: Gender pay gap data: the blunt instrument that could smash architecture's glass pyramid: While some have rushed to discredit the newly published pay gap data, others welcome the way it has got men talking about the issue in the boardroom: ...the apparently dispiriting figures have been sidelined by a wider debate focusing more on what the data does not tell us...if the data does not shine a true light on pay discrimination, what does it tell us? ...the government's 'name and shame' approach does not reflect the wider issues in the industry. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Kerry Brown, Dorina Pojani & Dorothy Wardale: Sexism and the city: how urban planning has failed women: Gender affects all other "vulnerable group" considerations in the cities: What urban amenities and services are provided for women? Unless she belongs to the upper-middle class, a woman is more likely than not to live in a food desert...Childcare facilities are...physically inaccessible [and] too expensive...Green space is inaccessible...especially for low-income women living on the wrong side of town....women have to do it all on our own - in cities that are not designed for us. That's because our cities are not designed by women...Patriarchy in city planning is not just a failure of society - it is a failure of the imagination...we need to imagine entirely new ways of ordering our cities... - The Conversation (Australia)

Julia Cooke: The impossible possible city: How Mexico City's urban innovation lab tackles the city's challenges: Like the city...the lab is sprawling, difficult to pin down....Gabriella Gomez-Mont...and architect and lab co-founder Clorinda Romo looked to established models for urban innovation...after five years, the Laboratorio has rounded into its final year of existence...its sprawling initiatives are bearing concrete results...it is in good company...Mexico's challenges force the Laboratorio to differentiate itself from its peers. Its home city is significantly larger and poorer than cities...where design-forward urban labs tread similar ground. - Curbed

Pedestrians are dying in Phoenix; advocates blame city's street design: Advocates warn the deaths will continue until streets are designed in a safer way - something Phoenix officials were supposed to commit to more than two years ago. But a series of bureaucratic hurdles have stalled the implementation of "Complete Streets" design guidelines...City Council approved the policy in July 2017, but the design guidelines were never enacted,...without the guidelines, the policy has no teeth and won't accomplish anything. - Arizona Republic

Menomonee Valley redevelopments: Milwaukee...owns about 10 acres on the north bank of the Menomonee River...it is among six properties that were recently included in a design charrette that recommended redevelopment

concepts. Those sessions have proven effective in inspiring development in other areas...40 acres [could] make the Menomonee River a recreation destination [and] link to the buzzing 3rd Ward neighborhood. -- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Community Design Solutions; Quorum Architects; Zimmerman Architectural Studios; HGA; Engberg Anderson Architects; Korb and Associates; Uihlein/Wilson - Ramlow/Stein Architects [images]- Milwaukee Business Journal

Christopher Hume: ROM takes community engagement to the street: Plans for a stage and gardens outside the Royal Ontario Museum are certainly ambitious, but that underused sidewalk on Bloor St. W. could be animated with something as simple as tables, chairs and an espresso machine: In Toronto, where many confuse public space with empty space, the temptation is to fill it. Whether that's with objects or programs doesn't matter...Now ROM wants to do its bit for Toronto's public realm....Though it doesn't quite add up to a full-fledged square...[it] comes close enough make the difference irrelevant. -- Daniel Libeskind- Toronto Star

Construction at Heatherwick's Pier 55 is back on: After a year of feuds, cancellations, and dramatic revivals, the Thomas Heatherwick-designed Pier 55 is making real progress...2.75-acre park "floating" in the Hudson River off of West 13th Street in Manhattan...was to sit on a jumble of sculptural concrete pilings...last-minute mediation...guaranteed ecological protections for the [river] and state funding for the unfinished 30% of Hudson River Park...Outside factors might still be able to throw the Pier's construction off track yet again. - The Architect's Newspaper

Leslie Nemo: Can We Make Green Roofs More Biodiverse? A study of decades-old German green roofs found that they don't support a wide range of animal and plant life. But researchers and designers are trying to change that: The German model was dependable and low-maintenance. Why start from scratch...Developers could follow the German method, stick hardy plants in a roof, and walk away...[study] makes a case for breaking with tradition and investing more resources in green roofs...Going with native plants means choosing unpredictability, because little of this work has been done before...it may be more ecologically rewarding than plopping down proven species. - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Ray Mark Rinaldi: Shiny new piece of architecture means a fresh opportunity for the arts in Colorado Springs: The new Ent Center for the Arts [University of Colorado]...arrives with all the optimism that forward-thinking architecture can deliver...an investment in things real and symbolic...a series of undulating bands of steel that layer together to form its facade...pulse unpredictably...giving it...a perpetual, in-and-out breath. [They] are showy but they're not all show...it is also the revolution that architects can start when they understand their job is to create opportunities, and lead clients to create audacious buildings that act out, sing loud and show off. -- H3 Hardy Collaborative Architecture; Semple Brown Design [images]- Denver Post

Patrick Sisson: New memorial for lynching victims reaches for truth and reconciliation: How the new National Memorial to Peace and Justice and the Legacy Museum: From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration show architecture's power to confront, and learn from, the past: ...these twin institutions...ask how

design and architecture can bear witness and wrangle with issues of justice and reconciliation...in Montgomery, Alabama, the museums stand at a crossroads of American history. -- Equal Justice Initiative; Michael Murphy/MASS Design Group [images]- Curbed

Jenna McKnight: KPMB updates gothic-style academic building on Princeton University campus: ...entailed the renovation of a 1929 gothic-style building...designed by American architect Charles Klauder...The building's concrete frame and masonry facades were retained, as was a rectilinear volume...added in 1964 by New York studio O'Connor and Kilham...On the roof, the team added glazed pavilions...Within the building, two new atria were created. -- Beatrix Farrand (1929); Minoru Yamasaki (1960s); Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates [images]- Dezeen

Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners' 3 World Trade Center Nears Completion in New York: The building achieves several milestones, being the only building in the world to have a three-sided cable net wall and the first in the world to have an annealed glass exterior...consists of 80 floors, creating a gross floor area of over 2.8 million square feet (260,000 square meters)... [images]- ArchDaily

David J. Roth/The Downtown Design Company: Credit the architect when writing about buildings and development: Buildings don't design themselves. However, reading the Post-Gazette, who would know that? I am an architect. The public needs to be educated about what we do and how it impacts daily life...readers deserve to know who is shaping our built world. Is a building environmentally responsible? Is it an economic generator, providing jobs for both the designers and builders? - Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Susan Piedmont-Palladino: Into the Uncanny Valley: It is disconcerting when we can't quite sort out the relationship of an image to the world: a full-page spread...an aspirational view into...[a] starchitect-designed residence...the fine print in the corner of the page: "This is an actual photograph"...The image was so perfect and pristine, so devoid of the blemishes of everyday life, that the creators of the advertisement feared it was not credible...Photographs look like digital renderings; digital renderings look like photographs...Credible people make imaginary spaces credible...For all too often the rendering is making a promise that the building cannot redeem; that visitors will be happy, that surfaces will be clean and shiny, that the sky will be cloudless and clear. [images]- Places Journal

Oliver Wainwright: Mutts-have: architects create luxury kennels for pet charity auction: ...turn their hand to producing pooch palaces: A jewel-encrusted canine castle, a velvet-lined golden egg and a floating doghouse...are just some of the elaborate kennel designs concocted by dog-loving architects and designers to be auctioned off [BowWow Haus auction, April 26] in aid of the pet charity Blue Cross and the US-based Outdoor Arts Foundation. -- Zaha Hadid Design; Spark Architects; Studio Shaw; Russian for Fish; Condy Lofthouse Architects; Green Tea Architects; Studio Octopi [images]- Guardian (UK)

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Today's News - Thursday, April 26, 2018

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, May 1 (is it Spring yet?!?!?).

- [Litman has](#) some serious issues with Demographia's International Housing Affordability Survey that argues "housing unaffordability can be solved by allowing more urban sprawl - it's is propaganda, intended to support a political agenda rather than provide objective guidance - anyone using IHAS data: be warned, the analysis is sloppy, the recommendations unjustified and the authors lack credibility" (ouch!).
- [The "Kool Aid effect"](#) surrounding housing economics and "alternative facts" when it comes to the Reserve Bank of Australia's report *The Effect of Zoning on Housing* - "it was more than a bit disappointing to see the highly regarded RBA wading into such a complex area and getting it wrong."
- [Brockhoff](#), of the Planning Institute of Australia, explains why, without good planning, more housing won't fix "Australia's affordability crisis. Good planning is part of the solution to improving affordability of housing - it improves a communities' capacity to embrace growth and change."
- [At the other](#) end of the economic scale, France and Saudi Arabia have a \$20-billion development deal "to turn Mada'in Saleh and the Al-Ula region into a cultural tourism destination - a 'new Petra'" (a massive, "world class museum" to be included, of course).
- [Saffron](#) isn't feeling much love for Philly's LOVE Park makeover that is now "a featureless plateau" - a park "designed by committee and it shows. How sad that something that was once so special could be reduced to something so ordinary."
- [Barry Diller](#) talks to the Hollywood Reporter(!) about his 5-year (very expensive) battle for NYC's Pier 55 Park by Heatherwick and Mathews Nielsen, and the travails "that almost derailed the Hudson River greenspace, aka 'Diller Island,' now under construction": "We want to build it right...We have the resources and we're gonna do it."
- [Allen, formerly](#) with the Addison Gallery and the Clark Art Institute, cheers the Frick's "sensitive, elegant" expansion plan by Selldorf that "achieves its goals with a sure, light touch" - though its "expensive acrobatics" to keep Russell Page's "nice, postage stamp of a garden might buy the quiescence of its privileged neighbors."
- [TCLF's Birnbaum](#), not surprisingly, takes issue with Allen's take on the Frick's Page-designed garden: "it was unfortunate to read 'It's a nice, postage stamp of a garden.' This is exactly the sort of dismissiveness and condescension that a) got the Frick in trouble in the first place and b) treats landscape architecture as 'parsley around the roast.'"
- [Lange's](#) thoughtful (and amusing) chronicle of her visit to Adjaye's Spyscape museum in NYC with her 10-year-old son, "one of the most thoroughly designed experiences I have encountered. What I didn't expect was that I, personally, would have fun" (it's "more Breuer than Barnum" - fun photos, too!).
- [Van Houten](#) Maldonado's round-up of museums that "that make us think. Their architectural forms help tell their stories."
- [A good reason](#) to head to Pretoria, South Africa, next week: Architecture ZA 2018 (#AZA18): "WeTheCity: Memory & Resilience" - "some of architecture's key thinkers and practitioners will engage around the often

contentious topics of Heritage and Memory."

Weekend diversions:

- [Kimmelman](#) "never thought much about smelling Einstein" before visiting the Cooper Hewitt's "The Senses: Design Beyond Vision": "Sure, bring the kids. They will bliss out. But fun and games aside, there's a serious, timely and big idea here - we have taken leave of our non-visual senses - and need to get back in touch, literally."
- [Capps tells](#) us how the National Building Museum's "Evicted" became an exhibit, spending \$586 on particleboard at Home Depot: the show "makes elegant points with simple strokes. What we know about evictions in America is terrifying, but what we don't know is even worse."
- [With "50 Years After Whitney Young Jr."](#) opening at the Octagon Museum in Washington, DC, today, it's well worth taking the time to read his landmark 1968 AIA Convention speech that "came at a time of unprecedented turmoil. He had an important message for a profession he believed had the potential to make a positive difference - if its architects chose to do so."
- [Doskow's](#) photos in "Lost Utopias" at NYC's Front Room Gallery "capture the architecture that remains of the world's fairs across North American and Europe": "I have always been interested in architecture that had outlived its original purpose" (show heads to Asheville, NC, on June 1).
- [Hatherley](#) ponders "Superstructures: The New Architecture 1960-1990" at the Sainsbury Centre in Norwich, UK: High-tech is the only "important architectural ideology of the last few decades has never returned. It never went away - the buildings feel neither retro nor nostalgic" (and "the most thrilling and enduring high-tech buildings are not tasteful").
- [Meyer parses](#) "Kengo Kuma: a LAB for materials" on view in Tokyo that "reveals the goals and failures of contemporary Japanese avant-garde architecture. Some of his bigger projects seem to contradict the very virtues that the smaller ones aim for," and "not all solutions presented are workable or even beautiful," but Kuma "is certainly a great asset for contemporary Japanese architecture."
- [Hopkins](#), of Sir John Soane's Museum, uses Langlands & Bell's "Internet Giants: Masters of the Universe," on view in Birmingham, UK, to thoughtfully consider the impact of tech giants' buildings: "We won't know for several decades if these buildings represent new global citadels of power, or will soon become like the ruined monuments of antiquity."
- [Eyefuls](#) of Langlands & Bell's "Internet Giants: Masters of the Universe": "Either they engage timeless and universal typologies -or they are futuristic anecdotes with a kind of extra-terrestrial Sci-fi approach."



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[Todd Litman: Urban Sprawl Is Not More Affordable: Influential housing report supporting suburban expansion is little more than propaganda: ...the International Housing Affordability Survey \(IHAS\) by Demographia...argues that housing unaffordability is caused by urban containment policies...and can be solved by allowing more urban sprawl...My conclusion: the Survey is propaganda, intended to support a political agenda rather than provide objective guidance...To anyone using IHAS data: be warned, the analysis is sloppy, the recommendations unjustified and the authors lack credibility. -- Victoria Transport Policy Institute; Wendell Cox; Hugh Pavletich - The Tyee \(Vancouver\)](#)

[On the RBA, housing economics and "alternative facts": The Kool Aid effect. In March the Reserve Bank of Australia fell into the trap. It published a report The Effect of Zoning on Housing Prices linking less restrictive zoning and higher supply with more affordable housing. The Grattan Institute spins a similar story. As does the Productivity Commission...it was more than a bit disappointing to see the highly regarded RBA wading into such a complex area and getting it](#)



wrong. - The Fifth Estate (Australia)

John Brockhoff/Planning Institute of Australia: More housing hasn't fixed Australia's affordability crisis: Sydney's adding more housing stock than London and there's more cranes in the sky along the east coast than in New York, Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles combined. What's clear is that adding even more housing supply alone is not going to cause prices to drop. We need a national settlement strategy and demand-side reform...Good planning is part of the solution to improving affordability of housing...improves a communities' capacity to embrace growth and change... - The Fifth Estate (Australia)

France to help build a 'new Petra' in Saudi Arabia with estimated \$20-billion development deal: The country is due to sign a massive contract with the kingdom to turn Mada'in Saleh and the Al-Ula region into a cultural tourism destination: This vast undertaking will include a "world class museum"...might become "two to three times bigger than the Louvre Abu Dhabi"...agreement stresses the need to respect the environment, the ancient monuments, and the local population, as well as criteria like gender equality and freedom of speech in scientific research... - The Art Newspaper (UK)

Inga Saffron: LOVE Park was supposed to be the People's Park. How did it end up as a granite Sahara? ...a missed opportunity to create a welcoming and distinctive refuge in the heart of Philadelphia's downtown...a featureless plateau...the architects gave people exactly what they asked for...LOVE Park was designed by committee and it shows...a sanded-down version of the old...reduced to a generic, two-dimensional drawing...How sad that something that was once so special could be reduced to something so ordinary. -- Hargreaves Associates; KieranTimberlake [images]- Philadelphia Inquirer

Barry Diller Talks About His 5-Year Battle for NYC's Pier 55 Park: "You shouldn't be such a wuss," says the IAC chair of lawsuits that almost derailed the Hudson River greenspace, aka "Diller Island," now under construction..."Good stuff's tough to do...And maybe it should be.": ...hasn't stopped critics from accusing Pier 55 of being another playground for the city's one-percenters. Diller isn't having it...budget grew from \$35 million to more than \$250 million..."We want to build it right...We have the resources and we're gonna do it -- Thomas Heatherwick; Mathews Nielsen - Hollywood Reporter

Brian Allen: The Frick's expansion is a sensitive, elegant plan: The New York museum has shown it is a responsive listener and found ways to add much needed space and public amenities with surgical precision: Its new renovation and addition plan...achieves its goals with a sure, light touch...The project touches lots of things lurking behind the walls but...no one will notice...will open

the home's second floor, that mysterious but - I assure you - sumptuous space "beyond the ropes"...has performed expensive acrobatics to preserve its small "viewing garden"...dates only from 1977. It's a nice, postage stamp of a garden...keeping it might buy the quiescence of its privileged neighbours. -- Russell Page; Selldorf Architects - The Art Newspaper

Charles A. Birnbaum: ...the Frick's viewing garden is worth preserving: Brian Allen...starts off on a high note...The garden is one of [Russell Page's] rare extant commissions in the US, the only one in New York City and, according to a 1977 Frick press release, it was intended to be permanent...it was unfortunate to read..."It's a nice, postage stamp of a garden"...This is exactly the sort of dismissiveness and condescension that a) got the Frick in trouble in the first place and b) treats landscape architecture as "parsley around the roast"...Michael Kimmelman...observed "Great public places and works of landscape architecture deserve to be treated like great buildings." -- The Cultural Landscape Foundation/TCLF - The Art Newspaper

Alexandra Lange: Inside Spyscape, NYC's first spy museum: Playacting espionage in a total design environment: ...one of the most thoroughly designed experiences I have encountered...rendered in a materials palette that's more Breuer than Barnum...I'm interested in the future of museum experiences, which too often feel either like stuff in a room or rooms made for selfies...What I didn't expect was that I, personally, would have fun...challenges...require close attention, and are beautifully designed...this is a one-and-done experience; a repeat visit with my now very jealous 7-year-old would be boring...I ask 10-year-old for his rating: four and a half stars. A half star docked for the places where the design mask slips... -- Adjaye Associates [images] - Curbed

Devon Van Houten Maldonado: The buildings that make us think: These museums are more than archives of important work. Their architectural forms help tell their stories: A few museums are going above and beyond by filling their buildings with not only objects but also visions and questions that keep the arts they house alive... -- David Adjaye/Philip Freelon/Freelon Adjaye Bond/SmithGroup; Peter Zumthor; Renzo Piano; Tadao Ando - BBC Designed

Architecture ZA 2018 (#AZA18): "WeTheCity: Memory & Resilience" - Pretoria, South Africa, May 3-5; focusing on issues of design and practice concerning environmental potential, cultural heritage and human settlement...some of architecture's key thinkers and practitioners will engage around the often contentious topics of Heritage and Memory - South African Institute of Architects (SAIA)

Michael Kimmelman: At This Museum Show, You're Encouraged to Follow Your Nose: ...the Cooper Hewitt asks visitors to consider sound, taste and smell: I had never thought much about smelling Einstein before..."The Senses: Design Beyond Vision"...features other adventures in First World consumerism...Sure, bring the kids. They will bliss out stroking a wavy, fur-lined installation that makes music as you rub it. But fun and games aside, there's a serious, timely and big idea here...Numb to other senses, ocularcentric architecture cultivates alienation. What does designing more sensitively for nonvisual experience mean? In general, we have taken leave of our nonvisual senses - and need to get back in touch, literally. Cooper Hewitt, New York City, thru October 8 - New York Times

Kriston Capps: How "Evicted" Became an Exhibit: The National Building Museum [in Washington, D.C.] brings Matthew Desmond's Pulitzer Prize-winning "Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City" - and the American housing crisis itself - to life: To build out its exhibit, the NBM spent \$586 on particleboard at Home Depot...roughly the same as what one of [the book's] subjects makes in a month...In places, [it] makes elegant points with simple strokes...Better still are the photos from evictions in Milwaukee by Michael Kienitz...This gap in our national understanding of the affordable housing crisis is a crisis itself...What we know about evictions in America is terrifying, but what we don't know is even worse. - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Commemorating 50 years: Whitney M. Young Jr.'s 1968 AIA Convention speech: ...came at a time of unprecedented turmoil...Intended to improve the conditions of the urban poor, [urban renewal projects] often uprooting entire neighborhoods and had the opposite effect. With a few exceptions, the architectural profession and AIA were silent in the face of the damage being done...He had an important message for a profession he believed had the potential to make a positive difference - if its architects chose to do so. "50 Years After Whitney Young Jr." recognizes architects and organizations who tirelessly advocate and champion social issues. Octagon Museum, Washington, DC, thru November 24- AIArchitect / American Institute of Architects

Jade Doskow's "Lost Utopias" at the Front Room Gallery in New York: The photographs capture the architecture that remains of the world's fairs across North American and Europe: Using long exposure photography techniques with her large-format 4"x5" Arca-Swiss film camera, she has created contrasting images of stillness, projected by the built environment, juxtaposing smears of motion attributed to people, transportation, and the natural environment..."I have always been interested in architecture that had outlived its original purpose"... thru May 20 [images]- Architect Magazine

Owen Hatherley: High-tech never went away, though many wish it had: Every era comes back as a revival eventually...But what if there are architectures that are revival-proof? Only one important architectural ideology of the last few decades has never returned - high-tech. It never went away..."Superstructures: The New Architecture 1960-1990" on now at one of Norman Foster's finest early buildings, the Sainsbury Centre in Norwich. There, the peculiar fact that these 1970s and 1980s buildings feel neither retro nor nostalgic can be explored more fully...the most thrilling and enduring high-tech buildings are not tasteful. - Dezeen

Ulf Meyer: Losing Architecture: "Kengo Kuma: a LAB for materials" in Tokyo reveals the goals and failures of contemporary Japanese avant-garde architecture: ...does a good job of explaining his approach that "materials and humans should relate" by showing models, mock-ups, videos and material samples...Some of Kuma's bigger projects seem to contradict the very virtues that the smaller ones aim for...Not all solutions presented...are workable or even beautiful, but to have such an experimental and productive office as Kengo Kuma & Associates is certainly a great asset for contemporary Japanese architecture. Tokyo Station Gallery thru May 6 [images]- World-Architects.com

Owen Hopkins: Buildings are the most concrete clue to how tech giants are reshaping the world: The buildings of Facebook, Google, and Amazon reveal a lot about how these tech giants see themselves: ...what clues do we have? The

biggest and most concrete are found not in any online platform, but in their buildings...This is the contention of a timely exhibition "Internet Giants: Masters of the Universe" by Langlands & Bell...tech giants' vast complexes are transformed into minutely handcrafted models...Stripped of open-plan work spaces, meeting pods...and the like, the buildings become icons - all eerily similar...We won't know for several decades if these buildings represent new global citadels of power, or will soon become like the ruined monuments of antiquity. Ikon gallery, Birmingham, UK, thru June 10 - Dezeen

Artists create relief sculptures of Google and Apple headquarters by artists Ben Langlands and Nikki Bell: The artworks are based on the offices of some of the world's largest technology companies. Each is made by hand..."Internet Giants: Masters of the Universe" also includes four buildings in China..."Either they engage timeless and universal typologies...or they are futuristic anecdotes with a kind of extra-terrestrial Sci-fi approach." Ikon gallery, Birmingham, UK, thru June 10 -- Foster + Partners; Bjarke Ingels Group - BIG/Thomas Heatherwick; Frank Gehry; NBBJ; HOK; Gensler; Hassel; NEXT Architects; ZNA Architects [images] - Dezeen

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Today's News - Tuesday, May 1, 2018

- [Betsky comes](#) away from the Mextropoli Conference in Mexico City with a plea: "Lord save us from bloviating architects," after "the spectacle of a couple of very good architects giving very bad lectures - good buildings deserve to be seen and discussed seriously, modestly, and specifically" (other "amazing talks" gave him "optimism about what architecture can do to make the world better").
- [The new](#) UN-Habitat Executive Director Maimunah Mohd Sharif (former mayor of Penang) is on mission to reform the agency "to make sure it is relevant" and to "make cities more liveable for women because the benefits will be far-reaching."
- [Youngkin](#) (former Disney Imagineer and founder of The Brave Millennial) is optimistic that "architecture of the future will be better because it will be inclusive - she finds inspiration in John Cary and P+W's Gabrielle Bullock's equity and inclusion initiatives.
- [Nina Yashar](#), "the Milan design world's inimitable queen bee," is helping to put the spotlight on the "Grandes Dames of design. Or, shall we say, the lack thereof - the design world appears to be making steps toward not only being more inclusive, but re-canonizing the historical heavyweights."
- [Diller](#), meanwhile, says that, while the "male-dominated architecture industry is undergoing 'dramatic change,'" and sees "her inclusion on this year's Time 100 list as a positive step towards gender parity, not enough women end up in the profession after they graduate."
- [Rubin reports](#) on the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation's recent seminar "Re-Balancing the Power: Solutions for Sexual Misconduct in Architecture and Design Culture": "practitioners are pushing to make women more aware of inappropriate office behavior and more vocal in reporting it, with tougher misconduct sanctions in company ethics codes."
- [Thorpe parses](#) the mixed reception to proposed changes to the U.K.'s National Planning Policy Framework "to tackle a housing shortage, in particular affordable housing. At the center of the objections are the proposals' reliance on market forces and generosity to developers" (not a formula for promising outcomes).
- [Kemper's](#) great Q&A with Loftness re: biophilic design, "why we must design buildings connected to nature," and high design's "different roads to triumph" ("All of us are inspired by Christopher Alexander, in one way or another").
- [Salingaros](#) offers his take on "the legacy of Christopher Alexander, architecture, wholeness, grace and belief" - from his lecture at the Building Beauty Master's Program, Sorrento, Italy.
- [Hume considers](#) how the recent van attack in Toronto "highlights pedestrian vulnerability in a city designed for the car - the only option is to redesign roads," but aside from the "issues of engineering, design, speed limits, bylaws and civic attitudes, there's a lack of political will."
- [Move over](#), High Line New York - Pittsburgh's newest mega-conversion of a piece of the city's post-industrial landscape includes an elevated roadway transformed into the Highline park.
- [Your eye-candy](#) for the day x 2: Eyefuls of Iwan Baan's (of course spectacular) photos of Nouvel's National Museum of Qatar.
- [STUDIOS's](#) revamp of Gehry's cafeteria at 4 Times Square "still keeps the fundamental curves in place," but

the titanium walls and ceiling are now white, and "the bright seating has been reupholstered in hues of beige. The end result is more IAC Building than Disney Concert Hall."

● [The Russian](#) deputy culture minister warns that the Russian Pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale "may be a target for protests or 'provocations' as relations with the West deteriorate - we must be vigilant," but the pavilion's commissioner "dismissed concerns."

Modernism goes mainstream?

● [The Smithsonian](#) is angling to get Bunshaft's Hirshhorn Museum landmark status for its "unique representation of post-war Modernist architecture."

● [There may](#) not be a memorandum of understanding yet, but word is that IKEA may have plans to turn Breuer's "beloved by preservationists" 1969 Pirelli Tire Building in New Haven, Connecticut, into a hotel.

Winners (and hopefuls) all:

● [Speaking](#) of Modernist architecture, 13 "outstanding projects" will take home DOCOMOMO US's 2018 Modernism in America Awards on June 20 in NYC (great presentations).

● [Gerfen parses](#) the 10 winning (and impressive) projects taking home the AIA/ACSA COTE Top Ten for Students Awards (also great presentations).

● [Forensic](#) Architecture is in the running for this year's Turner Prize: "The list is more overtly political than in previous years."

● [Ravenscroft](#) has a very interesting conversation with Forensic Architecture's Eyal Weizman re: his "mixed feelings" about the Turner Prize nomination - he "expressed concern that the organization would get 'subsumed within the arts-financial complex' - being considered artists has been detrimental to the group's efforts to highlight serious humanitarian issues."

● [The 2018](#) Lexus Design Awards winners focused around the prefix "Co-" - "almost perfectly fulfilling Lexus' inclusive brief" (interesting!).



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[Aaron Betsky: Sometimes, Architects Should Just Do It: Lord save us from bloviating architects. It seems to be one of the banes of the profession that designers, given a chance...make overly grand claims for their work...At the Mextropoli Conference...in Mexico City, I was confronted...with the spectacle of a couple of very good architects giving very bad lectures...I had such high expectations...good buildings deserve to be seen and discussed seriously, modestly, and specifically. Only if architects can do this will they be able to convince all of us that their work deserves the podium they demand. -- Rafael Aranda/RCR Arquitectes; Valerio Olgiati \[images\]- Architect Magazine](#)

[UN urban chief on mission to reform and make cities better for women: UN-Habitat Executive Director Maimunah Mohd Sharif: "Before I see change in cities I want to see change in UN-Habitat to make sure it is relevant": ...one of her most immediate challenges is to reform UN-Habitat so that it can be a global driving force in implementing the New Urban Agenda...making cities more liveable for women is one of her priorities because the benefits will be far-reaching. - Place / Thomson Reuters Foundation](#)

[Laura Youngkin: Architecture Of The Future Will Be Better Because It Will Be Inclusive: ... when John Cary...asked his audience how much more beautiful and](#)



functional our schools, hospitals, homes, and offices would be if women and people of color were behind half of all the design - I couldn't help but shout out in affirmation....firms should look to Gabrielle Bullock's leadership and what she's accomplished at Perkins+Will for inspiration on equity and inclusion initiatives...Trends are steadily improving, and Millennial and Gen-Z grads will only help improve these numbers over time...I'm optimistic... - Forbes

The Design World Rediscovered the Grand Dames of Design: "Charlotte Perriand, Eileen Gray, Zaha Hadid, and Lina Bo Bardi," Nina Yashar, the Milan design world's inimitable queen bee...holds up four fingers. "You can count the really important ones on one hand." She's talking, of course, of the design and architecture world's leading ladies. Or, shall we say, the lack thereof...as matters of gender equality remain under constant scrutiny...the design world appears to be making steps toward not only being more inclusive, but re-canonizing the historical heavyweights. -- Libby Sellers/"Women Design"; Bodil Kjær; Nathalie du Pasquier; Johanna Grawunder [images]- Architectural Digest

Male-dominated architecture industry is undergoing "dramatic change" says Elizabeth Diller: Her Time 100 2018 ranking follows a series of victories and celebrations for women in architecture this year...However, she warned that still not enough women who study architecture end up in the profession after they graduate..."This is something that is difficult to decode. How does this happen? Where is the attrition?" -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro (DS+R); Itsuko Hasegawa; Frida Escobedo; Carme Pinós- Dezeen

Debra K. Rubin: Secrecy Decried as Architects Weigh Steps After Meier Sex-Harass Claims: ...practitioners are pushing to make women more aware of inappropriate office behavior and more vocal in reporting it, with tougher misconduct sanctions in company ethics codes...At ["Re-Balancing the Power: Solutions for Sexual Misconduct in Architecture and Design Culture"] seminar sponsored by the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation, participants said incidents, victims and abusers have been hidden in arbitrations and non-disclosure agreements...Laws Catch Up: - ENR/Engineering News Record

David Thorpe: Can the market deliver affordable housing in England? Proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework...to tackle a housing shortage, in particular affordable housing, have received a mixed reception. At the centre of the objections are the proposals' reliance on market forces and generosity to developers: The removal of the need to build housing for

affordable rent..."is unlikely to provide comfort to those currently without the means to buy a property"..NPPF has also come under attack from the Town and Country Planning Association and over 50 organisations... - The Fifth Estate (Australia)

Nicolas Kemper: Vivian Loftness on Biophilia and Why We Must Design Buildings Connected to Nature: Q&A with one of the world's foremost experts on biophilic design: "...high design has a number of different roads to triumph. One of the roads is unusually shaped and clad buildings. I use the words shape and drape...gets a lot of press...They are about the iconic game of 'what has never been seen before.' Yet that is only one path. Another path is actually looking at nature: biophilic rich architecture." -- Christopher Alexander - Common Edge

Nikos A. Salingaros: The Legacy of Christopher Alexander and A New Conception of the Universe: ...on architecture, wholeness, grace and belief: Alexander and his collaborators have derived techniques for generating the design components necessary for life, and also the rules for putting them together. But the final coherence - or lack of it - is a surprise that cannot be predicted or "designed"...Achieving coherence comes down to applying one of Alexander's 15 fundamental properties: "Not-separateness." [lecture given at the Building Beauty Master's Program, Sorrento, Italy]- Common Edge

Christopher Hume: Van attack highlights pedestrian vulnerability in a city designed for the car: To protect pedestrians, Toronto's only option is to redesign roads...: To be fair, pedestrian safety is difficult to achieve in any city. But in Toronto, it's been impossible...As well as issues of engineering, design, speed limits, bylaws and civic attitudes, there's a lack of political will...urban officials opt for barriers, metal bollards, concrete planters and the like...No one wants Toronto to look like the space around the U.S. Consulate...where the streetscape reeks of paranoia. - Toronto Star

A High Line in Pittsburgh? Officials bet big on elevated park in Steel City: Move over, New York...for the Highline, Pittsburgh's newest mega-conversion...to redevelop the Pittsburgh Terminal Warehouse and Transfer Company on the city's deindustrialized South Shore...Highline project seeks to revitalize a significant site within the city's post-industrial landscape...Below...will be a lower park dubbed the Yards which will serve as an extension to the city's preexisting river trail system. -- Charles Bickel (1906); Indovina Associates Architects- The Architect's Newspaper

Iwan Baan photographs Jean Nouvel's National Museum of Qatar as it moves towards completion. [images]- designboom

Take a look at revamped Gehry cafeteria at the former Condé Nast headquarters: ...has turned away from Gehry's original orange-and-grey scheme...the redesign appears to have thoroughly modernized the space...still keeps the fundamental curves in place. The titanium paneling on the walls and ceiling have been painted white, the floors and accents have been replaced with American white oak planks...The bright seating has been reupholstered in hues of beige...The end result is more IAC Building than Disney Concert Hall...marks the launch of the Durst Organization's Well& amenity brand... -- STUDIOS Architecture, [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Russian minister issues Venice Architecture Biennale warning: Country's pavilion may be targeted as relations with the West deteriorate: ...may be a target for protests or "provocations...we must be vigilant," said Vladimir Aristarkhov, the deputy culture minister...Semyon Mikhailovsky, the commissioner of the Russian Pavilion says..."We don't have censorship"...dismissed concerns about other countries...ministry is not contributing to the exhibition's nearly €1m - it has provided virtually no funding to the Russian Pavilion for years - The Art Newspaper (UK)

Smithsonian Recognizes Significance of Modernism With Landmark Status Request For Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden: ...filing the application...under Criteria G, which allows a newer building to qualify if it "embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction"...the Hirshhorn is a unique representation of post-war Modernist architecture...part of an ongoing project by the Smithsonian to obtain landmark status for all its buildings. -- Gordon Bunshaft/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) (1974) - WAMU.org - American University Radio

Hotel Eyed For Pirelli Tire Building: ...beloved by preservationists who feared it would be destroyed, is slated for new life as a hotel. IKEA...is in discussions with a New England hotel developer...negotiations are ongoing and have not yet produced a memorandum of understanding..."IKEA has not announced any new plans for [the building]. We do not have any additional updates at this time." -- Marcel Breuer (1969) - New Haven Independent (Connecticut)

2018 Modernism in America Awards: 13 outstanding projects showcase the highest level of expertise and commitment to careful preservation methods while serving as strong testaments to the efficacy of grassroots efforts, and public and private partnerships. -- Eero Saarinen/Harley Earl/SmithGroupJJR; Albert Ledner/Perkins Eastman; E. Saarinen/Dan Kiley/Mills + Schoeninger Architects; Richard Neutra/Lawrence V. Lof; HAC Lab/over,under/Chris Grimley/Michael Kubo/Rami el Samahy/etc.; Nathan Eddy/"Starship Chicago"; Frank Lloyd Wright/Harboe Architects; etc. [images] - DOCOMOMO US

Katie Gerfen: AIA and ACSA Announce the Winners of the COTE Top Ten for Students Awards: The 10 winning projects were developed by students at nine different schools in the U.S. and Canada: ...was run in collaboration with Architecture 2030, and had a special focus on responsive design that takes into account the impact that climate change will have on cities in the future. [images w/links to full project presentations] - Architect Magazine

Turner prize shortlist pits research agency against film-makers: Forensic Architecture investigates international crimes and injustice, and comprises architects, film-makers, archaeologists, investigative journalists, lawyers and scientists, has been nominated...The list is more overtly political than in previous years... -- Eyal Weizman [link to images] - Guardian (UK)

Tom Ravenscroft: Forensic Architecture has "mixed feelings" about Turner Prize nomination in week of setbacks: Eyal Weizman...was "very surprised and a little overwhelmed" by the nomination and expressed concern that the organisation would get "subsumed within the arts-financial complex"...group was awarded the Princess Margriet Award for Culture by the European Cultural Foundation [and] working with the V&A to curate the UK pavilion at the 2018 London Design

Biennale. But it also received disappointing news from three of the court cases it has been involved with in Israel and Italy...Unfortunately, being considered artists has been detrimental to the group's efforts to highlight serious humanitarian issues. - Dezeen

Co-Creating Towards a Better Future: A Journey Through the 2018 Lexus Design Awards: ...focused around the prefix "Co-"...Guided by the meaning of "Co-" and almost perfectly fulfilling Lexus' inclusive brief, it was no surprise that this year's grand prix laureates were New-York based design studio Extrapolation Factory..."Testing Hypotheticals"...props created during a two-day workshop, where community members from Queens were invited to test-out, explore and imagine alternate futures for their neighborhood. -- Sota Ichikawa/dNA (doubleNegatives Architecture); Eriko Yokoi; aesthetid; DigitaLab [images]- Core77

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Today's News - Wednesday, May 2, 2018

- [Donovan](#), author of "Designing the Compassionate City: Creating Places Where People Thrive," considers how design decisions "play an important role in framing the range of experiences that people enjoy, endure or miss out on - compassionate design emphasizes little design over big design."
- [Farrelly](#) bemoans that much of Australia's heritage "is disappearing in front of our eyes. Yes, we're the tomorrow people, but we'll be better tomorrow people if we're also, deeply, hereditary folk - developers and especially our governments need to grasp this, immediately, while there's still something left to save."
- [O'Sullivan](#) parses efforts in Venice to control the flood of tourists: "gates" requiring a local transit pass "is taking crowd management to the extreme - getting the wrong sort of international attention at a time when it is struggling to maintain its viability as a real city, rather than a floating museum."
- [Endreny](#) parses his research into how much money trees save in megacities using i-Tree Tools software: "Trees' benefits come out to a median value of \$967,000 per square kilometer of tree cover."
- [Menking](#) explores what's going on at Eliasson and Behmann's new art and architecture office, Studio Other Spaces: "This is perhaps a vehicle to combine his dramatic public art with a pragmatic social program. This desire by designers and artists to also be architects has a long lineage - we may start to see more of these professional distinctions erode."
- [Wainwright](#) minces no words re: OMA's mixed-use Blox project in Copenhagen: it's "a provocative attempt to condense the thrilling energy of a city into a single structure - but the result is a gloomy glass monolith," and "the least Danish venue imaginable for the Danish Architecture Centre" ("It is an intentional critique of Danish urbanism. The city has become too calm and beautified," sayeth van Loon).
- [On a brighter](#) (flightier) note: Cornwall, U.K.'s "abandoned and bat-infested" 1779 Bodmin Jail to be transformed into a hotel and tourist attraction by Twelve Architects (bats will be re-housed in a "bat bungalow"; no word of what will become of reported ghosts).
- [There are](#) variations of RAMSA's 15 Central Park West popping up all over Manhattan - all designed by RAMSA: "Developers hope each will have the specific appeal - and graciousness - that became 15 CPW's hallmark."
- [Betsky visits](#) Casa Barragán in Mexico City: "I can think of no single architect working today who is capable of such architecture. Does that mean it cannot be done? I certainly hope not."
- [Moore talks](#) to Farrell and McNamara (one "a rock person," the other "a bog person"): "all hail the new queens" of the Venice Biennale: Their appointment "as curators is striking - but no one who knows their work should be surprised"; they explain their Biennale theme "Freespace" - and he highlights three of Grafton's best.
- [Chayka profiles](#) BIG's Bjarke Ingels, the "brand builder": "Equal parts charismatic, obnoxious, and obsequious - his signature blend of aggressive salesmanship and techno-utopianism is set to define the built environment that the rest of us will have to inhabit over the coming decades."
- [Klimoski's](#) great Q&A with Eyal Weizman of Turner Prize nominee Forensic Architecture: "Work such as ours has a very important political meaning now, considering the populist-right movement that is rising. The idea of calling everything fake news is slowing down the potential for evidence-based work."

● [Denny talks](#) to architects who, "armed with data, are seeing the workplace like never before" - but "finding the best ways to support workers remains a moving target" (and "not all are crunching numbers in search of an answer").

● [Engelen](#) parses her systematic review "Is activity-based working impacting health, work performance and perceptions?" that finds "there is consensus that ABW is good for interaction, work performance and control, but unfavorable for concentration and privacy. The good, the bad, the undecided, and recommendations."

● [Consigli](#) explains how the construction industry can resolve its ever-worsening labor shortage: "The industry must draw its next generation of workers, female and male, from the ranks of tech and STEM students. Here are some ways."

Winners all:

● [An impressive](#) list of winners in the Architectural League's 2018 Architectural League Prize for Young Architects + Designers + dates for lectures & exhibition: "Objective" theme challenged entrants to consider: "How do we define or understand architecture in a post-truth world?" (great presentation).

● [Iowa Women](#) in Architecture and the Rockville, Maryland-based ACE Mentor Program are the winners of the AIA 2018 Diversity Recognition Program.

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[Jenny Donovan: Designing the compassionate city to overcome built-in biases and help us live better: ...biases that are figuratively and sometimes literally set in stone...the result of design decisions...play an important role in framing the range of experiences that people enjoy, endure or miss out on...compassionate design emphasises little design over big design...Creating places that are a canvas for self-expression and that allow people to contribute to the public realm help develop skills and a sense of achievement.](#) - The Conversation (Australia)

[Elizabeth Farrelly: Developers and government are destroying our sacred stories: Our story-steeped ground is disappearing in front of our eyes...heritage is much more than just artifacts. Heritage is our collective unconscious...sustaining our emotional and spiritual wellbeing...Yes, we're the tomorrow people, but we'll be better tomorrow people...if we're also, deeply, hereditary folk...developers and especially our governments need to grasp this, immediately, while there's still something left to save.](#) - Sydney Morning Herald

[Feargus O'Sullivan: Venice Erects Gates Against a Flood of Tourists: Don't have a local transit pass? Then you're not coming through: ...this is taking crowd management to the extreme...as public relations go, the gate experiment is still pretty poor. No one wants to be trapped in a congested labyrinth, no matter how beautiful its surroundings are...Venice is also getting the wrong sort of international attention at a time when it is struggling to maintain its viability as a real city, rather than a floating museum.](#) - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

[Theodore Endreny: Here's How Much Money Trees Save in Megacities: Trees' benefits come out to a median value of \\$967,000 per square kilometer of tree cover, researchers estimate: My research team has calculated just how much a tree matters for many urban areas, particularly megacities...For every dollar invested in planting, cities see an average \\$2.25 return on their investment each year...tree benefits software i-Tree Tools...can simulate how a tree's structure - such as height, canopy size, and leaf area - affects the services it provides.](#) - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)



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William Menking: A visit with Olafur Eliasson's art and architecture workshop, Studio Other Spaces: Directed by Eliasson and architect Sebastian Behmann, [it] is a natural outgrowth of the large-scale public sculptures and installations...This new architecture office is perhaps a vehicle to combine his dramatic public art with a pragmatic social program. This desire by designers and artists to also be architects has a long lineage...today we see it with artists like James Wines of SITE or industrial designers like Pentagram and Thomas Heatherwick...we may start to see more of these professional distinctions erode. - The Architect's Newspaper

Oliver Wainwright: Urban jumble: the building that wants to upset the calm of Copenhagen: OMA's Blox project stacks a museum, offices, gym, restaurant and housing in a provocative attempt to condense the thrilling energy of a city into a single structure - but the result is a gloomy glass monolith: ...exudes the off-putting sense of a generic corporate office block...no sign that there is anything remotely public going on inside..."It is an intentional critique of Danish urbanism...The city has become too calm and beautified"...the least Danish venue imaginable for the Danish Architecture Centre...There are some powerful moments...Hopefully, the combination of DAC and Bloxhub will be...a useful platform to get urban issues on the political agenda, but... -- Kent Martinussen/DAC; Rem Koolhaas/Ellen van Loon/Office for Metropolitan Architecture [images]- Guardian (UK)

Twelve Architects to turn the ruins of Bodmin Jail into a hotel: An abandoned and bat-infested 18th century prison in Cornwall, England, is being turned into a hotel and tourist attraction...and to re-home the bats that have been roosting in its ruined walls in a bespoke bat-house...will see the Grade-II listed building restored...With its gruesome past, the jail is unsurprisingly rumoured to be haunted - although lead architect Hannah Baker said she hasn't had any spectral sightings... -- John Call (1779) [images]- Dezeen

Why Copies of 15 Central Park West Are Taking Over Manhattan: Robert Stern's triumph of real estate capitalism has inspired half a dozen imitations now hitting the market - all designed by Robert A.M. Stern Architects: Developers hope each will have the specific appeal that became 15 CPW's hallmark: all the graciousness and convenience of a prewar co-op without any of the hassle...everything works...The multiple versions ...are a conservative version of something new." - Bloomberg News

Aaron Betsky: No architect today is capable of buildings like Luis Barragán's: If you are going to make real architecture today it better be damn real. In a world of instant images whose truth you can never ascertain, delicate structures just won't do. You need something that will convince and persuade, stand and deliver...But how? A recent visit to...Casa Barragán [in Mexico City], reminded me of the power of pieces over whole, effect over means...I can think of no single architect working today who is capable of such architecture. Does that mean it cannot be done? I certainly hope not. - Dezeen

Rowan Moore: Architecture Biennale 2018: all hail the new queens of Venice: The appointment of Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara as curators...is striking - but no one who knows their work should be surprised: Theirs was a striking appointment for what is the world's greatest exhibition and celebration of

architecture...They are neither celebrities nor notable theorists. They are well-respected architects who, determinedly, consistently and over a long period of time, do their stuff. But what stuff. -- Grafton Architects [images]- Observer (UK)

Kyle Chayka: The Brand Builder: ...Bjarke Ingels is designing the future: ...new wave of architecture is curved, warped, and fractured...the vocabulary is the same around the world...As both symptom and cause of this blandly ubiquitous urbanism, we have in part Ingels to thank...Equal parts charismatic, obnoxious, and obsequious...his signature blend of aggressive salesmanship and techn-utopianism is set to define the built environment that the rest of us will have to inhabit over the coming decades...buildings that are specific without being local, existing within cities but not of them...emblematic of an age in which every building must be a signature unto itself...BIG is as much a brand as an architectural practice, devoted less to building timeless structures than to associating itself with the newest and latest. -- BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group [images]- The New Republic

Alex Klimoski: Interview with Forensic Architecture Founder Eyal Weizman: The group recreates conflict sites using data and architectural rendering software: You have a degree in architecture...Do you consider what you do architecture? "Yes. But for us, architecture is a place we depart from...work such as ours has a very important political meaning now, considering the populist-right movement that is rising...The idea of calling everything fake news is slowing down the potential for evidence-based work." - Architectural Record

Phillip Denny: Architects, Armed with Data, Are Seeing the Workplace Like Never Before: Today's designers are taking an increasingly sophisticated approach to workplace design, using sensors, internet-connected furniture and fixtures, and data analytics to study offices in real time: ...concentrating on the relationship between work environments and employee efficiency. As the nature of work continues to evolve, finding the best ways to support workers remains a moving target...But not all architects are crunching numbers in search of an answer. -- Studio O+A/Tech x Interiors; Uli Blum/Arjun Kaicker/Analytics and Insight/Zaha Hadid Architects; Scott Sadler/Steelcase; Jeffrey Inaba/Inaba Williams; Humanscale/OfficeIQ- Metropolis Magazine

Lina Engelen: The evidence is in on activity based working: Many (some unproven) claims have been made about the benefits of agile/activity based working (ABW) on workers' health and work performance, but the jury is no longer out: In a recently published systematic review, we report that there is consensus that ABW is good for interaction, work performance and control, but unfavourable for concentration and privacy...What does the evidence say? The good. The bad. The undecided...Recommendations. - The Fifth Estate (Australia)

Anthony Consigli: Construction Is Booming Now but Without New Workers and Tech Its Future Is Uncertain: The industry must draw its next generation of workers, female and male, from the ranks of tech and STEM students: Here are some ways. Advance STEM jobs and education. Attract more women to the field. Encourage craftsmanship training...impending labor shortage is actually an opportunity to grow and develop the workforce. - Entrepreneur magazine

The Architectural League of New York announces winners of the 2018 Architectural League Prize for Young Architects + Designers and sets dates for

lectures & exhibition: ...theme for the portfolio competition, Objective, challenged entrants to consider objectivity today...How do we define or understand architecture in a post-truth world? -- Anya Sirota/Akoaki (Detroit); Bryony Roberts/Bryony Roberts Studio (Princeton); Gabriel Cuélla/Athar Mufreh/Cadaster (Brooklyn); Coryn Kempster/Julia Jamrozik and Coryn Kempster (Buffalo); Alison Von Glinow/Lap Chi Kwong/Kwong Von Glinow (Chicago); Dan Spiegel/SAW // Spiegel Aihara Workshop (San Francisco) [images]- Architectural League of New York

AIA Announces 2018 Diversity Recognition Program Winners: This year's two winners are the Iowa Women in Architecture (iaWia) and the Rockville, Maryland-based Architecture, Construction, Engineering/ACE Mentor Program.- Architect Magazine

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Today's News - Thursday, May 3, 2018

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, May 8.

- [ANN feature](#): Stark pens Nuts + Bolts #17: The Dismissal Luncheon (or Breakfast): If your boss asks you to join him or her for breakfast or lunch and there is no specific agenda, beware. Something is afoot.
- [Kafka, like](#) Wainwright (see Yesterday's News), minces no words re: OMA's Blox project in Copenhagen that "rejects typical Danish urbanism - it feels uncomfortable - welcoming becomes watched, intriguing becomes befuddling."
- [Fairs parses](#) Schumacher's latest "provocative intervention" ('er diatribe?) in the housing debate written for a free-market think-tank (miles of comments, as expected).
- [Six firms](#) release preliminary renderings of design solutions for the Grenfell Tower estate restoration as part of a 456-page book of ideas - "however, the tower is not included in renovation plans."
- [Desmond](#), of "Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City" fame, talks about the National Building Museum's show and Princeton University's newly-launched Eviction Lab website.
- [Two of our](#) faves: Walker's great Q&A with KCRW's Anderton re: "why valuing L.A.'s good design matters more now than ever": "When I started the show, I do remember hearing people express puzzlement at the notion of a show primarily focused on L.A. architecture, as in, 'what architecture?'"
- [Five finalists](#) chosen for Quebec's "Architecture and community commitment: A tale of aluminum" competition (vote for People's Choice Award until May 25).

Weekend diversions:

- [Corcoran](#) on "Secret Cities: The Architecture and Planning of the Manhattan Project," opening today at the National Building Museum, that "examines the exceptional design thinking required to build three clandestine cities" - SOM's "hidden cities were a laboratory for the most cutting-edge explorations of town planning, engineering, and efficiency of mass and scale."
- [Madsen on](#) "Secret Cities": "The clandestine nature of these places is by design - their history and built forms became proving grounds for planning concepts; these instant communities continue to thrive" (we have family in Oak Ridge, TN - an interesting burg if ever there was one).
- [Filler tackles](#) the "whirling mechanical Precisionism" found in "Cult of the Machine" at the de Young Museum in San Francisco (then moving on to Dallas): "Over the past decades, there have been frequent reiterations of this familiar subject matter - the question inevitably arises, 'Why again?' The material on view is, to be sure, perennially popular with the general public," with "cocktail shakers that look like skyscrapers, skyscrapers that look like cocktail shakers," and an "almost complete absence of human figures" (great images!).
- [NLÉ Works'](#) "Prelude to The Shed" is a temporary arts pavilion that teases what DS+R// Rockwell Group's arts building in Hudson Yards will be in a year: it's "a reconfigured steel shed crossed with a party limo - a humble dwelling amid the towers."

- [Curators](#) Becker & Negussie's great Q&A Jan Gehl adapted from the book accompanying "Ride a Bike! Reclaim the City" at the Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM) in Frankfurt.
- [Jones is](#) fairly smitten with "Monet & Architecture" at London's National Gallery: "He is known as a joyful painter of lilies and picnics. But this thrilling show recasts him as an artist aghast as the world hurtled towards calamity - he was painting to restore the heart of a heartless world."
- [Wainwright](#) finds "Disappear Here" at RIBA, London to be "a muddled view on architectural perspective - in danger of vanishing thanks to a scattershot display - it wouldn't have hurt to put the theme of perspective more in perspective."

Page-turners:

- [McGuirk](#) cheers Sennett's "Building and Dwelling: Ethics for the City": "His experience as a planner notwithstanding, it is Sennett the writer and sociologist who is most rewarding. Part of the charm of the book is its intimacy. The nub is that the open city is a demanding place - getting people to agree is hard work."
- [Moore cheers](#) Boughton's "Municipal Dreams: The Rise and Fall of Council Housing," a "serious, heartfelt book" that "makes a convincing case that publicly provided homes have to be at least part of the response to the dysfunctional state that British housing has now attained."
- [Ducote decodes](#) Chey's "Multi-Unit Housing in Urban Cities: 1800 to Present Day": It "is not only refreshing to read but a tremendously valuable tool for city planners, urban designers and architects."
- [Logan talks](#) to Maki re: "City with a Hidden Past," written over 30 years ago "as a way to understand the hidden factors that make the seemingly inscrutable city of Tokyo legible" - and now available in English for the first time.
- [In "New](#) York New York: A Visual Hymn by Richard Koek," the Dutch photographer "went after light and color. It enters through a bridge and leaves the same way. You are swept in, there's no turning back."



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[ANN feature: Nuts + Bolts #17: The Dismissal Luncheon \(or Breakfast\): If your boss asks you to join him or her for breakfast or lunch during a period of uncertainty and there is no specific agenda, beware. Something is afoot. He or she may want to drop the boom and do the deed in a controlled setting away from the prying eyes of the office staff. By Stanley Stark, FAIA, LEED AP:- ArchNewsNow.com](#)

[George Kafka: OMA's New Mixed-Use BLOX Project in Copenhagen: The diversely programmed building...rejects typical Danish urbanism - but is that a good thing? "I had one conversation with Jan Gehl and I got into a fight with him," says...Ellen van Loon...Considering BLOX is the new home of the Danish Architecture Center \(DAC\), this refusal to be Dane-splained on public space is bold...a critique of Danish urbanism: "It's all a bit too nice"...The point is, however, labored to the extent that it feels uncomfortable...welcoming becomes watched, intriguing becomes befuddling. Perhaps Danish urbanism wasn't such a bad idea after all. \[images\]- Metropolis Magazine](#)

[Marcus Fairs: Unfettered capitalism "can solve the housing crisis" says Patrik Schumacher: Height restrictions, space standards and rent controls should be scrapped in order to solve the housing crisis, according to Zaha Hadid Architects' principal...\[He\] sets out his thinking in an essay written for free-market think-tank the Adam Smith Institute, titled "Only capitalism can solve the housing crisis"...The essay marks the latest provocative intervention in the housing debate...following his infamous 2016 lecture, in which he called for the](#)



scrapping of social housing and the abolition of public space. - Dezeen

Architects Release Preliminary Plans for Grenfell Tower Estate Restoration: Six firms make recommendations for improving the 1960s housing estate in west London: ...preliminary renderings of design solutions as part of a 456-page book of ideas. This effort was initiated in the months following the deadly Grenfell Tower fire, which left 71 people dead; however, the tower is not included in renovation plans...the residents will vote on which designers will carry out...their proposed plans. -- Adjaye Associates; Cullinan Studio; Levitt Bernstein; Maccreanor Lavington; Murray John Architects; Penoyre & Prasad [images]- Architect Magazine

Reframing Evictions as a National Crisis: Two new related projects...aim to highlight the U.S. eviction epidemic: ..."Evicted," a year-long exhibition at the National Building Museum, Washington, D.C., and the debut of Eviction Lab, a website created by a team at Princeton University that maps eviction records from across the United States...show combines the macro and micro: nationwide statistics combined with individual stories...website...deals primarily in the macro. -- Matthew Desmond/"Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City" [images]- Architect Magazine

Alissa Walker: Bringing LA's great architecture to the masses: Frances Anderton, host of KCRW's DnA: Design and Architecture, on why valuing LA's good design matters more now than ever: Q&A re: the city's 1980s design scene, covering LA's defining moments, and what it's like to live in an apartment designed by a rather famous architect [Frank Gehry]..."When I started the show, I do remember hearing people express puzzlement at the notion of a show primarily focused on LA architecture, as in, 'what architecture?'" - Curbed Los Angeles

Five finalists chosen for Quebec aluminum in architecture competition: "Architecture and community commitment: A tale of aluminum"...seeks to promote the innovative use of aluminum in the building sector...vote for People's Choice Award until May 25. -- Centre d'expertise sur l'aluminium (CeAl); Alcoa Innovation; Association des Architectes en pratique privée du Québec (AAPPQ);

Groupe A / Annexe U; Mercier Pfalzgraf Architectes; Luc Plante Architecture + Design 7 Charles Godbout/Topo Design; Provencher Roy; ADHOC Architectes [images] - Canadian Architect

Heather Corcoran: Secret cities of the Manhattan Project...at the National Building Museum: In the midst of World War II, three new cities sprung up...built from scratch..."Secret Cities: The Architecture and Planning of the Manhattan Project"...examines the exceptional design thinking required to build three clandestine cities [Oak Ridge, Tennessee; Los Alamos, New Mexico; Hanford, Washington]...the hidden cities were a laboratory for the most cutting-edge explorations of town planning, engineering, and efficiency of mass and scale. thru March 3, 2019 -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Deane Madsen: Secret Cities: Exhibition Explores the Architecture and Planning of U.S. Nuclear Sites: "Secret Cities: The Architecture and Planning of the Manhattan Project" at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C...If you've never heard of Los Alamos, New Mexico; Oak Ridge, Tennessee; or Hanford and Richland, Washington, you're not alone. In fact, the clandestine nature of these places is by design...[show] aims to reveal much of their history and built forms...became proving grounds for planning concepts...looks back 75 years to the formation of these instant communities - all of which continue to thrive...and their contemporary implications. thru March 3, 2019 -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) [images] - Metropolis Magazine

Martin Filler: Whirling Mechanical Precisionism: "Cult of the Machine"...over the past decades, there have been frequent reiterations of this familiar subject matter...the question inevitably arises, "Why again?" The material on view...is, to be sure, perennially popular with the general public...cocktail shakers that look like skyscrapers, skyscrapers that look like cocktail shakers...One of the most noteworthy aspects of Precisionist painting is its almost complete absence of human figures...Charles Sheeler blandly replied that such vacancy showed "what a beautiful world it would be if there were no people in it." de Young Museum in San Francisco, thru August 12; Dallas Museum of Art, September 9, 2018 - January 6, 2019 [images] - New York Review of Books

Shacked Up: NLÉ Works' "Prelude to The Shed": ...DS+R/Diller Scofidio + Renfro and the Rockwell Group's...arts building in Hudson Yards is a solid year away from hosting performances. In the meantime...curators are teasing the public with...a temporary pavilion for dance, theater, and art...The building, a reconfigured steel shed crossed with a party limo...a humble dwelling amid the towers... thru May 13 -- Kunlé Adeyemi; Tino Sehgal [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Annette Becker & Lessano Negussie: Copenhagen Mastermind Jan Gehl Isn't Sold on 'Smart' Cities: Architect and planner...looks back on how he helped transform Copenhagen into one of the world's most livable cities and talks about how people can reclaim the streets: ...a conversation with the curators of "Ride a Bike! Reclaim the City" at the Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM) in Frankfurt, Germany, Gehl discusses his observations and philosophies of how cities can become as bike-friendly, people-friendly, and climate-friendly... [Q&A adapted from exhibit's accompanying book] - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Jonathan Jones: "Monet & Architecture" - glorious pleas for humanity show Monet in a new light: He is known as a joyful painter of lilies and picnics. But this thrilling show recasts him as an artist aghast as the world hurtled towards calamity: ...reveals a very different Monet, one anxious about the industrial world and horrified by its injustices...This shockingly unexpected encounter with Monet the critic of capitalism...shows that his love of nature is not mere escapism. It is a craving for human survival in an age of growing industrial inhumanity...Decades before the first world war...he was painting to restore the heart of a heartless world. National Gallery, London, thru July 29- Guardian (UK)

Oliver Wainwright: "Disappear Here" - a muddled view on architectural perspective: A haul of architectural drawings explore perspective over the centuries, but the point is in danger of vanishing thanks to a scattershot display: ...intriguing haul has been thrown on the wall in a seemingly random order...Adding an extra layer of disorientation to the jumbled hang, the small gallery's walls have been transformed into a trompe-l'oeil stage set...it wouldn't have hurt...to put the theme of perspective more in perspective. RIBA, London, thru October 7 -- Sam Jacob; Marie Bak Mortensen [images]- Guardian (UK)

Justin McGuirk: Can Cities Make Us Better Citizens? For Richard Sennett, meeting strangers is a civic duty...“Building and Dwelling: Ethics for the City” distills...his thoughts on how urban design shapes the ways in which we relate to one another...he argues for a city that embraces difference...Is the answer to give more power to the urban planners? Not quite...More power, then, to the citizens? Yes and no...His experience as a planner notwithstanding, it is Sennett the writer and sociologist...who is most rewarding. Part of the charm of [the book] is its intimacy...The nub of the book is that the open city is a demanding place...getting people to agree is hard work. - New Yorker

Rowan Moore: "Municipal Dreams: The Rise and Fall of Council Housing": John Boughton traces the vexed history of social housing in this timely, persuasive study: A new divide has emerged between owner-occupying haves and renting have-nots...[book] brings a broad but informed view...Architects' megalomaniac fantasies, combined with the municipal Stalinism inherent in the very notion of council housing were to blame. Boughton rebuts this...serious, heartfelt book makes a convincing case that publicly provided homes have to be at least part of the response to the dysfunctional state that British housing has now attained. - Observer (UK)

Frank Ducote, FCIP: Collective Visioning: An ambitious new research project maps out the past and present of multi-unit living: ...it's surprising how few in-depth case studies exist of residential building types...Thus, Katy Chey's...“Multi-Unit Housing in Urban Cities: 1800 to Present Day,” is not only refreshing to read but a tremendously valuable tool for city planners, urban designers and architects...Her in-depth documentation of each typology...an ambitious report that shows how our present-day cities are both helped and hindered by these pre-existing street and block patterns. [images]- Canadian Architect

Greg Logan: Fumihiko Maki: Finding intimacy in the city: He talks about a landmark book of Japanese architecture, "City with a Hidden Past," and the virtues of Tokyo's inner havens: Originally published more than 30 years ago...Maki and his coauthors wrote it as a way to understand the hidden factors that make the seemingly inscrutable city of Tokyo legible. It is a guide to the

city's idiosyncratic streets, the many layers of its urban facade, and the microtopology that brings a sense of place to its many neighborhoods.
"City with a Hidden Past," - Japan Times

Alice Rose George: New York: A photographic celebration of NYC's architecture and street life: Richard Koek lives in New York but he is from another world. In his obsession to photograph his chosen place...Dutch photographer...went after light and colour. It is strange but most often it takes an outsider to see the richness of detail and peculiarities of a place..."New York New York: A Visual Hymn by Richard Koek" enters through a bridge and leaves the same way. You are swept in, there's no turning back. [images]- Independent (UK)

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Yesterday's News

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Today's News - Tuesday, May 8, 2018

- [King makes](#) the case for Washington D.C.'s flat skyline: He sees "this feature as one of the city's defining physical traits - in a good way, not bad - the rigid status quo prods architects to make the best of a confining situation"; though some efforts "are earnest but incompetent. Some have an air of desperation. Some ooze cynicism" (now we know why we haven't seen his byline for a spell - he's currently a Mellon Fellow in urban landscape studies at Dumbarton Oaks in D.C.!).
- [The fascinating](#) tale of how Station F, a former railway shed, has "transformed Paris into the start-up capital of France" (the "start-up nation") as an incubator for 3,000 entrepreneurs and businesses (including Facebook, L'Oréal, and Microsoft - co-living coming soon!).
- [Move over](#), Hudson Yards: Chakrabarti's PAU is tapped to lead an impressive team (Ratti is the project's "futurist!") to transform a 180-acre active rail yard in western Queens, NY, into the Sunnyside Yard development - all while keeping the trains running.
- [Bernstein](#), meanwhile, continues his Immigrant Stories series with a great profile of Chakrabarti, the "India-born architect and urban theorist" who is "one of the world's most imaginative thinkers on how architecture can be used to improve cities."
- [Wells delves](#) into how Copenhagen, "one of the most diverse cities in Europe," is grappling with "constructing diversity from the ground up" as it builds new neighborhoods - from the ground up.
- [Glancey](#) at his most eloquent tells the fascinating tale of how Rockefeller Center, "a soaring symbol of optimism in the dark days of the 1930s," came about: It "remains a model of modern urban planning - an unscarred architectural mountain range set among the cavernous ravines and gullies of Midtown's streets and avenues."
- [Flynn considers](#) whether open source architecture is for everyone: "Proponents say it could solve the global housing crisis. The reality is a little more complicated."
- [Tunkey explores](#) "the genius, heart, and humility" of Pritzker-winner B.V. Doshi by talking with the Indian architect's former student and employee, and now friend, Jitendra Vaidya: his "work is not obviously sexy - it's not 'Instagramable'" - more importantly, it is "an antidote for much of what afflicts contemporary academic and professional architecture."
- [A look at](#) "the rise of 'risky' playground design" that includes deliberately-placed "exposed nails and steep drops": the Brits "are embracing the idea that purposeful risky play promotes resilience and builds more self-reliant young people - children learn what to fear and not to fear" - and it's coming to U.S. (with link to detailed NYT story).
- [SOM and](#) James Corner Field Operations, the master-plan team behind Cornell Tech's Roosevelt Island campus, are crossing the Hudson and teaming up again for Princeton University's Lake Campus Master Plan project.
- [Kamin reports](#) on Calatrava's Chicago comeback - "on a much smaller scale" - a red, riverfront sculpture: "Although it will be far shorter than the proposed Chicago Spire, it will have a twist of its own."
- [Schwab parses](#) a "remarkable new study" that "documents the experiences of women in an open office

designed by men": open-plan spaces are "subtly sexist."

- [A good reason](#) to head to Ottawa, Canada, next week: 55th International Making Cities Livable Conference: "Designing Healthy, 10-Minute Neighborhoods."

- [A good reason](#) to head to Kaliningrad, Russia, next week: Strelka Institute/Government of the Russian Federation's Living Environment: All About Housing Forum (an impressive line-up of speakers).

- [A good reason](#) to plan to be in the U.A.E. next year: the inaugural Sharjah Architecture Triennial, with a look at what the Triennial means for the Middle East.

Winners & Deadlines for future winners:

- [Bozikovic](#) cheers the 12 winners of RAIC's 2018 Governor-General's Medal.

- [Call for](#) entries: Public Toilets Revolution in Suichang, China - Top 5 will be built (no fee and cash prizes - but registration deadline looms!).

- [Call for](#) entries & applications: "Human Impact on Landscape and Living Spaces" Young Photographer Award 2018 | Residency in Austria 2019 (no fee - must between 20 and 35).

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[John King: The Case for D.C.'s Flat Skyline: Some Washingtonians complain that the city's height limit has resulted in lookalike, boxy buildings. But creativity can emerge from constraint: ...flat-topped skyline...drives many urbanists crazy. But after several months in Washington, I've come to see this feature as one of the city's defining physical traits - in a good way, not bad. Call it the virtue of architectural monotony...An awkward yet oddly endearing terrain where, absolutely, the whole is greater than the sum of the parts...the rigid status quo prods architects to make the best of a confining situation...Some are earnest but incompetent. Some have an air of desperation...Some ooze cynicism...this would also be the case if heights hadn't been capped since 1910. -- Kevin Roche; Florance Eichbaum Esocoff King; Gensler; Robert A.M. Stern Architects \[images\] - CityLab \(formerly The Atlantic Cities\)](#)

[How Station F Transformed Paris Into the Start-Up Capital of France: Facebook, L'Oréal, and Microsoft have all moved into Europe's newest and hottest start-up hub, which is causing a surge in the real-estate value of Paris's 13th arrondissement: ...a space that has transformed a former railway shed into a start-up incubator for 3,000 entrepreneurs and businesses...Due to the Brexit effect, startups are looking to stay within the European Union for more opportunities, just as France is gaining steam as a "start-up nation" ...introducing a new co-living space for entrepreneurs...launching in 2019. -- Wilmotte & Associés \[images\] - Architectural Digest](#)

[PAU confirmed as Sunnyside Yard master planner: Vishaan Chakrabarti's Practice for Architecture and Urbanism will be leading the master planning team...for the future of the 180-acre active rail yard \[in western Queens\]...Regular check-ins with the community will also be scheduled...will involve decking over an extensive portion of the rail yard while keeping \[the\] trains running below...with the potential to build out up to 24,000 residential units, 19 schools, and 52 acres of parkland... -- Sam Schwartz Engineering; Nelson Byrd Woltz; Carlo Ratti Associati - The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Fred A. Bernstein: Immigrant Stories: Vishaan Chakrabarti Sees the Future in](#)



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Old Cities: The India-born architect and urban theorist credits his immigrant background with helping him become an expert in "reading culture": [He] one of the world's most imaginative thinkers on how architecture can be used to improve cities...he's much more interested in urban sites, where history informs design decisions...says that being "a dark-skinned immigrant in the architecture world" has downsides...the profession still suffers from a lack of racial diversity, especially among those in positions of authority. -- Practice for Architecture and Urbanism/PAU; SHoP Architects; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill/SOM [images]- Architectural Digest

Benjamin Wells: Constructing Diversity: ...how do we plan for districts that are not yet built...How do we fit our plans to a population that is yet to be defined? ...Copenhagen is grappling with these questions as it builds large new districts...in Nordhavn the city is attempting to find the balance between a controlled and a market-oriented form of development...it is the issue of house-type variation that dominates this debate...perhaps architects and urban planners can be more proactive in designing diversity from the outset...For architects, it demands new strategies for integrating housing into a public realm that encourages and fosters social diversity. -- COBE, SLETH, Polyform (now WERK and Sangberg Architects); Rambøll; entasis; GHB Landskabsarkitekter; Niras A/S; Trafikplan; Hall McKnight [images]- ArcSpace

Jonathan Glancey: Building Rockefeller Center - and a legacy: A soaring symbol of optimism in the dark days of the 1930s: [It] emerged from the...Wall Street Crash...to shape what is perhaps...the most ambitious of all 20th-century city-centre developments...Raymond Hood's refined aesthetic balancing the elegantly theatrical...with commonsense practicality...A city within a city, it remains a model of modern urban planning, a munificent civic adventure paid for entirely by private enterprise...an unscarred architectural mountain range set among the cavernous ravines and gullies of Midtown's streets and avenues... -- Associated Architects; Reinhard & Hofmeister; Corbett, Harrison & MacMurray; Hood, Godley & Fouilhoux; Wallace Harrison [images]- Christie's

Katherine Flynn: Open Source for Everyone? Proponents of open source architecture say it could solve the global housing crisis. The reality is a little more complicated: ...a "citizen-centered design movement"...the idea isn't entirely new. People have been thinking about ways to take the power of design from the hands of architects and design professionals for as long as those professions have existed...has the potential to radically disrupt the relationship between architects, developers, and consumers while at the same time addressing the housing crisis... -- Alejandro Aravena/Elemental; Matthew Claudel/Carlo Ratti; Alastair Parvin/Nick Ierodiaconou/WikiHouse - Architect Magazine

Michael Tunkey: The Genius, Heart and Humility of Indian Architect B.V. Doshi: ...Doshi is fundamentally different from recent [Pritzker Prize] winners. ...[his] work is not obviously sexy...It's not fashionable or current...it's difficult to capture with a camera - it's not "Instagramable"...an antidote for much of what afflicts contemporary academic and professional architecture...an almost spiritual leader within architecture...I understood why Jitendra's "Unified Theory of Doshi" is so vitally relevant to architecture today. -- Jitendra Vaidya - Common Edge

Inside the Rise of "Risky" Playground Design: Child recreation areas with

exposed nails and steep drops - placed deliberately - have caught on in the U.K. and are coming to America: Educators in Britain are embracing the idea that purposeful risky play promotes resilience and builds more self-reliant young people. As a result, public playspaces there are being redesigned or newly built to actively present that risk...something that might sound alarms for some parents here in the litigious U.S...Public playgrounds and parks are ground zero for designed risk: "That's where children learn what to fear and not to fear." -- Cheri Ruane/Weston & Sampson/Boston Society of Landscape Architects; Studio Ludo; play:groundNYC [images]- Architectural Digest

Architects, planners selected for Lake Campus Master Plan project at Princeton University: ..aims to transform University lands south of Lake Carnegie into a vibrant, mixed-use community that includes academic partnerships with external collaborators in an expanded innovation ecosystem. -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); James Corner Field Operations- Princeton University News

Blair Kamin: Architect of defunct-Chicago Spire to design riverfront sculpture: [Santiago Calatrava] will get a chance to leave his mark on Chicago, but on a much smaller scale...a riverfront sculpture that will stand in the outdoor plaza of the River Point office building...Although it will be far shorter than the proposed Spire...the red piece of sculpture will have a twist of its own...a coiled metal spiral that will frame views of the Chicago River and will itself be framed by the mirrored parabolic arch...- Chicago Tribune

Katharine Schwab: The Subtle Sexism Of Your Open Plan Office: A remarkable new study documents the experiences of women in an open office designed by men: There are many reasons to hate open offices: They're loud, prone to thieves, and, most of all, lack any kind of privacy. But a new research paper reveals yet another knock against them: They're subtly sexist...For Wendy, the design of the office, despite the architects' intention of promoting freedom of movement, actually inhibited it...all the designers of the workspace were men. Would the design have been different if there were any women on the team?- Fast Company / Co.Design

55th International Making Cities Livable Conference: Designing Healthy, 10-Minute Neighborhoods, Ottawa, Canada, May 14-18, 2018- International Making Cities Livable (IMCL)

Living Environment: All About Housing Forum, Kaliningrad, Russia, May 18-19: More than 700 developers, architects, economists, and urban planners from around the world will gather at the Baltic Sea to discuss modern housing trends and challenges, including: What defines modern, quality, safe and affordable housing? What should be done to ensure sustainable innovative urban planning?- Strelka Institute for Media, Architecture and Design / Government of the Russian Federation

What the New Sharjah Architecture Triennial Means for the Middle East: The inaugural event will take place in 2019: The majority of conversations about the urban growth not only in the U.A.E., but also the entire Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia region (MENASA), usually reflects the past-future dichotomy, bringing into question historic preservation versus modernization. While this is an important discussion to have, the triennial will seek to expand these dialogues.- Architectural Digest

Alex Bozikovic: 2018 Governor-General's Medals award the best new buildings in the country: Beautiful design can show up in a hospital, in a park, and even under an expressway. That's the message of the [awards], which recognize the Canada's best projects. -- -- Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC); Canada Council for the Arts; Patkau Architects; gh3; Hariri Pontarini Architects; Saucier+Perrotte Architectes/HCMA; Office of mcfarlane biggar architects + designers (omb - formerly mcfarlane green biggar Architecture + Design); Kearns Mancini Architects; hevalier Morales Architectes; Atelier TAG/Jodoin Lamarre Pratte Architectes; 5468796 Architecture; Omar Gandhi Architect/Design Base 8; MacKay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects [images]- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Call for entries: Public Toilets Revolution in Suichang, Zhejiang Province, China - Top 5 will be built: design a 15-30-square-meter, eco-friendly public toilet for the tea plantation; open to professionals and students; no fee; cash prizes; registration deadline: May 15 (submissions due May 30)- Suichang People's Government / Young Bird Plan / LeLiving

Call for entries/applications: "Human Impact on Landscape and Living Spaces" Young Photographer Award 2018 | Residency in Austria 2019; entrants/applicants must be between 20 and 35; no fee; deadline: July 15- ORTE Architektturnetzwerk Niederösterreich [Architecture Network of Lower Austria] / Federal Province of Lower Austria

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Today's News - Wednesday, May 9, 2018

- [O'Sullivan](#) delves into France's €5 billion (\$6.1 billion) plan to revamp 222 small city cores "to undo the damage of urban sprawl - many are in a bad state through a string of mistakes that will seem eerily familiar to North Americans" (an international competition for architects to launch for "new templates for how a revitalized medium-sized city might look").
- [Pacheco](#) ponders whether Christopher Hawthorne has "what it takes to plan for L.A.'s future" as the city's new chief design officer. "Would a designer be better equipped for the job? I think so."
- [Schwab joins](#) BIG's Ingels and WeWork's Neumann on the roof of Manhattan's Lord & Taylor (soon to be WeWork's HQ) to talk about the architect's new role as the co-working/living/education company's first "chief architect": Ingels "lends star power to Neumann's ambition to remake cities in WeWork's image."
- [Finch points](#) out "thumping gaps" in Schumacher's "unpopular" housing manifesto: "We tried ditching standards and counting on private house-builders before, and it became a race to the bottom - he tries to convince us of the validity of his views by stating some truths, then throwing in an enormous falsehood or non sequitur which we are supposed to regard as just another fact."
- [Meanwhile](#), LOHA is working on "a collection of novel" and "eye-catching" affordable housing projects in L.A.
- [Wainwright](#) x 2: He parses the new Cube Haus initiative to "disrupt the housing market" with pre-fab, modular homes designed by notable architects (including Adjaye) "that can be adapted to fit awkward infill sites and backland plots" (cool idea, though we question their concept of "reasonable prices").
- [He cheers](#) the renovation of Kew Gardens' 1898 Temperate House, "the largest Victorian glasshouse in the world": the result of the "mammoth undertaking is suitably breathtaking - a triumph of iron and glass [that] now feels more like the architecture, rather than the plants, is the star of the show" (mention of goats included & link to in-depth history).
- [The Obama](#) Presidential Center faces its first (of many) hurdles next week when the Chicago Plan Commission votes thumbs-up - or thumbs-down: residents of the lower-income neighborhood fear gentrification, and "some environmentalists and historians are unhappy with plans to swoop in and take over a national historic place."
- [The Canada](#) Pavilion at the Venice Biennale is ready for its close-up, and will celebrate its 60th anniversary with "Canada Builds/Rebuilds a Pavilion in Venice" (opening May 26) that "offers an unprecedented study of the building's important modern architecture" (with link to Adele Weder's great "Venice Redux").
- [Martin offers](#) a sneak-peek of Snarkitecture's "Fun House" mini-retrospective for the National Building Museum's Summer Block Party (opening July 4), which includes a full-size house with 11 rooms, and a front- and backyard (and lots of white).
- [Fujiki](#), a young, NYC-based architect, explains why "architecture's crisis is deeper than #MeToo - we must expand how architecture is evaluated and rethink how it is taught. Those of us who love architecture must refuse to say yes to its unhealthy and degrading demands."
- [Betsky also](#) tackles how students should be evaluated: "Architecture schools need to do a better job defining how their students should be evaluated - attempts to apply standards from science or the humanities to

architecture are flawed because they weigh publication over building or just designing, discourage experimentation and speculation, and favor emerging 'sciences.'

● [The National](#) Endowment for the Arts names urban planner and acting director Jen Hughes to replace Schupbach as Director of Design and Creative Placemaking; she "will also manage leadership initiatives that include the Mayors' Institute on City Design and the Citizens' Institute on Rural Design."

Winners (and almost winners) all:

- [Cheers to](#) the Cooper Hewitt's 10 (impressive!) winners of its 2018 National Design Awards.
- [There are](#) 9 buildings in the running to be named for AJ100 Building of the Year.

Three we couldn't resist (having to do - or maybe nothing to do - with architecture):

● [Kanye West](#) launches Yeezy Home, and is looking for talented architects and designers "who want to make the world better," and plans to develop a 300-acre property in L.A.: "Yeah, we're going to develop cities."

● [Mock considers](#) Kanye West's plan "to develop cities. Don't let him do this": He "believes that his love for all people is all the evidence that's needed for people to trust his development vision - a personality trait of the worst kind of developer."

● [Definitely](#) nothing to do with architecture, but how could we resist! JetBlue "will deliver NYC pizzas to L.A. for \$15 or less" between today and Friday. "No joke. Get 'em while they're hot, people."



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[Feargus O'Sullivan: France Plans an Extreme Makeover for Struggling Small Cities: Action Coeur de Ville aims to undo the damage of urban sprawl in more than 200 city centers across the country:](#)

launching a vast €5 billion (\$6.1 billion) plan...to revamp 222 city cores...with new stores, offices, co-working spaces, and renovated housing...many French city cores are in a bad state...through a string of mistakes that will seem eerily familiar to North Americans...an international competition for architects and designers will be launched, to provide new templates for how a revitalized medium-sized city might look. -- Oliver Razemon/"Comment La France a Tué Ses Villes" ("How France Killed Its Towns")- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

[Antonio Pacheco: Does Christopher Hawthorne have what it takes to plan for L.A.'s future?: ...architecture critic...to become the new chief design officer for the City of Los Angeles...\[His\] new role...centers squarely on the question of what function design should play...elevating the public's engagement with civic architecture is a worthwhile pursuit...Would a designer be better equipped for the job? I think so...it appears the former critic has already acquiesced to the exclusionary mediocrity that already defines so much of the city's built fabric. Does \[he\] have what it takes to stand up to his politically timid boss?- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Katharine Schwab: Bjarke Ingels Will Redesign Lord & Taylor's Flagship in New York Into WeWork's New HQ: ...he will be WeWork's first "chief architect"...\[he\] is also working...on the design of its first school, dubbed WeGrow...plans to build up WeWork's internal design capacity and look outward to other design companies to collaborate with in the future...By hiring a chief architect...Adam Neumann lends star power to his ambition to remake cities in WeWork's image. -- BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group- Fast Company / Co.Design](#)



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Paul Finch: Why Patrik Schumacher is wrong about housing: We tried ditching standards and counting on private housebuilders before, and it became a race to the bottom: I admire [him] as an architect and I applaud his bravery in sticking to his guns in respect of unpopular arguments he has espoused...However, I have never found his propositions about housing provision very convincing...Like all polemicists, he tries to convince us of the validity of his views by stating some truths, then throwing in an enormous falsehood or non sequitur which we are supposed to regard as just another fact. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

LOHA advances eye-catching affordable housing schemes in Los Angeles: Lorcan O' Herlihy Architects is busy at work on a collection of novel, forthcoming affordable housing projects...Isla de Los Angeles project...is perhaps the most daring...a stepped and articulated structure made up of stacked and repurposed shipping containers...MLK1101 supportive housing complex...geared toward military veterans who have formerly experienced homelessness currently under construction. [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Oliver Wainwright: Build your own Adjaye: starchitects design catalogue homes: Want a home designed by a top architect on an affordable budget? Entrepreneurs Cube Haus may be moving in on your neighbourhood, with the help of David Adjaye and more: ...planning to "disrupt the housing market" and offer "high-design homes at reasonable prices" with a range of off-the-peg, modular designs by well-known architects...a range of models that can be adapted to fit awkward infill sites and backland plots... -- Adjaye Associates; Skene Catling de la Peña; Carl Turner Architects; Faye Toogood [images]- Guardian (UK)

Oliver Wainwright: Temperate House, Kew Gardens - king of greenhouses sees the light again: The spruced-up Decimus Burton masterpiece [1898]....doesn't just have new glass and paint...the largest Victorian glasshouse in the world

[reopens] after a £41m, five-year renovation...a mammoth undertaking, and the result is suitably breathtaking...it now feels more like the architecture, rather than the plants, is the star of the show...triumph of iron and glass is fully visible for the first time in a generation. -- Donald Insall Associates [images]- Guardian (UK)

Obama Presidential Center about to hit its first hurdle: ...the Chicago Plan Commission meets [on May 17] to consider the \$500 million...facility that has drawn opposition from local activists...will conclude a year of community meetings between the Obama Foundation and residents of the lower-income neighborhood who have worried the project will gentrify the historically black area and force out lifelong residents...What initially started out as a library has morphed into a 20-acre private "center," and some environmentalists and historians are unhappy with the Foundation's plans to swoop in and take over a national historic place. -- Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects- Washington Examiner

Restored Canada Pavilion to open at Venice Biennale on May 26: To commemorate its restoration and the 60th anniversary..."Canada Builds/Rebuilds a Pavilion in Venice" explores the key moments of the life of the Pavilion across six decades and offers an unprecedented study of the building's important modern architecture...National Film Board of Canada...producing a series...as a record of the restoration, documenting the history of the Canada Pavilion. -- Enrico Peressutti/BBPR (1957); Alberico Barbiano di Belgiojoso/BBPR (Banfi, Belgiojoso, Peressutti, Rogers);Troels Bruun/M+B Studio; Gordon Filewych/onebadant; Cornelia Hahn Oberlander; Enns Gauthier Landscape Architects [with link to Adele Weder's great "Venice Redux"]- Canadian Architect

Olivia Martin: Snarkitecture makes a Fun-House mini-retrospective for the National Building Museum's Summer Block Party: ...a full-size house in the firm's signature white-on-white-on-white...offering a stark contrast to the museum's neoclassical interior...also designed the 2015 Summer Block Party; BEACH, which covered the 10,000-square-foot Great Hall in white plastic balls...a full-size..."Fun House" ...11 different rooms, a front yard, and a backyard invite visitors to explore and play. July 4 - September 3 [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Miles Fujiki: Architecture's crisis is deeper than #MeToo: Architecture has been grappling with its own #MeToo moment...underscores existing challenges...the field is almost completely white, overwhelmingly male, and shrinking...we must expand how architecture is evaluated and rethink how it is taught...Those of us who love architecture...must refuse to say yes to its unhealthy and degrading demands. Architecture has never been more important to the world's realities.- The Architect's Newspaper

Aaron Betsky: Teach Your Children Well ... but What Does that Mean? Architecture schools need to do a better job defining how their students should be evaluated: I do not think that the sole criterion for student work should be whether or not it can be constructed...attempts to apply standards from science or the humanities to architecture are flawed because they weigh publication over building or just designing, discourage experimentation and speculation, and favor emerging "sciences," such as evidence-based design, that as of now are too vague and unsupported to deserve that designation. - Architect Magazine

National Endowment for the Arts Selects Jen Hughes as Director of Design and Creative Placemaking: Hughes will also manage leadership initiatives that include the Mayors' Institute on City Design and the Citizens' Institute on Rural Design...Prior to her work at the NEA, she was an urban planner for the District of Columbia [Washington, DC]...[and] was recognized by Impact Design Hub's 40 under 40, honoring innovative leaders working at the intersection of design and public good...replaces Jason Schupbach who stepped down as director...in June 2017. - National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)

Cooper Hewitt Announces the Winners of its 2018 National Design Awards: Neri Oxman, Weiss/Manfredi, and Oppenheim Architecture + Design are among this year's honorees.: ...recognizes outstanding individuals and firms in 10 categories. -- Gail Anderson/Lifetime Achievement; Anne Whiston Spirn/Design Mind; Design for America/Corporate & Institutional Achievement; WEISS/MANFREDI/Architecture Design; Civilization/Communication Design; Christina Kim/Fashion Design; Neri Oxman/Interaction Design; Oppenheim Architecture + Design/Interior Design; Mikyoung Kim Design/Landscape Architecture; Blu Dot/Product Design [images]- Architect Magazine

AJ100 Building of the Year shortlist revealed: ...9 buildings in the running... winner will be announced June 13... -- Foster + Partners; Hawkins\Brown; Zaha Hadid Architects; AHMM/Allford Hall Monaghan Morris; Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios; Page\Park Architects; SimpsonHaugh and Partners; Sheppard Robson; Reiach and Hall Architects [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Yeezy Home: Kanye West launches "Yeezy Architecture" studio, visits SCI-Arc: ...rapper solicited the talent of aspiring designers, calling for "architects and industrial designers who want to make the world better"...has a long history of associating himself and collaborating with architects and designers...the rapper recently purchased a 300-acre property in Los Angeles that West intends on developing himself..."Yeah, we're going to develop cities." -- OMA; Axel Vervoordt; Family; John Pawson- The Architect's Newspaper

Brentin Mock: The Miseducation of Kanye West: [He] wants to develop cities. Don't let him do this: ...300-acre property..."I'm going to be one of the biggest real estate developers of all time, like what Howard Hughes is to aircraft and what Henry Ford was to cars"...he can't be managed...a person who can't be managed doesn't want to be held accountable...believes that his love for all people is all the evidence that's needed for people to trust his development vision...a personality trait of the worst kind of developer...To develop a community or a city, you have to know something about the forces that undeveloped it. - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

JetBlue will deliver N.Y.C. pizzas to L.A. for \$15 or less: No joke...between Wednesday, May 9, and Friday, May 11, it will deliver 350 pizzas from Patsy's Pizzeria of East Harlem to "select areas in L.A...price includes everything from the flight, to the delivery tip and taxes...Get 'em while they're hot, people. - Fast Company

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Today's News - Thursday, May 10, 2018

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, May 15.

- [Weder offers](#) "a modest proposal" to make architecture awards more significant: "the architecture is not judged by the primordial experience of walking in and around it, but by flattering photography, drawings and texts" - awards "are in danger of becoming more like photography competitions."
- [AJ convenes](#) and impressive panel to discuss "what is going wrong with architectural competitions and the industry's love-hate relationship with the design contest - the competition process has lately experienced a fall from grace."
- [di Palma](#) & Robinson pen an epic essay about the "epic struggle" for control of the Los Angeles River: though "the river's future is clouded by a fog of unresolved social, technical, and environmental factors," it is also now "a medium for politically bold projects and creatively subversive civic acts" (great read!).
- [Speaking](#) of the L.A. River: Gehry donates \$1 million for arts education, via Turnaround Arts: California, to schools in underserved communities abutting the river - matched by an anonymous donor.
- [Kamin offers](#) an eloquent personal connection to the news that a former newspaper building in Columbus, Indiana, a 1971 Modernist icon by SOM's Goldsmith, will soon be home to Indiana University's new master of architecture program: it's "a dazzling Miesian pavilion - not intimidatingly opaque - it spoke with resonant clarity and conviction, powerfully symbolizing the transparency of the free press."
- [Brown parses](#) some of the 17 postmodern buildings granted listed status by Historic England: "the bold, bright and often witty architectural style is very 1980s and has always divided opinion" (definitely worth clicking on "Listed postmodern buildings - in pictures").
- [Zara cheers](#) "a lovely tribute" to 10 of Britain's "lost mid-century gems - the sketches are a delight to look through, even if it is a little depressing" (also a bit sad (and odd) that a design publication doesn't mention the architects).
- [LeBlanc](#), with "Concrete Toronto Map" (ERA Architects) as his guide and camera in hand, takes us on "a brutal trek through Toronto's Brutalist architecture" ("brutal trek" refers to rather brutal weather conditions).
- [Students](#) from the University of Cincinnati College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning are heading to Venice to install their award-winning "Alchemy," a rather whimsical and intriguing structure composed of "forgotten and discarded materials such as reclaimed wood from a 150 year-old Cincinnati church, copper scraps, fragments of decorative limestone," and more.

Deadlines:

- [Call for](#) entries: 8th Building Trust international design competition: "Affordable Housing Design Challenge" for new affordable housing for low-income workers in Phnom Penh, Cambodia (no fee; \$40,000 prize fund).
- [Call for](#) entries: Great Kemer Bog Visitor Center international architecture competition for an iconic entrance to the Kemer National Park in Latvia (cash prizes).

Weekend diversions:

- [Wainwright](#) walks us through the V&A's "The Future Starts Here: 100 projects shaping the world of tomorrow": "Can a robot fold towels? Could your toaster turn against you?" are among the "unsettling questions" in "a thought-provoking probe into where exactly this new generation of smart technology is taking us" ("drunken droids" included).
- [Kolson Hurley](#) offers a great Q&A with Martin Moeller, curator of the NBM's "Secret Cities: The Architecture and Planning of the Manhattan Project," who "argues that the cities reflected the broader architectural interests of their era, and that their legacy can be felt in postwar suburbs and even Park Avenue skyscrapers."
- "[Offsite: Shigeru Ban](#)" at the Vancouver Art Gallery includes a Kobe Paper Log House, constructed under his direction using readily sourced materials.
- [The Cooper](#) Hewitt's "Saturated: The Allure and Science of Color" delves into product design, subway wayfinding, industrial standardization, consumer culture, and more (lots of yummy images!).
- [Palladio's](#) Basilica in Vicenza, Italy, hosts "David Chipperfield Architects Works 2018," showcasing 15 buildings in an installation designed by master himself.

Page-turners:

- [Sabatino](#) cheers the "West Coast Modern House Series," penned by a number of notables, that "seeks to raise awareness of an aggressive phenomenon - it is fitting" that this "educational and militant series starts out with a house that has been razed."
- [Johnson](#) cheers "Baby's First Eames: From Art Deco to Zaha Hadid," an architecture-themed ABC book that includes "a cat, looking unimpressed" ("Don't be surprised when baby's first word is Marimekko (also for M)").



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[Adele Weder: A Modest Proposal for Architecture Awards: ...some awards are rather inconsequential. Others...bring with them a large degree of credibility as well as publicity and prestige. But in most cases, there is one commonality...the architecture is not judged by the primordial experience of walking in and around it, but by flattering photography, drawings and texts...You know that's not enough...It is precisely because architecture has become such an intensely visual commodity that the walk-through is so important...architectural awards are in danger of becoming more like photography competitions...One solution is to shift the priorities... - Canadian Architect](#)

[What is going wrong with architectural competitions? With controversies piling up over how architectural competitions are run, the AJ assembled a panel of experts to discuss the industry's love-hate relationship with the design contest: From the Thames Garden Bridge fiasco to a recent row over 'onerous' terms for a design contest, the competition process has lately experienced a fall from grace...\[a\] look at wasteful competitions, the UK's 'climate of caution' surrounding procurement, and how the profession might respond. -- Pooja Agrawal/Public Practice; Cezary Bednarski/Studio Bednarski; Laurie Chetwood/Chetwoods; Russell Curtis/RCKa Architects; Kay Hughes/Khaa; Will Hurst/The Architects' Journal; Walter Menteth/Walter Menteth Architects; Maria Theodorou - The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Vittoria di Palma & Alexander Robinson: Willful Waters: Los Angeles and its river have long been enmeshed in an epic struggle for control: ...the idea of the](#)



river as a paradise lost, a place of discarded things and marginalized people, has served to ignite a potent landscape imaginary...the river practically redraws itself into a multitude of alternatives, forming an archetypal course for a range of imagined cities...The question of who will benefit from a revitalized river is attracting keen attention...river-adjacent residents fear that improvements will spur rampant gentrification and displacement...the river's future is clouded by a fog of unresolved social, technical, and environmental factors. -- Lewis MacAdams; Pat Patterson; Frederick Fisher; Mia Lehrer + Associates; Frank Gehry [images]- Places Journal

Frank's Tots: Frank Gehry donates \$1 million to Los Angeles River schools for arts education: A leading figure behind the proposed redesign of the Los Angeles River into a mixed-use district with substantial parkland, Gehry will direct his donation towards underserved communities abutting the river just south of Los Angeles...With his donation being matched by an anonymous donor, Turnaround Arts: California's program will be extended to 10 more schools in the next five years...- The Architect's Newspaper

Blair Kamin: Former newspaper building in Columbus, Indiana, a modernist icon shaped in Chicago, will house architecture program: ...a dazzling Miesian pavilion...invitingly transparent, not intimidatingly opaque...Modernism is often accused of being cool and incomprehensible...Yet at The Republic, it spoke with resonant clarity and conviction, powerfully symbolizing the transparency of the free press...the building will house Indiana University's new master of architecture program...this will be no ordinary outpost. -- Myron Goldsmith/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill/SOM (1971)- Chicago Tribune

Mark Brown: Bristol business park among postmodern gems granted listed status: Historic England protects trading estate in Slough and docklands housing schemes in London: ...17 postmodern buildings - the bold, bright and often witty architectural style...is very 1980s and has always divided opinion... -- Piers Gough/CZWG; John Outram; Venturi Scott Brown; Charles Jencks; Robert Matthew Johnson-Marshall (RMJM); Price and Cullen; Jeremy and Fenella Dixon; Green, Lloyd and Adams; MacCormac Jamieson Prichard and Wright [images]- Guardian (UK)

Christopher Zara: The Tragic Disappearance Of Britain's Modernist Architecture: A lovely tribute to lost mid-century gems: ...have been disappearing at a rapid pace...as developers bulldoze their way through British cities and towns to make way for the proverbial wheels of progress...GoCompare has created a lovely tribute to 10 of these structures...sketches are a delight to look through, even if it is a little depressing... [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

Dave LeBlanc: A brutal trek through Toronto's Brutalist architecture: ...that oft-maligned sub-genre of Modernism that celebrates raw concrete. -- Concrete Toronto Map; John B. Parkin Associates; Viljo Revell; Uno Prii; Wieslaw Wodkiewicz; Fairfield & Dubois; K.R. Cooper; Maxwell Miller [images]- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Cincinnati to Venice: An award-winning installation by University of Cincinnati College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning students led by Terry Boling...will soon go on display...in an exhibition coinciding with...the Venice Architecture Biennale...“Alchemy” makes use of forgotten and discarded materials such as reclaimed wood from a 150 year-old Cincinnati church, copper scraps, hundreds of handmade tiles rejected by a local tile manufacturer, fragments of decorative limestone... [images]- UC Magazine / University of Cincinnati

Call for entries: 8th Building Trust international design competition: "Affordable Housing Design Challenge": submit an innovative design proposal for new affordable housing for low income workers in Phnom Penh, Cambodia; no fee; \$40,000 prize fund; registration deadline: July 15 (submissions due August 1)- Building Trust International (UK) / UN Development Program (UNDP) / Phnom Penh Special Economic Zone

Call for entries: Great Kemeru Bog Visitor Center international architecture competition for an iconic entrance to the Kemeru National Park in Latvia; cash prizes; earlybird registration deadline (save money!): June 8; final registration deadline: October 12 (submissions due November 8)- Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert) / Nature Conservation Agency of Latvia

Oliver Wainwright: Drunken droids and solar-powered shirts: what the smarhome will look like: Can a robot fold towels? Could your toaster turn against you? And will Amazon know when you're hungry and drone-deliver a Chinese takeaway directly to your mouth? Find out as we step into the home of the future: ...unsettling questions at the heart of "The Future Starts Here: 100 projects shaping the world of tomorrow" at the V&A in London...a thought-provoking probe into where exactly this new generation of smart technology is taking us. thru November 4 -- Andrés Jaque/Office for Political Innovation [images]- Guardian (UK)

Amanda Kolson Hurley: Inside the Secret Cities That Created the Atomic Bomb: The Manhattan Project...worked out of three purpose-built cities in Tennessee, New Mexico, and Washington state: Curator Martin Moeller argues that the cities reflected the broader architectural interests of their era, such as prefabrication, and that their legacy can be felt in postwar suburbs and even Park Avenue skyscrapers... "Secret Cities: The Architecture and Planning of the Manhattan Project," National Building Museum, Washington, D.C., thru March 3, 2019 (Q&A) -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill/SOM [images]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

See Shigeru Ban's Kobe Paper Log House at Vancouver Art Gallery's Offsite: ...as part of the "Offsite: Shigeru Ban" exhibition. Under Ban's direction, the Gallery constructed a version of the 15.8 square-meter structure using readily sourced materials...will also feature a large photomural documenting Ban's ongoing design work on global disaster-relief projects, for which he received the 2017 Mother Theresa Award. thru October 8 [images]- Archinect

New Cooper Hewitt Exhibit Takes a Fresh Look at the History of Color: "Saturated: The Allure and Science of Color" delves into product design, subway wayfinding, industrial standardization, consumer culture, and more: ...explores the history and application of color theory through more than 190 objects dating from antiquity to the present day. thru January 13, 2019 [images]- Metropolis Magazine

"David Chipperfield Architects Works 2018": Palladio's Basilica [Basilica Palladiana] in Vicenza, Italy, will host an exhibition about 15 buildings designed by Chipperfield and his studios in London, Berlin, Milan and Shanghai...installation designed by the British architect himself... thru September 2 -- Abacoarchitettura [images]- Floornature

Michelangelo Sabatino: West Coast Modern House Series: ...it has become apparent to conscientious architects, planners, and ordinary citizens that the much-touted Vancouverism...has a dark side and a very high price tag. Herein lies the raison d'être of a new monograph series on single-detached houses realized in and around Vancouver from the 1950s to the late 1970s...This educational and militant series seeks to raise awareness of an aggressive phenomenon typified by the 2007 demolition of Graham House (1963) in West Vancouver by Arthur Erickson and Geoffrey Massey...It is fitting that the series starts out with a house that has been razed. Chris Macdonald, Sherry McKay, and Leslie Van Duzer; Adele Weder; Richard Cavell; Cornelia Hahn Oberlander; Tony Robins; Matthew Soules; Michael Prokopow - Canadian Architect

Sara Johnson: A Big Gift for Little Architects: Published next month, "Baby's First Eames: From Art Deco to Zaha Hadid" features playful illustrations of modern design: Julie Merberg teamed up with French illustrator Aki to produce an architecture-themed ABC book...Each spread is accompanied by a cat, looking unimpressed. Don't be surprised when baby's first word is Marimekko (also for M). [images]- Architect Magazine

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Today's News - Tuesday, May 15, 2018

Will Alsop has died - a sad day for architecture. A character. A talent. A disruptor if ever there was one. We met once, on the sidewalk outside some yawn-inducing event in NYC. I needed a smoke - he was already on his third. The conversation was totally hilarious, off the wall - a joyful moment. We've read dozens of obits and tributes, and offer a handful of what we think are the most meaningful:

- [Wainwright](#) x 2: He pens a thoughtful (and amusing) tribute, telling the tale of a recent "smoky, boozy, extraordinary afternoon" spent at Alsop's studio, a "mind-boggling cabinet of curiosities" (includes link to pix of the studio - "mind-boggling" indeed!).
- [He is just](#) as eloquent in penning a straight-on (but hardly dry) biographical obituary for Alsop: "To his critics, he was a reckless pied piper. To his fans he was a mischievous breath of fresh air" in "a profession that was all too beige."
- [Finch recalls](#) several of his encounters with Alsop, who "made a difference by remaining fiercely independent. With Cedric gone, then Zaha, and now Will, the brightest lights of my life as an architectural journalist are being snuffed out, too early." + Will Hurst: "Battle of Wills: writing about Alsop could be a hazardous exercise" + Simon Allford on Alsop.
- [Alsop in](#) his own words: "Why Will has no Grace," a reprint of his 2004 essay, "just after his Fourth Grace had been canned by Liverpool council. It shows him at his fiery best" + Links to tributes and more.
- [Across the](#) Big Pond, Bozikovic considers Alsop, the "crazy-brilliant creator of playful structures who brought a sense of color, literally and figuratively, to his profession" - his Sharp Centre for OCAD University - "built quickly and cheaply - quickly redefined the art school it housed and, along the way, Toronto," as did his two recent, "remarkable" subway stations.
- [Hume weighs](#) in on Alsop, "the bad boy of British architecture," and his "special relationship with Toronto." His Sharp Centre for Design "raised Toronto's international profile and managed to make a cold city seem cool. For him, every project was an excuse for play."
- [A round-up](#) of tributes from by notable names to Alsop's "true free spirit" and "a lover of prodding hornets' nests."

In other news:

- [Campbell-Dollaghan](#) parses NYC's new - and free - report, "Designing New York: Quality Affordable Housing," a "quietly ambitious project to give everyone - from citizens to politicians - the language to talk about and advocate for good design - it's a useful resource for any city struggling with its own housing crisis."
- [J. Stephens](#) returns to Honolulu after many years, and bemoans that it has become "a poster child for American auto-centric urbanism. If you're going to pave over paradise, at least do it well. Honolulu looks like Houston with volcanoes."
- [Bozikovic](#) minces no words about what he thinks of the proposal to stick "a 44-storey stack of condos - clumsily designed, awkwardly detailed - on top of" Toronto's "solidly built and beautifully detailed" 1958 Bank of

Canada building: "Leave it alone."

● [Wallis takes](#) us on deep dive into "the new 'green' architecture" by architects who "are designing structures that would put the mythic Hanging Gardens of Babylon to shame."

● [Diaz waxes](#) almost poetic about Snøhetta's "stunningly beautiful" planetarium and visitor center in Norway: "There's an otherworldly quality to some of Snøhetta's work that makes me suspect some of its designers aren't of this world, either."

● [The World](#) Monuments Fund pledges \$1 million to support disaster response and restoration efforts at the earthquake-struck Monte Albán Archaeological Site in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Stellar winners and shortlists abound:

● [Eyefuls](#) of the six international teams shortlisted to design South Australia's Adelaide Contemporary art gallery (great presentation - stellar, indeed!).

● [Eyefuls](#) of the RIBA Awards for International Excellence 2018, which includes 20 new buildings in 16 countries + RIBA International Emerging Architect 2018 (also great presentation).

● [Litt cheers](#) the 3 "strong choices" shortlisted to design the Cleveland Public Library's MLK Branch, but the one that rejects the idea of apartments overhead is best (lots of pix).

● [The South](#) African Institute of Architects announces the winners of the 2018 Corobrik SAIA Architectural Awards - two memorials, an office building, and two homes.

● [Winners](#) of the International A' Design Award & Competition 2018 announced - over 1,900(!) in 99(!) different design disciplines.



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[Oliver Wainwright: Will Alsop, 70: 'His joyously surreal creations broke the laws of physics': Shortly before he became ill, the famously wacky architect let us into his mind-boggling studio for a final interview. Our writer recalls that smoky, boozy, extraordinary afternoon – and assesses his legacy: \[He\] spent his career conjuring bold, cartoonish visions, all designed to bring a little surreal joy into the world....\[his\] chief legacy...making the cities he worked in happier places to be. - Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Obituary by Oliver Wainwright: Will Alsop: Maverick architect whose bold visions included Peckham Library, winner of the 2000 Stirling prize: To his critics, Alsop was a reckless pied piper, duping desperate mayors of struggling cities into commissioning madcap schemes they could never hope to build. To his fans he was a mischievous breath of fresh air, injecting a welcome dose of colour and energy into a profession that was all too beige. - Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Paul Finch: Will Alsop - an independent voice who will be sorely missed: ...made a difference by remaining fiercely independent throughout his career...This independence stood him in good stead in respect of the brilliance of his design ideas and the ability to think laterally in ways that duller minds dismissed as whimsy...With Cedric gone, then Zaha, and now Will, the brightest lights of my life as an architectural journalist are being snuffed out, too early. Let's hold on to who we've got, celebrate and reward talent while we still have it... + Will Hurst: Battle of Wills: writing about Alsop could be a hazardous exercise + Simon Allford on Alsop - The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Will Alsop: He never stopped fighting for what he believed in...we reprint this](#)



piece by Alsop from 2004, just after his Fourth Grace had been canned by Liverpool council. It shows him at his fiery best: "Why Will has no Grace: If the axing of my Fourth Grace has taught me anything, it's that politicians may demand iconic architecture but they actually want safe designs with no financial risk attached." + Links to tributes and more- [BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

Alex Bozickovic: Will Alsop: A crazy-brilliant creator of playful structures: was known equally as a bon vivant and as an architect who brought a sense of colour, literally and figuratively, to his profession. He also made an important mark on Toronto with OCAD University's Sharp Centre, which is among the most distinctive buildings in the country...built quickly and cheaply...and quickly redefined the art school it housed and, along the way, Toronto...two subway stations...form part of an ill-advised expansion; but they are remarkable. [\[images\]](#)- [Globe and Mail \(Canada\)](#)

Christopher Hume: Will Alsop, 70: British architect's 'flying tabletop' changed Toronto: ...the bad boy of British architecture, had a special relationship with Toronto: ...Sharp Centre for Design at the Ontario College of Art and Design...raised eyebrows around the world. It also raised [the city's] international profile and managed to make a cold city seem cool...With [the Stirling Prize] in hand, he set out to remake architecture and the planet...[he] never failed to bring a smile to the viewer's face...For him, every project was an excuse for play. -- [Mirko Zardini/Canadian Centre for Architecture/CCA](#)- [Toronto Star](#)

Architecture industry pays tribute to "true free spirit" Will Alsop: Emotional tributes have been pouring in for the late British architect..."a lover of prodding hornets nests"... -- [Alexander Larman](#); [Sam Jacobs](#); [Charles Holland \[FAT\]](#); [Ben Derbyshire/RIBA](#); [Hugh Pearman](#); [Kate Goodwin/Royal Academy of Arts](#); [Oliver Wainwright](#); [Amanda Baillieu/Archiboo](#); [Paul Goldberger](#); [Tom Dyckhoff](#); [Stephen Pimbley/Spark Architects](#); [Marcos Rosello/aLL Design](#)- [Dezeen](#)

[Kelsey Campbell-Dollaghan](#): What Makes Housing Great? Here's New York City's Guide: Anyone can use the city's new guide to affordable housing—and

eventually, it could go global: ...a quietly ambitious project from NYC's Public Design Commission is working to give everyone - from citizens to politicians - the language to talk about and advocate for good design...published a free document called "Designing New York: Quality Affordable Housing"...96-page report is a kind of reference guide to great housing across the city...it's a useful resource for any city struggling with its own housing crisis. -- Karen Kubey - Fast Company / Co.Design

Josh Stephens: Reconsidering Paradise: How Honolulu Became a Poster Child for American Autocentric Urbanism: If you're going to pave over paradise, at least do it well: I've never pegged Le Corbusier for much of a beach guy, but he would have loved Honolulu...Times have changed in many other American cities, which are unearthing their historic cores and attempting to create more human-scale neighborhoods. But not so much in Honolulu...I would have thought that a city on an island would embrace efficiency, creating dense, lively places...Instead, Honolulu looks like Houston with volcanoes. - Common Edge

Alex Bozikovic: Leave Toronto's old Bank of Canada building alone: Imagine a building designed by an award-winning local architect. More than half a century old, it's solidly built and beautifully detailed...Now imagine sticking a 44-storey stack of condos - clumsily designed, awkwardly detailed - on top of that. A terrible idea, right? Yet this is exactly what's at stake with a new development application... -- Marani & Morris (1958); IBI Group; Goldsmith Borgal [images]- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Stephen Wallis: Are They Buildings or Gardens? The New 'Green' Architecture: Buildings are sprouting greenery...not just living walls or rooftop meadows but whole façades draped with plants and terraces overflowing with vegetation: ...architects...are designing structures that would put the mythic Hanging Gardens of Babylon to shame...an extension of the decades-old movement promoting environmentally sensitive, sustainable, and socially conscious architecture... -- Thomas Heatherwick; Kengo Kuma; Jean Nouvel; MVRDV; Mun Summ Wong/Richard Hassell/WOHA; Vo Trong Nghia; Vincent Callebaut; Patrick Blanc; Piet Oudolf; Stefano Boeri - The Daily Beast

Jesus Diaz: Norway Is Building The Most Beautiful Planetarium I've Ever Seen: Bonus: You can spend the night: There's an otherworldly quality to some of [Snøhetta's work] that makes me suspect some of its designers aren't of this world, either...its stunningly beautiful planetarium and visitor center for the Solobservtoriet...It's almost as if the structure's metallic surface...is bubbling up from the Earth's core...The rest of the complex is made up of seven "planets" that orbit around this central sun. Each is an independent cabin [sphere]...creates the illusion that some of these buildings have just landed, and others are emerging from the ground to meet them. [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

More Than \$1 Million Awarded for Mexico's Earthquake-struck Monte Albán: World Monuments Fund ...to support disaster response and restoration efforts at Monte Albán Archaeological Site in Oaxaca... The site was included on the 2018 World Monuments Watch...WMF will launch a partnership with the National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH) to address the long-term stability of Monte Albán... [images]- World Monuments Fund/WMF

[Adelaide Contemporary design proposals unveiled as six star teams compete for the chance to design a new South Australia landmark: 107 teams applied from five continents...](#) -- [Adjaye Associates/BVN](#); [BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group/JPE Design Studio](#); [David Chipperfield Architects/SJB Architects](#); [Diller Scofidio + Renfro/Woods Bagot](#); [HASSELL/SO-IL](#); [Khai Liew/Office of Ryue Nishizawa/Durbach Block Jagers](#) [images]- [Malcolm Reading Consultants / Government of South Australia](#)

[RIBA Awards for International Excellence 2018: 20 new buildings in 16 countries + RIBA International Emerging Architect 2018.](#) -- [Patkau Architects](#); [LegoRogers \(Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners & Legorreta + Legorreta\)](#); [Barozzi Veiga](#); [John Wardle Architects](#); [O'Donnell + Tuomey/M-Teampannon Kft](#); [FOMTERV-PALATIUM-UVATERV Consortium](#); [Kimmel Eshkolot Architects/Kalush Chechick Architects](#); [Stanton Williams](#); [Kraaijvanger Architects](#); [EAA - Emre Arolat Architecture](#); [Renzo Piano Building Workshop & Betaplan](#); [Palinda Kannagara Architects](#); [Hiroyuki Ito Architects](#); [AleaOlea architecture & landscape](#); [Nikken Sekkei](#); [Allford Hall Monaghan Morris/AHMM](#); [Boeri Studio](#); [Foster + Partners](#); [Gustavo Utrabo/Pedro Duschenes/Aleph Zero](#) [images]- [Royal Institute of British Architects \(RIBA\)](#)

[Steven Litt: MASS design for new MLK branch, rejecting idea of apartments overhead, is best of 3 proposals: ...a spirited design competition for a new Martin Luther King Jr. Branch that resulted in three strong choices...MASS team is asking the library and Midwest Development Partners to reconsider whether apartments should surmount a library that would symbolically function as a memorial to one of America's pivotal leaders on civil rights. That's a very good question to raise now.](#) -- [LAND Studio](#); [MASS Design Group/LDA Architects](#); [SO-IL/Jonathan Kurtz](#) ; [Bialosky Architects/Vines Architecture](#) [images]- [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#)

[Winners: 2018 Corobrik SAIA Architectural Awards \[South African Institute of Architects\]: ...five buildings and structures received top honours.](#) -- [Malan Vorster Architecture \(home\)](#); [Lewis Levin Architects \(Johannesburg Holocaust and Genocide Centre\)](#); [Koop Design \(home\)](#); [Paragon Architects \(SASOL Place\)](#); [The Creative Axis Architects/Mayat Hart Architects \(The Delville Wood Memorial, France\)](#) [images]- [VISI magazine \(South Africa\)](#)

[International A' Design Award & Competition 2018 Winners Announced: ...the best designs of 2017 - 2018 in all design disciplines. Over 1900 winners...coming from 100 countries and 99 different design disciplines. \[images + links to gallery and interviews\]](#)- [DesignCurial \(UK\)](#)

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Today's News - Wednesday, May 16, 2018

- [Sam Jacob](#) pens a most thoughtful and personal tribute to Will Alsop, who "had the balls to think differently - he wasn't always right, nor was his work always great - but his wild imagination and generous spirit were much needed in British architecture - his ability to provide a difficult question to an easy answer will be sorely missed."
- [Waite &](#) Tether parse the AJ/ Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust Race Diversity Survey: "The findings paint a picture of a profession struggling with unacknowledged racism" and "points to an industry largely unwilling to recognize it has a problem" (fascinating, sad).
- [Ennead's](#) Schubert cheers "China's decision to move away from showpiece" architecture, which "creates an opening for the reinvention of the public square. America's singular contribution of the skyscraper as an urban icon was a leading factor" in China's urban development. "Sadly, the Western notion of a civic piazza or square as a community gathering space has not been one of our contributions."
- [Urban planner](#) Gennaway tells the "cautionary tale of San Diego's Horton Plaza" (now "a ghost town"), and "what it says about the retail landscape - the malls that destroyed downtowns are getting a taste of their own medicine" ("retailtainment destination" is their salvation).
- [Welton cheers](#) "Connections 81.2" in Raleigh, May 18-20, bringing 5 leading NYC designers, planners and landscape architects together with North Carolina architects to explore the future of 81.2 city acres - he "anticipate a fresh set of New York eyes looking at downtown - and no small amount of buzz."
- [Architect/historian](#) (and "architectural geek") Lai Chee Kien is "deeply" concerned about "the loss of heritage and nature" in Singapore, "giving way to roads and Mass Rapid Transit lines: "He strongly believes that there is space to be 'creative'" about both meeting development needs and preservation.
- [A. Staub](#), an architect and scholar, ponders whether it's time to redefine the American Dream when it comes to housing: "I've examined the trend toward 'more is better,'" but "is there a point where 'more is better' creates an ethical dilemma?"
- [A young](#) South Auckland architect "has set himself what could be a lifelong challenge - to solve poverty and homelessness - through architecture, via MAU Studio, his social design practice.
- [Wainwright](#) cheers Chipperfield's makeover of London's Royal Academy: "the illustrious Piccadilly pile celebrates its 250th birthday with less of a flashy architectural statement than a series of discrete acts of corrective surgery - which, together, promise to transform the entire institution" ("The politicking was worth it").
- [Moore thinks](#) "Chipperfield has created an intriguing space for the Royal Academy. The totality of this new version of the RA is diffuse, eventful, intriguing, sometimes beautiful. It will need to be curated with energy and wit."
- ["Venice](#) Virgins": a look at the six first-time national pavilions at the 2018 Venice Biennale.
- [Litt has](#) a great conversation with Adjaye, "a designer motivated by social justice - he could certainly be considered a global star in his profession. But that's not how he sees himself."
- [Sweet reports](#) on a Federal lawsuit filed to block Obama Center in Chicago's Jackson Park: "Among the reasons cited - an 'institutional bait and switch.'"
- [Flynn parses](#) what the new tax reform means for small firms - it "will allow small firms to be taxed at lower

individual rates - but for some, that's not the whole picture - benefits for the immediate future may be negligible" (at least preservation of the Historic Tax Credit is an "indisputable triumph").

Women in architecture:

- [Schwab reports](#) on readers' responses to her report about open-plan offices being terrible for women: "Crucially, these responses reveal that while open plan offices might be bad for everyone's productivity, they tend to make work more difficult for women."
- [Toronto-based](#) Q4 Architects shows "motherhood and demanding careers can co-exist": founder Frances Martin-DiGiuseppe, "looking back on her over 30 years in the profession," says: "I don't want them to have to go through what I went through."
- [Speaking](#) of architect-moms: Schwab reports that CannonDesign's "mobile lactation pod isn't as crazy as it sounds": Now that they're required in companies with 50+ employees, Sona could be "best as a solution" when facility re-builds aren't possible (or affordable).
- [London's](#) "Underground commissions only female artists in 2018 - in honor of the suffrage centenary, bringing creativity and feminism to the city's public transport network" (fits nicely with the mayor's #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign).
- [A fascinating](#) profile of "Michigan native and design icon" Florence Knoll Bassett: "Her inspirational story is not often told and few realize how much of an impact she made."



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[Sam Jacob: Will Alsop had the balls to think differently: \[He\] wasn't always right, nor was his work always great - but his wild imagination and generous spirit were much needed in British architecture: New Islington was about how to make somewhere through imagination...geared to making somewhere better in ways that we could never imagine in the first place...another world was, it seemed at least, possible...changes, on both left and right of the political spectrum, meant that Will's attitude and aesthetic fell out of step with British culture...\[his\] ability to provide a difficult question to an easy answer will be sorely missed. So too will his generosity. -- Urban Splash; FAT - Dezeen](#)

[Richard Waite & Bruce Tether: Race Diversity Survey: is architecture in denial? AJ, in partnership with the Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust, investigates attitudes to race within the profession: The findings paint a picture of a profession struggling with unacknowledged racism where architects from Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds feel the colour of their skin hinders their career...Comments...give a unique insight into the ongoing challenges faced by many non-white architects...points to an industry...largely unwilling to recognise it has a problem. - The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Peter Schubert/Ennead Architects: End the skyscraper craze and build China's cities around its public space: China's decision to move away from showpiece tower blocks creates an opening for the reinvention of the public square...For better or worse, America's...singular contribution of the skyscraper as an urban icon was a leading factor in the past 20 years of urban development. Sadly, the Western notion of a civic piazza or square as a community gathering space has not been one of our contributions...Civic space is the literal common ground essential to the identity and livability of cities... - South China Morning Post](#)

[Sam Gennaway: The cautionary tale of San Diego's Horton Plaza and what it](#)



says about the retail landscape: [It] once attracted over 25 million people, a “city” in which a visitor could get “safely lost.” Now it’s a ghost town. The retail landscape has changed and malls are rapidly becoming retail/leisure destinations: Funtopia is one of the new breed of attractions...Entertainment in retail is becoming a necessity more than a fad...the malls that destroyed downtown and getting a taste of their own medicine... -- Jon Jerde; Victor Gruen - Blooloop (UK)

J. Michael Welton: These 81 acres may be developed in Raleigh's future. What are your dreams for the site? ...now occupied by Central Prison and Governor Morehead School for the Blind...a rare conversation about design excellence for downtown Raleigh...Five leading designers, planners and landscape architects from New York City will join North Carolina architects [“Connections 81.2”, May 18-20]...anticipate a fresh set of New York eyes looking at downtown...and no small amount of buzz. -- Erin Sterling Lewis; Michael Samuelian/The Trust for Governors Island; Thomas Woltz/Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects; Marianne Kwok/Claudia Cusamano/Kohn Pedersen Fox/KPF; Andre Kikoski; Frank Harmon; Steve Schuster - News & Observer (North Carolina)

Too much heritage affected by roads and MRT [Mass Rapid Transit] lines: Architect, historian Lai Chee Kien: ...the loss of heritage and nature in Singapore deeply concerns him...He strongly believes that there is space to be “creative about how we can keep these old buildings.” Justifying the destruction of heritage and nature with reasons such as the need for development and catering to a country’s current needs “is not right.” He believes “there are ways to do both...I think there is a need for us to...really think about what kinds of developments should proceed because heritage and nature does not come by a second time.” - Channel NewsAsia (Singapore)

Alexandra Staub: Is bigger really better? The United States is facing a housing

crisis: Affordable housing is inadequate, while luxury homes abound. Homelessness remains a persistent problem...Despite this, popular culture has often focused on housing as...the American Dream wrapped within four walls and a roof...As an architect and scholar who examines how we shape buildings and how they shape us, I've examined the trend toward "more is better"...Yet what are the ethical consequences of such aspirational dreams? Is there a point where "more is better" creates an ethical dilemma? - The Conversation

South Auckland architect tackling poverty, homelessness through social design: John Belford-Lelaulu has set himself what could be a lifelong challenge - to solve poverty and homelessness. The plan? Through architecture...a trip to New York in 2016 where he worked on creating mobile facilities where the homeless could be creative that was a real eye-opener..."I started refining how I saw architecture. I see it now as being a tool to respond to systemic issues"...he launched a social design practice called MAU Studio, with three friends. [images] - Manukau Courier (New Zealand)

Oliver Wainwright: Royal Academy of Arts expansion reveals hidden life of art schools: David Chipperfield's £56m project includes a subterranean vault, which offers visitors an enticing glimpse of studios: The architect...would be quite happy if you visited...and couldn't quite tell what he had done...the illustrious Piccadilly pile in central London celebrates its 250th birthday with less of a flashy architectural statement than a series of discrete acts of corrective surgery - which, together, promise to transform the entire institution. -- Julian Harrap - Guardian (UK)

Rowan Moore: New light for old masters: revamp for jewel in the crown of British art: David Chipperfield has created an intriguing space for the Royal Academy of Arts: ...a multifaceted place not only of blockbuster exhibitions...but also where students learn, where art is made...Architecture, usually art's poor relation in the RA's priorities, will...have its own gallery...The totality of this new version of the RA, Burlington House plus Burlington Gardens, plus the new interventions, is diffuse, eventful, intriguing, sometimes beautiful...It will need to be curated with energy and wit. -- Wirtz - Observer (UK)

Venice Virgins: Here are the six first-time national pavilions at the 2018 Venice Biennale: Responding to the Biennale's "Freespace" theme in manifold ways, the new participants deal with everything from humanity's relationship to the environment to faith and religion. Saudi Arabia; Vatican/Holy See; Pakistan; Antigua and Barbuda; Guatemala; Lebanon [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Steven Litt: Q&A with David Adjaye, designer of Smithsonian's African American museum: ...one of the world's most admired architects, described himself...as a designer motivated by social justice...[he] could certainly be considered a global star in his profession. But that's not how he sees himself...African-Americans are highly under-represented in architecture...what advice would you give to students..."Being part of the building of the fabric of your community empowers you and generations around you to feel a sense of place...Architecture to me is successful when the community is empowered by it, is edified by it, and is elevated by it." - Cleveland Plain Dealer

Lynn Sweet: Federal lawsuit filed to block Obama Center in Jackson Park: Among the reasons cited in the lawsuit to support the request for a court order:

An "institutional bait and switch"...Transfer of park land to a non-governmental private entity violates the park district code...The park district and the city will receive only token rent for the land... - Chicago Sun Times

Katherine Flynn: For small firms, tax reform brings advocacy wins with undefined benefits: The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 will allow small firms to be taxed at lower individual rates - but for some, that's not the whole picture: ...the profession avoided a worst-case scenario - being taxed at the corporate rate...but that benefits for the immediate future may be negligible...While the potential pitfalls and benefits of the final piece of legislation remain unclear, one indisputable triumph came in the form of the preservation of the Historic Tax Credit. - AIArchitect / American Institute of Architects

Katharine Schwab: Readers Respond: Open Offices Are Terrible For Women: "It couldn't have happened without an open office plan": ...readers, who have detailed the impact open plan offices have had on their work and mental health. Crucially, these responses reveal that while open plan offices might be bad for everyone's productivity, they tend to make work more difficult for women, who are scrutinized for their appearance to a far greater extent than men. - Fast Company / Co.Design

Architect moms at Toronto firm show motherhood and demanding careers can co-exist: Q4 Architects makes accommodations so working parents can take care of the kids and do their jobs: Frances Martin-DiGiuseppe hopes the adjustments make it easier for women to succeed in a male-dominated industry with a large gender gap. "I don't want them to have to go through what I went through," she said, looking back on her over 30 years of experience in the profession. - CBC (Canada)

Katharine Schwab: This mobile lactation pod isn't as crazy as it sounds: Pumping at work is nothing to be ashamed of: Lactation rooms are no longer a nice-to-have perk...just because [they] became an architectural requirement for companies with more than 50 employees...doesn't mean they're well designed...Sona is a mobile pod designed to make pumping a private, pleasant experience for working moms...can be placed anywhere in the office - or in other kinds of public spaces...best as a solution for companies that can't entirely rebuild their offices to create dedicated lactation rooms. -- Tina Manis/Carolyn Zoerb/CannonDesign [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

Reclaiming the Tube: Art on the Underground commissions only female artists in 2018: In honour of the suffrage centenary, Art on the Underground's 2018 programme focuses solely on female artists, bringing creativity and feminism to London's public transport network...London mayor Sadiq Khan launched the 2018 campaign #BehindEveryGreatCity, celebrating the contributions women have made in making London a great city...That this feels such a radical move, though, demonstrates how far the art world still needs to go in the equal representation and celebration of women artists... - DesignCurial / Blueprint Magazine (UK)

Shu In: The Story of Design Icon Florence Knoll Bassett: Happy Birthday, Shu! Isabelle Weiss of NEXT:SPACE explores the life of the Michigan native and design icon: While many know Florence as an arbiter of international style for the mid-20th century, her inspirational story is not often told and few realize how

much of an impact she made...her sense of design developed beyond just 'architecture' or 'furniture' to encompass both, embodying 'total design,' the credo she learned from the Bauhaus masters...designing space around use...paved the way for the field of interior design. -- Cranbrook; Eliel Saarinen; Ludwig Mies van der Rohe; Walter Gropius; Marcel Breuer; Hans Knoll - Detroitisit

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Today's News - Thursday, May 17, 2018

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, May 22.

- [Mairs parses](#) the latest Grenfell Tower fire report that blames "siloeed thinking": "Ignorance, indifference and inadequate regulation led to the disaster, not the cladding alone" - the report "does not recommend a ban on the combustible building materials" (huh?!?!?).
- [Talbot's](#) great Q&A with Lucy Bullivant re: "new community-led models for planning and architecture emerging around the world" that are helping solve the housing crisis: "These models involve a lot of engaged, inventive people."
- [TCLF's Birnbaum](#) takes issue with those who find the lawsuit against Obama Center in Chicago's Jackson Park "puzzling": "Rather than 'beating up on the Obama Center's locale,' why don't we stop beating up on Jackson Park itself?"
- [Ahuja eloquently](#) describes the history and future of hospice design: "Hospice - as both space and practice - explicitly negates the institutional paradigm," but "the anti-institutional stance has become its own sort of convention. Were palliative design ever to become truly standardized, its ubiquity would be every bit as depressing as the mid-century mega-hospital."
- [Anderton](#) and guests on "deconstructing Kanye": His Yeezy Home "would hire tens of architects and industrial designers," but "is that good news for a profession?" CityLab's Mock thinks getting into real estate "would be as ill-advised as his sweatsuits ('hideous') - and his "dictatorial tendencies might infuse his approach to city-making."
- [We cheer](#) and wish all good things for our friend Paul Makovsky, who, after 18 years at Metropolis magazine, is taking the helm at Contract Magazine as editor-in-chief.

Winners all:

- [A look at](#) the 6 candidates vying for the 2018 CTBUH Urban Habitat Award.
- [A look at](#) the 4 winners in the Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design's design competition that offer "innovative and fully practical housing solutions that embrace the local challenges, culture, value, and vision of Northwest Arkansas."

Deadlines:

- [Call for](#) entries: Euro Velo Stops competition to design rest stop cabins along Europe's large-scale EuroVelo cycle path network ("winning designs will be considered for construction as a part of the Bright Blueprint initiative").
- [Call for](#) entries: IsArch Awards for Architecture Students - 9th Edition: open to students of architecture and young architects who have graduated within the last 3 years.

Weekend diversions:

- [A good reason](#) to head to Copenhagen, the Danish Design Centre, and beyond: the Danish Design Festival celebrates diversity in design and craft in the city and elsewhere.
- [Tomas Koolhaas](#) interviews his father about the film "REM" and much more (including Kanye West sharing the title "provocateur"); our favorite quote: "I don't dare to be so obnoxious that I refuse selfies."
- [A good reason](#) to be in New York City for the next while: NYCxDESIGN celebrates the world of design across the city's five boroughs.
- [Not to be](#) missed: 2018 Design Pavilion NYC returns to Times Square (but only through Sunday).
- [While you're](#) in town, don't miss "Elegance in the Sky: The Architecture of Rosario Candela" at the Museum of the City of New York; Boehlert talks to Albrecht, Pennoyer, Stern, and others about the architect's "extraordinary legacy."
- [Sisson cheers](#) "NatureStructure," opening today at BSA Space in Boston, which "features more than 30 projects from around the globe that demonstrate the potential of collaborating with, instead of overpowering, nature."
- [Moore x 2](#): He brings us "a rare interview" with John Outram, "a young-looking 83, who can expect star billing" in "The Return of the Past: Postmodernism in British Architecture" in London: "His buildings reach out and grab you. Once seen, they are not forgotten. They move you and engage you. Which is not something you can say of most new buildings."
- [His take](#) on the V&A's "The Future Starts Here": The "interactive look at the future of design is refreshingly hopeful. There is spookiness - but also wonder - intelligent, well-presented and quietly provocative exhibition shows these possibilities without drawing bogus conclusions."
- [Bucknell](#) walks through a blast from the past found in Vitra Design Museum's "Night Fever" that presents the designers who "answered the call of the night" and "made disco" - it "begs us to stay out a little later because who knows what the world will look like the morning after. (Fear not, wall flowers: Dancing is optional.)"
- [In "Hong Kong's Disappearing Tong Lau,"](#) British photographer Stefan Irvine's "spectacular panoramas capture the city's disappearing architecture" at the Affordable Art Fair, Hong Kong, May 18-20.

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[Jessica Mairs: "Siloed thinking" not cladding to blame for Grenfell Tower fire claims report: Ignorance, indifference and inadequate regulation led to the...disaster, not its cladding alone, claims \["Building a Safer Future"\], which does not recommend a ban on the combustable building materials blamed for the fire...RIBA calls report a "missed opportunity"... "This review should have been a defining moment...to bring real and meaningful change to the complexity and confusion surrounding core building regulations guidance"... - Dezeen](#)

[Deborah Talbot: How Do We Solve The Housing Crisis? New Community-Led Models For Planning and Architecture: Q&A with Lucy Bullivant: The housing crisis has become a byword for everything wrong with UK planning. But what are the alternatives? "A human-scale, self-managed neighborhood based on social commitment is an alternative way cities can make the most of existing resources. These models involve a lot of engaged, inventive people." -- Urbanista.org - Forbes](#)

[Charles A. Birnbaum: There's nothing 'puzzling' about lawsuit against Obama Center in Jackson Park: To say that this lawsuit is "last-minute" and "11th-hour" misses several points...First, the issue of confiscating public space...Next, this](#)



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“late-to-the-game” characterization presupposes that the approvals process is in its final stages, when in fact federal-level reviews are in their infancy...rather than “beating up on the Obama Center’s locale,” why don’t we stop beating up on Jackson Park itself? The confiscation of parkland, especially for a private enterprise...sets a bad precedent for land use and urban planning. It effectively signals that parks are de facto potential building sites rather than shared public assets. -- The Cultural Landscape Foundation/TCLF - Chicago Sun Times

Nitin Ahuja: End Stages: As hospice design becomes more formally ambitious - and standardized - we should remember there is no universal model for "dying well": Hospice - as both space and practice...explicitly negates the institutional paradigm...the anti-institutional stance has become its own sort of convention...Were palliative design ever to become truly standardized, its ubiquity would be every bit as depressing as the mid-century mega-hospital...the most comforting hearths are those that feel serendipitously constructed, their warmth actively reclaimed. -- Stan Neuhof; McConnel Smith & Johnson; Albert Kahn; Alvar Aalto; Maggie’s Centres; Maggie Keswick Jencks; Charles Jencks; OMA/Koolhaas; Frank Gehry; Zaha Hadid; Kisho Kurokawa; Page/Park Architects [images]- Places Journal

DnA/Frances Anderton: Deconstructing Kanye: Kanye West loves architecture. Is that good news for a profession little understood by the general public, and long lacking in diversity? Or do his recent provocations about slavery and President Trump complicate his interest in the built environment? Brentin Mock/CityLab: real estate development by Kanye West would be as ill-advised as his sweatsuits (“hideous”)...West has dictatorial tendencies that might infuse his approach to city-making; KCRW DJ Aaron Byrd; SCI-Arc student Aminatou Fall - KCRW (Los Angeles)

Paul Makovsky Named Editor in Chief of Contract Magazine: ...spent the last 18 years at Metropolis magazine, where he had several senior editorial roles,..most recently was vice president of design, overseeing the launch of a new supplement on multi-housing, and ...the publication of the sixth edition of the official guide to NYCxDESIGN. - Contract magazine

CTBUH Urban Habitat Award for skyscrapers and urban context: Architecture’s impact on its context...goes farther than the footprint of the building itself...annual awards for tall buildings that have a positive impact on their surroundings...a look at the candidates for the 2018 awards: Barangaroo South/International Towers, Sydney; Greatwall Complex, Wuhan; Oasia Hotel

Downtown, Singapore; SOHO Fuxing Plaza, Shanghai; SkyPark, Hong Kong; World Trade Center Master Plan, New York City. -- Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat; Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners; 10 DESIGN; WOHA Architects; Palmer & Turner; von Gerkan, Marg and Partners Architects (gmp); Studio Libeskind- Floornature

Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design hosts design competition for attainable housing schemes: ...tasked design professionals to present housing solutions that embrace the local challenges, culture, value, and vision of Northwest Arkansas...given seven weeks to design an innovative and fully practical proposal for building attainable housing - four firms emerged as victors. -- Digsau; Kevin Daly Architecture; Merge Architects; 5468796 Architecture [images]- Archinect

Call for entries: Euro Velo Stops architecture competition (international): design rest stop cabins for travelers along Europe's large-scale EuroVelo cycle path network; cash prizes; winning designs will be considered for construction as a part of the Bright Blueprint initiative; early registration deadline (save money!): June 15 (submission due November 12) - Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert) / Bright Blueprint Development

Call for entries: IsArch Awards for Architecture Students - 9th Edition: open to students of architecture and young architects who have graduated within the last 3 years; cash prizes; early registration deadline (save money!): June 30 (submissions due October 15)- ISARCH

Danish Design Festival celebrates diversity in design and craft through exhibitions, experiences, talks, conferences and awards. The City of Copenhagen and the Danish Design Centre will kick-start the festival... May 23-30- Danish Design Festival

Rem Koolhaas, the star architect behind Prada's sets, opens up to his son Tomas: Tomas Koolhaas interviews his father about the film "REM" and the impact of looking back: You and Kanye West...have both been labeled as provocateurs. Do you think certain segments of society use that term negatively to try and force conformity? "I don't know if 'provocateur' is such a negative term...I see it more as a badge of honor, and I'm not bothered by it." -- OMA/Office for Metropolitan Architecture- Interview Magazine

NYCxDESIGN, New York City's annual celebration of design...celebrates a world of design and showcases over a dozen design disciplines through events taking place across the city's five boroughs. thru May 23- NYCxDESIGN

2018 Design Pavilion NYC returns to New York City's Times Square in celebration of the city's official design week NYCxDESIGN, inviting public engagement with design and innovation...presenting a series of curated installations and daily programs, and themed for 2018 From This Day Forward. thru May 20- Design Pavilion NYC

Bart Boehlert: Rosario Candela, the Man Behind New York City's Most Desirable Addresses: In conjunction with a new exhibition, architects and designers explain [his] extraordinary legacy: In the 1920s and '30s, [the architect] designed many sophisticated apartment buildings in New York that are

still some of the most desirable addresses in the city...“Elegance in the Sky: The Architecture of Rosario Candela” at the Museum of the City of New York is the first exhibition devoted to the masterful designer...He died largely unacknowledged in 1953. But his reputation has been revived... thru October 28 -- Donald Albrecht; Peter Pennoyer Architects; Paul Goldberger; Robert A.M. Stern; Paul Whalen/Robert A.M. Stern Architects; Bunny Williams [images]- Architectural Digest

Patrick Sisson: How green, flexible infrastructure can make cities resilient: "NatureStructure" looks at how engineers and architects can work with, rather than against, the natural world: ...exploration of new...projects with a more organic, natural bent suggests that urban planners, architects, and designers are beginning to embrace a different narrative, one of collaboration instead of suppression...features more than 30 projects from around the globe that demonstrate the potential of collaborating with, instead of overpowering, nature... BSA Space, Boston, thru September 23 -- Scott Burnham - Curbed

Rowan Moore: John Outram: the definition of British postmodern architecture: A rare interview with the celebrated architect who can expect star billing at a celebration of postmodernism ["The Return of the Past: Postmodernism in British Architecture"] in London: He knows how to alchemise building materials, to play with the colours and casting of concrete...until it looks animate, or geological, or edible, or any combination of the three...his buildings...reach out and grab you. Once seen, they are not forgotten. They move you and engage you. Which is not something you can say of most new buildings. Sir John Soane's museum, thru August 27 - Observer (UK)

Rowan Moore: "The Future Starts Here: 100 projects shaping the world of tomorrow" – an engaging vision: An interactive look at the future of design is refreshingly hopeful, despite fears about privacy and the global reach of internet giants such as Facebook: The [installation] design invites you to enter rooms, sit down, lie down and touch things...There is spookiness...but also wonder, and the possibility that design can find responses to the crises of the modern world...intelligent, well-presented and quietly provocative exhibition shows these possibilities without drawing bogus conclusions. Victoria & Albert Museum, London, thru November 4 -- Andrés Jaque/Office for Political Innovation - Observer (UK)

Alice Bucknell: The Designers Who Made Disco: The nightclub has always been a fiercely creative and radical architectural typology, "Night Fever" at the Vitra Design Museum argues: ...extends its gaze across cities and continents to examine how architects and designers from New York to Paris answered the call of the night...doesn't skimp on entertainment...(Fear not, wall flowers: Dancing is optional.)...Perpetually teetering on the edge of extinction, it is a fiercely resilient and radical typology. [The show] begs us to stay out a little later, to soak up these excesses...because who knows what the world will look like the morning after. Weil am Rhein, Germany, thru September 9 [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Spectacular panoramas capture Hong Kong's disappearing architecture: ...old tenement buildings - or "tong lau" - are microcosms of life in the city...built from the end of the 19th century until the 1960s...many have since been demolished...However, they remain hives of social and commercial activity...Hoping to document this disappearing way of life, British photographer

Stefan Irvine spent almost four years capturing tong lau...[he worked] with...Jörg Dietrich to stitch composite images (up to 25 photos together) into single, striking panoramas... "Hong Kong's Disappearing Tong Lau," offers an unusually complete glimpse of a distinct architectural form. Blue Lotus Gallery, Affordable Art Fair, Hong Kong, May 18-20 [images]- CNN Style

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Today's News - Tuesday, May 22, 2018

- [Budds examines](#) "how architecture can rebuild itself, post #MeToo. The work to correct architecture's systemic inequities has already begun - and there are more measures the industry can take," such as...
- [Boyadzhieva](#) and Chun talk about their project Girl Uninterrupted "shining a light on issues that matter to the next generation of architects and recommending solutions that could help build a more equitable profession."
- [Edelson](#) parses the recent Smart Cities Conference in NYC that "raised concerns about those left behind by technology," and "emphasized the need to ensure that this emerging industry benefits cities' disenfranchised residents."
- [Speaking](#) of smart cities, Foster + Partners is master-planning a new sustainable, 83-square-mile city in India, where "over 60% of this core area will be occupied by greenery or water" (main focus on a striking government building).
- [An interesting](#) round-up of takes on the state of architecture criticism today by a veritable Who's Who of architecture critics ("These questions, and this debate, make me tired," sayeth Lange).
- [Lo takes](#) a long look at "how the 1960s and 1970s inspired radical architecture - a period when politics, pop culture and technology collided to spawn a new era of radical creativity in architecture" (terrific overview and images).
- [Betsky parses](#) Stern's new dorms at Yale: "So, how has Stern done? Pretty well, all things considered. My judgment on this does not, however, mean that I either buy that it was the right thing to do or that the results are wholly successful...there - in the humble brick - lies the ultimate rub."
- [A look at](#) San Antonio's "Latino High Line," Phase 1 of the San Pedro Creek Culture Park riverwalk, which was once a concrete drainage ditch.
- [Bozikovic](#) x 2: He cheers LGA's makeover of Evergreen Brick Works' oft-flooded Kiln Building in Toronto, now one of two hubs for the new Future Cities Canada initiative, and "a test case for the construction industry, both for its response to flooding and for its energy performance."
- [He has a](#) conversation with Pritzker winner Doshi about his work and about the prize: "Doshi was palpably excited about sharing his ideas - which were more about ethics than about forms - building for the public, with a sense of the public good, he suggested, is what matters most."
- [Pacheco](#) parses five takeaways from Doshi's Pritzker Prize lecture: he "seemingly relished the opportunity to discuss the relative difference and richness in perspective his 'uncharted architecture possesses.'" #2: "Be a citizen as well as a professional" (link to complete lecture).

Deadlines:

- [Call for](#) entries: MAD Architecture's 2018 MAD Travel Fellowship, open to undergraduate/graduate students internationally (5 winners - deadline looms!).
- [Call for](#) entries: Q City Plan Qinhuangdao International Student Design Competition: creative ideas for small-scale renovations in public spaces for the regeneration of this famous port city of China.

- [Call for](#) entries: Silent Meditation Forest Cabins architecture competition: create a space where guests can "unplug"; winning designs will be considered for construction in Latvia.

Winners all!

- [Congress](#) for the New Urbanism/CNU 2018 Charter Award winners are projects in the U.S., South Africa, England, Costa Rica, Argentina, and Iran.
- [An impressive](#) group of 9 midcareer professionals make up the Harvard GSD Class of 2019 Loeb Fellows.
- [Some impressive](#) projects make the shortlist for New Zealand's 2018 NZ Wood-Resene Timber Design Awards.
- [The AIA](#) 2018 Housing Awards honor 11 projects in four categories (great presentation).
- [The Society](#) of Architectural Historians receives \$120,000 grant from the Driehaus Foundation.

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Diana Budds: How architecture can rebuild itself post #MeToo: ...for the architectural field to progress, it needs to embrace an era of democratic practice: As #MeToo's magnifying glass turns to vaunted starchitects...a larger appraisal is taking place. It's challenging the field's entire foundation...that can no longer be ignored: The authoritarian auteur is obsolete...The work...to correct architecture's systemic inequities has already begun - and there are more measures the architecture industry can take...Insist on a diverse pipeline in education - and nurture it; Set a more equitable standard in the workplace; Rethink merit awards; Hold public works accountable. -- Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation; Eva Hagberg Fisher; Alexandra Lange; Alissa Walker; Justin Davidson - Curbed

Status Quo, Interrupted: Making a difference starts with being heard: Zhanina Boyadzhieva and Juliet Chun are designers at Boston-based Leers Weinzapfel Associates, a firm that was started in the 1980s by two women - Andrea Leers and Jane Weinzapfel...Boyadzhieva and Chun have leveraged an atmosphere of curiosity and professional support into a project...Girl UNinterrupted...shining a light on issues that matter to the next generation of architects and recommending solutions that could help build a more equitable profession. - Architect Magazine

Zachary Edelson: Smart Cities Conference Raises Concerns About Those Left Behind by Technology: Numerous panels...highlighted how technology could exacerbate today's inequalities: ...discussions (especially those focused on urban planning) frequently discussed the wide pitfalls facing cities vis-a-vis technology...emphasized the need to ensure that this emerging industry benefits cities' disenfranchised residents. - Metropolis Magazine

Foster + Partners to masterplan new sustainable city in India: ...the new state capital of Andhra Pradesh...will centre on [the legislative assembly building] with a needle-like roof. Set on the banks of River Krishna, the new city of Amaravati will cover 217 square kilometres...Over 60% of this core area will be occupied by greenery or water, with cycle paths, water taxis and routes for electric cars...focusing on eco-friendly and cost-effective building techniques. [images]- Dezeen



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What do architecture critics think of the state of architecture criticism today? As Christopher Hawthorne moves on from the Los Angeles Times and as new forms of criticism proliferate, we asked the architecture community what the role of the critic is today, and what it might be missing... "These questions, and this debate, make me tired. What other critics are asked to justify their existence time and again?... The problems of criticism are the problems of journalism: lack of resources, a flocking to the popular, and lack of diversity." -- Mark Lamster; Alexandra Lange; Witold Rybczynski; Frances Anderton; Barry Bergdoll; Oliver Wainwright; Justin Davidson - The Architect's Newspaper

Andrea Lo: How the 1960s and 1970s inspired radical architecture: ...a period when politics, pop culture and technology collided to spawn a new era of radical creativity in architecture...a time of unrivalled socio-political activism... "The events...arguably affected the way in which architects and designers started to approach not only for whom they were designing, but why (they were designing)." -- Sean Anderson/MoMA; Buckminster Fuller; Gunter Zamp Kelp/Laurids Ortner, and artist Klaus Pinter/Haus-Rucker-Co; Peter Cook/Archigram/CRAB Studio; Gavin Robotham/CRAB Studio; Chip Lord/Doug Michels/Ant Farm; Richard Jost [images] - CNN Style

Aaron Betsky: Money Can't Buy You the Past: ...a whiff of the past from former dean Robert A.M. Stern is not enough to save Yale University's pastiche: Why should we even care? ...because that amount of money and attention means that this should be the chance neo-classicists have craved for in order to prove their case... So, how has Stern done? Pretty well, all things considered. My judgment on this does not, however, mean that I either buy that it was the right thing to do or that the results are wholly successful...there - in the humble brick - lies the ultimate rub. -- James Gamble Rogers [images] - Architect Magazine

San Antonio's "Latino High Line" opens to the public: ...the waterway's rejuvenation [of]...what was [in 2015] a concrete drainage ditch. The completion of phase 1.1, a 2,200-foot-long stretch of riverwalk christened San Pedro Creek Culture Park, marks just one part of a four-phase plan to revitalize the 2.2-mile-long creek... Each area of the river will eventually have its own design and accompanying visual identity, but retain a focus on the local ecology, history of San Antonio, and the water itself. -- Muñoz and Company [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Alex Bozikovic: How a kiln building in Toronto will heat up the new Future Cities Canada: Evergreen Brick Works is reconstructing its Kiln Building in a way that deals with extreme weather, and through its role in a new coalition...that aims to address major urban issues including climate change... The place is rich with atmosphere...measures allow the building to serve as a test case for the construction industry, both for its response to flooding and for its energy performance... The bigger goal...is to use this space to focus attention on the larger and complex issues of city-building in the 21st century. -- Geoff Cape; Janna Levitt/LGA Architectural Partners - Globe and Mail (Canada)

Alex Bozikovic: Pritzker Prize winner Balkrishna Doshi puts the focus on people: In a conversation about his work and about the Pritzker...Doshi...was palpably

excited about sharing his ideas - which were more about ethics than about forms...The background for this view became clear as he spoke about his life and work - subjects which cannot be separated...building for the public, with a sense of the public good, he suggested, is what matters most. "An architect must be an activist and think always of the larger society." -- Le Corbusier; Louis Kahn - Globe and Mail (Canada)

Antonio Pacheco: Five rules for an "uncharted" architecture from Balkrishna Doshi's Pritzker Prize lecture: ...[he] seemingly relished in the opportunity to discuss the relative difference and richness in perspective his "uncharted" architecture possesses...key points...in describing his life-long pursuit of open-ended, dynamic, and multivalent architectures. 1) Create spaces where you can lose yourself. 2) Be a citizen as well as a professional. 3) Focus on stability, not mobility. 4) Design things that can be used for many, many purposes. 5) Embed movement, nature, and an appreciation of time in your work. [link to full lecture]- The Architect's Newspaper

Call for entries: 2018 MAD Travel Fellowship: 9th edition open to undergraduate/graduate students from across globe majoring in architecture, environmental art, landscape architecture or related area of study; 5 winners; deadline: June 8 - MAD Architecture

Call for entries: Q City Plan Qinhuangdao International Student Design Competition: creative ideas for small-scale renovations instead of large-scale landscapes in public spaces for the regeneration of this famous port city of China; cash prizes; registration deadline: May 30 (submissions due June 16) - Urban Environment Design (UED) Magazine (China) / Hebei Provincial People's Government

Call for entries: Silent Meditation Forest Cabins architecture competition (international): create a space where guests can "unplug"; with winning designs being considered for construction - and Latvia's reputation as one of the greenest countries in Europe - projects should have the potential to become a regional example of green building practice; cash prizes; early bird deadline (save money! special student rates): June 22 (submissions due October 23) - Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert)

CNU 2018 Charter Award Winners: 11 professional designs and three student design projects across the United States and in South Africa, England, Costa Rica, Argentina, and Iran. -- Looney Ricks Kiss; site design group; The Street Plans Collaborative; Town of Davidson, NC; Kronberg Wall Architects; Cunningham | Quill Architects; Rhinehart Pulliam & Company; Municipalidad de Curridabat/Tandem Arquitectos; ADAM Architecture/Duchy of Cornwall; Robert A.M. Stern Architects; DPZ CoDESIGN; University of Pretoria/Holm Jordaan Architects; UC Berkeley, College of Environmental Design [images] - Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU)

Introducing the Harvard Graduate School of Design Class of 2019 Loeb Fellows: 9 midcareer professionals will pursue a year of independent study in the fields of architecture, urban planning, public policy, public art, resilient design, and more. -- Stephen Burks/Stephen Burks Man Made; Maria Cabildo/Fireflower Partners; Jeana Dunlap/Louisville Metro Government; Washington Fajardo/Desenho Brasileiro Arquitetura e Design (DEBR); Bryna Lipper/100 Resilient Cities/Rockefeller Foundation; Andrea Reimer/City of Vancouver; Michael Smith

Masis/Entre Nos Atelier; Katie Swenson/Enterprise Community Partners-
Architect Magazine

2018 NZ Wood-Resene Timber Design Awards 'Stage One' Finalists in nine categories, including new category of Multi-storey Timber Buildings. -- Studio Pacific Architecture; Chris Moller Architecture + Urbanism; Architectus; Tennent Brown Architects; Warren & Mahoney; RM Designs; Stevens Lawson Architects; Strachan Group Architects; Jerram Tocker Barron Architects; Archaus; Jasmox/Powell Fenwick; Logic Group; PTL Structural Consultants/Design Base/Nelson Timber Solutions; etc. [images]- NZ Wood (New Zealand)

Best new homes honored with AIA 2018 Housing Awards: 11 single family, production, multifamily, and specialized housing projects recognized. -- COOKFOX Architects/Alan Wanzenberg Architect & Design; Lorcan O'Herlihy Architects; FXCollaborative/Curtis + Ginsberg Architects; Robert A.M. Stern Architects; Michael Maltzan Architecture; Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; A-I-R/Architecture-Infrastructure-Research; alterstudio architecture; Bates Masi + Architects; OJT/Office of Jonathan Tate; Poon Design/Prest Vuksic Architects [images]- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Society of Architectural Historians Receives \$120,000 Grant from The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation: SAH Executive Director Pauline Saliga: "This grant enables SAH to develop and administer local, national and international programs that bring together those who study, research and practice in the fields of architectural and urban history." - Society of Architectural Historians (SAH)

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Yesterday's News

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Today's News - Wednesday, May 23, 2018

- [Kamin explains](#) why "Materials matter. Oh, do they matter!" when it comes to the Obama Center: "When I asked Tsien, in the spirit of Louis Kahn, what the stone wants to be, she replied: 'maybe like the person we are trying to represent. Warm with a sense of quiet complexity.' An alluring concept. Now let's see the material evidence."
- [Moore parses](#) the stadiums readying for their 2018 World Cup close-up in Russia: "The fabulous expense of this event has gone to some place other than good architecture. The stadiums are mostly lumpy, their soaring ambitions grounded" (scroll down to #2).
- [A Montana](#) kind of day: The Tippet Rise Art Center in the Beartooth Mountains taps Kéré for a (delightful!) new pavilion - "as part of the agreement, the Tippet Rise Fund will support the construction of a new school building in Kéré's native Burkina Faso."
- [Montana](#) State University architecture students are hard at work "putting finishing touches on the first prototype" for a "village" of about 30 to 50 tiny (145-square-foot!) homes for the homeless in Bozeman, MT.
- [El-Space](#), an initiative of The Design Trust for Public Space to activate the "forgotten spaces" under NYC's elevated highways, launches its first pilot installation underneath the Gowanus Expressway in Brooklyn (yay!).
- [Mitchell](#) x 2: Part 1: She parses 4 of the 9 proposals for San Francisco's Resilient by Design Bay Area Challenge proposals.
- [Part 2](#): she parses the remaining 5 proposals for the Resilient by Design Bay Area Challenge (nice to see all 9 gathered).
- [Carpo considers](#) "post-digital 'quitters'": "The only difference between yesterday's Postmodernists and today's Post-digitalists would be in the degree of their aversion to technology. The PoMos fought against technology; the PoDigs don't care about it."
- [Fure takes](#) issue with Carpo's take on the PoDigs that left him "a bit troubled," citing MVRDV's Glass Farm as an example: "Three details strike me as particularly post-digital about this project."
- [The 2019](#) Chicago Architecture Biennial appoints educator and curator Sepake Angiama and architect and urbanist Paulo Tavares as co-curators: "Both have research-based practices that look thoughtfully at how the built environment relates to social structures on an international scale."
- [Two we couldn't](#) resist: Ramin raises an eyebrow (rather amusingly!) at renderings of a few Texas towers that "all kinda look exactly the same. But it gets weirder - we can definitively declare that Austin has entered the Age of Contemporary Divergent Mass. Isn't that name fun to hate?"
- [Having nothing](#) to do with architecture (and swampy puns are sure to ensue): Garfield reports that the White House lawn "has developed a mysterious sinkhole - found by reporters a year to the day after a similar one developed at Mar-a-lago."

Yesterday, it was: "What do architecture critics think of the state of architecture criticism today?" Today, it's:

- [Lubell takes](#) a deep dive into what "architects can still learn from Tom Wolfe," and his "most notorious rant" -

"From Bauhaus to Our House": "What Wolfe got right is his skewering of what can be an insular, snotty, tone-deaf culture" - still, "it's important to recognize how his keen cultural antenna can still contribute to the current debates about our profession."

• [Architects](#) and educators respond to AN's round-up of critics' takes on the state of architecture criticism today ("The role of the opinion-forming, influential critic is more or less dead. Everyone is a critic now").

• [Brussat](#) offers his own take on the critics' takes on criticism: "The truth is that architecture critics never write about the fact that most people do not like most architects or their work."



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Blair Kamin: The message of material: How the Obama Presidential Center gets built looms large: It would be going too far to say that the Chicago Plan Commission didn't know what it was voting for when its members...endorsed the proposed [Center]...But in a way, that's what happened...The "outline has been approved," Billie Tsien...said in an interview. "But the novel has yet to be written"...When I asked Tsien, in the spirit of Louis Kahn, what the stone wants to be, she replied: "maybe like the person we are trying to represent. Warm with a sense of quiet complexity"...An alluring concept. Now let's see the material evidence. -- Tod Williams Billie Tsien- Chicago Tribune

Rowan Moore: Russia uncovered: writers on the 2018 World Cup host nation: Stadiums: The fabulous expense of this event has gone to some place other than good architecture: It is beyond the scope of this article to tour all 12 venues...but from a distance it doesn't look like being a classic, architecturally speaking. There are no gamechangers...The stadiums are mostly lumpy, their soaring ambitions grounded, some bearing too obviously the scars of budget cuts.... -- Kisho Kurokawa; Populous; GMP Architekten - Observer (UK)

Tippet Rise Art Center Taps Francis Kéré for New Permanent Pavilion: Slated for construction in Montana's Beartooth Mountains, the 1,900-square-foot pavilion will open next summer: As part of the agreement, the Tippet Rise Fund will support the construction of a new school building in Kéré's native Burkina Faso...an "elevated gathering place," the design...is inspired by sacred shelters in Mali called togunas... -- Laura Viklund Gunn/Gunnstock Timber Frames [images]- Architect Magazine

Bozeman looks to build tiny home village for homeless: Montana State University architecture students were working on what they like to call "building intelligently" -- putting finishing touches on the first prototype...for of about 30 to 50 tiny homes...Ralph Johnson and his students worked for two years researching different homeless villages in other cities and coming up with cardboard prototypes...The result is an energy-efficient, 145-square-foot home that cost \$12,000 in building materials.- NBC Montana

EI-Space, a New Installation that Activates the Forgotten Spaces Under the BQE in Sunset Park: ...an initiative of The Design Trust for Public Space...first pilot installation that showcases what an alternative walkway beneath the Gowanus Expressway could look like...in a plan to create more EI-Spaces throughout the five boroughs...The design tests strategies for lighting, green infrastructure, and urban design for replicability, aesthetics, and of course, how the public uses and engages with it.

-- Tricia Martin/WE Design Landscape Architecture; Quilian Riano/DSGN

Grace Mitchell: Resilient by Design Bay Area Challenge Proposals Unveiled (Part 1 - 4 project summaries): ...brought together nine multi-disciplinary design teams to develop resilient solutions to climate change-induced sea level rise and severe flooding, and seismic impacts at various sites around the San Francisco Bay....While there is no funding laid out...several teams will continue efforts with communities to realize them. The success of the competition lies in the ideas generated...Summaries of the design proposals: -- BionicTeam: Bionic Landscape, WXY, PennDesign, Michael Yarne, Enterprise, Moffatt & Nichol, WRA, RMA, Romberg Tiburon Center SFSU, BAYCAT, Studio for Urban Projects, RAD Urban, Keyser Marson Associates; Permaculture Plus Social Equity: Pandora Thomas; Antonio Roman-Alcala; Urban Permaculture Institute; Ross Martin Design; Alexander J. Felson, Yale School of Architecture; Common Ground: TLS Landscape Architecture; Exploratorium; Guy Nordenson & Associates; Michael Maltzan Architecture; HR&A Advisors; Sitelab Urban Studio; Lotus Water; Rana Creek; Dr. John Oliver; Richard Hindle, UC Berkeley; Fehr & Peers Transportation Consultants; BIG + ONE + Sherwood: BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group, One Architecture + Urbanism, Sherwood Engineers, Moffat & Nichol, Nelson\Nygaard, Strategic Economics, Dutra Group - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Grace Mitchell: Resilient by Design Bay Area Challenge Proposals Unveiled (Part 2 - 5 project summaries): -- Home Team: Mithun, Chinatown Community Development center ISEED/Streetwyze, BioHabitats, Integral Group, HR&A Advisors, Moffat & Nichol, ALTA Planning, Urban Biofilter, Resilient Design Institute; All Bay Collective: AECOM, CMG Landscape Architecture, UC Berkeley College of Environmental Design, Berkeley Center for New Media, The Turner Center, California College of the Arts, IDEO, Silvestrum, SKEO, modem, David Baker Architects; Public Sediment: SCAPE Landscape Architecture, Arcadis, Dredge Research Collaborative, TS Studio, UC Davis Department of Human Ecology and Design, UC Davis Center for Watershed Sciences, Buoyant Ecologies Lab; HASSELL+: Hassell, Deltares, Lotus Water, Idyllist, Civic Edge Consulting, Goudappel, Page & Turnbull, HATCH, Brown & Caldwell; Field Operations Team: James Corner Field Operations, Moffat & Nichol, Magnusson Klemencic Associates, SF Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Romberg-Tiburon Center SFSU, Andrea Baker Consulting, James Lima Planning + Development, The Bay Institute, SeArc/EConcrete, HT Harvey and Associates, Playhou.se, Adventure Pictures - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Mario Carpo: Post-Digital "Quitters": Why the Shift Toward Collage Is Worrying: Cherished and nurtured by Modernists and Postmodernists alike, collage used to be a crucial image-making technology of the mechanical age. But its time has passed: The only difference between yesterday's Postmodernists and today's Post-digitalists would then be in the degree of their aversion to technology...The PoMos fought against technology; the PoDigs don't care about technology...when architects start talking about sfumato, collage, or watercolors, it's time to start worrying. Architects cannot do without technology, but technology can do without them. - Metropolis Magazine

Adam Fure: The PoDigs: What does it really mean to be "post-digital" in architecture and beyond? Mario Carpo's..."Post-Digital 'Quitters'..."left me a bit

troubled...[his] definition of “post-digital” could not have been further from my own...The post-digital is deeply digital...Digital design is no longer a rarified practice of experimental vanguards, it’s a mainstream cultural practice worthy of our attention...Take MVRDV’s Glass Farm for example, a building covered top-to-bottom in digital imagery. Three details strike me as particularly post-digital about this project. - The Architect's Newspaper

Chicago Architecture Biennial appoints Sepake Angiama and Paulo Tavares as 2019 co-curators

...educator and curator Angiama, and architect and urbanist Tavares. Along with creative director Yesomi Umolu...the Biennials’ third installment, launching in September 2019...Both co-curators have research-based practices that look thoughtfully at how the built environment relates to social structures on an international scale, factors that will undoubtedly contribute to defining the theme of the 2019 Chicago Architecture Biennial, to be announced later this fall. - The Architect's Newspaper

James Rabin: Huh, These Towers All Kinda Look Exactly the Same, Don't They? Listen, we're not trying to cause any trouble here. But we also have eyes, so it's hard not to notice...first look at the design of the downtown office tower now known as The Republic...looks extremely similar to Block 71 office tower...But it gets weirder...But wait, there's more! ...we can definitively declare that Austin has entered the Age of Contemporary Divergent Mass. Isn't that name fun to hate? -- Duda/Paine Architects; Page Southerland Pag [images]- TOWERS Austin (Texas)

Leanna Garfield: The White House lawn has developed a mysterious sinkhole that's 'growing larger by the day': Sinkhole was found by reporters a year to the day after a similar one developed at Mar-a-lago: Located outside the entrance to the press briefing room...The White House's plans to fix the sinkhole are currently unclear. If it's not addressed soon, it will probably get larger. [images]- South China Morning Post

Sam Lubell: Architects can still learn from Tom Wolfe: ...[he] was an unrepentant hater of Modernist architecture...most notorious rant...was "From Bauhaus to Our House" [1981]...Paul Goldberger, while acknowledging architecture's need to be comprehensible to most, hated Wolfe's black and white view of buildings... [His] reputation in the architecture community remains poor at best...Still, [his] ear should not be underestimated, especially his still-timely attacks of the profession's often unrepentant elitism...What Wolfe got right...is his skewering of what can be an insular, snotty, tone-deaf culture...Agree or disagree...it's important to recognize how his keen cultural antenna...can still contribute to the current debates about our profession. - The Architect's Newspaper

Tweetstorm: How has the internet changed architecture criticism? ...responses we received from those who drew attention to the role that technology has played in changing the discourse...“the role of the opinion-forming, influential critic is more or less dead. Everyone is a critic now”...“Critics must develop fresh audiences by using strange and experimental critical forms and reflecting those findings back onto the architecture discipline.” -- Sam Jacob; Charles Holland; David Ruy/Ruy Klein; Michael Young/Young & Ayata; Ellie Abrons/T+E+A+M- The Architect's Newspaper

David Brussat: Criticism of criticism of etc.: This post is a species of what Mencken called "Criticism of Criticism of Criticism." The Architects Newspaper has just published the latest bout of self-criticism...The truth is that architecture critics never write about the fact that most people do not like most architects or their work...The problems of architecture today would not exist if buildings that people (not critics) could love were being designed and built today. - Architecture Here and There

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Today's News - Thursday, May 24, 2018

EDITOR'S NOTE: A special Biennale di Venezia section today makes us molto triste (all the more sad) that we're not there! In the meantime, tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days - we'll be back Tuesday, May 29

- [ANN feature](#): Author and curator Clearwater is quite taken with "Appearances & Disappearances," showcasing Mazinani and Khayyat at NYC's North of History gallery, that erases the distance of time and place by bringing us face-to-face with the violence of the two women's past, which shapes their present - as well as our own.
- [Kuma makes](#) clear that, "despite its price tag," the £80.1 million V&A Dundee "will prove value for money" (and criticizes architects like Gehry and Foster "for designing buildings that satisfied their egos").
- [Massengale](#) visits four European cities that "build streets for people," offering lessons that American cities should heed - walking should be "the new driving."
- [Speck offers](#) his vision for Riverside station in Newton, Massachusetts, that is an ideal site for "planning goals of smart growth, transit-oriented development, walkability, and housing attainability."
- [More is](#) not necessarily better when it comes to lighting cities, and "lighting designers are fighting back on behalf of darkness and night - we ought to let night be night."

Weekend diversions:

- [Fairs flies](#) through Dezeen's new documentary "Elevation" that explores "both the positive and negative implications of a future when drones are as 'ubiquitous as pigeons'" - with link to (the rather scary) trailer.
- [On a brighter](#) note, PBS premieres "Great Performances: The Opera House," a documentary that "surveys the Metropolitan Opera House's rich history and a time of great change for New York City," when "Robert Moses, the unstoppable city planner, bulldozed an entire neighborhood," and Wallace Harrison's "quest for architectural glory was never fully realized."
- [Owen Hopkins](#), curator at Sir John Soane's Museum, now hosting "The Return of the Past: Postmodernism in British Architecture," parses "why postmodern architecture is making a comeback. What was once maligned, vilified, and written off as the cultural embodiment of everything that was wrong with 1980s, is now, remarkably, undergoing a critical reassessment" (great read).
- [Foster co-curates](#) a retrospective at the Triennale di Milano, "Osvaldo Borsani": "Borsani may have died over 30 years ago, but the Italian modernist architect is definitely having a moment" (lots of great images!).

Oh, to be in La Serenissima per La Biennale di Venezia!

- [Sean Griffiths](#) pens a must-read, pondering "is the era of the architect-personality finally coming to an end? And should we care? Today, the architect's role often amounts to little more than window-dressing for marketing purposes" (Szacka's "Exhibiting the Postmodern: The 1980 Venice Architecture Biennale" is a must-read "brilliant book").

● [Frearson](#) has a great Q&A with Biennale curators Farrell and McNamara, who "urge architects to be optimistic about the importance of their work"; they're "using the Venice Biennale to celebrate the gifts that architects give for free, such as the public spaces."

● [Mairs parses](#) five "topics likely to dominate conversation" at the Biennale, ranging from "lessons from social housing" to "how sex can shape a city" and "walls that create segregation."

● [Kamin parses](#) Chicagoans (and others) takes on "Dimensions of Citizenship": "Watch out, Donald Trump! The U.S. pavilion takes aim at the 'us' and 'them' mentality behind the president's" border wall.

● [Loos's take](#) on the U.S. Pavilion: 7 exhibits "reach to the cosmos for inspiration" to "explore what it means to be a citizen of the universe."

● [Wainwright](#) wonders: "Will this three-storey slice of British brutalism" [the "salvaged chunk of Robin Hood Gardens"] be the toast of Venice? Once its death warrant had been signed, wasn't it better to preserve a bit of it in some form? This is the charged debate that visitors to the Biennale will be forced to consider."

● [Heathcote](#) hails the Irish Pavilion's "Free Market" that "concentrates on the slow death of the Irish town square. There is no grandstanding, no suggestion that radical architects could come in and solve everything - an entreaty to architects to think beyond their own shape- and myth-making."

● [Bernstein](#) explains why the Vatican is making an appearance at Biennale: The Church "saw its participation as 'another step towards healing the rift between the spiritual and the secular'" - the 10 small chapels by international architects "will be moved to Italian towns damaged in earthquakes."

● [Lang takes](#) a long look at "just how far Szacka's provocative book, 'Exhibiting the Postmodern: the 1980 Venice Architecture Biennale,' has permeated our consciousness" and how the 1980 edition "transformed architectural discourse."

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[Bonnie Clearwater: Scenes from a Distance: Sanaz Mazinani and Rola Khayyat at North of History, New York: "Appearances & Disappearances" erases the distance of time and place by bringing us face-to-face with the violence of the two women's past, which shapes their present - as well as our own. - ArchNewsNow.com](#)

[Kengo Kuma says £80.1 million V&A Dundee will prove value for money: ...despite its price tag...he hopes the V&A will inspire an entirely new approach to architecture...criticised architects like Frank Gehry, who designed the Maggie's Centre in Dundee, and Norman Foster, for designing buildings that, he said, satisfied their egos. Instead, he wanted to create an iconic building that also has "the modesty and humbleness of nature." - The Courier \(Scotland\)](#)

[John Massengale: There Are Better Ways to Get Around Town: New York and other American cities should look to Europe for ideas about solving the urban traffic and safety crisis: I've visited four of the cities with the most innovative street designs: London, Stockholm, Amsterdam and Copenhagen...Everyone reading this grew up in the age of the automobile, but in Manhattan and many other cities and towns...walking is the new driving, and we're ready for something different...as long as we build streets that encourage people to drive into the city...we will never get to zero deaths. Our streets are safer, but they're not safe...European cities show that if we build streets for people, we will get better places for everyone. - New York Times](#)

[Jeff Speck: A vision for Riverside station, Newton, Massachusetts: ...location...makes the site ideal for...planning goals of smart growth, transit-](#)



oriented development, walkability, housing attainability...But to meet these goals, it must be designed as a mixed-use, walkable neighborhood of a density appropriate to the terminus of an important streetcar line. [images]- Village 14 (Newton, Massachusetts)

Can Designers Combat Light Pollution by Embracing Darkness? In our over-lit cities, lighting designers are fighting back on behalf of darkness and night - not to mention public space and urban vitality: ...our cities have been consistently over-illuminated, driven by a misguided assumption that when it comes to lighting, more is necessarily better...The arguments of the "less is more" wing of the lighting profession are bolstered by environmental concerns about light pollution and disruption to ecosystems...we ought to let night be night. -- Suzan Tillotson/Tillotson Design Associates; International Dark-Sky Association; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Leni Schwendinger; Santa & Cole [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Marcus Fairs: Drones are "potentially as disruptive as the internet" according to Dezeen's new documentary "Elevation": ...explores the impact autonomous flying vehicles will have on our lives, and discusses both the positive and negative implications of a future when drones are as "ubiquitous as pigeons." -- Liam Young; Norman Foster/Foster + Partners; Anab Jain/Superflux; Paul Priestman/PriestmanGoode; Mark Dytham/Klein Dytham Architecture; Hans Ulrich Obrist; Clemens Weisshaar/Kram/Weisshaar; etc. [link to trailer]- Dezeen

Great Performances: The Opera House: new documentary by...filmmaker Susan Froemke...surveys a remarkable period of the Metropolitan Opera House's rich history and a time of great change for New York City...chronicles the creation of the Met's storied Lincoln Center home...Robert Moses, the unstoppable city planner who bulldozed an entire neighborhood...and Wallace Harrison, whose quest for architectural glory was never fully realized...premieres Friday, May 25 at 9 p.m. on PBS and will be available to stream the following day...- PBS

Owen Hopkins/Sir John Soane's Museum: Why postmodern architecture is

making a comeback: We see it in the slew of books and articles...in the campaigns to save some of its greatest landmarks...We are even seeing a number of contemporary architects and designers taking inspiration from its garish colors and outlandish decorative schemes...What was once maligned...vilified...and written off as the cultural embodiment of everything that was wrong with 1980s, is now, remarkably, undergoing a critical reassessment...After decades of being mute, architecture was allowed to speak again through color, ornament, decoration...before eventually succumbing to bad taste, kitsch and, ultimately, rejection...That we can love styles as diametrically opposed as Brutalism and postmodernism is itself a very postmodern thing, and perhaps evidence of its ultimate triumph. "The Return of the Past: Postmodernism in British Architecture" thru August 27 -- Philip Johnson John Burgee; James Stirling; John Outram; MVRDV; ARM; Caruso St John; Terry Farrell; Jeremy Dixon; CZWG; Charles Jencks; Enric Miralles [images]- CNN Style

Norman Foster co-curates retrospective of Italian modernist master Osvaldo Borsani: He may have died over 30 years ago, but the Italian modernist architect is definitely having a moment..."Osvaldo Borsani," a comprehensive retrospective which celebrates the genius of the architect, designer and founder of the Tecno furniture brand at the Triennale di Milano...Such an all-encompassing survey should guarantee Borsani's legacy for sometime to come. thru September 16 -- Tommaso Fantoni [images]- Wallpaper*

Sean Griffiths: Architects are not really required for the nitty gritty of actual building any more: ...is the era of the architect-personality finally coming to an end? And should we care? Architecture is under siege, say Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara...And of course, they're right...Today, the architect's role often amounts to little more than window-dressing for marketing purposes...it is perhaps ironic...that they find themselves curating the most famous of architecture's myriad biennales, whose main purpose seems to be to perpetuate a form of architectural culture that pays far more attention to who is showing than it does to what is shown...The very first Biennale, in 1980, was structured around...almost exclusively male, architects of the day, the story of which is told by Léa-Catherine Szacka in her brilliant book "Exhibiting the Postmodern: The 1980 Venice Architecture Biennale." - Dezeen

Amy Frearson: Architects can make a big impact "at a very small scale" say Grafton Architects founders: Architects can't solve the world's problems, but they can still make a significant impact, say Venice Architecture Biennale directors Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara...they urge architects to be optimistic about the importance of their work...[They] are using the Venice Biennale to celebrate the gifts that architects give for free, such as the public spaces..."Freespace" manifesto calls for "generosity of spirit"... [Q&A]- Dezeen

Jessica Mairs: Five key topics for the Venice Architecture Biennale 2018: ...some of the topics likely to dominate conversation...Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara of Grafton Architects...selected the theme "Freespace, to encourage architects to explore how "a generosity of spirit and a sense of humanity" can contribute to the built environment. Lessons from social housing; How sex can shape a city; Walls that create segregation; Religious spaces in the 21st century; The role of the European Union. -- Alison and Peter Smithson; Gino Valle; Andrés Jaque; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Norman Foster; Eduardo

Souto de Moura; Teronobu Fujimori; Caruso St John Architects - Dezeen

Blair Kamin: Chicago in Venice: A first look at the U.S. pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale: Watch out, Donald Trump! ...the U.S. pavilion, shaped for the first time by Chicagoans, takes aim at the "us" and "them" mentality behind the president's proposed wall along the border with Mexico... "Dimensions of Citizenship"...provides a platform for designers to envision spaces and structures fit for a world where technological, economic and social change runs in perpetual overdrive...The pavilion suggests an old-fashioned, civics textbook kind of citizenship. Not so the seven ideas on display outside and inside. -- Amanda Williams/ Andres L. Hernandez; Studio Gang; Scape; Teddy Cruz + Fonna Forman; Diller Scofidio + Renfro/Laura Kurgan/Robert Gerard Pietrusko; Keller Easterling; Design Earth [images] - Chicago Tribune

Ted Loos: Creators of Architectural Exhibits Reach To the Cosmos for Inspiration: At the Venice Architecture Biennale, seven exhibits explore what it means to be a citizen of the universe: United States Pavilion...exhibition "Dimensions of Citizenship"...address the topic on levels ranging from the individual to the universe itself. -- Ann Lui/Future Firm; Mimi Zeiger; Niall Atkinson; Amanda Williams/Andres L. Hernandez/Shani Crowe; Studio Gang; Diller Scofidio + Renfro/Laura Kurgan/Robert Gerard Pietrusko; Keller Easterling; El Hadi Jazairy/Rania Ghosn/Design Earth - New York Times

Oliver Wainwright: Will this three-storey slice of British brutalism be the toast of Venice? It was meant to spark a high-rise revolution. But it ended up as rubble. Is this salvaged chunk of Robin Hood Gardens, about to be unveiled at the Venice Biennale, all that's left of bold social housing in Britain? "Ruins in Reverse"...will be a bittersweet presence at the Biennale...a fragile relic of a council housing ideal long since trampled by successive British governments....once [its] death warrant had been signed, wasn't it better to preserve a bit of it in some form? This is the charged debate that visitors to the Biennale will be forced to consider. -- Alison and Peter Smithson (1972); Victoria and Albert Museum; Liza Fior/Muf - Guardian (UK)

Edwin Heathcote: Venice Biennale of Architecture: the future of public space: In an age of global chain stores, how can we reimagine the old town square? "Freespace"...a brief vague enough to embrace all architects who believe their work is a contribution to the city...all architecture has an impact, positive or negative, on the public realm...an entreaty to architects to think beyond their own shape- and myth-making...it's intriguing that the Irish pavilion ["Free Market"]...concentrates on the slow death of the Irish town square...There is no grandstanding, no suggestion that radical architects could come in and solve everything. -- Shelley McNamara/Yvonne Farrell/Grafton [images] - Financial Times (UK)

Fred A. Bernstein: Why the Vatican Is Showing at the Venice Biennale: The Church has enlisted several architects in a project that bridges religion and design: ...saw its participation...as "another step towards healing the rift between the spiritual and the secular"...had 10 international architects design small chapels, which have been erected on the island of San Giorgio Maggiore, and which will later be moved to Italian towns damaged in earthquakes. -- Francesco Dal Co; Norman Foster; Eduardo Souto de Moura; Andrew Berman - Architectural Digest

Peter Lang: How the 1980 Venice Biennale transformed architectural discourse: One of the first questions raised about this year's Venice Architecture Biennale, "Freespace," is whether this exhibition has anything in common with previous editions...It does not come as a surprise that references to [the] 1980 Biennale are already being made. Indeed, one wonders just how far Lea-Catherine Szacka's provocative book, "Exhibiting the Postmodern: the 1980 Venice Architecture Biennale," has permeated our consciousness...a comprehensive assessment of "The Presence of the Past"...would turn out to be a game-changer...also connects to Kenneth Frampton... [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

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Today's News - Tuesday, June 5, 2018

EDITOR'S NOTE: Apologies for not posting last week. We were unexpectedly laid low by...never mind (tech gods not at fault this time). So, now it's catch-up time...

- [Phil Bernstein](#) explains "why the field of architecture needs a new business model," challenging "the current methods of value creation," and proposing a new business model for architects.
- [Brady makes](#) the case that, "to fix architecture, fix the design crit" by making evidence-based design the basis of the crit - it "could improve the credibility of the entire discipline - putting the profession in a more valuable and trustworthy position than it is today."
- [Sisson parses](#) "The Empty House Next Door," the Lincoln Institute's new report offering "a sobering snapshot" of "the epidemic of vacant homes and lots, and how neighborhoods are finding solutions."
- [Comberg](#) offers 7 "key takeaways" from NYC's new affordable housing design guide "written in language accessible to people outside of design professions - architects worldwide can learn from the document, too."
- [A look at](#) how some San Francisco architects are "reinventing" their approach to the Bay Area's affordable housing crisis, which is "at risk of persisting if the response of the community doesn't shift - architects can help by taking "a more nuanced approach to design to help a community envision what the outcome will look like."
- [Page's Kurtz](#) & Clegg look at Houston's post-Harvey "road to resilience" that "requires a broad holistic" approach - projects "must deliver environmental, social and economic returns on investment," and architects, designers, and engineers can offer "creative, integrated, and lasting strategies against future storms."
- [Berg takes](#) a deep dive into how developing countries "are becoming construction sites for Chinese-designed housing blocks, office towers, hotels and urban developments - the Chinese approach is unique - unmistakably a new form and scale of city-making" that "may become the new standard."
- [Stinson](#) brings us eye-fuls of Eliasson's first building rising from the harbor in Vejle, Denmark that's "as trippy as you'd expect": it's "meant to be more than a stationary building - an exploration of shape and perception, with platforms that arch out over the water" (trippy, indeed!).
- [Aric Chen](#) of M+ explains why the new Serpentine Pavilion Beijing "signals a new age for Chinese architecture - many were struck by its audacious simplicity"; Jiakun Architects "has given us something to think about" - it "aims to reveal architecture at its most essential. But it's difficult not to also see something more ominous."
- [Designs](#) for 5 Melbourne Metro Tunnel stations look to be "new architectural landmarks for Melbourne - all designed to maximize public space and natural light," and "deliver new parks and open spaces" and more around each station.
- [Lange finds](#) "the hidden women of architecture and design" in writing her new book, "The Design of Childhood": they were "handy, empathetic, often educators, ready to step in where they saw design with a capital 'D' falling short" (great read!).
- [The World](#) Monuments Fund and Google Arts & Culture launch "Preserving Iraq's Heritage," an online platform that "showcases the unique stories of Iraq's endangered heritage sites and the extraordinary efforts to preserve them" (very cool!).

Winners - and almost-winners - all:

- [Diller Scofidio](#) + Renfro and Woods Bagot win the Adelaide Contemporary International Design Competition with their design for "a dynamic people-friendly new place - a unique cultural destination physically and emotionally woven into the place and community" (great presentation, including all finalists).
- [Eyefuls](#) of the AIA 2018 Small Project Awards that "recognize small project practitioners for the high quality of their work, from a gymnasium-turned-chapel to a woodland playscape" (great presentation).
- [Eyefuls](#) of the 12 finalists vying for the Young Talent Architecture Award 2018, organized by the Fundació Mies van der Rohe (great presentation).

The critics are returning from - and weighing in on - the Venice Architecture Biennale preview (more to come, we're sure):

- [Wainwright](#) x 2: Farrell and McNamara "have curated a show that celebrates in-between spaces - and - for once - plenty of places to sit"; they "know a good place to put a bench when they see it" (he also calls out "the show's chief flaw").
- [He "braves](#) architecture's answer to the Eurovision song contest": "As ever, there is a lot of rubbish, punctuated by occasional moments of brilliance."
- [Moore, meanwhile,](#) finds the Biennale to be "a joyous treasure trove - it can be hard slog, a soul-sapping hack through dense thickets of images and words - but not this time."
- [Miranda](#) offers "7 of the most intriguing national pavilions to see" at the Biennale: it's "a bit like being in a big city, where your every want and need can be instantly satiated."
- [McGuigan](#) & Broome offer their takes & highlights: "That the Swiss Pavilion won the Golden Lion for "House Tour" - a witty if one-note take on apartment hunting - was surprising enough, but more controversial" was Great Britain's "'special mention' nod without presenting any architecture at all. Completely ignored by the jury was the Vatican's first participation - a surprise favorite of almost everyone."
- [McGuigan](#) also reports on the Voices of Women initiative, and the nearly 200 women who "gathered to press for equity, tolerance, and openness in architecture" (hand fans included).



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[Phil Bernstein: Why the Field of Architecture Needs a New Business Model: ...architects are still paid far less than comparable professionals of equal education and import, and we create value through outmoded delivery systems where the client's first...priority is getting the lowest fee from the architect...you're a commodity. Let's examine the economic dynamics of this syndrome...I would like to challenge the current methods of value creation and propose a new business model for architects.](#) - Architectural Record

[Ross Brady: To Fix Architecture, Fix the Design Crit: It's time to back our claims with real evidence: If the expectation of empirical evidence for design decisions were introduced as the basis of a design crit...could improve the credibility of the entire discipline...the practice of evidence-based design has never caught...change could reform the entire profession in a way that would make evidence-based design the norm...architectural design would necessarily become far more robust and relevant for the people it serves, putting the profession in a more valuable and trustworthy position than it is today.](#) - Common Edge



Patrick Sisson: The high cost of abandoned property, and how cities can push back: “The Empty House Next Door” examines the epidemic of vacant homes and lots, and how neighborhoods are finding solutions...a new report from the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy...offers a deft accounting of the cost of these buildings on the surrounding areas...offers a sobering snapshot of just how widespread vacancy has become...there have been some bright spots... -- Alan Mallach - Curbed

Ella Comberg: 7 Lessons from New York's New Affordable Housing Design Guide: American public housing doesn't have to be desolate. A new set of design standards...hopes to turn over a new leaf in affordable housing architecture...“Designing New York: Quality Affordable Housing”...written in language accessible to people outside of design professions...architects worldwide can learn from the document, too. Here are some key takeaways: -- Ennead; SHoP Architects; Magnusson Architecture & Planning; Curtis + Ginsberg Architects; AIANY [images]- ArchDaily

Architects See Housing Crisis Solutions In Design Innovations: The Bay Area's housing crisis is presenting...designers with new challenges...reinventing the way people live, incorporating better uses of design to increase efficiency and engaging with the community to find designs that work well for everyone...the housing crisis is at risk of persisting if the response of the community doesn't shift as well...Architects can help with the next iteration that takes a more nuanced approach to design [to] help a community envision what the outcome will look like. -- Kristen Hall/Perkins+Will; Anne Torney/Mithun; WRT Solomon E.T.C.; Kennerly Architecture and Planning; Full Circle Architects; Marissa Kasdan/KTGY Architecture + Planning; Angshupriya Pathak/Anderson Brulé Architects - Bisnow.com

Jill Kurtz & John Clegg/Page: Houston's Road to Resilience Requires a Broad Holistic Plan: The national media may have moved, but the city continues to recover from the effects of Hurricane Harvey: Infrastructure alone cannot shoulder the burden of protecting life and property...Whatever specific projects garner support...they must deliver environmental, social and economic returns on investment...creative, integrated and lasting strategies against future storms...Architects, designers and engineers have a strong voice in the conversation in this recovery...- Common Edge

Nate Berg: These Chinese buildings are coming to a city near you: ...primarily financed, designed, engineered and even constructed by China...developing countries...are becoming construction sites for Chinese-designed housing

blocks, office towers, hotels and urban developments...Chinese government distances itself from accusations that it uses building projects to secure greater influence in the developing world...benevolent in nature...the Chinese approach is unique...city building style may become the new standard...unmistakably a new form and scale of city-making. -- Janaka Wijesundara; Jagath Munasinghe; Charlie Xue; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill/SOM; Tongji Architectural Design Group; Daan Roggeveen [images]- CNN Style

Liz Stinson: Olafur Eliasson's first building is as trippy as you'd expect: Architecture as art: His work often straddles the line between artistic spatial experiment and architecture, so it makes sense that his next project is a full-scale building...in Vejle, Denmark...The curving brick building, called Fjordenhus, rises from the harbor...meant to be more than a stationary building...an exploration of shape and perception, with platforms that arch out over the water... -- Sebastian Behmann; Studio Other Spaces [images]- Curbed

Aric Chen/M+: Why Beijing's Serpentine Pavilion signals a new age for Chinese architecture: ...many were struck by its audacious simplicity...Liu Jiakun has given us something to think about...China's ever-expanding skylines offers enough evidence that the architecture of spectacle...is still in fashion. But beneath it all, the spotlight has pivoted...pavilion aims to reveal architecture at its most essential - a visceral embodiment of potential energy held in elegant tension. But it's difficult not to also see...something more ominous... -- Jiakun Architects [images]- CNN Style

'Five new architectural landmarks for Melbourne': final designs released for Melbourne Metro Tunnel stations: ...all designed to maximize public space and natural light, with each design drawing on the architectural character of the local area...project will also deliver new parks and open spaces, bicycle facilities and community plazas around each station. -- Hassell; Weston Williamson + Partners; Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners [images]- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Alexandra Lange: The Hidden Women of Architecture and Design: Design and architecture have been, and remain, professions dominated by men. But when I set out to write my new book, "The Design of Childhood"...I found a funny thing: women...handy, empathetic, often educators, ready to step in where they saw design with a capital "D" falling short...My time spent writing...has given me an expanded view of the history of design. Women have always been there...but we have overlooked their contributions. -- Natalie de Blois/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill/SOM; Ruth Belew; Maria Edgeworth; Caroline Pratt; Elizabeth Peabody; Elizabeth Jennings Graham; Lady Allen of Hurtwood- New Yorker

WMF and Google Arts & Culture Launch Online Platform for Threatened Iraqi Heritage: "Preserving Iraq's Heritage"...showcases the unique stories of Iraq's endangered heritage sites and the extraordinary efforts to preserve them...The digital collaboration launches with eight online exhibitions that incorporate drone footage, new 3D models, imagery, architectural drawings... [link to site]- World Monuments Fund/WMF

Diller Scofidio + Renfro and Woods Bagot win Adelaide Contemporary International Design Competition: ...a dynamic people-friendly new place...a unique cultural destination physically and emotionally woven into the place and community. -- Adjaye Associates/BVN; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group/JPE Design

Studio; David Chipperfield Architects/SJB Architects; HASSELL/SO-IL ; Khai Liew/Office of Ryue Nishizawa/Durbach Block Jagers [images]- Malcolm Reading Consultants / Arts South Australia

AIA 2018 Small Project Awards: ...to recognize small project practitioners for the high quality of their work...from a gymnasium-turned-chapel to a woodland playscape. -- FR|SCH Projects/Matter Design; Cutler Anderson Architects; Edward Ogosta Architecture; Olson Kundig; Howeler + Yoon Architecture; Alchemy Architects; Allford Hall Monaghan Morris/AHMM; Kevin Daly Architects; FXCollaborative; substance; Woodhouse Tinucci Architects [images]- AIArchitect / American Institute of Architects

12 finalists Young Talent Architecture Award 2018 announced: ... organized by the Fundació Mies van der Rohe with the support of the Creative Europe programme as an extension of the European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture - Mies van der Rohe Award...bringing together the most talented graduates... - World-Architects.com

Oliver Wainwright: Venice Architecture Biennale: take a seat for the 'bench biennale': Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara...have curated a show that celebrates in-between spaces, with smells, historical treasure troves and - for once - plenty of places to sit: ...thanks to a pair of practical Irishwomen who know a good place to put a bench when they see it...The welcome proliferation of perches is a direct response to the curators' manifesto...stressing the architect's obligation to provide "gifts" to the wider public...an exhibition revealing the added value that architecture can bring...which is also the show's chief flaw. [images]- Guardian (UK)

Oliver Wainwright: Cosmic chapels and an estate agent's nightmare - Venice Architecture Biennale: Bijou chapels from the Vatican, a mind-boggling house from Switzerland, and a load of scaffolding from Britain ... our writer braves architecture's answer to the Eurovision song contest: 65 countries now compete with ever more impenetrable displays...making the challenge to see them all in a couple of days an act of supreme endurance for even the most devout architecture enthusiast. As ever, there is a lot of rubbish, punctuated by occasional moments of brilliance. The rest could be of some interest, if the subject matter were given more space to breathe... [images]- Guardian (UK)

Rowan Moore: Venice architecture biennale 2018: a joyous treasure trove: The importance of space is celebrated in Shelley McNamara and Yvonne Farrell's uplifting showcase of global design, ranging from a Japanese nursery school to a repurposed Catalan social club: The Venice biennale can be hard slog, a soul-sapping hack through dense thickets of images and words...but not this time...a physical reminder that architecture should be a joy both to experience and to make. [images]- Observer (UK)

Carolina A. Miranda: Seven of the most intriguing national pavilions to see at the Venice Architecture Biennale: ...a bit like being in a big city, where your every want and need can be instantly satiated. Want to see architectural models floating in a giant pool? Check...7 pavilions worth checking out: Israel; Great Britain; Estonia; U.S.; Chile; Switzerland; Egypt + link to: The women at the helm of 2018's Venice Architecture Biennale and the unexpected generosity of design. -- Freespace; Yvonne Farrell/Shelley McNamara/Grafton Architects

[\[images\]](#) - Los Angeles Times

Cathleen McGuigan & Beth Broome: Notes from the 2018 Venice Biennale: That the Swiss Pavilion won the Golden Lion for..."House Tour" - a witty if one-note take on apartment hunting - was surprising enough, but more controversial was the "special mention" nod to...Great Britain...the ironic fact was that a pavilion won an architecture award without presenting any architecture at all...Completely ignored by the jury was the Vatican's first participation...a surprise favorite of almost everyone...Further pavilions of note..."FreeSpace" highlights: -- Eduardo Souto de Moura; Jan de Vlyder/Inge Vinck/Jo Taillieu/architecten de vlyder vinck taillieu; Rahul Mehrotra; Andra Martin; Kenneth Frampton; Yvonne Farrell/Shelley McNamara/Grafton Architects
[\[images\]](#) - Architectural Record

Cathleen McGuigan: Women Architects Demonstrate for Equity at the 2018 Venice Architectural Biennale: ...nearly 200 women...gathered to press for equity, tolerance, and openness in architecture. Part of a movement called Voices of Women...Read the entire manifesto... -- Odile Decq; Martha Thorne; Yvonne Farrell/Shelley McNamara/Grafton Architects, - Architectural Record

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Today's News - Wednesday, June 6, 2018

- [Barth explores](#) whether LEED is "tough enough for the climate-change era - the conflicting evidence on energy savings is worth a gut-check, especially since more than just private profits are at stake - climate change isn't going to wait."
- [Bernstein](#) delves into how technology is changing the definition of practice: "Architecture firms that also do software will eventually turn into software firms that also do architecture. Architects shouldn't be scared of the new tools - a pencil is a tool" ("Beware the cobots," he told us).
- [Gragg parses](#) the news that a design/build giant has acquired Michael Green Architecture, and "plotting a major mass timber push. Katerra's disruptive idealism drew Green into the partnership."
- [Texas architect](#) Alofsin studied American suburbs, why production housing is so successful, their downsides, and how the housing industry is "more responsive to public taste" - architects have "largely ceded the best opportunity to be relevant and useful to ordinary people."
- [Kamin x 2](#): He pens a love letter to the Tribune Tower (with "a shout-out to its architects") days before his newspaper moves to an "architecturally undistinguished mid-20th-century high-rise": "These last looks are both pleasurable and painful. I love this building, love it more deeply because we're about to leave it" (lots of fab photos!).
- [He's quite](#) taken with the "transformed" Gateway Arch in St. Louis: "the grounds have been brilliantly updated for the 21st century. Here, landscape architecture is no mere adornment, but a game-changing reshaper of urban conditions and expectations" (more fab photos!).
- [Moore has](#) a lively conversation with Frida Escobedo re: her Serpentine Pavilion 2018 and more: the project "will bring her the wider audience she deserves. Throughout her work, there's an interest in whatever is already there - a deliberate imprecision in her work that comes from her liking for rough materials and her belief in incompleteness."
- [Eyefuls](#) of what Mayne's Orange County Museum of Art will look like: his "'not overtly' iconic building" is "architecture with a capital 'A.'"
- [Singhal](#) parses KPMB's Wilson School of Design in Richmond, Canada: "In a neighborhood dominated by cars and parking lots, the new school represents a major step towards a healthier urban fabric - a significant contribution to the vision and development of the Metro Vancouver region."
- [Comberg](#) offers a look at "the often forgotten work of Denise Scott Brown" that "deserve their moment in the spotlight."
- [Salingaros](#) offers a "short, visual primer on connecting buildings to nature" by parsing Christopher Alexander: "Design that liberates human creativity and life is founded upon combining unconventional tools."
- [Diaz has](#) a great Q&A with Beijing-based Belgian architect and photographer Kris Provoost: "His series Beautified China I and II celebrate the details that architects slave over - and remind us to appreciate the patterns all around us" (amazing photos!).
- [A good reason](#) to head to Pisa, Italy, next week: Nexus 2018: Relationships Between Architecture and Mathematics, the 12th international, interdisciplinary conference.

Winners all!

- [Arch Record's](#) Good Design Is Good Business 2018 recognizes "six diverse projects for their contributions to attracting and retaining talent, enhancing employee well-being, improving community relations, and, ultimately, boosting the client's bottom line" (great presentation).
- [CTBUH announces](#) the Best Tall Building Worldwide and Winners of 2018 Tall Building Awards.
- [Eyefuls](#) of the Iceland Northern Lights Rooms competition winners.

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Brian Barth: Is LEED Tough Enough for the Climate-Change Era? 20 years ago, the U.S. Green Building Council piloted its LEED certification, which has reshaped architecture and real estate...as the USGBC has grown, so have accusations of "greenwashing"...The debate over whether LEED standards are strict enough originates, at least in part, from differing expectations of what a green building should be..."You can't let the perfect be the enemy of the good"...the conflicting evidence on energy savings is worth a gut-check, especially since more than just private profits are at stake...climate change isn't going to wait... -- Bob Berkebile/BNIM; "CPR: Critical Planet Rescue"; AIA Committee on the Environment/COTE; Rick Fedrizzi; Mahesh Ramanujam; USGBC; International Living Future Institute/ILFI; Hilary Firestone/City Energy Project- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Fred A. Bernstein: Technologically Savvy Firms Expand the Definition of Practice: ...not every architecture firm in the future will spawn a separate software company, but every architecture firm will have to respond to technological changes that are rocking the profession...new tools have transformed ateliers into veritable computer labs...architecture firms that also do software will eventually turn into software firms that also do architecture. "I don't see it as a threat to the profession...I see it as a threat to the business model"..."now we have the ability to use algorithms to prove the value of our work"...Architects shouldn't be scared of the new tools - a pencil is a tool. Tomas Rossant/Ennead; Billie Faircloth/Christopher Connock/KieranTimberlake/KT Innovations; Steve McConnell/NBBJ/Visual Vocal; Frank Gehry; Christian Derix/Shane Burger,/Superspace/Woods Bagot; Steve McConnell/NBBJ; Kat Park/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Chris Sharples/SHoP Architects; Kattera; Nader Tehrani/NADAAA; Sheila Kennedy/Kennedy Violich Architects; John Medina - Architectural Record

Randy Gragg: Design/Build Giant Acquires Michael Green Architecture, Plans to Open CLT Factory: Kattera has grown from a Silicon Valley entrepreneur's bright idea into what soon could be one of the largest commercial residential construction firms in the country...plotting a major mass timber push...Kattera's disruptive idealism drew Green into the partnership. He became the first member of a "design consortium"... -- Craig Curtis; Gerhard Schickhofer; Ted Flato/Lake|Flato/ Joe Greco/Lord Aeck Sargent; Andrea Leers/Leers Weinzapfel Associates - Architectural Record

Anthony Alofsin: A Defense of the Suburbs: An architect immerses himself in residential production housing to learn why people like it - and what it can teach Americans about the future of urban design: I learned that the housing industry

is not just a major economic force, but also more efficient, more responsive to public taste, and more effective in marketing its products than the architecture profession...the profession has largely ceded the best opportunity to be relevant and useful to ordinary people. -- Duo Dickinson; Robert Bruegmann "Sprawl: A Compact History" - The Atlantic

Blair Kamin: A farewell to Tribune Tower and a shout-out to its architects: As Chicago Tribune journalists prepare to leave Tribune Tower on Friday, I find my eyes roaming over the tower's flamboyant neo-Gothic silhouette and its innumerable alluring details...These last looks are both pleasurable and painful. I love this building, love it more deeply because we're about to leave it. -- John Mead Howells; Raymond M. Hood - Chicago Tribune

Blair Kamin: Gateway Arch transformed: New landscape, expanded museum better link the icon to St. Louis: In a project at once carefully wrought and boldly transformative, the Arch's grounds have been brilliantly updated for the 21st century...it can be deemed a major success in its reinvention of a historic landscape and the connections it forges between that landscape and the surrounding city. Here, landscape architecture is no mere adornment, but a game-changing reshaper of urban conditions and expectations. -- Eero Saarinen; Dan Kiley (1965); Michael Van Valkenburgh; Cooper Robertson; James Carpenter Design Associates [images] - Chicago Tribune

Rowan Moore: Serpentine pavilion 2018: Frida Escobedo's 'intimate public space': Mexico's Escobedo is the youngest architect to receive the prestigious commission. It will bring her the wider audience she deserves: ...she will use walls of stacked-up British roof tiles to create a "porous" enclosure, half-open and half-roofed...Throughout her work, there's an interest in whatever is already there...There is a deliberate imprecision in her work that comes from her liking for rough materials and her belief in incompleteness. [images] - Observer (UK)

See what the new Orange County Museum of Art will look like as Thom Mayne/Morphosis designs are revealed: "What's exciting about Thom is the fact that he's never done an art museum" ...next to Cesar Pelli's undulating glass-veiled Segerstrom Concert Hall...Mayne's "not overtly" iconic building features a modern multi-slatted three-story amorphous structure..."architecture with a capital 'A'" ...will feature Mayne's signature dramatic angles and textured external surfaces, but still no word on what that surface will be made of. [images] - Orange County Register (California)

Sumit Singhal: Wilson School of Design in Richmond, Canada, by KPMB Architects + Public: Architecture + Communication: ...new [school] at Kwantlen Polytechnic University is to be the preeminent school for this industry...In a neighbourhood dominated by cars and parking lots, the new school represents a major step towards a healthier urban fabric...This new gateway dresses the stage for the future transformation of Richmond's Lansdowne Mall into a vibrant mixed-use community...represents a significant contribution to the vision and development of the Metro Vancouver region. [images] - AECCafé.com

Ella Comberg: The Often Forgotten Work of Denise Scott Brown: ...the couple's eternal association often leaves Scott Brown's personal work in the dust...[Her] accomplishments - as well as her work completed alongside Venturi - deserve their moment in the spotlight. Spanning architecture, city planning, furniture

design, and theory...a look at some of her lesser-known work: -- Robert Venturi; Venturi, Scott Brown and Associates/VSBA Architects and Planners [images]- ArchDaily

Nikos A. Salingaros: The Legacy of Christopher Alexander: Form Language, Pattern Language, and Complexity: A short, visual primer on connecting buildings to nature: Form languages that obey Alexander's 15 fundamental properties generate healing environments through Biophilia....Pattern language is necessary to determine the design of spaces and volumes so that they are going to provide a healing experience...understand how we respond to distinct types of complexity, and learn how to generate organized complexity...Design that liberates human creativity and life is founded upon combining unconventional tools... - Common Edge

Jesus Diaz: Why architects make the best photographers: Colors, patterns, proportions: See the world through an architect's eyes: Belgian architect and photographer Kris Provoost moved to Beijing in 2010...he has been photographing the country's architecture for nearly a decade, and his photos are unmistakable...His series Beautified China I and II celebrate the details that architects slave over...and remind us to appreciate the patterns all around us...Q&A re: his sui generis approach to architectural photography... -- GMP Architekten [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

Nexus 2018: Relationships Between Architecture and Mathematics: 12th international, interdisciplinary conference, Pisa, Italy, June 11-14, hosted by the Department of Engineering of Energy, Systems, Territory and Construction (DESTeC) of the University of Pisa and Kim Williams Books. - Nexus Network Journal / DESTeC – University of Pisa / Kim Williams Books

Good Design Is Good Business 2018: ...awards program...singled out six diverse projects for their contributions to attracting and retaining talent, enhancing employee well-being, improving community relations, and, ultimately, boosting the client's bottom line. -- Eskew + Dumez + Ripple; Allied Works Architecture; BNIM; Architecture Plus Information; Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec; Parabola [images]- Architectural Record

CTBUH Reveals Best Tall Building Worldwide and Winners of 2018 Tall Building Awards: Best Tall Building Worldwide to the Oasia Hotel Downtown by WOHA. - American Copper Buildings/SHoP Architects; The Silo/COBE; Zeitz MOCAA/Heatherwick Studio; Word Trade Center Masterplan/Studio Daniel Libeskind; MULTI/ThyssenKrupp; EY Centre/fjmt; New York Times Tower/Renzo Piano Building Workshop/FXFOWLE Architects (now FXCollaborative); Shanghai World Financial Center/KPF/Kohn Pedersen Fox [images]- ArchDaily

Iceland Northern Lights Rooms competition winners announced> ...concepts for a guest house that allowed visitors to observe the unusual and magnificent spectacle that is the Northern Lights. The winning proposals were chosen for their creative experimentation with a specific material and for their distinct interaction with the site and the sky. -- Kamila Szatanowska/Paulina Rogalska (Poland); Francois Bodlet (Belgium); Catarina Oom De Sousa/Carla Romagosa Girós/Eftalia Proios Torras (Spain) [images]- Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert)

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Today's News - Thursday, June 7, 2018

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, June 12.

- [ANN features](#): Knoops x 2 (from Venezia): A survey of 10 national pavilions at the Biennale chosen for their translation of "Freespace" - in no particular order other than my own itinerary.
- [He lauds](#) Kenneth Frampton, a New York Lion - now a Golden Lion of the Venice Architecture Biennale - he has shaped more than one generation of architects.
- [Wood digs](#) deep into "how to design for disassembly," and talks to Anders Lendager, whose firm is "working towards a circular economy by giving upcycled and recycled building materials a new life," and building scientist Bradley Guy, "who has been advocating for design for disassembly (DfD) for over 20 years."
- [Klotz tells](#) the tale of Ingrid Gehl, "the little-known behavioral scientist who transformed cities all over the world" and "influenced much of the thinking of her husband," Jan Gehl - their story "is a model for what partnerships between behavioral scientists and designers can look like today."
- [Schwab gives](#) us a sneak-peek of James Corner Field Operations' Domino Park, and ponders: "Can NYC's next big park recapture the magic of the High Line?" While it "might be a \$50 million carrot for an area that has vehemently fought most new development, it sure is a beautiful one."
- [Zaha Hadid](#) Architects wins the competition to master-plan a waterfront development in a Russian Black Sea city that includes "nine buildings offer varying iterations of a single form" and "vibrant public space" along the water's edge.
- [Cheers to](#) one of our faves! Michael Hodges of Detroit News is honored with AIA Michigan's Balthazar Korab Award for his biography "Building the Modern World: Albert Kahn in Detroit."

Weekend diversions:

- [Starting](#) in Venice, Miranda has quite the adventure visiting the Vatican's chapels ("The Holy See knows how to draw a crowd!"), and the Cruising Pavilion that "examines the ways in which LGBTQ culture has appropriated semi-public locales" - it "approaches its subject with humor" and "treats its thesis with earnestness."
- [Gendall](#) brings us eyefuls of architectural photographer Peter Aaron's spectacular photos of Syria's ancient monuments before "the gruesome civil war" - they "amount to a staggering chronicle" that "now carry the weight of historical record" - on view at the Venice Architecture Biennale.
- [A good reason](#) to head to Montpellier, France: 13th Festival des Architectures Vives: "SEncity," highlighting the work of a younger generation of architects, landscape architects, and urban planners.
- [Jessel offers](#) highlights from the London Festival of Architecture that explores "Identity" - running through June (Great Architectural Bake Off included).
- [Wright learns](#) what made the Manhattan Project so significant from Martin Moeller, curator of the National Building Museum's "Secret Cities: The Architecture and Planning of the Manhattan Project" - there were both remarkable - and dark - aspects.

● [In Seoul](#), "Birth of the Modern Art Museum: Art and Architecture of MMCA Deoksugung" celebrates the museum's 20th anniversary with a look back at its turbulent history.

Page-turners:

● [W. Richards](#) has a wonderful Q&A with Sharon Sutton about her book "When Ivory Towers Were Black: A Story about Race in America's Cities and Universities," why "Columbia University's story should matter to students - and architects - today," and "her own trajectory from an affirmative action recruit at the school to a distinguished career as an activist architecture educator and scholar."

● [Astounding](#) images by aerial photographer Tom Hegen "show human impact on the natural world," soon to be showcased in "Habitat."

● [More astounding](#) images by Edward Burtynsky, who, for 35 years, "has been photographing humankind's industrial intervention in natural landscapes. We all know that humans are scarring the landscape. But he provides the visual evidence on a breathtaking scale - the apocalypse has its sublime moments."

● [Schwab gets](#) Jim Heimann to share three of his favorite buildings featured in the new edition of "California Crazy," which "sheds light on why, exactly, Southern California produces such wacky structures."

● [Waldek brings](#) us eye-fuls of Conway's "Michigan Modern: An Architectural Legacy," highlighting "the state's most stunning buildings gorgeously captured" by Haefner.

● [Wormser's](#) fascinating Q&A with Garber re: her new book, "Implosion: A Memoir of an Architect's Daughter," the "strictures of Modernism, and why she couldn't live in a glass house today."

● [Campbell-Dollaghan](#) & LaBarre round up their picks of 10 of the "most inspiring design books - from significant design research to pure, unadulterated fun."

● [Metropolis](#) editors pick 19 new books that "dig into everything from the evolution of social housing, to Bucky Fuller's days hanging out with ex-gang members, to Stanley Kubrick's unfinished magnum opus."

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[Johannes M. P. Knoop](#): "Freespace"... The One Word of the 2018 Venice Biennale, the 16th Exhibition of Architecture: A survey of just 10 of the 65 national pavilions chosen for their translation of "Freespace" - and in no particular order other than my own itinerary. [images]- ArchNewsNow.com

[Johannes M.P. Knoop](#): Kenneth Frampton, a New York Lion ... now a Golden Lion of the Venice Architecture Biennale: As the Ware Professor at the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, where he has taught since 1972, he has shaped more than one generation of architects.- ArchNewsNow.com

[Hannah Wood](#): Recycled Buildings: How to Design for Disassembly: Architecture firms and their clients are becoming increasingly conscious of the environmental impact of their buildings, from life-cycle performance to the economic and environmental costs of dumping quality used components...I speak with Anders Lendager from the Lendager Group, a Danish firm working towards a circular economy by giving upcycled and recycled building materials a new life in their buildings. I also check in with building scientist Bradley Guy, who has been advocating for design for disassembly (DfD) for over 20 years...- Archinect

[Leidy Klotz](#): The little-known behavioral scientist who transformed cities all over the world: Behavioral psychologist Ingrid Gehl influenced much of the thinking of



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her husband, the celebrated urbanist Jan Gehl. Imagine if all designers were married to behavioral scientists - or even if they just talked with each other: "Why are you architects not interested in people?" ...the story of Ingrid and Jan is a model for what partnerships between behavioral scientists and designers can look like today. - Fast Company / Co.Design

Katharine Schwab: Can NYC's next big park recapture the magic of the High Line? This weekend, the long-awaited Domino Park finally opens to the public. Here's what it took to bring the \$50 million, six-year project into reality: ...while [it] might be a \$50 million carrot for an area that has vehemently fought most new development, it sure is a beautiful one. -- Lisa Switkin/James Corner Field Operations [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

Zaha Hadid Architects Wins Competition for Russian Black Sea City Masterplan: ...the Admiral Serebryakov Embankment masterplan in the city of Novorossiysk...nine buildings offer varying iterations of a single form, evolving in a gradient across the [13.9-hectare] site...restoration of the city's waterfront also includes the design of vibrant public space along Tsemes Bay for residents and visitors, and a new fishing port, marina, and piers to reactivate the city's maritime heritage. -- Pride TPO [images]- ArchDaily

Albert Kahn bio wins Detroit News reporter AIA prize: AIA Michigan will honor arts reporter Michael Hodges with its Balthazar Korab Award for his recently published biography..."Building the Modern World: Albert Kahn in Detroit" - Detroit News

Carolina A. Miranda: Sanctity and Sex in Installations Devoted to Chapels and Cruising at Venice Architecture Biennale: The Holy See knows how to draw a crowd! ...some chapels briefly turn into paparazzi scrums...while some of the chapels feel more cosmic than others - all offer singular experiences...Our next stop: the unofficial Cruising Pavilion...examines the ways in which LGBTQ culture has appropriated semi-public locales...approaches its subject with humor...also treats its thesis with earnestness... -- Carla Juaçaba; Francesco Dal Co; Smiljan Radic; Eva Prats/Ricardo Flores; Norman Foster; Eduardo Souto de Moura; Andrés Jaque/Office for Political Innovation; Diller Scofidio + Renfro- Los Angeles Times

John Gendall: A Traveller's Record of Syrian Monuments Before the War: In April, 2009, Peter Aaron, a veteran architectural photographer, went on vacation with his family, to Syria...images from that trip amount to a staggering chronicle of ancient and historic monuments, many of which have since been badly damaged or completely destroyed...these photographs now carry the weight of historical record...As the gruesome civil war continues - and intensifies - they serve as a quiet reminder of Syria's recent past. on view at the Venice Architecture Biennale thru November 25 [images]- New Yorker

13th Festival des Architectures Vives: "SENcity": highlighting the work of a younger generation of architects, landscape architects, urban planners; 10 teams and the School of Architecture of the University of Genoa, will realize a facility in the heart of downtown Montpellier, France, June 6-17 -- Knowledge Alliance for Advanced Urbanism (KAAU) [website in French & English]- Festival des Architectures Vives (FAV)

Ella Jessel: London Festival of Architecture reveals 'eclectic and diverse' programme: LFA packed with 400 events for its month-long celebration of design and the built environment June 1-30...will explore 'Identity'...2018 highlights:- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Andrew Wright: The Planning and Architectural Legacy of the Manhattan Project: Oak Ridge, Tennessee; Richland and Hanford, Washington; and Los Alamos, New Mexico...are the subject of "Secret Cities: The Architecture and Planning of the Manhattan Project"...at The National Building Museum in Washington, D.C...curator Martin Moeller delved into [their] planning, architecture, and cultural legacy...What makes the cities...significant was the scale of their design and speed of their construction...one of the more remarkable aspects...is the inclusion of green, walkable community space...There were darker aspects to these cities as well. -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill/SOM [images]- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Korea's turbulent modern history at a glance: At Deoksugung Palace, one of the five royal palaces of Seoul, there is a series of Western-style buildings alongside traditional Korean buildings...One of the Western classical structures is the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Deoksugung..."Birth of the Modern Art Museum: Art and Architecture of MMCA Deoksugung" looks back at the museum's turbulent history...highlighting Korea's history of modern art and about 30 architectural documents related to the museum building designed by Japanese architect Nakamura Yoshihei in 1938. thru October 14- Korea Times

William Richards: What Does Race Have to Do with Architectural Education? Sharon Sutton on why Columbia University's story should matter to students - and architects - today: [Her] new book..."When Ivory Towers Were Black: A Story about Race in America's Cities and Universities" weaves oral histories together with social history to create a unique narrative about power structures and personal determination at Columbia...narrates one of the most significant disruptions in the country...She draws on her own trajectory from an affirmative action recruit at the school to a distinguished career as an activist architecture educator and scholar. [Q&A]- Architect Magazine

Striking aerial photos show human impact on the natural world: ...aerial photographer Tom Hegen uses drones, hot air balloons, helicopters and planes

to document the impact of human activity on the natural world..."Habitat" is now set to become a book..."I don't want to be the guy pointing the finger and saying 'look what we've done wrong.' I more want to inspire people"...depicts aerial photography as an art grounded in painstaking preparation...images appear completely flat, giving them a surreal aesthetic quality...reveal the enormity of the facilities, farms and landscapes being profiled... [images]- CNN Style

Edward Burtynsky: 'The technical revolution has turned us into a virus': For some 35 years, he has been photographing humankind's industrial intervention in natural landscapes...We all know that humans are scarring the landscape. But he provides the visual evidence on a breathtaking scale...there is an unquestionable beauty to [his] images...the apocalypse has its sublime moments...[he] claims to be non-judgmental, saying that his work is "revelatory not accusatory." The landscape is simply "the consequence of what we are." [images]- CNN Style

Katharine Schwab: How California's architecture became the world's craziest: "If you saw a giant ice cream cone, you knew ice cream is up ahead": In 1980, Jim Heimann introduced this unique form of architecture to the world with a book called "California Crazy." Now, he is back with his third edition...His research sheds lights on why, exactly, Southern California produces such wacky structures...[He shares] three of his favorite buildings...and the stories behind them. They don't disappoint. [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

Stefanie Waldek: Discover the Modern Architecture of Michigan by Frank Lloyd Wright, Zaha Hadid, Eero Saarinen, and Others: "Michigan Modern: An Architectural Legacy" by Brian D. Conway covers the state's most stunning buildings from the mid-20th century to modern day...gorgeously captured by photographer James Haefner. [images]- Architectural Digest

Baron Wormser: Growing Up in a Glass House: An Architect's Daughter Explores Modernism's Shadow: Q&A with author Elizabeth W. Garber about her new book, "Implosion: A Memoir of an Architect's Daughter": ...her father, Woodie Garber, once called "Cincinnati's most extreme, experimental, and creative Modernist architect." The memoir focuses on a family caught in a collision between modern architecture, radical social change, and madness in the turbulent 1960s...I talked to Garber about the book, the strictures of Modernism, and why she couldn't live in a glass house today. - Common Edge

Kelsey Campbell-Dollaghan & Suzanne LaBarre: This summer's most inspiring design books: 10 favorite new titles...from significant design research to pure, unadulterated fun. -- Michael Webb; Marvin Rand, Emily Bills, Sam Lubell & Pierluigi Serraino; Jim Heimann; Louise Harpman & Scott Specht; Paul Jackson; Oliver Wainwright; Lorna Simpson; Julia Reinhard Lupton; Patrick Syme & Abraham Gottlob Werner; Libby Sellers- Fast Company / Co.Design

19 New Architecture and Design Titles to Read: Spring has sprung, along with a new crop of books - here are our top picks: [They] dig into everything from the evolution of social housing, to Bucky Fuller's days hanging out with ex-gang members, to Stanley Kubrick's unfinished magnum opus. -- Michael Sorkin; Jonathan Massey & Barry Bergdoll; Martino Stierli; Eeva-Liisa Pelkonen; Rania Ghosn/El Hadi Jazairy/Design Earth; Syeus Mottel; Emily Bills, Sam Lubell & Pierluigi Serraino; Oliver Wainwright; Zvi Efrat; John Broughton; etc. - Metropolis

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Today's News - Tuesday, June 12, 2018

- [Betsky contemplates](#) the "lessons I didn't learn at this year's Venice Architecture Biennale. Beyond [a] handful of moments, I am afraid that I do not remember much. Overall, I would give it an A+ for its own architecture, but a failing grade for the overall content" (this is Part 1 - with lots of his own fab photos!).
- [Kornblatt](#) minces no words about what he thinks of Selldorf Architects' "controversial addition" to Irving Gill (1915) and Venturi Scott Brown's (1996) San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art: "The sum total of the new plan would be a mishmash. It would lose the crescendoing choreography of spaces that gives it vitality and order. And not for any good reason."
- [Wainwright](#) x 2: He parses the "design rethink" for a cultural hub at London's Olympic park (formerly Olympicopolis, rebranded East Bank): "what was a parade of dour brick blocks has been jollied up in more expressive clothing - but it feels a little contrived" and "feels painfully imbalanced" (the V&A outpost, "once the star of the show, now looks like a dinky trinket").
- [His take](#) on Frida Escobedo's Serpentine Pavilion: she "has made a rough, tough backdrop for summer frolics" (he loves the paddling pool!); meanwhile, Christo's "Mastaba," the "monolithic monument soon to be cast adrift in the middle of the Serpentine lake looks surprisingly puny."
- [Connolly](#) is quite taken by Eliasson as he gives her a tour of his "imposing and inviting, disorienting and playful" Fjordenhus that "grows" from a Danish fjord, and is "predicted to put on the map a small city hitherto known for its chewing-gum factory."
- [Moore cheers](#) "a glorious reprieve" for the Preston bus station: "Earmarked for demolition just six years ago, the brutalist gem has been sympathetically renovated - the grace and power of this structure is considerably less boring than the commercial miasma that now engulfs most centers of public transport." - King cheers San Francisco's public toilets v. 2.0 (talk about a public building type!): SmithGroupJJR's competition-winning design to "replace the current mock-Parisian models" calls for "bulbous metallic orbs" that are "sleek, shiny and modern - there's sure to be scrutiny from design watchdogs who are happy with the traditional-looking kiosks and loos."
- [Lange takes](#) a long look at how public libraries now "offer teenagers space where no one tells them to sit up straight or be quiet" by "giving them room to act like teens."
- [Sad news:](#) it looks like the "ambitious" plan to transform Gillespie, Kidd & Coia's derelict 1966 St. Peter's Seminary complex, "one of the UK's most important modernist buildings," into an arts center "has fallen victim to funding cuts."
- [Three brighter](#) notes: AmEx ponies up \$1 Million to fund restoration of 8 threatened cultural sites included on WMF's 2018 World Monuments Watch list.
- [The Van](#) Alen Institute has established a Climate Council, a cross-disciplinary initiative, co-chaired by Claire Weisz/WXY Studio and Mark Johnson /Civitas, to investigate "climate-related issues through curated trips to destinations that are undergoing, or will soon undergo substantial environmental change."
- [Grimshaw](#) London names Kirsten Lees as the firm's first woman managing partner: "The proportion of women in the senior leadership team has risen from 12% to more than a quarter" and is "moving towards" 40%.

Of history, gender equality, #MeToo, and studio culture:

- [Gibson's](#) great Q&A with Beverly Willis re: her new documentary short "Unknown New York: The City that Women Built": "'Women are doing some of the most prestigious work in New York,' but nobody knows who they are."
- [Willis & Donoho](#) outline "what individuals and organizations, including the AIA, can do to rid the design profession of its rotten apples" - but don't conflate these activities "with issues relating to equity or discrimination."
- [Grandstaff-Rice](#) cheers "Willis's commitment to equity and diversity - men are on notice that the Mad Men behaviors Willis and other trailblazers were forced to endure for decades won't be tolerated any longer" (a bit of conflation here).
- [Betsky cautions](#) not to "mistake hard work for harassment" when it comes to student charrettes: "We absolutely need to punish and eliminate sexism and harassment in architecture schools. But an environment where hard work, especially creative hard work, is valued, is not, in my opinion, a hostile work environment."

Deadlines:

- [Call for](#) entries (deadline looms!): World Resources Institute/WRI Ross Prize for Cities: a global competition to celebrate transformative projects that have ignited citywide change (\$250,000 prize!).
- [Call for](#) entries (deadline looms!): Dezeen Awards for the world's best architecture, interiors and design.
- [Call for](#) entries: Open International Competition for Alternative Layout Design in Standard Housing (managed by Strelka).
- [Call for](#) entries: London Affordable Housing Challenge International Architecture Competition.
- [Call for](#) entries: IsArch Awards for Architecture Students (early-bird registration deadline looms!).



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[Aaron Betsky: Lessons I Didn't Learn at This Year's Venice Architecture Biennale: For this latest iteration of the International Architecture Exhibition, curators Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara try to teach us architecture: "Freespace"...the teaching is clear: For building to become architecture, it must offer surplus value...Beyond \[a\] handful of moments, I am afraid that I do not remember much from this year's Biennale...what did I learn? Not much...Overall, I would give this Biennale an A+ for its own architecture, but a failing grade for the overall content. \[images\]- Architect Magazine](#)

[Izzy Kornblatt: Unpacking Selldorf Architects' controversial addition to Venturi Scott Brown's San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art \[in La Jolla\]: ...built in pieces between 1915 and 1996 - mixes austere concrete with playful color, oversize plaster columns with powerful round arches...a spare house by...Irving Gill, gently tussles with VSBA's surrounding addition...The sum total of the new plan would be a mishmash: an unhappy family of buildings that refuse to talk to one another...It would lose the crescendoing choreography of spaces that gives it vitality and order...And not for any good reason. \[images\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Oliver Wainwright: From Olympic Park to East Bank: how St Paul's 'faux pas' led to design rethink: Plans for a cultural hub at the Olympic park have been relaunched...include an east London outpost of the V&A. But will it draw the crowds? ...what was a parade of dour brick blocks has been jollied up in more expressive clothing...a wider variety of shapes and materials...but it feels a little](#)



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contrived...the result is design by committee...The V&A, once the star of the show, now looks like a dinky trinket...small, but potentially perfectly formed...for all the architects' best intentions, the apartment-to-culture ratio feels painfully imbalanced. -- O'Donnell + Tuomey; Allies and Morrison; Arquitectura; Diller Scofidio + Renfro [images]- Guardian (UK)

Oliver Wainwright: Serpentine Pavilion 2018 - cement tiles, shade and a paddling pool: Only the second solo woman and the youngest architect to win the annual commission, Mexico's Frida Escobedo has made a rough, tough backdrop for summer frolics: Christo's "Mastaba"...soon to be cast adrift in the middle of the Serpentine lake...looks surprisingly puny...[They]...have conjured their works from the repetitious stacking of standard objects. But while one is a monolithic monument, to be admired from afar, the other provides a subtle spatial sequence, mute from outside, which reveals its qualities the longer you linger. [images]- Guardian (UK)

Kate Connolly: Disorientating and playful, Olafur Eliasson's first building 'grows' from Danish fjord: Fjordenhus, an elliptical, twisting structure: "Finally, this looks like a living building"...which rises from the waters of the Vejle fjord [in Denmark]...it is both imposing and inviting, disorienting and playful...Dubbed "Vejle's new cathedral"...predicted to put on the map a small city hitherto known for its chewing-gum factory...-- Sebastian Behmann/Studio Other Spaces [images]- Guardian (UK)

Rowan Moore: Preston bus station - a glorious reprieve: Earmarked for demolition just six years ago, the brutalist gem that is Ove Arup's bus station has been sympathetically renovated, right down to the route numbers: ...the listing of postwar architecture is the last, best defence of public space that the tattered planning system can provide...the grace and power of this structure is considerably less boring than the commercial miasma that now engulfs most centres of public transport. -- Building Design Partnership (1969); John Puttick-ObsERVER (UK)

John King: New design for SF's public toilets is sleek, shiny and modern: It's take two for San Francisco's public toilets 2.0, with a proposed design that

would replace the current mock-Parisian models with bulbous metallic orbs that could be topped by plants or shrubs...there's sure to be scrutiny from design watchdogs who are happy with the traditional-looking kiosks and loos...The most important gauges of a public toilet's success, of course, are whether they are used by the public and whether they work from one day to the next. -- SmithGroupJJR [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

Alexandra Lange: Young adult architecture: Public libraries offer teenagers space where no one tells them to sit up straight or be quiet: Today, it is hard to find a public library that isn't investing in teens or, in librarian parlance, young adults. New central libraries...make space for young adults a priority...it wasn't until the 1990s that public libraries realized their most loyal patrons were teens - and started giving them room to act like teens. -- WORKac; Anthony Bernier; Will Bruder Architects; Group 4; LWC Inc.; Rice+Lipka Architects; TEN Arquitectos [images]- Curbed

Restoration of St Peter's Seminary, Cardross abandoned: Avanti Architects project falls victim to funding cuts as charity closes: ...ambitious refurbishment and conversion...abandoned after seven years...[It] is regarded as one of the UK's most important modernist buildings and is one of only 42 post-war Scottish buildings to be given Category A protection...derelict complex was to be turned into an arts centre while preserving the ruined quality of the buildings...Avanti insisted there were still reasons to be hopeful. -- Gillespie, Kidd & Coia (1966) [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

American Express Awards \$1 Million to Threatened Cultural Sites Included on 2018 World Monuments Watch: Funding to Restore Eight Cultural Heritage Sites Including Historic Kitchen Garden of Versailles and Iconic British Piers Damaged from Effects of Climate Change: projects in France; Beijing, China; Takamatsu, Japan; León, Spain; Blackpool, England; Matobo, Zimbabwe; and Oaxaca, Mexico - World Monuments Fund/WMF

Van Alen Institute Introduces Climate Council: Investigative Program Brings Range of Professionals Together to Establish a Common Language of Resiliency Across Disciplines: ...to explore climate-related issues through curated trips that incorporate design, educational, social, and professional activities...centers on investigative travel to North American destinations that are undergoing, or will soon undergo substantial environmental change. -- David van der Leer; Claire Weisz/WXY Studio; Mark Johnson/Civitas - Van Alen Institute

Kirsten Lees takes the helm at Grimshaw London: Architect appoints first woman managing partner: ...unanimously elected by the other partners when Mark Middleton stepped down after six years...Lees is the only woman among the London office's current 10 partners, something they say they are committed to changing...The proportion of women in the senior leadership team has risen from 12% to more than a quarter during Middleton's tenure and he said this is "moving towards" 40%. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Eleanor Gibson: Hardly anyone can name more than one female architect, says director of new movie about women that built New York: "Women are doing some of the most prestigious work in New York" but nobody knows who they are, according to architect and filmmaker Beverly Willis..."Unknown New York: The City that Women Built"...Written and directed by the 90-year-old

architect...Film follows major moves to improve gender equality in architecture. -
- Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation- Dezeen

Beverly Willis & Julia Donoho: Sexual Misconduct in Architecture: Here's what individuals and organizations, including the AIA, can do to rid the design profession of its rotten apples: There have been too few consequences and too much looking away...However, none of these activities should be confused with issues relating to equity or discrimination...Sexual misconduct is a men's problem, and only the men can resolve it, because the men have the power - for now...I describe how I would like the men of the AIA to respond...Let's get rid of the rotten apples. - Architect Magazine

Emily Grandstaff-Rice/Arrowstreet: The AIA on Sexual Misconduct in Architecture: The AIA echoes Beverly Willis's commitment to equity and diversity: ...men are on notice that the Mad Men behaviors Willis and other trailblazers were forced to endure for decades won't be tolerated any longer. - Architect Magazine

Aaron Betsky: Let's Not Mistake Hard Work for Harassment: sexism and macho cults do taint, but do not take away from, the logic of studio culture: It seems the argument about sexism in architecture...has expanded from the uncovering of and calling for action on sexual harassment to a demand for an examination of studio culture itself...Charrettes can turn into a blood sport...We absolutely need to punish and eliminate sexism and harassment in architecture schools. But an environment where hard work, especially creative hard work, is valued, is not, in my opinion, a hostile work environment. - Architect Magazine

Call for entries: WRI Ross Prize for Cities: a global competition to celebrate transformative projects that have ignited citywide change; \$250,000 cash prize; deadline: June 30- World Resources Institute / WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities

Call for entries: Dezeen Awards for the world's best architecture, interiors and design, as well as the studios and the individual architects and designers producing the most outstanding work; deadline: June 30- Dezeen

Call for entries: Open International Competition for Alternative Layout Design in Standard Housing: develop concept designs of three residential buildings in accordance with the typology provided in the Brief; cash prizes; Stage 1 deadline: August 3- JSC DOM.RF / Strelka KB / Ministry of Construction Industry, Housing and Utilities Sector

Call for entries: London Affordable Housing Challenge International Architecture Competition: devise creative solutions to the complicated crisis in Britain's capital; cash prizes; earlybird registration deadline (save money!): July 17 (final registration: October 9; submissions due November 5)- Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert)

Call for entries: IsArch Awards for Architecture Students; earlybird registration deadline (save money!): June 30 (submissions due October 15)- ISARCH

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Today's News - Wednesday, June 13, 2018

- [Saffron](#) was "skeptical" when plans were announced for a memorial to the victims of the Salvation Army thrift store collapse in Philadelphia in 2013. "But now that the June 5 Memorial has taken its place on the land where the store stood, it's clear that it's more than just a way to honor the victims. The long, skinny park opens its arms to the whole city."
- [Bey is quite](#) taken by MASS Design Group's national lynching memorial in Montgomery, Alabama: The memorial "conveys a low-key and respectful beauty as it tells a story that is as ugly as it is important - a deeply unsettling experience - and a courageous design choice."
- [Caulfield](#) delves into how new cultural centers have become "catalysts" for new development in cities large and small (great read).
- [3 WTC by](#) Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners is ready for its close-up: The 80-story "structure provides a unique study in 21st century architectural design" (with LED lighting "for fun and aesthetics" in the elevator banks).
- [Wilson cheers](#) the "thorough refresh" of the BDP's 1969 Preston Bus Station renovation by John Puttick Associates: "There has also been a change of emphasis: from prioritizing vehicle access to favoring pedestrians."
- [Roux offers](#) a round-up of where the Serpentine Pavilions go at summer's end: They've "ended up all over the world, mostly purchased by wealthy, enlightened art collectors. Some remain in boxes, though not for long" (and one "co-opted as a great place to hang advertising").
- [Bergdoll](#) takes a deep - and fascinating - dive into Breuer's early career in Europe and later in the U.S.: "what remained constant were the material and structural experiments and the pursuit of lightness" ("heavy lightness").
- [Brown parses](#) Gompertz's picks for Historic England's new top 10 heritage sites that "will be explored in depth in a podcast series - free on iTunes and Soundcloud."
- [A selection](#) of some sad sites in SAVE Britain's Heritage's latest Buildings at Risk Catalogue, "which need a fresh start to give them renewed life and to ensure their survival."
- [One we couldn't](#) resist: Frankfurt-based artist Guido Zimmermann creates "Cuckoo Blocks" - Brutalist cuckoo clocks based on Germany's social housing by the likes of Breuer and Goldfinger.

Winners - and hope-to-be-winners - all:

- [Schmidt](#) Hammer Lassen beats out OMA, Henning Larsen, and others to design new Solvay HQ in Brussels with a design that "emphasizes sustainability, resiliency, and openness" - and aiming for BREEAM Excellent certification.
- [The Australian](#) Institute of Architects names its full list of 2018 honor awards, with Alec Tzannes taking this year's Gold Medal, and a host of others meriting many Prizes.
- [Moscow Institute](#) of Architecture students take First Place in the "RESIDE: Mumbai Mixed Housing" competition "with their careful appreciation of the existing village and its traditions."
- [Teams from](#) the U.S. and U.K. win the Irish Cult Music Venue competition with their "concepts for a renovation and programmatic extension of the beloved local pub and live music venue, Connolly's of Leap."

- [The nine](#) winners of the London Festival of Architecture's City Benches competition are now scattered around the city (some a tad tough for sitting?).
- [Six emerging](#) practices now "vie for the prize of seeing their pavilion proposal built in the grounds of John Soane's Dulwich Picture Gallery" (gallery visitors will vote for the winner).
- [A very longggg](#) shortlist in the running for the 2018 New London Awards.

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Inga Saffron: What the new Salvation Army memorial tells us about Philadelphia's building boom: [Its] meaning goes beyond a single tragedy: ...why does the Salvation Army thrift store collapse merit one on a high-profile Center City corner...I confess that I was skeptical...But now that the June 5 Memorial has taken its place on the land where the store stood, it's clear that it's more than just a way to honor the victims...The long, skinny park...opens its arms to the whole city. In doing so, it becomes a place to contemplate all our losses from a decade-plus of go-go development...the designers have thoroughly integrated the sliver park into the public realm. -- Barbara Fox; Scott Aker, AIA [images]- Philadelphia Inquirer

Lee Bey: Memorializing an American Atrocity: How the Equal Justice Initiative designed its national lynching memorial in Montgomery, Alabama: ...one of the most brutal stories in American history is now being told...National Memorial for Peace and Justice, and its companion site, the Legacy Museum: From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration...the memorial is the more iconic and architecturally significant...It conveys a low-key and respectful beauty as it tells a story that is as ugly as it is important...a deeply unsettling experience - and a courageous design choice. -- Michael Murphy/MASS Design Group; Local Projects [images]- Architect Magazine

John Caulfield: Cultural centers: Community-based venues can be catalysts for downtown renewal: New cultural centers have sparked development in the form of new offices, restaurants, retail, hotels, business incubators, apartments, and arenas: ...efforts are under way in cities large and small...we take a closer look at cultural centers to see how they are helping to enliven their communities and catalyze new development. -- Diamond Schmitt Architects; GBBN Architects; Rockwell Group; Parkhill, Smith & Cooper; MWM Architects; Perkins Eastman; Mucasey & Associates; PGAL; Grimm + Parker Architects; FSB Architects + Engineers; ohnson Fain Architects; Hornbeek Blatt Architects [images]- Building Design & Construction (BD+C)

Christopher Hume: It's no time for Toronto to be timid: For a city that prides itself on being home to the world, [it] remains surprisingly reluctant to venture beyond its own boundaries. There was a time back in the early 21st century when Hogtown wanted to...become a progressive player on the international stage...Now it's news when we send an official delegation to Los Angeles...or Austin, Texas...as often as not, the result is likely to be a fiasco...Toronto may not be beautiful - its architecture is ordinary, its planning inadequate...yet it thrives...Torontonians manage to live out their commitment to urbanity. - Toronto Star

3 World Trade Center Opens To The Public: The completion of 3 WTC symbolized New York City's response to 9/11 - determination to come back,

build higher and be stronger than ever before...the second tallest building in the 16-acre World Trade Center site...The structure provides a unique study in 21st century architectural design... -- Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners [images]-
GlobeSt.com

Rob Wilson: Preston Bus Station renovation by John Puttick Associates revealed: BDP's celebrated Grade-II listed Brutalist building, once earmarked for demolition, has been brought back to life in a thorough refresh: Originally completed in 1969...stripping out later additions and returning features to their original material and colour palette. There has also been a change of emphasis: from prioritising vehicle access - as it was designed for in the 1960s - to favouring pedestrians. [images] - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Caroline Roux: Where do the Serpentine Pavilions go after the summer season? ...now numbering nearly 20, have ended up all over the world, mostly purchased by wealthy, enlightened art collectors...Some remain in boxes, though not for long...Suffice to say, these pavilions are definitely proving to be architecture without borders. -- Frida Escobedo; Diébédo Francis Kéré; Zaha Hadid; Oscar Niemeyer; Jean Nouvel; Rem Koolhaas; Sou Fujimoto; Smiljan Radic; Toyo Ito; Frank Gehry; SelgasCano; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group [images] - Wallpaper*

Barry Bergdoll: Marcel Breuer and the Invention of Heavy Lightness: How could an architect who had made the pursuit of lightness the essence of his design aspirations become one of the great form-givers of the aesthetics of weightiness associated with poured-in-place and precast concrete, and with International Brutalism in the 1960s and '70s? ...what remained constant...were the material and structural experiments and...the pursuit of lightness. It is worth backtracking to trace that evolution...his interest in contrasts extended from art to the stakes of modernizing life. [images] - Places Journal

Mark Brown: New top 10 of heritage sites maps out the history of England: Historic England announces list including Coventry Cathedral, the Angel of the North, Tate Modern and Sutton Hoo: ...part of a campaigning project called Irreplaceable: a History of England in 100 Places...All 10...selected by the BBC's arts editor, Will Gompertz...[places] will be explored in depth in episodes of a podcast series created for the project, free on iTunes and Soundcloud. [images]-
Guardian (UK)

Forgotten buildings of Britain - in pictures: SAVE Britain's Heritage's latest Buildings at Risk Catalogue, "Revive and Survive," features over 100 empty and neglected buildings gathered from all round the country which need a fresh start to give them renewed life and to ensure their survival. - Guardian (UK)

An artist creates brutalist cuckoo clocks based on Germany's social housing: Guido Zimmermann's Cuckoo Block series...based on notable brutalist structures such as as Marcel Breuer's Hotel Le Flaine, and Erno Goldfinger's Glenkerry House. [images] - Archinect

Schmidt Hammer Lassen wins over OMA, Henning Larsen, and others to design new Solvay headquarters in Brussels: ...design emphasizes sustainability, resiliency, and openness...existing park...will be converted into a dedicated forest and reintroduce the 18th-century-old water stream connected to Brussels' Senne River...The new headquarters, which is working to achieve BREEAM

Excellent certification, will be carbon neutral and use geothermal energy, solar cells, and natural ventilation. -- Modulo Architects; Valode & Pistre; Wilmotte & Associés [images]- Archinect

Architecture's leaders honoured with national accolades: The Australian Institute of Architects has announced its full list of 2018 honours and winners. Alec Tzannes/Gold Medal; Rob Adams/City of Melbourne/National President's Prize; Melonie Bayl-Smith/Bijl Architecture/Paula Whitman Leadership in Gender Equity Prize; Christina Cho/Cox Architecture/National Emerging Architect Prize; Liu Thai Ker/William J Mitchell International Chapter Prize - Architecture & Design (Australia)

Winners of "RESIDE: Mumbai Mixed Housing" competition announced: ...arch out loud's competition in which entrants were to design a mixed residential development on one of the last remaining sections of undeveloped Mumbai coastline...a team of students from the Moscow Institute of Architecture - won the competition with their careful appreciation of the existing village and its traditions. [images]- ArchDaily

Irish Cult Music Venue competition results announced: ...concepts for a renovation and programmatic extension of the beloved local pub and live music venue, Connolly's of Leap, in County Cork Ireland. -- Ian O'Brien/Enrique Garcia/Oliver James (UK); KGA Architecture (USA); Lisa Mullikin/Kevin Stevens (USA) [images]- Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert) / Connolly's of Leap

Take a seat: City Benches winning designs revealed during LFA/London Festival of Architecture: The nine selected pieces have now been unveiled at a variety of London locations...benches will remain at their current location until the end of the month, when the festival closes. -- Eleanor Dodman Architects; Elena Boni + StudioortMaria Gasparian; Mariya Lapteva; McCloy + Muchemwa; Mills Turner; Nicholas Kirk Architects; Patrick McEvoy [images]- Wallpaper*

Dulwich Pavilion shortlist unveiled: Gallery visitors will vote for winner: Six emerging practices have been picked to vie for the prize of seeing their proposal built in the grounds of John Soane's Dulwich Picture Gallery...on display today in the museum's glass gallery - designed by the late Rick Mather...thru July 22. -- Casswell Bank Architects; e10 Studio; FleaFolly Architects; Pricegore/Yinka Ilori; Projects Office; Pup Architects [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

2018 New London Awards shortlist shows off the capital's best new projects: ...competition distinguishes top-notch architecture, planning, and construction projects that contribute to London's social and economic building. From public parks and masterplans, to offices and housing, over 150 projects were shortlisted. -- New London Architecture- Archinect

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Today's News - Thursday, June 14, 2018

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, June 19. And a heads-up that, with the AIA's A'18 confab coming to NYC next week, we will only be posting on Tuesday.

- [ANN feature](#): Bloszies' Left Coast Reflections #5: San Francisco's Tilting Tower: Is the Millennium Tower likely to fall over? In a word: NO: Bedrock, in San Francisco anyway, is over-rated.
- [A resolution](#) calling for changes to the AIA Code of Ethics addressing harassment, abuse, and inequality is on its way to the conference in NYC next week.
- [Radtke Russell](#), Poirier & Parsons take a deep dive into "why another hurricane can devastate Puerto Rico and Texas - again, and how Florida is doing a better job of protecting itself": "Perversely, most government financial incentives are rigged in favor of rebuilding instead of resilience. If there's any silver lining to the 2017 storm season, it's that it brought the conversation of resilience to a new level."
- [McCool delves](#) into whether Uganda's "critical shortage of architects is costing lives (there are just 178 registered architects - 18,700 short of the Commonwealth Association of Architects' optimal number) in this rapidly urbanizing country, where buildings frequently collapse," but "more professionals may not be the solution."
- [Miranda](#) takes a deep dive into how automation is "transforming buildings, and making them less hospitable for human use," creating "post-human architecture."
- [New renderings](#) of the Chicago Architecture Foundation's new riverfront home by AS + GG in Mies's 1970 Illinois Center (very cool!).
- [Lamster](#) had us laughing out loud with his musings about "who would win a World Cup determined by architecture. Group C: France: Le Corbusier: adored, hated, brilliant, essential, just like the French. Denmark: Bjarke Ingels is the Cristiano Ronaldo of contemporary architecture, a preening bad boy who craves adoration, and sometimes deserves it" (and we don't even follow soccer!).

Dateline: Venice Biennale:

- [Betsky's](#) Part 2 review: "there are some beautiful places that were just empty, or nearly so, creating a simple moment of freedom - other pavilions and displays approach the question of what frees space by showing the opposite" (with his own fab photos).
- [Alleyne](#) sees the U.S. Pavilion as a rebuke of Trumpism: "It was perhaps inevitable that the shadow of the Trump administration would loom dark over the American exhibition"; meanwhile, British Pavilion "counters the Brexit-era rhetoric of isolationism and nationalism with a striking gesture."
- [As a fragment](#) of Robin Hood Gardens now sits in Venice, Peter St John considers what its destruction "says about London's housing crisis" at a time when market-driven private housing seems "mean and ordinary compared to the social vision of many architects working within the welfare state in the 1960s and 1970s."

Weekend diversions:

- ["Past, Present, Future"](#) is a new documentary series of interviews that aims to "serve as a database of useful thoughts on design intended to push the next generations of architects and designers forward in pursuit of the architecture of tomorrow."
- [A pick of](#) the 7 best pavilions at Belgium's 2nd Triennale Bruges, themed "Liquid City," which "focuses on how urban locations are easily susceptible to change."
- [Josh Stephens](#) is quite taken by Congolese artist Bodys Isek Kingelez's "City Dreams" at MoMA: The "bright, garish, playful, unlikely, and intricately detailed models of buildings and cities look astonishingly like a collaboration between Le Corbusier and Pee-wee Herman - for all his whimsy, his creations convey earnest political messages - quite a burden for a collection of foam core and cardboard" ("Corbusier would have a heart attack").
- [Wainwright](#) cheers the "magnificent" Charles Rennie Mackintosh exhibition (and his "penchant for garish color schemes") in Glasgow: "From sci-fi libraries to steam-punk tearooms, his dazzling creations made Glasgow a design paradise - and even crop up in Blade Runner, Doctor Who and Madonna videos."
- ["Idencity: six designs from the LSA to challenge the identity of London"](#) at the Roca London Gallery is the first exhibition of the LSA's Design Think Tanks, where "students from the London School of Architecture work alongside some of Britain's leading architects" (worth clicking through to project links - great presentations!).
- [Bronstein's](#) "London in its Original Splendour" envelops the London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE in "a fantasy London" of 3D rendered wallpaper inspired by archaeological artifacts and "the design legacy of the nearby buildings" of Wren, Soane, Lutyens, and Stirling.

Page-turners:

- [Langdon](#) cheers Farr's "ambitious" new book "Sustainable Nation: Urban Design Patterns for the Future" that "aims to help urban designers, architects, planners, and engaged citizens grasp the complex challenge - a conscientious and extremely generous compilation of ideas, techniques, and model projects that can make the world a better place. Be sure to seek it out."
- [It's an](#) Alexandra Lange kind of day: Keith's great Q&A re: "The Design of Childhood," and "why child-focused design is actually for everyone. 'Designing for children can shake architects out of their workaday patterns, but I wish they would apply that color and movement to adult space too.'"
- [West's great](#) Q&A with Lange re: "her fascinating book" and the importance of "movements like Free-Range Parenting."
- [Last but](#) not least: an excerpt from "The Design Of Childhood": "An eye-opening exploration of how a child's playthings and physical surroundings affect their development reveals the surprising histories behind human-made elements in a child's landscape."



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[Charles F. Bloszies: Left Coast Reflections #5: San Francisco's Tilting Tower: Is the Millennium Tower likely to fall over? In a word: NO: Bedrock, in San Francisco anyway, is over-rated.](#) - ArchNewsNow.com

[Ahead of 2018 AIA Conference, Architects Rally for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion: A resolution calling for changes to the AIA Code of Ethics addressing harassment, abuse, and inequality is on its way to the conference: This latest effort comes nearly a decade after the first AIA Women's Leadership Summit, and directly on the heels of allegations of sexual harassment by prominent men in the industry that were levied in the first half of this year. -- Frances Halsband/Kliment Halsband Architects; Rosa Sheng/Equity by](#)



Design/SmithGroupJJR; Toshiko Mori- Architectural Record

Pam Radtke Russell, Louise Poirier & Jim Parsons: Why Another Hurricane Can Devastate Puerto Rico and Texas - Again: And how Florida is doing a better job of protecting itself from storms: ...the regions affected by Harvey, Irma and Maria are still fragile - and the forecast calls for 10 to 16 named storms this year...Perversely, most government financial incentives are rigged in favor of rebuilding instead of resilience...Azaroff points out that [the] industry needs to be proactive and incentivize more resilient structures...If there's any silver lining to the 2017 storm season, it's that it brought the conversation of resilience to a new level. -- Josh Sawislak/AECOM; Ilyya Azaroff- ENR/Engineering News Record

Alice McCool: Is Uganda's 'critical shortage' of architects costing lives? There are just 178 registered architects in this rapidly urbanising country, where buildings frequently collapse. But more professionals may not be the solution: ...non-registered professionals designing the city is a concern..."You get a very skewed reality, which means architects are not really dealing with the crisis - they are just adding more fuel to the fire"...attitudes need to shift across the board...As long as it is the architect's job to give the powerful what they want, would more of them make any difference? -- Doreen Adengo/Adengo Architecture; Peter Oborn/Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA); Emmanuel Mugisha/Felix Holland/Studio FH- Guardian (UK)

Carolina A. Miranda: The Unbearable Awkwardness of Automation: The machine age is changing the nature of work. In the process, it is also transforming buildings, and making them less hospitable for human use: ...it has reshaped the architecture that contains those experiences - making them more efficient, often, but also putting machines above people..."post-human architecture" - one in which structures are geared more at generating machine interactions than in bringing human beings together. -- Greg Lynn Form; Mariana Pestana; Rory Hyde; Derek Moore/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM)- The Atlantic

A first look inside the Chicago Architecture Foundation's new riverfront space: The Chicago Architecture Center is set to open on August 31: ...a fresh batch of renderings offering a sneak peek inside its upcoming facility...new digs will occupy roughly 20,000 square feet at the base of Mies van der Rohe's 1970 Illinois Center office complex...CAF's popular downtown Chicago model will make its highly anticipated return. Expanded from 1,300 to 3,000 buildings... -- Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture; Gallagher & Associates [images]- Curbed Chicago

Mark Lamster: Who would win a World Cup determined by architecture? Not who you think: Admittedly, without the participation of the United States (Frank Lloyd Wright), Italy (Palladio), and Greece (Phydias), it is a diminished field, but the competition would still be fierce. How we see it: Group C: France: Le Corbusier: adored, hated, brilliant, essential, just like the French. Denmark: Bjarke Ingels is the Cristiano Ronaldo of contemporary architecture, a preening

bad boy who craves adoration, and sometimes deserves it. - Dallas Morning News

Aaron Betsky: Empty Halls Mean Freedom? a tour of the country pavilions at the Venice Architecture Biennale shows almost nothing: If it is difficult to find something that resembled the theme of "Freespace"...it is much easier to discover examples that might be worthy of the name in the various country pavilions and collateral events...the act of putting on a Biennale creates a "freespace" in Venice...there are also some beautiful places that were just empty, or nearly so, creating a simple moment of freedom...Beyond these overtly free spaces [Switzerland, U.K., Estonia], most of the other pavilions and displays approach the question of what frees space by showing the opposite. [images] - Architect Magazine

Allyssia Alleyne: With the world watching, U.S. architects rebuke Trumpism at the Venice Biennale: ...it was perhaps inevitable that the shadow of the Trump administration would loom dark over the American exhibition..."Dimensions of Citizenship"...The contrast between the research and artwork displayed...and the rhetoric from the White House is overt...None of the presentations seem as paradoxical as "MEXUS: A Geography of Interdependence"...goal to reframe how the public perceives the border and, consequently, the people living on the other side...British Pavilion...countering the Brexit-era rhetoric of isolationism and nationalism with a striking gesture...Cruz: "Architects more and more need to take a political position against what is morally and ethically wrong." -- Estudio Teddy Cruz + Fonna Forman; Caruso St John Architects; Marcus Taylor [images] - CNN Style

Peter St John/Caruso St John Architects: What the destruction of Robin Hood Gardens says about London's housing crisis: It will be poignant to see parts of the former housing estate...at this year's Venice Biennale...The decision [to demolish] came at a time when an immense volume of market-driven private housing was being built...How mean and ordinary it all seems compared to the social vision of many architects working within the welfare state in the 1960s and 1970s...It is important that the best architectural examples of this period are preserved, not least for the socially generous ideas that they represent. -- Alison and Peter Smithson [images] - CNN Style

"Past, Present, Future": Leading Dutch and Italian Designers on Being an Architect Yesterday, Today, and Beyond: ...aims to open a research path based on the analysis of successful practices in the 21st Century...begins with a select group of 11 international architects..documentary series serves as a database of useful thoughts on design intended to push the next generations of architects and designers forward in pursuit of the architecture of tomorrow. -- Gianpiero Venturini/Itinerant Office - ArchDaily

Seven of the best pavilions to see at the Bruges architecture triennale: a floating timber school and a swan-inspired tower are among the pavilions to see at the Triennale Bruges 2018, in Belgium...invited architects and designers from across the globe to create temporary structures throughout the city's centre...Now in its second edition...theme of "Liquid City." It focuses on how urban locations are easily susceptible to change... thru September 16 -- Kunlé Adeyemi/NLÉ; Renato Nicolodi; OBBA; Peter Van Driessche/Atelier 4 Architecten; Raumlabor; SelgasCano; John Powers [photos by Iwan Baan]- Dezeen

Josh Stephens: Urban Utopias Under African Skies: An exhibit by Congolese artist Bodys Isek Kingelez at the Museum of Modern Art invokes urban idealism at the same time that it serves as a foil for poverty and deprivation in the megacities of the developing world: The two-dozen or so bright, garish, playful, unlikely, and intricately detailed models of buildings and cities on display in "City Dreams" ...look astonishingly like a collaboration between Le Corbusier and Peewee Herman...Corbusier would have a heart attack...For all of Kingelez's whimsy, his creations convey earnest political messages...quite a burden for a collection of foamcore and cardboard. MoMA, NYC, thru January 1, 2019 [images]- PLANetizen

Oliver Wainwright: Charles Rennie Mackintosh: He was doing art deco before it existed: From sci-fi libraries to steampunk tearooms, his dazzling creations made Glasgow a design paradise - and even crop up in Blade Runner, Doctor Who and Madonna videos. We join in the 150th anniversary celebrations: His penchant for garish colour schemes is revealed in a magnificent exhibition...which takes visitors on an encyclopedic romp through the work of both Mackintoshes, as well as a number of contemporaries and influences of the time. "Charles Rennie Mackintosh Making the Glasgow Style," Kelvingrove Art Gallery, thru August 14 -- Margaret Macdonald Mackintosh; Simpson and Brown - Guardian (UK)

"Idensity: six designs from the LSA to challenge the identity of London": The first exhibition of the LSA's Design Think Tanks at the Roca London Gallery...to showcase radical architectural and urban design proposals for London by students from the London School of Architecture working alongside some of Britain's leading architects. thru August 11 -- aLL Design; Orms; Allies & Morrison; Penoyre & Prasad; Maccleanor Lavington; Studio Egret West; Klassnik Corporation; Grimshaw Architects; IDOM, Jestico + Whiles; Wimshurst Pelleriti; Hawkins\Brown; PDP; OEB Architects; Assemble [images]- London School of Architecture / LSA

Pablo Bronstein's "London in its Original Splendour" [at] London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE, location of the Roman Temple of Mithras...installation creates a fantasy London by enveloping the space in a 3D rendered wallpaper, inspired by the archaeological artefacts found on the Bloomberg site as well as the design legacy of the nearby buildings of Christopher Wren, John Soane, Edwin Lutyens and James Stirling. thru January 12, 2019- London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE (UK)

Philip Langdon: Neighborhoods are key to sustainable future: Douglas Farr's "Sustainable Nation: Urban Design Patterns for the Future": ...ambitious new book aims to help everyone - but particularly urban designers, architects, planners, and engaged citizens - grasp the complex challenge and steer civilization away from danger....defines the threat through a deeply researched text...Whatever its flaws, [the book] is a conscientious and extremely generous compilation of ideas, techniques, and model projects that can make the world a better place...Be sure to seek it out. [images]- Public Square: A CNU Journal / Congress for the New Urbanism

Kelsey Keith: Q&A: Alexandra Lange on The Design of Childhood: From wooden blocks to city blocks, the Curbed critic's new book ["The Design of Childhood: How the Material World Shapes Independent Kids"] explains why

child-focused design is actually for everyone: "Designing for children can shake architects out of their workaday patterns, but I wish they would apply that color and movement to adult space too." - Curbed

Allyn West: How can we design the world for children? A conversation with Alexandra Lange about her new book, "The Design of Childhood: How the Material World Shapes Independent Kids": She wants us to examine the schools and playgrounds and neighborhoods we have built in our own cities. Are they good enough for our children? Have they been designed to help them be healthy and curious and safe? Q&A about her fascinating book. - Houston Chronicle

Alexandra Lange: Excerpt "The Design Of Childhood: How The Material World Shapes Independent Kids": An eye-opening exploration of how a child's playthings and physical surroundings affect their development reveals the surprising histories behind human-made elements in a child's landscape- NPR / National Public Radio

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Today's News - Tuesday, June 19, 2018

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Thursday will be no-newsletter days - we'll be ensconced at the AIA's A'18 confab in NYC. We may - or may not - post on Friday, but will definitely be back Tuesday, June 26.

- [ANN feature](#): Nuts+Bolts #18: Feinknopf, architectural photographer: More Than Meets the Eye: The Value of Architectural Photography: When you have a great project with equally great photography, the possibilities - and the pay-offs - can be endless.
- [Wainwright](#) talks to architects "at odds over future" of the Glasgow School of Art "about what to do with the charred remains of Mackintosh's finest work"; Dunlop: "restoration is not an option"; Harrap: "If done well, it could be brilliant. If bodged, it could be another act of reckless 'facadism'" (and others).
- [Initial](#) report raises "questions over why a sprinkler system was not prioritized" at the Glasgow School of Art, while "conservation experts argue that a fresh recovery project could build on the detail, skill and knowledge accumulated during Page\Park's restoration of the treasured Mackintosh Library."
- [Kimmelman](#) cheers OMA's "shape-shifting" gallery tower for the Prada Foundation in Milan: For Koolhaas and Prada, "more is more" - it's "a chameleon" in a "world-weary, sneakily luxurious mini-city, fragmentary, full of craft and secrets" (the restaurant includes furniture from the Four Seasons auction in NYC).
- [Brussat](#) cheers Selldorf's plan for the Frick Collection in NYC: It "is quite judicious and temperate, and with two minor tweaks should be accepted and built posthaste."
- [TCLF's Birnbaum](#) pens a letter to the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission explaining why the "future of the Frick's Page Garden remains tenuous": "We firmly believe that the architects presently involved are capable of a design that retains the garden as the 'jewel in the crown' of the Frick campus."
- [The Stockholm](#) city council "is appealing against the 'weak' legal ruling that halted Chipperfield's £100m Nobel Centre in its tracks."
- [Flatman](#) ponders whether post-modernism "can ever really die" - it is "the harbinger of today's 'post-truth' age" (great read).
- [Searle is](#) not all that impressed with Christo's "London Mastaba" now "afloat on tepid waters" of Hyde Park's Serpentine like "a giant geometric bath toy" - it "somehow lacks a sense of wonder. No delicacy, no grandeur."
- [Salingaros](#) offers Part 4 in his series on corporate and university campus design, offering the tools and techniques to use "human sensors" in "walkabouts" that can "reveal a vast amount of useful design information not otherwise available."
- [Desrochers](#) explains why "gender equity starts at school": "Schools lack incentives to bring sexism and harassment issues to the fore. The profession inherits the problem."
- [Gissen ponders](#): "Why are there so few disabled architects and architecture students? The lack of knowledge about disabled architecture students and architects stands in contrast to other strides made in diversification, equity, and inclusion," and "relegates people with disabilities to being a topic of discussion versus agents of change."

● [Denny from](#) the Biennale: "Freespace' shows that architects must retool their relationship to power - and to the Biennale - there was little evidence of a discipline coming to grips with pressing issues; the U.S. Pavilion "is the boldest move in what is a particularly conservative Biennale."

● [Mortlock](#) & Neustein offer a lighter take with "a wildly subjective ranking of the 2018 Venice Architecture Biennale - a prosecco-fuelled, three-day-long celebration followed by a six-month long hangover witnessed almost solely by interns, pigeons and the occasional befuddled tourist" (and some amusing categories: "Best of the pint-sized buildings; Least reliant on metaphors; Best engagement with reality; Recycled ideas"; etc.).

● [Quebec's](#) "Architecture and community commitment: A tale of aluminum" competition results in two (very cool) grand prize winners.

Deadlines:

● [Call for](#) entries: 2018 FX International Interior Design Awards for projects and products.

● [Call for](#) entries: International Architecture Awards 2018; 3 winners in each category (early-bird registration deadline (save money!) looms!).

● [Call for](#) entries: YAC - Young Architects Competitions: "Seduction Pavilion" to "pay tribute to the forgotten world of failed female stars: enchanting beauties who never achieved fame" (winning design will be built!).

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[Nuts + Bolts #18: Brad Feinknopf: More Than Meets the Eye: The Value of Architectural Photography: When you have a great project with equally great photography, the possibilities - and the pay-offs - can be endless.](#) - ArchNewsNow.com

[Oliver Wainwright: Bulldoze or rebuild? Architects at odds over future of Glasgow School of Art: Ideas about what to do with the charred remains...range from restoration to a building 'fit for the 21st century': To many, Glasgow without Charles Rennie Mackintosh's finest work is unthinkable: ..."restoration is not an option," argues Alan Dunlop..."We'd be talking about replication, which is totally against what Mackintosh stood for"; Roger Billcliffe: \[it\] would not be difficult to rebuild...most of the conservation analysis has already been done; Julian Harrap: "If done well, it could be brilliant. If bodged, it could be another act of reckless 'facadism"; Tony Barton/Donald Insall Associates: "There is not one single technical reason why it cannot be fully restored." - Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Glasgow School of Art: sprinklers had not been fitted after first fire: Hopes rise that Charles Rennie Mackintosh facade can be saved amid questions over why sprinkler system was not prioritised: ...conservation experts argued that a fresh recovery project could build on the detail, skill and knowledge accumulated during the restoration of the treasured Mackintosh Library, which was almost entirely destroyed by fire in May 2014...But there were also warnings of the scale of the task...cost would be at least £100m. -- PagePark- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Michael Kimmelman: Shape-Shifting Art Tower Completes Prada's City Within a City: For Rem Koolhaas and Miuccia Prada, more is more. A luxurious tower of art galleries is the last building on the Prada Foundation's campus: The lambent new tower...is a chameleon...campus feels...world-weary, sneakily luxurious...a mini-city, fragmentary, full of craft and secrets. Cities enshrine history and agitate for change. They're forever unresolved...the Prada campus works. The plazas are poetic. The galleries are practical and varied. -- Christopher van](#)

Duijn/OMA; Wes Anderson [images]- New York Times

David Brussat: The battle of the Frick: The question of how to expand the Frick Gallery, on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan, without threatening its architectural integrity continues...new plan, by Annabelle Selldorf, is quite judicious and temperate, and with two minor tweaks should be accepted and built posthaste. It saves the beloved Russell Page-designed garden and pond along 70th Street and the reception hall by John Barrington Bayley. Their elimination was the bane of a 2014 plan by Davis Brody Bond... -- Carrère & Hastings (1914); John Russell Pope (1935); John Barrington Bayley (1977); David Helpert; Selldorf Architects; Beyer Blinder Belle [images]- Architecture Here and There

Charles A. Birnbaum: The Future of the Frick's Page Garden Remains Tenuous: Having reviewed the relevant plans and renderings, it is clear that additional work needs to be done to ensure an actual restoration of the totality of the Russell Page-designed garden...while we are sensitive to the museum's programmatic aspirations and needs, if the trompe l'oeil feature of the garden is destroyed, the work on the garden cannot be called a restoration...This is the challenge for the current design team...We firmly believe that the architects presently involved are capable of a design that retains the...garden as the "jewel in the crown" of the Frick Collection campus. -- Selldorf Architects; Beyer Blinder Belle - The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF)

Stockholm: We will fight for Chipperfield building: Stockholm city council has announced it is appealing against the "weak" legal ruling that halted David Chipperfield's £100m Nobel Centre in its tracks. The court in question was ridiculed by the city's vice-mayor as being notorious for making "peculiar assessments"...court said the building, proposed for a whole city block on a historic waterfront site...would damage the area's cultural heritage... [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Ben Flatman: Post-modernism: It might be listed, but it's not over: Po-mo spawned the era of post-truth but it also ushered in a freedom to explore ideas that we're still enjoying today: ...can post-modernism ever really die? [It] gave architecture a much-needed shake-up and arguably permeates almost every area of creative endeavour...With hindsight it is now clear that post-modernism was...part of a wider challenging and questioning of existing hierarchies and cultural discourses. It freed architects to explore new ways of thinking and reconnect to older and more diverse traditions. -- Amin Taha; Caruso St John; DSDHA; Denise Scott-Brown; Robert Venturi/Venturi Scott Brown; Philip Johnson - BD/Building Design (UK)

Adrian Searle: The London Mastaba - a giant geometric bath toy: More rock festival stage than political statement, Christo's giant oil barrel sculpture on Hyde Park's Serpentine leaves our critic wondering what the fish all think: I thought less of land art...than I did of rock festival stages. Less timeless, more old hat, [it] somehow lacks a sense of wonder...No delicacy, no grandeur...a gigantic bath toy afloat on tepid waters. thru September 23 [images]- Guardian (UK)

Nikos Salingaros: 'Walkabout' design with human sensors: Campus design, part 4: A revolutionary method of direct human responses to imagined forms, performed on the actual site, reveals a vast amount of useful design information

not otherwise available: 4th in a series of 10 essays that present innovative techniques for designing and repairing a corporate or university campus. [link to Part 1: Welcoming open spaces; Part 2: Christopher Alexander's Oregon patterns; Part 3: Avoiding planned isolation] - Public Square: A CNU Journal / Congress for the New Urbanism

Brigitte Desrochers: Gender Equity Starts at School: The more we talk about gender inequity in architecture, the more disturbing the conversation...growing complaints of a "boys will be boys" mentality that normalized "toxic" behaviour, and investigations and apologies have resulted...the protection offered by tenure and deeply entrenched pecking orders on many a faculty all contribute to creating a fertile ground for sexism and harassment...schools lack incentives to bring sexism and harassment issues to the fore...very few will negotiate the fraught process of lodging a formal complaint. A whisper culture is the safer option, until one gets out of school...The profession inherits the problem. -- Despina Stratigakos/"Where Are the Women Architects" - Canadian Architect

David Gissen: Why are there so few disabled architects and architecture students? The lack of knowledge about disabled architecture students and architects in the U.S. stands in contrast to other strides made in diversification, equity, and inclusion...relegates people with disabilities to being a topic of discussion versus agents of change...To imagine disability having a place in architecture will involve much more than making buildings accessible or identifying people with disabilities and making entreaties to them to enter the profession. It will involve expensive transformations- The Architect's Newspaper

Phillip Denny: "Freespace" Shows That Architects Must Retool Their Relationship to Power - and to the Biennale: ...there was little evidence of a discipline coming to grips with pressing issues...U.S. Pavilion's Dimensions of Citizenship...is the boldest move in what is a particularly conservative...Biennale...it would seem that architects feel all too comfortable dismissing such attempts to question architecture's political situation...this Biennale might offer an all-too-polite picture of architecture's political reality that risks being delusory...The most remarkable projects...shared the common conviction that "freespaces" are not simply found or even designed, but rather are lived and made; in a word, liberated. [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Grace Mortlock/Dunn & Hillam Architects & David Neustein/Other Architects: 'What exactly is Freespace?': a wildly subjective ranking of the 2018 Venice Architecture Biennale: ...a prosecco-fuelled, three-day-long celebration of architecture, publishing and exhibitions, followed by a six-month long hangover witnessed almost solely by interns, pigeons and the occasional befuddled tourist. Best tightrope walk; Best of the pint-sized buildings; Least reliant on metaphors; Best engagement with reality; Recycled ideas; Instagram pavilion; etc. -- Yvonne Farrell/Shelley McNamara/Grafton Architects - ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Winners named for Quebec's aluminum in architecture competition: ...two grand prize winners of the design competition dubbed "Architecture and community commitment: A tale of aluminum" -- Centre d'expertise sur l'aluminium (CeAl); Alcoa Innovation; Association des Architectes en pratique privée du Québec (AAPPQ); Groupe A / Annexe U; ADHOC Architectes [images]- Canadian Architect

Call for entries: 2018 FX International Interior Design Awards: honoring the very best of interior products and projects. New this year: Graphics category, including signage and wayfaring; deadline: July 28 - FX Magazine

Call for entries: International Architecture Awards 2018; 3 winners in each category; registration deadline (save money!): June 21 (late registration & submissions due July 15) - Architecture Podium

Call for entries: YAC - Young Architects Competitions: "Seduction Pavilion": Foundation Fashion Research Italy and the Cineteca di Bologna to pay tribute to...the forgotten world of failed female stars: enchanting beauties that have almost been part of the Hollywood and Italian star system but never achieved fame; € 10,000 cash prizes + realization; earlybird registration deadline (save money!): July 8 (submissions due September 12) - Young Architects Competitions / Fashion Research Italy / Cineteca di Bologna

Charles F. Bloszies: Left Coast Reflections #5: San Francisco's Tilting Tower: Is the Millennium Tower likely to fall over? In a word: NO: Bedrock, in San Francisco anyway, is over-rated. - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Tuesday, June 26, 2018

- [Journalist](#) and novelist Kevin Baker pens a scathing lament (obit?) about "a once great city," a.k.a. New York, which is "in imminent danger of becoming something it has never been before: unremarkable - the world's largest gated community" (a fascinating/depressing read, perhaps a bit over the top, but do check it out!).
- [Evans makes](#) the case that "if developers really want to build communities, they need to stop trying to control everything." So, architects, "instead of holding your next presentation in your meeting room or at the client's office, book the local pub and explain why: it's about being part of a community."
- [Kamin has](#) a few issues with the just-released "utterly underwhelming design for a vertical expansion" of Chicago's Union Station that "would bring to the forlorn but grand train station all the grandeur of a Holiday Inn" - despite "some good design strokes - it's just banal."
- [Betsky parses](#) the Vatican's "follies for pilgrims to the Venice Biennale": the 10 chapel/follies "are both experiments in architecture and expressions of faith"; one should have won Golden Lion for best project (along with the "most bombastic," the "most ethereal" - and his own fab photos).
- [Moore lunches](#) with Eva Franch i Gilabert, the AA's incoming "force of nature - an incredible cloud of energy, intelligence and sociability without it always being clear where it all goes - the effects could be felt in the world of architecture for decades."
- [Five Boston-area](#) architects, landscape architects, and activists offer their recipes for "food as a neighborhood planning tool, including urban beekeeping, beer urbanism, and land trusts as a way to slow the march of gentrification."
- [Budds parses](#) NCARB's preliminary data from its 2018 "By The Numbers" report: "Diversity in architecture is improving - sort of. The diversity pipeline remains a challenge for the industry as a whole."
- [Keane reports](#) on the Voices of Plurality flash mob at AIA 2018 Convention, inspired by the Biennale's flash mob in Venice: "Clearly, architecture has a recognition and inclusion crisis. Fortunately, we have a power team.' A power team is right."
- [One we couldn't](#) resist: Kapoor sues the National Rifle Association for using "The Bean" in a promotional video: "I am disgusted to see my work - in truth the sculpture of the people of Chicago - used by the NRA to promote their vile message" (miles of comments ensue).

The Mac: To rebuild the Glasgow School of Art - or not:

- [Cramer](#): "It hopefully goes without saying that it should be restored, or even re-created - I find it hard not to appreciate ensembles rebuilt from nothing. No, it won't be the same, but it'll be better than nothing at all."
- [Flatman](#): "Rebuild the Mac, but why stop there - the world is full of widely recognized historic landmarks that have been rebuilt after being totally obliterated. The option to repair and even recreate what was lost should be a standard part of the urban repair toolbox."
- [Røstvik](#) uses rebuilding a smaller project in Norway as an example of the challenges/questions raised about rebuilding the Mac: "The main question we should ask is: how will 'history' in the clearer light of the future view our decisions today? A decision to demolish is final. It is forever. It will be too late for regrets."

● [Brussat](#) ponders some "predictably cockamamie calls to demolish rather than rebuild" the Mac, and shares a response "by architect Jeremy Fass that is especially inspired."

● [Hopkirk](#) reports on Dunlop's outspoken take: "Don't rebuild the Mac: We need to accept it's gone - while there's a debate to be had over" over replication, "my view is that replication is something they do in China, not here - there are young architects capable of producing something just as outstanding."

Winners (and disappointment):

● [An "outstanding](#) women-led collaborative effort" by six firms wins the International Making Cities Livable Honor Award For Excellence in Designing Healthy, 10-Minute Neighborhoods with VeloCity: Oxford to Cambridge Regional Corridor, "a visionary conceptual plan" that "offers an exemplary model for future development that, because of its small scale approach, is inherently deliverable."

● [Wilson parses](#) the 49(!) RIBA National Award 2018 winners: "There are some seriously high-quality buildings that restore your faith in the power of architecture - but an unflattering reflection of present-day society's priorities can also be seen in the weighting and omissions of the selections" (and his 2018 Stirling Prize pick).

● [On a darker](#) note, Northern Irish architects "slam RIBA over National Awards snub" and "the 'disappointing' omission of Northern Irish projects" after 12 won RIBA Regional Awards; there was "also a complete absence of schemes from the East Midlands regions."

● [On a brighter](#) note: eyefuls of the 2018 RIBA National Award winners (great presentation).



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[Kevin Baker: The Death of a Once Great City: The fall of New York and the urban crisis of affluence: I have never seen what is going on now: the systematic, wholesale transformation of New York into a reserve of the obscenely wealthy and the barely here - a place increasingly devoid of the idiosyncrasy...in imminent danger of becoming something it has never been before: unremarkable...the world's largest gated community, with a few cupcake shops here and there...boring...happening in every affluent American city...tax-free universities have been among the most shameless offenders. -- Fumihiko Maki; Renzo Piano - Harper's Magazine](#)

[Martyn Evans: If developers really want to build communities they need to stop trying to control everything: The most successful places are messy ecosystems that have evolved over time. Brand new developments will only begin to mimic them when the landowners let go: What we are creating now are 21st-century versions of landed estates...So, what role for architects in this debate? Architects know how to tell stories. Instead of holding your next presentation in your meeting room or at the client's office, book the local pub and explain why: it's about being part of a community. - BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Blair Kamin: Union Station plans on the wrong track: Daniel Burnham's ghost and his much-quoted exhortation to "make no little plans" haunt the...utterly underwhelming design for a vertical expansion...these plans are little - very little...The trouble is a planned apartment addition that would plunk a squat modernist box atop the existing structure's neo-classical pedestal...would bring to the forlorn but grand train station all the grandeur of a Holiday Inn...Despite the architects' best efforts, it's as though one era of architecture had been piled, willy-nilly, atop another...It's just banal...There are, to be sure, some good design strokes here...But \[it\] does not inspire confidence...the Burnham legacy deserves better... -- Solomon Cordwell Buenz \[images\] - Chicago Tribune](#)



Aaron Betsky: You Gotta Have Faith: The Catholic Church constructs follies for pilgrims to the Venice Architecture Biennale: ...follies have been places for architectural experimentation...the design of religious structures has been one of the discipline's central tasks. Now these two have come together in the design of 10 chapels...Erected as the Vatican's first "country pavilion"...[they] are both experiments in architecture and expressions of faith...follies were original structures without a function - and pagan in nature...They open up the possibility of a moment of spiritual escape...modern pagan chapels. -- Gunnar Asplund (1920); Eduardo Souto de Moura; Smiljan Radic; Terunobu Fujimori; Norman Foster; Andrew Berman; Flores & Prats; Javier Corvalán; Carla Juaçaba [images]- Architect Magazine

Rowan Moore: Architectural Association awaits its 'Spanish tornado': ...Eva Franch i Gilabert, takes up her post on 1 July. Is it ready for this 'force of nature' with radical ideas?: The AA is an architecture school like no other...a hothouse...a laboratory, finishing school, club and catwalk wherein genius and absurdity are nurtured, a never-ending carnival of creativity, pretension, inspiration, ambition and debate...Yet it has never had a leader like [her]...an incredible cloud of energy, intelligence and sociability without it always being clear where it all goes...Her willingness to embrace the technical and the procedural will come in handy at the AA...the effects could be felt in the world of architecture for decades. -- Storefront for Art and Architecture- Observer (UK)

Assemble the ingredients: Boston-area architects and activists offer five short essays about food as a neighborhood planning tool, including urban beekeeping, restaurants as community catalysts, beer urbanism, and land trusts as a way to slow the march of gentrification. -- Glynn Lloyd; David Nagahiro; Elena Saporta; ASLA; Tom Rudick; Anna Cawrse, ASLA/Sasaki; Savinien Caracostea - ArchitectureBoston (Boston Society of Architects/BSA)

Diana Budds: Diversity in architecture is improving - sort of: New NCARB data shows more nonwhite members of the profession, but attrition rates remain high: ...released preliminary data from its 2018 edition of "By The Numbers"...shows incremental improvement in racial diversity and the representation of women. 45%...identify as nonwhite...While that statistic is encouraging, nonwhite architecture professionals are 25% more likely to stop pursuing licensure...While the rate of women achieving licensure is still low, the rate of women leaving the profession or deciding not to pursue a license is also decreasing...The diversity pipeline remains a challenge for the industry as a whole... [link to report]- Curbed

Architects Gather for the Voices of Plurality Flash Mob at AIA 2018 Convention: ...to call attention to issues of equality, equity, and inclusivity in the architecture profession..."Clearly, architecture has a recognition and inclusion crisis. Fortunately, we have a power team"...A power team is right..."we needed to do something like this...to get some attention to the fact that we women are upset." -- Caroline James/Voices for Women Architects; Rosa Sheng/SmithGroupJJR; Beverly Willis/Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation; A.L. Hu/Solomonoff Architecture Studio; Julia Murphy/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill/SOM; Pascale Sablan/S9 Architecture; Roberta Washington/Roberta Washington Architects; Gisue Hariri/Mojgan Hariri/Hariri & Hariri Architecture; Emily Grandstaff-Rice/Arrowstreet; Zhanina Boyadzhieva/Girl Uninterrupted/Leers Weinzapfel Associates; Jessica Sheridan- Architect Magazine

Anish Kapoor sues NRA for using 'The Bean' in promotional video: The creator of Millennium Park landmark ["Cloud Gate"] asked the organization to remove his work: ...filed a lawsuit against the National Rifle Association for copyright infringement after the organization's refusal to remove an image of the work from a promotional video ["The Clenched Fist of Truth"]..."I am disgusted to see my work - in truth the sculpture of the people of Chicago - used by the NRA to promote their vile message." - Curbed Chicago

Ned Cramer: What Will Happen to the Glasgow School of Art? A second fire in four years has left the Charles Rennie Mackintosh masterpiece a smoldering shell. The battle over the building's future is just beginning: ...the destruction is all but total, leaving the building a smoldering shell of dubious structural viability...a consensus to rebuild is emerging...It hopefully goes without saying that [it] should be restored, or even re-created...The approach may irk someone who puts a premium on authenticity, but I find it hard not to appreciate ensembles rebuilt from nothing...No, it won't be the same, but it'll be better than nothing at all. -- Giuseppe Valadier; Hans Döllgast; David Chipperfield; Julian Harrap; Venturi and Rauch- Architect Magazine

Ben Flatman: Rebuild the Mac, but why stop there? Mackintosh's devastated art school is not the only significant building in Glasgow that should be rebuilt: The hostility to creating replicas...has its origins in modernist dogmas around "honesty" and "integrity" in materials and structure. The 1964 Venice Charter...prohibited reconstruction based on "conjecture"...But the assumptions...are outdated...the world is full of widely recognised historic landmarks that have been rebuilt after being totally obliterated...the most striking recent example of this approach has been the "critical reconstruction" of Berlin...The option to repair and even recreate what was lost should be a standard part of the urban repair toolbox. -- Hans Stimmann- BD/Building Design (UK)

Harald Røstvik: A philosopher's contribution to the Mac debate: The chance for young architects to learn about Mackintosh's technical innovations is one argument for rebuilding the Mac: The main question we should ask is: how will "history" in the clearer light of the future view our decisions today? A decision to demolish is final. It is forever. It will be too late for regrets...The Mac building can - if rebuilt and used as an example - shake us out of the deep sleep we have fallen into when it comes to environmental design and can initiate important discussions. -- Charles Rennie Mackintosh - BD/Building Design (UK)

David Brussat: Bulldoze or rebuild Mack? A horrific second fire in four years at Charles Rennie Mackintosh's Glasgow School of Art...has elicited predictably cockamamie calls to demolish rather than to again rebuild the Scotsman's masterpiece...a flood of reaction from the TradArch list...Here is one by architect Jeremy Fass that is especially inspired. - Architecture Here and There

Elizabeth Hopkirk: "Don't rebuild the Mac: We need to accept it's gone": Alan Dunlop calls for design contest for entirely new building: "It would be replication and while there's a debate to be had over that, my view is that replication is something they do in China, not here...Mackintosh was in his late 20s when he did the first element of design for the Mac and there are young architects capable of producing something just as outstanding." - BD/Building Design (UK)

International Making Cities Livable / IMCL Honor Award For Excellence in Designing Healthy, 10-Minute Neighborhoods: VeloCity: Oxford to Cambridge Regional Corridor: ...a visionary conceptual plan...to sustainably accommodate one million new homes...soundly rejects auto-dependent sprawl in favor of bike and pedestrian networks...inspirational project offers an exemplary model for future development that, because of its small scale approach, is inherently deliverable. -- Jennifer Ross/Tibbalds Planning and Urban Design; Sarah Featherstone/Featherstone Young; Kay Hughes/Khaa; Petra Marko/Marko and Placemakers; Annalie Riches/Mikhail Riches; Judith Syke/Expedition Engineering [images] - International Making Cities Livable (IMCL)

Rob Wilson: RIBA National Award 2018: even more London-heavy than usual: He analyses this year's 49 winners: Awards are more a reflection of where architecture - and the society that produced it - was five or more years past, when the buildings were commissioned...There are some seriously high-quality buildings...that restore your faith in the power of architecture as both an art and a key part of civil life...But an unflattering reflection of present-day society's priorities can also be seen in the weighting and omissions of the selections...one refreshing trend is the increasing importance, provision and generosity of in-between and shared spaces... [images] - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Northern Irish architects slam RIBA over National Awards snub: The Royal Society of Ulster Architects (RSUA) has criticised...the 'disappointing' omission of Northern Irish projects...In the RIBA Regional Awards, 12 Northern Irish projects were selected - six times the number of the previous year - but none of the schemes made it through to the national level...also a complete absence of schemes from the East Midlands regions - which had seven Regional Award winners...RIBA spokesperson said..."after much deliberation the jury felt that none met the level achieved by other projects." - The Architects' Journal (UK)

[RIBA National Award winners 2018: ...given to buildings across the UK recognised as significant contributions to architecture. \[images\]- RIBA / Royal Institute of British Architects](#)

[Nuts + Bolts #18: Brad Feinknopf: More Than Meets the Eye: The Value of Architectural Photography: When you have a great project with equally great photography, the possibilities - and the pay-offs - can be endless.- ArchNewsNow.com](#)

[Charles F. Bloszies: Left Coast Reflections #5: San Francisco's Tilting Tower: Is the Millennium Tower likely to fall over? In a word: NO: Bedrock, in San Francisco anyway, is over-rated.- ArchNewsNow.com](#)

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Today's News - Wednesday, June 27, 2018

- [It's a mince-no-words](#) kind of day: Architectural historian Blasius minces no words about what she thinks of proposed addition to Chicago's Union Station, likening it to "a self-inked address stamper - it's also condescending to the station itself, the architectural equivalent of a head patting, or worse - this is new bullying old."
- [Wainwright](#) minces no words about "the faceless managers" of a London estate paving over a "little trickle" of water "that livened up this bleak place" as a way "to tackle the scourge of smart phone zombies - health and safety concerns finally seem to have trumped any desire for delight in the public realm."
- [Kamin minces](#) no words in his warning to Evanston, IL, leaders considering "a still-vague, privately funded plan" for parkland to replace a lakefront landmark: "How can a left-leaning town that has shot down skyscraper proposals on the grounds that they would wipe out historic buildings be contemplating the destruction of an official city landmark?"
- [The Architecture](#) Lobby and ADPSR call on "all architects to reject projects relating to immigrant detention. 'We will not design cages for people.'"
- [A growing](#) trend in "tiny home communities": are they a "housing solution or gentrified trailer parks? Can the burgeoning Instagram- and tech-friendly tiny home movement help solve" the affordable-housing crisis?
- [Sisson reports](#) on an initiative led by a team of local community organizers, architects, and designers in Portland, Oregon: the "community-created plan offers a blueprint for pushing back against displacement and disinvestment" that could "serve as a model to help reinvest in and restore" other communities "feeling under siege."
- [OMA's revised](#) design for the Albright-Knox Art Gallery expansion "would spare a beloved 1962 building by Buffalo-born Gordon Bunshaft," and seems to have put preservationists' and architectural historians' concerns about the original "controversial concept" to rest.
- [Hadid's](#) Morpheus hotel in Macau, "notably different from much of her signature curvaceous, sculptural designs," is ready for its close-up: "Is it an example of the 'weird' architecture" that the Chinese president "railed against?" It "shares the appearance of the grandiose architecture that so irked the Chinese leader" ("solutions to an unusual set of challenges" included).
- [A first](#) look at AD EX, the Dallas Center For Architecture's new downtown digs on the edge of what will be the city's next major park - "with that new identity comes a fresh new look."
- [Mike Ford](#) of Hip-hop Architecture Camp fame gets a royal Rolling Stone magazine treatment: He "sees his teaching as a way to counter the troubled history of urban planning in America."
- [Sisson parses](#) the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 2018 List of 11 Most Endangered Places, which includes "historic homes, iconic city squares, and the roadside wonders of Route 66."
- [Brussat](#) reveals the identity of his favorite modernist architect (gasp!): "I must tentatively conclude that Carlo Scarpa is my favorite. At least he thought sensible thoughts, if not quite enough of them - but enough to qualify as the least displeasing among the practitioners of modern architecture."

Winners - and one shortlist - abound:

- [Six \(impressive!\)](#) international teams in the running to win the Future Campus - University College Dublin International Design Competition.
- [Litt reports](#) that SO-IL + Kurtz has won the competition to design Martin Luther King Jr. branch for Cleveland Public Library: "the vote left members of the public and the [shortlisted] design team of MASS Design Group/LDA Architects sounding miffed."
- [Martin "takes](#) a look at the innovative and imaginative designs among the winners of this year's Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland Architecture Awards."
- [Cheers to](#) the ASLA 2018 Honors recipients, including Linda Jewell (ASLA Medal), and Andropogon Associates (Firm Award).
- [The 2018](#) North American Copper in Architecture Awards go to 15 projects.
- [Winners](#) of Latvia's Pape Nature Park Gateway competition hail from Belgium, U.S., and Ukraine.

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Elizabeth Blasius: Will a proposed addition turn Chicago's Union Station into the new Soldier Field? In 2004, Chicago watched historic Soldier Field become a toilet bowl. In 2019, Union Station will become a self-inked address stamper...If approved...could cause a paradigm shift in the way Chicago Landmarks are approached...broadcasting a message that cultural and architectural resources are only of value if they are monetized to their fullest extent...addition is not only an imbalance in terms of design, it's also condescending to the station itself, the architectural equivalent of a head patting, or worse...this is new bullying old. -- Graham, Anderson, Probst & White (1925); Solomon Cordwell Buenz [image]- The Architect's Newspaper

Oliver Wainwright: Smartphone use blamed as water feature is bricked up: The Rill...falls victim to health and safety for people on phones: The More London estate...has always been an apt symbol of the London's creeping privatisation....Now one of the few features that livened up this bleak place of grey paving, smoked glass and CCTV is being bricked up. A 260-metre long...little trickle added interest and an unlikely frisson of danger as you walked the tedious gauntlet...But health and safety concerns finally seem to have trumped any desire for delight in the public realm...Other cities have taken more extreme measures to tackle the scourge of smartphone zombies...More London could have done well to learn from, before burying one of the few moments of joy in their corporate campus. -- Townshend Landscape Architects- Guardian (UK)

Blair Kamin: Wake up, Evanston leaders. You've got a treasure on your hands. Don't demolish the Harley Clarke Mansion: City Council authorized the city manager to look into a still-vague, privately funded plan to scrap the mansion and turn its lakefront site into parkland...How can a left-leaning town that has shot down skyscraper proposals on the grounds that they would wipe out historic buildings be contemplating the destruction of an official city landmark? ... [it] is a precious, irreplaceable architectural and cultural resource. Instead of exploring how to get rid of it, the city should be redoubling its efforts to save it...Keep the mansion on life support until it can thrive. -- Richard Powers (1927); Jens Jensen; Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates- Chicago Tribune

Architecture Lobby and ADPSR call on AIA and all architects to reject projects



Architecture Magazine Library
Masters Gallery
Podcast

relating to immigrant detention: In their statement, both groups unanimously call for the federal government to end the militarization of the border and for architects to refuse to take on work that would further human suffering..."We will not design cages for people." -- Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility (ADPSR) - The Architect's Newspaper

Tiny home communities: housing solution or gentrified trailer parks? Like many US cities, Austin, Texas, is facing an affordable-housing crisis. Can the burgeoning Instagram- and tech-friendly tiny home movement help solve it? Constellation ATX is the first US tiny home community to offer residents a 99-year leasehold estate...overcomes a common problem associated with tiny homes - namely, where to put them...biggest selling point is the way it is integrating community into the development...are tiny homes really all that affordable? ...like a car, a tiny home is a depreciating asset... -- Urban Design Group [images] - Guardian (UK)

Patrick Sisson: In Portland, a neighborhood designs its own solution to displacement: Right 2 Root, a community-created plan, offers a blueprint for pushing back against displacement and disinvestment: A team of local community organizers, architects, and designers believe the Albina neighborhood can serve as a model to help reinvest in and restore communities feeling under siege...community-led design proposal wants to help provide Portland's black community with..."opportunities to make our lives better"...proposes solutions beyond ones that rely on the market...envisioning a more holistic fix for Albina. -- Center for Public Interest Design; Portland State University Center for Urban Studies; Alex Salazar/Salazar Architect - Curbed

Albright-Knox Art Gallery expansion preserves Bunshaft building, adds glass gallery building: ... a new design...that would spare a beloved 1962 building by Buffalo-born Gordon Bunshaft...transparent ziggurat of a building...announcement follows months of silence...during which the Albright-Knox worked with Shigematsu, preservation consultants and others to develop an alternative to the controversial concept it released last summer...criticized by preservationists and architectural historians...This plan seems to have put those concerns to rest. -- Shohei Shigematsu/OMA; Preservation Studios; PBDW [images] - Buffalo News

How the Zaha Hadid-designed Morpheus hotel in Macau found solutions to an unusual set of challenges: ...futuristic-looking design - which boasts the world's first free-form exoskeleton - has carved out its own distinctive visual identity: Is [it] an example of the "weird" architecture that Chinese President Xi Jinping railed against in 2016? The monolithic 40-storey structure, wrapped in a gleaming aluminum exoskeleton, shares the appearance of the grandiose architecture that so irked the Chinese leader...notably different from much of [Hadid's] signature curvaceous, sculptural designs... -- Viviana Muscettola/ZHA; Peter Remedios [images] - South China Morning Post

First Look At Center For Architecture's New Downtown Dallas Digs, New Name: ...has rebranded itself as AD EX, and with that new identity comes a fresh new look for its downtown space in Republic Center...the public outreach arm of AIA Dallas...new space on the edge of Pacific Park Plaza, the city's next major park.

-- OMNIPLAN; Perkins+Will (formerly lauckgroup); Aurora; Better Block; RSM Design; Studio Outside; etc. [images]- Bisnow.com

How One Man Is Using Hip-Hop to Diversify Architecture: Armed with a master's degree in architecture, decades of hip-hop fandom and rapper teachers, Mike Ford is quickly getting kids into building: Ford sees his teaching as a way to counter the troubled history of urban planning in America. ..."There are a limited amount of people at the table to advocate for our communities." Hip-hop Architecture Camp attempts to correct that representational imbalance, using rap as a hook to introduce young minority students to a field they may not otherwise encounter. [images, videos]- Rolling Stone

Patrick Sisson: National Trust for Historic Preservation's List of 11 Most Endangered Places includes Route 66, Mount Vernon: Historic homes, iconic city squares, and the roadside wonders of Route 66 are all at risk: Some sites have been ignored and require patronage and preservation, while others...just require additional government action to realize a unique preservation opportunity. - Curbed

David Brussat: Carlo Scarpa's modernism: The identity of my favorite modernist architect has always eluded me...modern architecture is by its nature inferior to traditional architecture...After lifelong contemplation, I must tentatively conclude that the Italian architect Carlo Scarpa, who said, "I have always had an immense desire to belong to tradition, but without having capitals and columns," is my favorite modernist architect...At least [he] thought sensible thoughts, if not quite enough of them - but enough to qualify as the least displeasing among the practitioners of modern architecture. -- Martin Filler; Louis Kahn; Frank Lloyd Wright; George Ranalli; Paul Goldberger - Architecture Here and There

Competing visions for University College Dublin's Future Campus revealed: a digital gallery of the six shortlisted teams' design proposals in the Future Campus - University College Dublin International Design Competition...teams' urban design visions for an Entrance Precinct Masterplan and concept designs for a new circa €48m Centre for Creative Design...Each finalist team will receive an honorarium of €40,000 for their competition work... -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro/Scott Tallon Walker Architects/Sasaki Associates/GROSS MAX landscape architects/Arup/Atelier Ten/etc.; John Ronan Architects/RKD Architects/CLUAA/BSM Landscape/Michael Boucher Landscape Architecture/etc.; O'Donnell + Tuomey/Allies and Morrison/Arup/Hargreaves Associates/Superposition/Plattenbau Studio/etc.; Steven Holl Architects/Kavanagh Tuite Architects/Brightspot Strategy/Arup/HarrisonStevens/Transsolar; Studio Libeskind/BDP/!melk/NRB/Dcon/Arup/etc.; UNStudio/MOLA Architecture/Arup/REDscape Landscape & Urbanism/fwdesign [images]- Malcolm Reading Consultants / University College Dublin

Steven Litt: SO-IL + Kurtz wins competition to design Martin Luther King Jr. branch for Cleveland Public Library: ...the vote left members of the public and the design team of MASS Design Group/LDA Architects, who spoke at the meeting, sounding miffed...design prevailed in part because the library's advisory and selection committees agreed it hued most closely to criteria established for the competition. Then too, an independent cost estimator ranked it the cheapest of the three designs... -- Jonathan Kurtz; Bialosky

[Architects/Vines Architecture \[images\]](#)- Cleveland Plain Dealer

The top designs from the Irish Architecture Awards: Rose Martin takes a look at the innovative and imaginative designs among the winners of this year's Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland Architecture Awards: ...there's always an outright winner and this year the list is long... -- O'Mahony Pike Architects; Heneghan Peng architects/Blackwood Associates Architects; Bucholz EcEvoy Architects; Shaffrey Architects; SJK Architects; Henry J Lyons; etc. [w/link to RIAI w/images]- Irish Examiner

ASLA Announces 2018 Honors Recipients: Linda Jewell, FASLA/Freeman & Jewell, to receive ASLA Medal, Andropogon Associates wins Firm Award -- Mikyoung Kim; Patrick Miller; Scott Bradley; David Archambault; Forterra- American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

15 Copper Buildings Receive Architectural Honors: 2018 North American Copper in Architecture award-winners include educational, residential, government and religious structures. -- Gensler; SHoP Architects; CollinsWoerman; Flansburgh Architects; GEC Architecture; Zimmerman Workshop Architecture + Design; Humphries Poli Architects; Jan Hird Pokorny Associates; +VG Architects - The Ventin Group; Arcop/Fournier Gersovitz Moss Drolet Architects [images]- Copper Development Association/Canadian Copper & Brass Development Association

Pape Nature Park Gateway competition winners announced: ...tasked participants with envisioning iconic and creative entranceway into the park in Latvia. -- Arthur Schoeler & Corentin Dalon (Belgium); Jeffrey Clancy (U.S.); Bondarenko Group (Ukraine) [images]- Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert) / Pasaules Dabas Fonds / World Wide Fund for Nature

Nuts + Bolts #18: Brad Feinknopf: More Than Meets the Eye: The Value of Architectural Photography: When you have a great project with equally great photography, the possibilities - and the pay-offs - can be endless.- ArchNewsNow.com

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Yesterday's News

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Today's News - Thursday, June 28, 2018

EDITOR'S NOTE: In honor of the 4th of July (and Canada Day July 1), we'll be partaking in a week-long celebration of independence - from the technology gods, keyboard, and inbox (well, we'll check that every now and then). To hold you over, Today's News is a bit longer than usual. We'll be back Tuesday, July 10.

- [ANN feature](#): Girl Uninterrupted: What's possible when you bridge the gap between young female designers and leaders in architecture? Key takeaways from Boyadzhieva and Chun's illuminating equity survey findings.
- [Talbot takes](#) a deep dive into U.K. Conservatives' fear that "urbanization will lead to a collapse of their voting base" - it won't, but "condemning us to a polluted, car-ridden sprawl as our cities lose the capacity to do business, will."
- [Jonathan](#) Marvel "teams with Tesla and the hurricane-ravaged Caño Martín Peña community in Puerto Rico to rewrite the region's future - creating a blueprint for other regions around the world" (inspiration for the AIA Film Challenge - see Deadlines below).
- [Partial](#) demolition of the Glasgow of School Art is "set to begin in days" following "a survey of the building that concluded that a sudden collapse was likely" (sigh).
- [Keegan weighs](#) in on plans to build atop Chicago's Union Station: "The fact that this design has been publicly unveiled is an insult to Chicago's alleged position as a place that takes architecture seriously. It requires a complete do-over."
- [Twitter](#) isn't loving the new Union Station design, either ("knee jerk reactions and pithy comments" - some funny, some thoughtful stuff!).
- [Pogrebin](#) reports on the approval of the Frick's expansion plan by Selldorf Architects and Beyer Blinder Belle "amid criticism" (preservationist Grunewald called it "a vote for blandness").
- [Olson Kundig](#) wins the international competition to design the Bob Dylan Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma, that will open his archive to the public for the first time.
- [Snøhetta](#) is tapped to design Ford's research campuses in Detroit and Dearborn, including Michigan Central Station - the Beaux-Arts icon will be restored and redeveloped with workspaces, restaurants, retail, and housing.
- [It's a longggggg](#) shortlist vying for World Architecture Festival/WAF World Building of the Year 2018 (536 projects!) - "Chinese practices entered more projects than any other country"; Australia not far behind.
- [Winners](#) of the Young Talent Architecture Award 2018 announced by the Mies van der Rohe Foundation ("YTAA 2018" on view in Venice).

Deadlines:

- [Call for](#) entries: AIA Film Challenge 2018: A Blueprint for Better (no fee!) + Short video "Caño Martin Peña: A Blueprint for Better" (for inspiration - see Marvel story above, too).
- [Call for](#) entries (deadline extended!): Faith & Form/ID International Religious Art and Architecture Design

Awards.

- [Call for](#) entries: Carbuncle Cup 2018: annual award for Britain's worst building completed in the past 12 months.

Weekend diversions:

- [Kafka re:](#) "The Return of the Past: Postmodernism in British Architecture" in London: "Postmodernism is having its revisionist moment in the sun. Less impressive, however, is the glaring omission of women Postmodernists. Unfortunately this oversight reeks of an unwelcome Return of the Past."
- [Wainwright](#) talks to Fujimoto re: his "curious creations" and "dreamy visions" on view in "Sou Fujimoto: Futures of the Future" in London ("Trash can be very liberating").
- [Venice Biennale:](#) "Hyperloop Suburb: Reimagining the Dystopian Community": Louise Braverman's "speculative research focuses on reimagining suburban life - where the art of architecture and urban planning that is commonly applied to cities can be contextualized for smaller communities with different needs."
- [Venice Biennale:](#) Minder talks to Pritzker winners of RCR Arquitectes, who "seem comfortable on the outskirts" of the Biennale, about "Dream and Nature" that "plunges the visitor into a Catalan landscape."
- [NYC's Governors](#) Island debuts Hashimoto's two "incredible new art installations."
- [Also in](#) NYC, the six League Prize 2018 winners debut site-specific installations that "both document their work and give form to their ideas in an era in which technology, science, and 'post-truths' coexist."
- ["SHENZHEN-ness:](#) Space in Mutation" at Aedes Architecture Forum, Berlin "provides an insight into the future" of the city and "the radical architectural, infrastructural, and social changes that are taking place."

Page-turners:

- [Josh Stephens](#) cheers Sennett's "Building and Dwelling: Ethics for the City": it's "an intellectual romp - exhilarating and readable, but it is also demanding."
- [Anderton](#) talks to Wainwright re: "Inside North Korea": He was taken by "'the sheer amount of color" in Pyongyang - "there is a less benign reason for the saccharine colors" + Korean-born Morphosis principal Eui-Sung Yi re: "how the hermit kingdom might look under a peace agreement."
- [Wainwright](#) x 2: he offers a (wonderful) excerpt from "Inside North Korea": a "hipster dream of turquoise and millennial pink and kindergarten kitsch are used as an architectural anesthetic, the state's saccharine salve to infantilize its people and numb them to the abject realities of everyday life in the Hermit Kingdom" (with his own photos).
- [He explains](#) seven of the most interesting projects he photographed.
- [Babendir](#) re: Rush's "'Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore": she "reminds us of the human faces of the crisis - climate change is here and scary. There's a more important message: There are people out here who need help."
- [Bassili](#) cheers Rush's "lyrical and fact-packed investigative effort, 'Rising,'" and her "tasteful and dynamic didactic language."
- [Excerpt](#) from "Rising," Rush's "chilling new book": "Florida is about to be wiped off the map."

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[ANN feature: Girl UNinterrupted Presents Equity Survey Findings, Launches Tips Manual at the AIA Conference on Architecture 2018: From Young Female Designers to Firm Leaders: The Boston Experiment: What's possible when you bridge the gap between young female designers and leaders in architecture?](#)

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Key takeaways from Boyadzhieva and Chun's illuminating equity survey findings. - ArchNewsNow.com

Deborah Talbot: Is How You Vote Really About Where You Live? U.K. Conservatives seem to believe urbanization will lead to a collapse of their voting base. But is it true? Building dense, mixed use settlements in cities with good public transport links that build economic growth won't lead to a collapse of the Conservative vote. But condemning us to a polluted, car-ridden sprawl as our cities lose the capacity to do business, will. - Forbes

Blueprint for Better: A visionary architect teams with Tesla and a hurricane-ravaged community in Puerto Rico to rewrite the region's future - creating a blueprint for other regions around the world: The Rise of Caño Martín Peña: Jonathan Marvel founded Resilient Power Puerto Rico, a non-profit that would soon raise over \$1 million to partner with cutting-edge technology companies like Tesla for the project of his life - remaking Puerto Rico from scratch. -- Marvel Architects [images]- Wired

Tom Ravenscroft: Glasgow of School Art partial demolition set to begin in days: The dismantling of the Charles Rennie Mackintosh-designed building is set to take place after Glasgow City Council carried out a survey of the building that concluded that a sudden collapse was likely...surveys revealed there was "more substantial movement in the walls of the building than previously thought." - Dezeen

Edward Keegan: An insult to Chicago's architectural bona fides: Daniel Burnham...would likely be dismayed by the newly revealed plans...for adding a 330-room hotel and 404 rental apartments to the top of Union Station... this project has been going on for more than three decades...The fact that this design has been publicly unveiled is an insult to Chicago's alleged position as a place that takes architecture seriously. It requires a complete do-over. -- Solomon Cordwell Buenz - Crain's Chicago Business

Twitter isn't loving the new Union Station design: The vertical expansion of the historic 1925 headhouse has not been well received: ...plan...has a lot of people crying foul....Looking beyond the initial knee jerk reactions and pithy comments, the Union Station overhaul will be a key battle for preservationists with the potential to set future precedents with regards to what can be done to Chicago's protected, historically significant buildings. -- Solomon Cordwell Buenz - Curbed Chicago

Robin Pogrebin: Frick Collection's Expansion Is Approved by Landmarks Preservation Board: Amid criticism, the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission voted 6 to 1 in favor of the museum's revised expansion: ...museum's latest plan to expand and renovate its 1914 Gilded Age mansion - the institution's fourth such attempt...Theodore Grunewald, a preservationist, called it "a vote for blandness." -- Carrère and Hastings; Russell Page; Beyer Blinder Belle; Selldorf Architects [images]- New York Times

Sandy Deneau Dunham: Seattle architects who are renovating Space Needle win new project: designing a world-class Bob Dylan Center: The new building in Tulsa, Oklahoma, will exhibit items from Dylan's extensive archive, making them public for the first time: ...winning an international competition...Olson Kundig will be the center's lead architect and exhibit designer...There is a bit of creative serendipity here... -- Lilly Architects; Plains of Yonder [images]- Seattle Times / Pacific NW Magazine

Snøhetta to design Ford's research campuses in Detroit and Dearborn, including Michigan Central Station: ... a Beaux-Arts icon that represents Detroit's urban decline, with plans to restore and redevelop the decrepit train station. It will now serve as the central hub of the planned corporate campus...with workspaces, restaurants, retail, and housing...will also serve as an innovation hub for the future of transportation...new buildings and public spaces will be formulated in collaboration with the Corktown community and city officials. [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

WAF/World Architecture Festival World Building of the Year 2018 shortlist announced: 536 architectural works on the shortlist...Chinese practices entered more projects than any other country...Australia fielded the second most submissions, and there were sizeable numbers from Hong Kong and Singapore reflecting the the high levels of development currently being seen across the region. -- Nathalie de Vries/MVRDV; Paul Finch- Dezeen

And the Winners are...Young Talent Architecture Award 2018: YTAA Winners will be supported in the creation of a network with the architects and critics involved in the European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture - Mies van der Rohe Award. "Young Talent Architecture Award. YTAA 2018" on view at the Palazzo Mora, Venice, until November 25. -- Hendrik Brinkmann; Julio Gotor Valcárcel; Matthew Gregorowski; Loed Stolte; European Commission; Architects' Council of Europe; European Association for Architectural Education- Mies van der Rohe Foundation / Fundació Mies van der Rohe

Call for entries: AIA Film Challenge 2018: A Blueprint for Better: 4th annual challenge invites architects and filmmakers to collaborate in telling stories of projects done in partnership with civic leaders and the community...an opportunity to demonstrate how architects are having a positive impact on our towns and cities; no fee; cash prizes; deadline: August 27 + short video "Caño Martin Peña: A Blueprint for Better," which depicts the rebuilding efforts of an architect and community leader in Puerto Rico following last year's devastating Hurricane Maria. - American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Call for entries (deadline extended!): Faith & Form/ID International Religious Art and Architecture Design Awards: Categories include New Facilities, Renovation/Restoration, Adaptive Re-Use, Liturgical/Interior Design, Sacred Landscape, Unbuilt, Religious Arts, and Student Work; winners will be published in Faith & Form magazine and exhibited at the 2019 AIA Convention; deadline: July 8- Faith & Form Magazine / Interfaith Design (ID, formerly IFRAA/Interfaith Forum on Religion, Art, & Architecture)

Call for entries: Carbuncle Cup 2018: annual award for Britain's worst building completed in the past 12 months; deadline: August 22- BD/Building Design (UK)

George Kafka: A New Show in London Celebrates Postmodernism's Comeback: "The Return of the Past: Postmodernism in British Architecture" presents a broad, if not myopic, view of '70s and '80s English buildings: Postmodernism is having its revisionist moment in the sun...Less impressive, however, is the glaring omission of Denise Scott Brown, Joanna van Heyningen, Eldred Evans, and other women Postmodernists...does seem to betray a simplistic approach...there is so much space for a critical discussion of Postmodernism to be had through curatorial practice. Unfortunately this oversight reeks of an unwelcome Return of the Past. Sir John Soane's Museum thru August 27 -- Owen Hopkins [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Oliver Wainwright: Sou Fujimoto: the architect revolutionising libraries - and loos: From a washing-up scourer to a pile of crisps, the Japanese architect draws on the most unlikely everyday objects - while testing the idea of privacy with a glass-walled public toilet: A host of other curious creations fills the basement gallery of Japan House, London..."Sou Fujimoto: Futures of the Future"...dreamy visions...[he] approaches the design of his buildings more like a conceptual artist searching for new forms – or a scavenger foraging through a skip. "Trash can be very liberating"... thru August 5- Guardian (UK)

"Hyperloop Suburb:: Reimagining the Dystopian Community: On display at the "Time Space Existence" biennial exhibition in Venice, Louise Braverman's speculative research focuses on reimagining suburban life, and exploring the ways in which hyperloop technology can set the foundation for reinvigorating these communities...She believes a possible future lies in thoughtfully designed suburban spaces, where the art of architecture and urban planning that is commonly applied to cities can be contextualized for smaller communities with different needs...further explored in a recent short film created by PLANE-SITE-MISC Magazine (Canada)

Raphael Minder: Pritzker Prize-winning Catalan Architects Are Happy at Biennale's Margins: RCR Arquitectes representing their region at a Venice Biennale whose official exhibition is limited to the pavilions of nation states: ...seem comfortable on the outskirts...they have avoided building gravity-defying, eye-catching structures..."Dream and Nature" plunges the visitor into a Catalan landscape...they did not ignore Venice in their design...partners made clear they wanted to distance their architecture from the politics of Catalan secession. If anything, they said, their pavilion was conceived as a moment of escapism. -- Ramon Vilalta; Rafael Aranda; Carme Pigem [images]- New York Times

An incredible new art installation debuts on Governors Island: ...artist Jacob Hashimoto debuts two works: "The Eclipse," a piece comprising thousands of rice paper discs..."Never Comes Tomorrow," a whimsical outdoor piece made out of more than 100 wooden cubes and large steel funnels. thru October 31 [images]- Time Out New York

"Objective": An exhibition featuring work from League Prize 2018 winners: The six winners' site-specific installations...both document their work and give form to their ideas...in an era in which technology, science, and "post-truths" coexist. Sheila C. Johnson Design Center, Parsons School of Design, NYC, thru August 4 -- Kwong Von Glinow; Bryony Roberts Studio; Dan Spiegel/SAW // Spiegel Aihara Workshop; Julia Jamrozik and Coryn Kempster ; Anya Sirota/Akoaki; Gabriel Cuéllar/Anthar Mufreh/Cadaster- The Architectural League of New York

"SHENZHEN-ness: Space in Mutation" at Aedes Architecture Forum, Berlin: ...a critical discussion about the current urban issues, the exhibition provides an insight into the future of Shenzhen. Urban planners, architects and artists developed five general scenarios for the city that address different levels of the urban...reveal the radical architectural, infrastructural, and social changes that are taking place; thru August 15 -- Doreen Heng Liu/NODE Architecture & Urbanism - Aedes Architecture Forum/Aedes Architekturforum (Berlin)

Josh Stephens: Balancing Act: Richard Sennett's "Building and Dwelling: Ethics for the City": ...an intellectual romp...At once trying to build a modern philosophy of cities while acknowledging...the inherent messiness of cities, he uses a compelling framework and aspires to an admirable, if elusive, goal...[His] goal is nothing less than an articulation of how to achieve, or at least think about, the ethical city in the 21st century. It's no small task...exhilarating and readable, but it is also demanding...it presents a time-out for the reassessment of principles and a reminder that city-building is...as much an intellectual endeavor as it is a pragmatic one. - Los Angeles Review of Books

DnA/Frances Anderton: Big dreams for North Korea: Oliver Wainwright toured civic buildings and apartments aimed at a growing middle class...his findings in..."Inside North Korea," tells DnA, "the biggest surprise visiting Pyongyang was the sheer amount of color"...there is a less benign reason for the saccharine colors: "I think it's an attempt to infantilize the people given that the standard of living is so poor" + How the hermit kingdom might look under a peace agreement with Eui-Sung Yi, a Korean-born principal at Morphosis Architects. -- Changjo Architects - KCRW (Los Angeles)

Oliver Wainwright: "Inside North Korea": a pastel fairyland built to forget: The candy-coloured, fantastical architecture of Pyongyang is revealed: ...parades of jaunty towers dressed in sci-fi costumes and crowned with cosmic symbols, worthy of scenes from The Jetsons...a hipster dream of turquoise and millennial pink...It was evident that the candy colours and kindergarten kitsch are used as an architectural anaesthetic, the state's saccharine salve to infantilise its people and numb them to the abject realities of everyday life in the Hermit Kingdom. - Guardian (UK)

Tom Ravenscroft: Oliver Wainwright's highlights from "Inside North Korea": The 200 photos in the book document the strange and colourful architecture of the country and its capital Pyongyang...[he] explains seven of the most interesting he photographed. [images] - Dezeen

Bradley Babendir: Elizabeth Rush's "Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore" Is a Clarion Call on Climate Change: In her reported tour through American communities being threatened by rising seas, she reminds us of the human faces of the crisis...The idea isn't merely that climate change is here and scary. There's a more important message: There are people out here who need help. - Pacific Standard magazine

Rafaela Bassili: Sinking Cities: In her lyrical and fact-packed investigative effort, "Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore," Elizabeth Rush successfully attempts to bridge the gap between the scientific and a terrifying aesthetic by studying the effects of sea level rise on seaside communities and marginalized groups of people...With tasteful and dynamic didactic language, she informs the

layperson about the imminent threat of climate change while grounding the massive scope of the problem on heartfelt human and interspecies connection.-
Los Angeles Review of Books

Rising seas: 'Florida is about to be wiped off the map': Sea level rises are not some distant threat; for many Americans they are very real. In an extract from her chilling new book, "Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore," Elizabeth Rush details how the US coastline will be radically transformed in the coming years - Guardian (UK)

Nuts + Bolts #18: Brad Feinknopf: More Than Meets the Eye: The Value of Architectural Photography: When you have a great project with equally great photography, the possibilities - and the pay-offs - can be endless.-
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