

Today's News - Thursday, October 1, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days - we'll be back Tuesday, October 6. In the meantime: Stay well. Stay safe. And enjoy tonight's full Harvest Moon!

- [Wainwright](#) x 2: He parses Adjaye making history by being the first Black architect to win the RIBA Royal Gold Medal (as the institute deals with its own diversity issues) - "his best, and strangest, work may be yet to come" (like "one of the strangest high-rise towers Manhattan has ever seen").
- [He parses](#) the new Slavery and the City Tour that reveals "a side of London that is often glossed over - tours through October as part of Black History Month.
- [Hickman](#) delves into how: the (inspiring!) "collaborative BIPOC-led" Dark Matter University came about to "bring a new model of architectural education to light" across the U.S. - there's a DMU online Open House on October 4.
- [AIANY calls](#) on architects to "draw the line on designing jails [and such] until America repairs racial injustice," and "shift their efforts towards 'supporting the creation of new systems, processes, and typologies'" (it's not a ban on designing justice facilities).
- [USGBC and](#) GBCI release "an expanded suite of programs and resources for businesses and governments focused on improving building and community resilience in the face of climate risks" - part of the organizations' "economic recovery strategy."
- [Damien Sharkey](#) of U.K.-based HUB, explains how the property developer's "recent design competition set out to defy traditional housing models and help the next generation thrive" - the winner, Glasgow-based O'Donnell Brown, will now work with HUB on an upcoming project.
- [UIA's Thomas](#) Vonier puts forth his President's Declaration for World Architecture Day 2020 on Monday, October 5 - this year's theme: "Housing For All: A better Urban Future."
- [Ravenscroft](#) brings us eyefuls of Zaha Hadid Architects' "sinuous" and oh-so-green 36-story skyscraper replacing a multi-story car park "on the world's most expensive site" in Hong Kong (purchased for \$3 billion!).
- [Eyefuls](#) of the Victorian Society's top 10 endangered buildings from the Victorian and Edwardian eras across England and Wales.
- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Daniela Gusman puts out a call for architects and suppliers to sign up for "rise in the city 2020": Grow your business and help hundreds of vulnerable youth start theirs in the southern African nation Lesotho via a virtual networking and mentoring initiative.

Deadlines:

- [Call fro](#) entries: Inaugural SOM Foundation Robert L. Wesley Award, named in honor of SOM's first Black partner, supports BIPOC undergraduate A/E students with three \$10,000 unrestricted awards - and a mentor for a year.
- [Call for](#) entries: ICAA 2021 Bunny Mellon Landscape Design Prize for "an emerging landscape or architectural

design professional whose work is inspired by classical or traditional design."

● [Call for entries](#): Tiny House 2020 - Less House, More Home Architecture Competition (international): "design should be innovative and creative, with a sustainable edge" (and no larger than 300 sq. ft.).

Weekend diversions + Page-turners:

● [10th annual](#) Archtober kicks off in NYC today with virtual and in-person design events around the city; Open House New York Weekend will include "a 36-hour, five-borough outdoor scavenger hunt."

● [Hilburg](#): "Because 2020 isn't dystopian enough," in the Austrian Cultural Forum New York's "Spaces of No Control," opening today, U.S. and Austrian "artists explore both modern 20th- and 21st-century cities and their dystopian counterparts - tracking how market forces changed both the societal and architectural presences over the last 50 years."

● [Fazzare](#) cheers "Balkrishna Doshi: Architecture for the People" at Chicago's Wrightwood 659 gallery that "explores his humanistic impact" - his buildings are "imbued with a hyperlocal mission."

● [Lilly Smith](#) brings us eyefuls of "Architecture for Dogs" at Japan House London with 16 doghouses designed by a star-studded line-up of international architects - blueprints can be downloaded for free so you can build your own "doggo's new digs."

● [Welton cheers](#) Victoria Ballard Bell's new book, "Triangle Modern Architecture" that "is about as thorough a tome on the topic as possible" - North Carolina's noted talents going back to the Bauhaus and Josef Albers to those still practicing today.

● [Jared Green](#) cheers "Transforming Landscapes: Michel Desvigne Paysagiste" that "beautifully conveys his simple yet striking parks, plazas, and master plans. In reality, simplicity takes hard work to achieve" (lots of pix!).



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Oliver Wainwright: 'Courage, elegance, grit': David Adjaye makes history by winning RIBA award: For the first time in its 173-year history, RIBA awards its gold medal to a black architect - and his best, and strangest, work may be yet to come: ...comes as the institute is examining its own role in Britain's colonial past and struggling to address the continued lack of black representation in architecture...Adjaye has long been weary of being defined as a "black architect", but he has served as an undeniable role model...currently building one of the strangest high-rise towers Manhattan has ever seen...If enough care is spent on the details, [new] buildings could revive the daring spirit of his early projects. -- 2021 RIBA Royal Gold Medal - Guardian (UK)

Oliver Wainwright: A slavery tour of London: the guided walk laying bare atrocities of the past: From a kneeling slave at the Royal Exchange to the coffee house that was at the heart of the trade, a new tour is revealing a side of London that is often glossed over: "The Alternative Guide to the London Boroughs" [Owen Hatherley] is an entertaining anthology of unexpected personal stories...Slavery and the City Tour [through] October as part of Black History Month. - Guardian (UK)

Matt Hickman: Toward A More Just Built Environment: Dark Matter University brings a new model of architectural education to light: The shift to remote higher learning during the coronavirus era has been messy...also come silver linings...the opportunity to bring new voices...into the now-virtual classroom...This is where DMU comes in...A wholly collaborative BIPOC-led organization...At the core...is an urgent push for an anti-racist model of design



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education and practice...freshman intro course at Tuskegee is one of just several...courses planned or underway at several architecture schools across the country...DMU online fall Open House on October 4 -- Roderick Fluker/Tuskegee University; Justin Garrett Moore/NYC Public Design Commission; Jennifer Newsom/Dream the Combine; Jerome Haferd/ BRANDT : HAFERD; Venesa Alicea/NYVARCH ARCHITECTURE; Quilian Riano - The Architect's Newspaper

Architects draw line on designing jails until America repairs racial injustice: New York's architects are threatening to stop designing jails unless the nation changes the way it treats Black, Brown and Indigenous Americans in the criminal justice system... American Institute of Architects New York chapter (AIANY) is calling on architects to...shift their efforts towards "supporting the creation of new systems, processes, and typologies"...While AIANY is not banning the design of justice facilities...will now refrain from honoring work that it considers antithetical to the AIA Code of Ethics... -- Kim Yao - Real Estate Weekly

Building a healthier, more resilient future: U.S. Green Building Council, Green Business Certification Inc. Expand Resilience Resources to Support the Green Building Industry: ...an expanded suite of programs and resources for businesses and governments focused on improving building and community resilience in the face of climate risks...new brief outlines USGBC and GBCI's existing resilience resources along with new opportunities...resilience offerings are part of USGBC's reimagined vision and economic recovery strategy, Healthy People in Healthy Places Equals a Healthy Economy. - U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)

Damien Sharkey: Radical ideas to improve young people's life chances through better housing: how HUB's recent design competition set out to defy traditional housing models and help the next generation thrive: The pandemic along with the resulting recession is damaging the life chances of under-25-year olds

disproportionately...The housing sector has...a responsibility to make a tangible, positive impact...A common thread through every proposal...was the importance of fostering community...O'Donnell Brown will work with HUB on an upcoming project. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Thomas Vonier/UIA: World Architecture Day 2020 - President's Declaration: Toward a better urban future: ...celebrated...in parallel with UN World Habitat Day...theme this year is "Housing For All: A better Urban Future"...to draw the attention of professionals as well as the public to problems concerning cities and habitat. - International Union of Architects (UIA)

Tom Ravenscroft: Zaha Hadid Architects reveals design for skyscraper on world's most expensive site: ...a sinuous, glass, 36-storey skyscraper, which will be built in Hong Kong at 2 Murray Road...It will replace a multistorey car park that was purchased by Henderson Land for HK\$23.3 billion (\$3 billion)...will have tree-filled balconies and an enclosed sky garden...main body of the skyscraper will be elevated above the ground and connected into the city's elevated pedestrian network, with a series of courtyards and gardens [underneath]...all floors will be naturally ventilated. - Dezeen

In pictures: Victorian Society's top 10 at-risk buildings revealed: List 'both upsetting and enlightening', says group's president Griff Rhys Jones: ...endangered buildings from the Victorian and Edwardian eras across England and Wales...All are grade-II listed and are at least partially vacant, with some having stood empty for decades..."There are hundreds of examples of imaginative reuse to go to for inspiration. Let's get on to it, please..." -- Alfred Waterhouse - BD/Building Design (UK)

Call for entries: Inaugural SOM Foundation Robert L. Wesley Award: ...named in honor of SOM's first Black partner...supports BIPOC undergraduate students enrolled in architecture, landscape architecture, urban design, or structural engineering programs in the US...three \$10,000 unrestricted awards...recipients will also be paired with an award juror who will act as a mentor for a year; deadline: November 9 - SOM Foundation (Skidmore, Owings & Merrill)

Call for entries: ICAA 2021 Bunny Mellon Landscape Design Prize for excellence and creativity from an emerging landscape or architectural design professional whose work is inspired by classical or traditional design; must have been 35 or younger on December 31, 2019 OR be within the first 7 years of their relevant design career; deadline: December 15, 2020 - Institute of Classical Architecture & Art (ICAA)

Call for entries: Tiny House 2020 - Less House, More Home Architecture Competition (international): design should be innovative and creative, with a sustainable edge; area should not exceed 300 square feet; cash prizes; early bird registration save money!): October 22 [or November 6] (submissions due December 18) - Volume Zero

10th annual Archtober kicks off in NYC with virtual and in-person design events: New York City's annual month-long celebration of architecture and design returns to the five boroughs...with virtual talks and tours, self-led activities, and socially-distanced in-person events...October 17 and 18, Open House New York Weekend...has been reimaged as a hybrid of online-only experiences and self-

guided outdoor tours [and] a 36-hour, five-borough outdoor scavenger hunt - 6sqft (New York City)

Jonathan Hilburg: Because 2020 Isn't Dystopian Enough: Urban dystopias get grounded at the Austrian Cultural Forum New York: At "Spaces of No Control"...artists explore both modern 20th- and 21st-century cities and their dystopian counterparts [and] how the fictional narrative of the panopticon city has slowly become something of a reality...artists from the U.S. and Austria contribute multimedia histories of specific places, tracking how market forces changed both the societal and architectural presences there over the last 50 years. thru January 10, 2021 - The Architect's Newspaper

Elizabeth Fazzare: Pritzker Prize-Winning Architect Balkrishna Doshi Believes Design Should Be Democratized: A new show at Chicago's Wrightwood 659 gallery explores his humanistic impact: "Balkrishna Doshi: Architecture for the People"...While the forms of his buildings may reflect a melding of cultures rooted in practicality, they are also imbued with a hyperlocal mission...encourage wandering, contemplation, and a relationship with the interplay between light and shadow. thru December 12 -- Khushnu Panthaki Hoof - Architectural Digest

Lilly Smith: Your dog is ready for a change of scenery too. Here are 16 DIY designs to upgrade their home: "Architecture for Dogs" at Japan House London includes everything from houses to play structures to nap pods that preeminent architects have designed for dogs...But it's not just an exhibition...includes concepts and blueprints...you can build your very own...16 different designs for your doggo's new digs. thru January 10, 2021 -- Kengo Kuma, Toyo Ito, Ma Yansong, Sou Fujimoto; Shigeru Ban; MVRDV; FGFMF; Reiser + Umemoto; Atelier Bow-Wow; Kazuyo Sejima; Asif Khan; etc. - Fast Company / Co.Design

J. Michael Welton: "Triangle Modern Architecture": It took five years but it felt like 25, says architect, planner, and author Victoria Ballard Bell. That's because her new book is about as thorough a tome on the topic as possible. She takes us back to the beginning - to the Bauhaus and Josef Albers and Black Mountain College in Asheville... Bell has inventoried the work of the best of them...many of them still practicing today. -- Henry Kamphoefner; Matthew Nowicki; Eduardo Catalano; George Matsumoto; Milton Small; James Fitzgibbon; Harwell Hamilton Harris; Frank Harmon; Phil Freelon; Kenneth Hobgood; Phil Szostak; Louis Cherry; in situ studio - Architects + Artisans

Jared Green: Explore the Landscapes of Michel Desvigne: The French landscape architect...isn't well-known in the U.S. but a new monograph of his firm's work...should help change that. "Transforming Landscapes: Michel Desvigne Paysagiste" beautifully conveys [his] simple yet striking parks, plazas, and master plans. There is a sense of clarity in his work... He says his landscape designs have an elementary, even dumb composition...In reality, simplicity takes hard work to achieve...10 case studies... - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

ANN feature: Daniela Gusman: RISE IN THE CITY 2020 Launches: Building Africa's Future Through Enterprise: Grow your business and help hundreds of vulnerable youth start theirs, with "rise in the city," a virtual networking and mentoring initiative. - ArchNewsNow.com



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Today's News - Tuesday, October 6, 2020

- [Giovannini](#) re: LACMA: "Intending to save the museum, Michael Govan is destroying it" - Zumthor's "derivative, retro design hardly achieved the messianic vision Govan had promised. The LACMA encyclopedia becomes a CliffsNotes jog-trot."
- [LA Times](#) former arts editor Tom Christie, on the other hand, ponders whether "LACMA's redesign deserves this much carping - why do their plans have so many Angelenos' cultural knickers in such a twist? .My bet is that the result will be as promised: sublime."
- [Dana Goodyear](#) offers a fascinating - and at times, unsettling - profile of Zumthor, including his take on the LACMA saga: "We do what we want, and we are on budget!" Govan said. "Well, I didn't want to be on budget," Zumthor said. "I said, 'I don't give a f*ck if we're on budget'" (the Therme Vals makes him "puke").
- [Betsky](#), on a brighter note, cheers the AIA giving its Twenty-Five Year Award to Eric Owen Moss's "masterpiece" Conjunctive Points (a.k.a. Hayden Tract) that transformed a collection of warehouses into a creative hub in Culver City, California: "It is difficult not to be delighted by the architecture (although I know some people find the forms irritating). Nothing appears to be stable or finished, and that is the point."
- [Wainwright](#) cheers "Britain's biggest zero-carbon housing project" in York by Mikhail Riches (of Stirling Prize-winning Goldsmith Street fame) - "arguably the UK's most ambitious council-led housing program in a generation. When will the rest of the UK catch up?"
- [Diana Budds'](#) Q&A with Miriam Peterson & Nathan Rich, who explain their plan, developed with the RPA over the past year, "that calls for adaptive reuse and infill on NYC Housing Authority campuses," with the aim to restore "public housing to a dignified place to live."
- [It's an](#) NYC kind of day: Laurel Graeber walks us through OLIN's new Pier 26 in TriBeCa: "This environmentally themed project features an unusual design, including soaring walkways that lead to an unexpected destination" via "a sequence of small ecological habitats" (very cool!).
- [Thomas Hynes](#) argues that it's time to revisit Jeff Speck's 2013 proposal to "make Broadway the great green way - a 45-block pastoral thoroughfare - it would be a stunning second act for one of the world's most famous streets and a breath of fresh air for our weary city."
- [Co-author](#) of the "Retrofitting Suburbia" series June Williamson busts "5 myths about the suburbs" - it's time "to dispel some long-held misconceptions. Myth No. 1: Suburbs are less dense than cities."
- [Pedersen's](#) Q&A with Caleb Negash & Andrew Mbutia Ngunjiri, members of the African American Student Union and AfricaGSD, re: "the African American experience at the Harvard GSD," how the groups' public statement "Notes on Credibility" that calls for reforms at the school came about, and more.
- [Saturday](#) was Venice's first acqua alta (high tide) of the season and the "long-awaited flood barrier MOSE, "beset by delays and corruption" for years, worked! Then, 24 hours later, "the city's iconic piazza was calf-deep in water - an air of resignation hung over the shops and cafes that had had to close - again."
- [Sunand Prasad](#), "recognized as a prominent voice on sustainability across the built environment," is named Chair of the UK Green Building Council.
- [Call for](#) entries (deadline looms!): 2021 Berkeley Prize Essay Competition - open to full-time undergraduate

students enrolled in an architecture degree program or majoring in architecture throughout the world (cash prizes).

Winners all:

- [2020 Cooper](#) Hewitt National Design Awards: Meet the people using design to change the world (great presentation).
- [Yesterday](#), the 2020 Pritzker Prize ceremony celebrating laureates Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara, was not celebrated in person for the first time - now everyone can celebrate via a special online video (scroll down to "Ceremony Videos").
- [Winners](#) of the Young Talent Architecture Award 2020 and the YTAA Asia Edition, sponsored by Fundació Mies van der Rohe & Creative Europe, hail from Spain, Belgium, UK, Chile, Korea, China, and India.

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Joseph Giovannini: The Demolition of LACMA: Art Sacrificed to Architecture: There are two demolitions going on at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art... [it] has razed three of the four structures...The second is the demolition of the museum's very mission...Michael Govan's plan is...above all, needless...To establish greater equity among artworks...he is resorting to the hard and expensive corrective - architecture...Intending to save the museum, [he] is destroying it... Client and architect [Peter Zumthor] bonded in a shared "edifice complex"...derivative, retro design hardly achieved the messianic vision Govan had promised...The LACMA encyclopedia becomes a CliffsNotes jog-trot. - New York Review of Books

Tom Christie: Does LACMA's redesign deserve this much carping? Michael Govan is without question one of the shrewdest museum leaders in the world...we are about to get an entirely new Los Angeles County Museum of Art, designed by Peter Zumthor, one of the world's great architects. So why do their plans have so many Angelenos' cultural knickers in such a twist? One positive outcome of all the controversy is the realization of how much Los Angeles actually cares...My bet...is that these...professionals have in fact got this, down to the door handles, and that the result will be as promised: sublime. - Los Angeles Times

Dana Goodyear: The Iconoclast Remaking Los Angeles's Most Important Museum: Will the new LACMA building be Peter Zumthor's masterpiece or a fiasco? "There's always this conflict between an artistic way of working...and the building process, which is a big administration and a lot of money," Zumthor said. "Michael says, If I'm over budget, I'm gone..." "I have to be sly as a fox"... "We do what we want, and we are on budget!" Govan said... "Well, I didn't want to be on budget," Zumthor said. "I said, 'I don't give a fuck if we're on budget.'" -- Joseph Giovannini; Christopher Knight; Renzo Piano - New Yorker

Aaron Betsky: Why Conjunctive Points - The New City Deserved to Win AIA's Twenty-Five Year Award: the merits of this Eric Owen Moss masterpiece: There are several reasons why [awarding] Hayden Tract project, AIA has made the right move. First of all, the Hayden Tract (I prefer the site's original name...) is a very good and very influential body of work... it is not a building, but rather a series of renovations, deletions, insertions, and additions that have transformed a collection of warehouses in Culver City, Calif., into a creative hub...It is difficult

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not to be delighted by the architecture (although I know some people find the forms irritating)...Nothing appears to be stable or finished, and that is the point. These are building blocks for a continually evolving neighborhood. - Architect Magazine

Oliver Wainwright: 'This is the Everest of zero carbon' - inside York's green home revolution: York plans to build Britain's biggest zero-carbon housing project, boasting 600 homes in car-free cycling paradises full of fruit trees and allotments. When will the rest of the UK catch up? ...arguably the UK's most ambitious council-led housing programme in a generation...perhaps the most important element is how the plans have been developed in close consultation with local communities, to ensure they link to their surroundings... -- Mikhail Riches; Sally Godber/Warm Passivhaus consultancy - Guardian (UK)

Diana Budds: Can Balconies, Bigger Lobbies, and Package Rooms Help Save Public Housing? Peterson Rich Office walks us through an idea, developed with the Regional Plan Association, that calls for adaptive reuse and infill on NYCHA campuses: For the past year, RPA has been working with...architecture firm...to create design solutions for the New York City Housing Authority...report, "Scalable Design Solutions for NYCHA"...knits together many of the ideas that have come before...restoring public housing to a dignified place to live. -- Miriam Peterson; Nathan Rich; Sagi Golan - Curbed

Laurel Graeber: At the End of the New Pier 26, a Surprise: This environmentally themed project features an unusual design, including soaring walkways that lead to an unexpected destination: The latest addition to Hudson River Park...city's only public pier dedicated to river ecology...[its] most distinctive feature is a feat of 21st-century artifice...15,000-square-foot wetland...Tide Deck...human-engineered rocky marsh..."living laboratory"...visitors stroll westward, they encounter a sequence of small ecological habitats - woodland forest, coastal grassland, maritime scrub, the wetland... -- OLIN; Tillett Lighting Design Associates - New York Times

Thomas Hynes: Make Broadway the great green way: Time for a 45-block pastoral thoroughfare from Union Square to Columbus Circle: As the city struggles to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic...policymakers are contemplating some big ideas...Broadway Park...would signal a renewed commitment [to] other initiatives that put people's interests above those of the automobile...it would be a stunning second act for one of the world's most famous streets and a breath of fresh air for our weary city. -- Jeff Speck - New York Daily News

June Williamson: Five myths about the suburbs: No, the suburbs aren't all about open space and multi-car garages.: Our suburbs do face urgent challenges, including automobile dependence, an aging population and environmental risks. To address them, we'll have to dispel some long-held misconceptions. Myth No. 1: Suburbs are less dense than cities. Myth No. 2: All suburbanites own detached houses. Myth No. 4: Today's suburbs are racially integrated; etc. - Washington Post

Martin C. Pedersen: Reflecting on the African American Experience at the Harvard GSD: In the wake of the murder of George Floyd...two groups at the Harvard Graduate School of Design - the African American Student Union

(AASU) and AfricaGSD - posted a public statement, Notes on Credibility, calling for reforms at the school. Q&A with two of their members: Caleb Negash...and Andrew Mbutia Ngure...re: the statement, the experience of being a Black student at the GSD, and their plans for the future. - Common Edge

Venice holds back the water for first time in 1,200 years: Saturday was the first acqua alta of the season...the city finally trialed its long-awaited flood barriers...MOSE project has been in the works since 1984, but beset by delays and corruption...devastating floods such as last year's should be a thing of the past (at least, in the medium term...)...just 24 hours after the MOSE triumph, the city's iconic piazza was calf-deep in water...an air of resignation hung over the shops and cafes that had had to close - again. - CNN Travel

Sunand Prasad becomes Chair at UKGBC: UK Green Building Council...announced...its new Chair of the Board of Trustees: He plans...to champion climate action in the property and construction industry...He has risen through the profession to become a president of the Royal Institute to British Architects (2007 -2009) and is recognised as a prominent voice on sustainability across the built environment. -- Penoyre & Prasad (now part of Perkins + Will)- UKGBC / UK Green Building Council

Call for entries: 2021 Berkeley Prize Essay Competition (deadline looms!): As a future architect, what is the best way you can serve the needs of your local community? cash prizes; open to full-time undergraduate students enrolled in any architecture degree program or majoring in architecture throughout the world; Stage 1 (500-word essay proposal); deadline: November 1 - Berkeley Prize / Department of Architecture, University of California, Berkeley

2020 Cooper Hewitt National Design Awards: Design can change the world. Meet the people making it happen: ...honors the timeless legacy of preeminent design leadership in America... -- Design Visionary: Kickstarter/Aziz Hasan; Climate Action: Sponge Park/DLANDstudio; Architecture Snøhetta; Digital Design: Design I/O; Landscape Architecture: OJB Landscape Architecture; etc. - Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum (NYC)

2020 Pritzker Prize: Watch our special video honoring 2020 Laureates, Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara. -- Grafton Architects - The Hyatt Foundation

Young Talent Architecture Award 2020 Announces Winners by Mies van der Rohe Foundation / Fundació Mies van der Rohe / Creative Europe announced 4 YTAA 2020 Winners and 3 Winners of the Asian Edition. -- Álvaro Alcázar Del Águila, Eduard Llargués, Roser Garcia, Sergio Sangalli/Barcelona Tech; Willem Hubrechts/University of Leuven (Belgium); Monika Marinova/The Sir John Cass School of Art Architecture & Design, London Metropolitan University (UK); Pía Montero, María Jesús Molina, Antonia Ossa/School of Architecture of the University of Talca (Chile); JiSoo Kim/Hanyang University School of Architecture, Seoul (Korea); Peiquan Ma, Yuan Liu, Jing Cheng, Yuxuan Liang, Zi'ang Li/School of Architecture Tianjin - ArchDaily

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Today's News - Wednesday, October 7, 2020

News from across the Big Pond:

- [Capps & Millan Lombrana](#) parse the EU's intent to set up a new European Bauhaus as part of a Green Deal that "would set off a wave of building renovations - and a chance to find a new common architecture aesthetic - there's an opportunity to fulfill the school's unrealized potential."
- [Nate Berg](#) delves into the relevance of a new Bauhaus "as a model for fighting climate change - it should bring to the fight the creative, interdisciplinary approach to problem-solving that was proven so effective by the original Bauhaus. Here are a few ways it can live up to the standards of its predecessor."
- [Lowe reports](#) that the U.K.'s housing secretary says the government's planning reforms create a "big opportunity" to correct "mistakes of the recent past" by tearing down Brutalist buildings - "architects and conservationists fighting to protect Britain's post-war heritage" are none too happy.
- [Moore x 2](#): He explains why David Adjaye "deserves a better brief for the Holocaust memorial. The outstanding architect's remit for his latest project is badly flawed" + Harriet Pattison's "Our Days Are Like Full Years" about her 15-year relationship with Louis Kahn - including his meeting with Jackie Kennedy.
- [On a brighter](#) note, he cheers Feilden Fowles' work on the Carlisle Cathedral Fraternity that "is poised and intelligent - well crafted and respectful of its past," which "may draw flak from both modernists and traditionalists. Ruskin would have hated it."

In other news:

- [King cheers](#) AECOM's new "rugged new" Crane Cove Park on a stretch of former industrial shoreline in San Francisco that "offers something unexpected" - a real beach - "despite all the contortions that went into its creation," and despite missing some elements (to come via new fundraising), "it should only get better with age."
- [Lesley Lokko](#) explains why she resigned as dean of CCNY's Spitzer School of Architecture (she was appointed in June 2019): "Part of it has to do with the inflexibility of U.S. academic structures" - as well as: "The lack of respect and empathy for Black people, especially Black women, caught me off guard - my resignation was a profound act of self-preservation."
- [ACSA leaders](#) Dearborn & Monti explain the "drawbacks" of NCARB's proposal for an accredited 4-year degree (average is 12 years to licensure): "The idea that less time enrolled in school equals less debt for students may seem like a powerful argument" - but among the consequences - it will produce less-prepared graduates and "reinforce the unequal prospects they already face in the workforce."
- [Eleanor](#) Jolliffe offers 1st-year students a serious/amusing guide to starting an architecture degree in the age of COVID-19: Don't buy into the idea of the isolated artist "whose credibility is linked to their suffering and loneliness - it's bullshit. By all means design something that looks a bit like a gothic insect, but work out where the fire exit is. Be kind to yourself, be kind to others - don't take stupid risks."
- [A great](#) profile of Beverly Willis, the "trailblazing architect" who "developed 'sharp elbows' to thwart efforts at dismissing her projects because she was a woman" - her foundation spotlights "female architects who were left

out of the history books to change the culture for women in the field" (full disclosure: we're huge fans!).

- [Q&A](#) with Black Females in Architecture member Eniola Sonusi re: its impact on the industry: "The most rewarding thing is connecting with other women who look like me and share similar experiences. The world of architecture can be very lonely as a Black female. I hope that more students, educators and professionals will tap into this network and leverage the opportunities available."

- [Belogolovsky's](#) 2-part Q&A with Australian architect John Wardle - Part 1: "his thirst for learning from makers - blacksmiths, steel fabricators, stonemasons, carpenters, furniture makers, ceramicists - and his understanding of what constitutes the perfect ideal of architecture itself."

- [Belogolovsky/Wardle](#) - Part 2: He "talks about his concept of 'scalelessness' and his inspirations that may come from silhouettes and components of his extensive collection of ceramics, industrial objects, and antiquities."

- [Ann Sussman's](#) video "Modern Architecture: A Direct Expression of Trauma of WWI Trench," presented at the Academy of Neuroscience for Architecture 2020 conference, "describes the 'missing link' in our understanding of how Modern Architecture came to be."

- [San Diego](#) Architectural Foundation hands out its 44th annual Orchids & Onions winners and losers in architecture & design throughout San Diego County - the judges mince no words (scroll down for great presentations!).

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Kriston Capps & Laura Millan Lombrana: What a Second Bauhaus Movement Means for Europe: The European Union's Green Deal would set off a wave of building renovations - and a chance to find a new common architecture aesthetic: "We need to give our systemic change its own distinct aesthetic - to match style with sustainability," said Ursula von der Leyen, president of the European Commission... "This is why we will set up a new European Bauhaus"...Bauhaus operated as...a house of ideas...[it] was never much of a policy shop...Today, there's an opportunity...to fulfill the school's unrealized potential...research and technology will be paramount in a new European Bauhaus, and nature should be too. -- Georg Pendl/Architects' Council of Europe; Barry Bergdoll; Milan Dinevski - Bloomberg CityLab

Nate Berg: Toward a new Bauhaus: How a century-old design movement could help save the planet: The Bauhaus has new relevance in the 21st century: as a model for fighting climate change: ...would be part of a European Green Deal...Ursula von der Leyen... "a new European Bauhaus - a co-creation space where architects, artists, students, engineers, designers work together..." But style may be less important than how such a co-creation space operates...a new Bauhaus should bring to the fight...the creative, interdisciplinary approach to problem-solving that was proven so effective by the original Bauhaus. Here are a few ways [it] can live up to the standards of its predecessor. - Fast Company / Co.Design

Tom Lowe: Planning reforms are 'big opportunity' to tear down brutalist buildings, says Jenrick: Housing secretary said pulling down 'mistakes of the recent past' was one of the reasons he expanded permitted development ...government's planning reforms create a "big opportunity" to tear down unpopular buildings dating from the 1960s and 70s...His remarks are sure to anger architects and conservationists fighting to protect Britain's post-war heritage. Many...are now listed...but many more are not - BD/Building Design (UK)

Rowan Moore: Gold Medal winner David Adjaye deserves a better brief for the



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Holocaust memorial: The outstanding architect's remit for his latest project is badly flawed: The outcome, I believe, will be a confused and ponderous construction, too big for the small public gardens in which it is to be placed + Harriet Pattison, a ninetysomething American landscape architect, has brought out a memoir, "Our Days Are Like Full Years," about her 15-year relationship with Louis Kahn. - Observer (UK)

Rowan Moore: Carlisle Cathedral Fraternity - poised and intelligent: It may draw flak from both modernists and traditionalists, but [its] hall, rebuilt by Feilden Fowles, is well crafted and respectful of its past: ...a project...whose pointed arches would have roused accusations of heresy from modernists and of impurity from traditionalists, now comes across as a work of sweet and slightly playful reason...Ruskin would have hated it...design takes a common-sense approach that involves using the best means, mechanical or manual, available...If there is a criticism, it would be that [it] is almost too sensible and well mannered... - Observer (UK)

John King: Rugged new S.F. bayside park offers something unexpected - a day at the beach: The pandemic has shown...how much we need good public parks, so thank goodness San Francisco now has a large new one - on the bay, no less - with a sandy beach and a spacious lawn. Plus two headless gantry cranes on either side of a 550-foot-long concrete slipway where military ships once entered the water...The juxtapositions are as strange as they sound, as is the 7-acre setting...But the virtue of...Crane Cove Park is that despite all the contortions that went into its creation, it's a space that urban residents can simply enjoy...And it should only get better with age. -- AECOM - San Francisco Chronicle

Lesley Lokko Explains Her Resignation from City College of New York's Spitzer School of Architecture: She was appointed in June 2019, after the public institution, serving more than 400 students...had been without a dean for four years...Lokko, of Ghanian-Scottish heritage, is a widely-acclaimed educator and global design leader...Her statement: "Part of it too has to do with the wider inflexibility of U.S. academic structures...No job is worth one's life and at times I genuinely feared for my own. Race is never far from the surface of any situation in the U.S...The lack of respect and empathy for Black people, especially Black women, caught me off guard...my resignation was a profound act of self-preservation." - Architectural Record

Lynne Dearborn & Michael Monti: The Drawbacks of an Accredited Four-Year Degree: ACSA leaders respond to NCARB's proposal for a shorter educational path to licensure: ...we at the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture welcome the invitation to make meaningful change to increase access to architectural education and jobs...However, we find the arguments...oversimplified and too narrow...The idea that less time enrolled in school equals less debt for students may seem like a powerful argument...but it avoids consequences...will produce graduates who are less prepared for a rapidly changing profession, and it will reinforce the unequal prospects they already face in the workforce... -- Michael Armstrong/National Council of Architectural Registration Boards - Architect Magazine

Eleanor Jolliffe: A fresher's guide to starting an architecture degree: Architecture students had it tough even before covid struck...some advice for first-years: There will be a temptation while locked in your room and socially distanced from all your classmates to believe there is something in that idea of the tortured artist whose credibility is linked to their suffering and loneliness. Reject this: it's bullshit. ...architecture is collaborative and great architecture cannot be designed in a vacuum...By all means design something that looks a bit like a gothic insect but work out where the fire exit is...Be kind to yourself, be kind to others...don't take stupid risks...Don't make it harder on yourself than you need to. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Trailblazing architect Beverly Willis, 92, says 'Everything is possible': ...after discovering a gift for art and design, [she] went on to establish a portfolio of more than 800 projects...and, above all, developed "sharp elbows"...to thwart efforts at dismissing her projects because she was a woman...she established the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation to shine a light on female architects who were left out of the history books, and to change the culture for women in the field...aware of the friction between men and women in her profession...she's still writing and directing documentary films such as, "A Girl is a Fellow Here: 100 Women Architects in the Studio of Frank Lloyd Wright." She's still sounding off in favor of gender equity in architecture... - New Haven Register (Connecticut)

Black Females in Architecture Is Increasing Visibility of Black Women in the Industry: To find out more about the impact BFA and its members are having on the industry, we spoke to one of the organization's members, Eniola Sonusi: "The most rewarding thing about BFA is connecting with other women who look like me and share similar experiences. The world of architecture can be very lonely as a Black female...I hope that more students, educators and professionals will tap into this network and leverage the opportunities available." - Design Milk

Vladimir Belogolovsky - Part 1: "A Vase May Give a Shape to a Room": Q&A with Australian architect John Wardle re: his thirst for learning from makers - blacksmiths, steel fabricators, stonemasons, carpenters, furniture makers, ceramicists, and everything from woodcutters to cheesemakers; his Phoenix project...and his understanding of what constitutes the perfect ideal of architecture itself. - ArchDaily

Vladimir Belogolovsky - Part 2: John Wardle talks about his concept of "scalelessness": Q&A re: being fascinated with the narratives in architecture and believing that a vase could give a shape to a room: ...his inspirations that may come from silhouettes and components of his extensive collection of ceramics, industrial objects, and antiquities - STIR (See Think Inspire Reflect)

Video: "Modern Architecture: A Direct Expression of Trauma of WWI Trench": Presented at the Academy of Neuroscience for Architecture (ANFA) 2020 conference...describes the 'missing link' in our understanding of how Modern Architecture came to be. It shows how new understandings in psychology and neuroscience transform our understanding of architectural history and also help us better understand what people need to see to feel and be at their best. Presented by Ann Sussman, RA - Academy of Neuroscience for Architecture (ANFA)

San Diego Architectural Foundation Announces Official 2020 Orchids & Onions

Winners: ...this year's architecture & design winners and losers throughout San Diego County... -- Perkins & Will; DESS Partners; PGAL+ Sormeh Rienne; Architects Orange + Foundation For Form; obrARCHITECTURE; Degan & Degan Architecture; Hanna Gabriel Wells; H2 Architects; Delawie; BASILE Studio; Jeff Katz Architecture; Miller Hull Partnership; Jeff Svitak; Jules Wilson Design Studio; Schmidt Design Group; Spurlock Landscape Architects; Kevin deFreitas Architects/ LandLAB - Landscape Architect; Studio E Architects- San Diego Architectural Foundation / SDAF

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Today's News - Tuesday, October 13, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE: Due to technical issues beyond our control, we were unable to post last Thursday's newsletter. Sorry 'bout that. Stuff happens...

- [Neighborhoods](#) Now, a new - free! - online design toolkit for COVID-19 recovery efforts, offers more than "40 design-driven strategies, guidelines, prototypes, and other resources" developed by the Van Alen Institute, the Urban Design Forum, and NYC neighborhood working groups that "can be applied to any neighborhood in any city."
- [Paola Antonelli's](#) great Q&A with MASS Design Group's Michael Murphy re: how the firm's experience designing healthcare systems in vulnerable countries during past pandemics has produced "Covid-19 design response strategies" ("design hacks") that it is sharing "with fellow designers and healthcare providers."
- [Diana Lind](#) talks to a number of (impressive) experts re: the "crises with coronavirus and social inequity - this is the time to reimagine urban living. Cities have been, and always will be, civilization's finest creation. If we don't radically reinvent them now, when will we?"
- [WATG offers](#) the "Green Block" as a solution to the Urban Design Forum's inquiry "City Life After Coronavirus" that would make NYC streets "greener while helping small businesses recover in the process" - and also working to make the same thing happen in London.
- [Wainwright](#) brings us a depressing report re: "architecture firms' masochistic habits amplified by the lockdown" - and "distraught" employees speaking out re: "furlough fraud, endless hours, home-surveillance [really creepy!], fear of reprisals" (sigh).
- [CCNY Spitzer](#) architecture students respond to Dean Lesley Lokko's resignation: "We had not been made aware of her negative experience [and] give her our full support. However, we are disappointed that she chose to abandon" her vision that "was ultimately undermined (at least in part) by her inability to acknowledge the concerns and dreams of her very own students."
- [Nate Berg](#) x 2: He brings us "the strange" (and fascinating) story of Trilith, a 235-acre town that "Hollywood insiders are building from scratch within a 900-acre film and TV production facility just outside of Atlanta - an industry town that's as much about the town as it is about the industry" (Seaside v. 2.0).
- [He delves](#) into prefab, which "was supposed to fix the construction industry's biggest problems. Why isn't it everywhere?" The challenges facing one Canadian company "highlight the difficulty of disrupting the entrenched construction industry."
- [MacCash](#) reports on the continuing saga of Brad Pitt's post-Katrina Make It Right houses in New Orleans - the next to have "a date with the bulldozer" was designed by Adjaye. "When new, it was an audacious-looking home."
- [King, on](#) an optimistic note, re: the post-pandemic future of San Francisco's mixed-use Transbay District, with residential towers by Studio Gang and OMA: Though things are not so rosy at the moment, "what may help it succeed long-term is the diversity baked into the plan."
- [Kamin re:](#) the new Bank of America tower on the Chicago River - it may be the "city's tallest office building in

30 years" - but it's a mix of "drama and banality - its contribution to the public realm is defined more by its memorable bottom than its forgettable top" (the value of an outdoor plaza and new riverwalk "cannot be overstated").

• [Eyefuls](#) of Viñoly's renderings of National Medal of Honor Museum's 5-acre complex in Arlington, Texas, that "depict a squat, slab-like volume fabricated from steel that appears to levitate over the site."

• [Moore minces](#) no words re: what he thinks of what seems to be a competition between memorials to the Holocaust and slavery in London: "It would be invidious to set up a rivalry between them, so why are their monuments being treated so differently?"

• [Parks in](#) Brooklyn, New York, and Wellston, Missouri, win the 2020 ULI Urban Open Space Awards - with links to great presentations!

• [The 4th](#) Annual City of Tomorrow (virtual) Summit: Building a Better Future is already underway and continues through tomorrow - with a most impressive line-up of participants - registration is free!

• [Palm Spring's](#) Modernism Week Fall Preview Online Experience kicks off Thursday (thru October 31), and includes "Live from the Zoom Zoom Room," the happiest (virtual) hour of the year!

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[Van Alen Institute and Urban Design Forum launch online design toolkit for COVID-19 recovery efforts: ...features over 40 design-driven strategies, guidelines, prototypes, and other resources meant to support safe and community-focused recovery and reopening efforts...resources were generated by New York City neighborhood-specific working groups as part of the Neighborhoods Now...many of the tools that are now freely available to access at neighborhoodsnow.nyc can be applied to any neighborhood in any city that's looking for a helping hand as communities attempt to move forward and reopen.](#)
-- KPF; Pentagram - The Architect's Newspaper

[Paola Antonelli: Michael Murphy on designing healthcare systems: Q&A re: how MASS Design Group developed extensive proficiency in designing healthcare systems in vulnerable countries...and how its experience during past pandemics...places the practice at the forefront of the design response to Covid-19...producing...strategies to share information with fellow designers and healthcare providers. \[Wallpaper* Oct. issue guest-edited by Design Emergency co-founders Antonelli and Alice Rawsthorn - available to download free\]-](#)
Wallpaper*

[Diana Lind: Reinventing Solutions to Urban Living: Ongoing crises with coronavirus and social inequity indicate this is the time to reimagine life in cities. Various experts speak out: ...a question once unthinkable: do we need cities? Cities have been, and always will be, civilization's finest creation. If we don't radically reinvent them now, when will we? -- Dror Poleg; Vishaan Chakrabarti; Justin Moore/NYC Public Design Commission; Harriet Tregoning/New Urban Mobility alliance \(NUMO\); Hélène Chartier/C40 Cities; Amy Liu/Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program - Architectural Record](#)

[This is what a landscaped 'green block' would look like in the Flatiron District: As the city is in the midst of reopening, WATG...has proposed a plan to make the streets of New York greener while helping small businesses recover in the process...Led by...John Goldwyn...transforms the intersection in front of the iconic Flatiron Building into a pedestrian-friendly green haven...uses a modular, maintenance-free program, created using 100% recyclable](#)



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materials...recognized by the Urban Design Forum as a solution to its inquiry "City Life After Coronavirus"...The firm is currently working to get the Green Block deployed in some streets of London. - 6sqft (New York City)

Oliver Wainwright: Furlough fraud, snooping and firings: architects speak out over lockdown exploitation: Endless hours, home-surveillance, fear of reprisals - complaints in this already stressful industry have soared during Covid-19. We speak to distraught workers: ...architecture firms' masochistic habits amplified by the lockdown...The union...United Voices of the World - Section of Architectural Workers (UVW-SAW) - was formed last year and has been inundated with complaints from architects at all levels... - Guardian (UK)

Spitzer Architecture Students Respond to Dean Lesley Lokko's Departure: ...we stand in solidarity...against racism and racial prejudice...We had not been made aware of her negative experience [and] give her our full support...We understand that she faced complications in the implementation of her vision...However, we are disappointed that she chose to abandon that project...[Her] vision of a radical, inclusive, and participatory educational experience was ultimately undermined (at least in part) by her inability to acknowledge the concerns and dreams of her very own students. - Architectural Record

Nate Berg: The strange story of the Southern town that Hollywood insiders are building from scratch: Trilith is a 235-acre town built within a massive [900-acre] film and TV production facility just outside of Atlanta: ...Pinewood Atlanta was a turnkey space for filming...some of its local investors wanted it to be more...So they decided to build a town...Planned with New Urbanist design principles...for an eventual population of 5,000...inspired by Seaside, Florida [designed] to appeal to young creatives...an industry town that's as much about the town as it is about the industry. -- Lew Oliver - Fast Company / Co.Design

Nate Berg: Prefab was supposed to fix the construction industry's biggest problems. Why isn't it everywhere? The Canadian company Bone Structure can produce zero net energy homes months faster than a traditional builder. But its challenges highlight the difficulty of disrupting the entrenched construction industry: ...developing a building system wasn't the main challenge. The bigger problem they needed to solve was labor...[Bone] A kit of parts, no skilled labor needed...solution begets other problems... -- Brendan Kelly/Kelly + Morgan Architects; Anders Lasater; Caitlin Mueller/MIT; Mathew Aitchison/Building 4.0 CRC - Fast Company / Co.Design

Doug MacCash: Another of Brad Pitt's Make It Right houses to be demolished: The blighted house at 1826 Reynes St. in the Lower 9th Ward has a date with the bulldozer...[New Orleans] declares that the vacant building is "in imminent danger of collapse and/or threat to life"...109 houses...were unlike any seen in New Orleans before...neighborhood became a tourist destination for avant-garde architecture fans...house designed by David Adjaye...When new, it was an audacious-looking home...posts are now so deteriorated that the roof has partially slumped into the floor below...Make It Right has been a legal

battleground. -- Shigeru Ban; Thom Mayne; Frank Gehry; John C. Williams- The Times-Picayune (New Orleans)

John King: The Future of San Francisco's Transbay District: Tech offices are dark and storefronts are empty. But, as residential towers by Studio Gang and OMA show, the future of San Francisco's new mixed-use district is planned for diversity and affordability: What may help Transbay succeed long-term is the diversity baked into the plan...30% of the 4,400 housing units planned here must be subsidized for lower-income residents...not cheap by national standards. But it means that when you walk through the transit center's lush rooftop park, you see families who reflect the neighborhood's economic and racial diversity. -- Pelli Clarke Pelli; Fougerson Architecture - Architectural Record

Blair Kamin: Bank of America: City's tallest office building in 30 years opens along Chicago River, mixing drama and banality: ...the star of the show is the riverfront facade, where a trio of three-pronged structural elements...help support the massive tower, as if they were a waiter's fingers balancing a stack of plates...But there's a difference between creating an attention-getting part of a building and forming a satisfying whole...[it] is unlikely to make it into anybody's architectural pantheon...new section of riverwalk...is among the strongest contributions...to the public realm...blandness is countered, but only so much...its contribution to the public realm is defined more by its memorable bottom than its forgettable top. -- Goettsch Partners; IA Interior Architects- Chicago Tribune

Rafael Viñoly Architects unveils renderings of National Medal of Honor Museum in Arlington, Texas: ...will honor the over 3,500 Americans who have been conferred the country's most prestigious military decoration...\$150 million NMOHM...will be integrated into a larger sports and entertainment district...renderings for the five-acre complex depict a squat, slab-like volume fabricated from steel that appears to levitate over the site...in close proximity to AT&T Stadium, Globe Life Park, and Texas Live! -- MPFP; Safdie Architects- The Architect's Newspaper

Rowan Moore: The Holocaust and slavery - both need a fitting memorial: It would be invidious to set up a rivalry between them, so why are their monuments being treated so differently? In 2005, a proposal was put forward to build...a national memorial to the victims of slavery...Memorial 2007...a competition to decide which was the greater and more significant horror. Both must be remembered. But, in their carelessness, Cameron and his successors have made such a rivalry more likely. - Observer (UK)

Parks in Brooklyn, New York, and Wellston, Missouri, Win 2020 ULI Urban Open Space Awards: ...award recognizes outstanding examples of vibrant public open spaces that have been instrumental in promoting healthy, sustainable, and equitable outcomes in communities. Domino Park by James Corner Field Operations, SHoP Architects (with Vishaan Chakrabarti), etc. & Trojan Park by Lamar Johnson Collaborative (formerly Forum Studio), etc. - Urban Land Magazine (Urban Land Institute/ULI)

4th Annual City of Tomorrow (virtual) Summit: Building a Better Future, October 13-14 - free registration! Participants include: Charles Renfro, David Rockwell, Thomas Heatherwick, Vishaan Chakrabarti, Richard Florida, Mitchell J. Silver,

[MoMa's Paola Antonelli, Alexandra Lange, Signe Nielsen, Mindy Fullilove, Jim Crispino, Daniel L. Doctoroff, and many, many\(!\) others.](#) - Delos /92Y / Hundred Stories

[Modernism Week Fall Preview Online Experience launches October 15, thru October 31: 7 events, similar to programs that would typically be available in-person events; includes "Live from the Zoom Zoom Room," the happiest \(virtual\) hour of the year!](#) - Modernism Week (Palm Springs, California)

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Today's News - Wednesday, October 14, 2020

- [UK's Prince William](#) is dedicating \$65 million to create the Earthshot Prize, a "Nobel-like prize for the environment," to be awarded annually to five people, organizations or groups for solutions to five environmental objectives - each winner will receive \$1.3 million. Nominations open November 1.
- [Hannah Wood](#) speaks to an impressive group of "practitioners and educators taking on the challenge of adapting to the climate emergency - striving to embed climate principles into their practice and organizations."
- [Lina Liakou](#) of Resilient Cities Network & Piero Pelizzaro, Milan's chief resilience officer, on how to tackle "a resilient recovery - the road to better cities after COVID-19" - they outline why and how cities must "integrate the four dimensions of urban resilience."
- [Ravenscroft](#) reports on Foster's speech at the UN Forum of Mayors in Geneva: "Is Covid-19 going to change our cities? The answer is no" - but it "could lead to more sustainable buildings, a 'renaissance' for urban farming and a 'new future' for monorails -"cities will prove their resilience and appeal - they will bounce back stronger and better."
- [Aggi Cantrill](#) parses Berlin's pop-up bike lanes, created during the pandemic, that have become "a flashpoint in the city's efforts to reshape its transport system - the bike lanes - and the resistance to them - represent an intensification of an ongoing push to transform Berlin from a car-dependent city."
- [Barbiroglio](#) parses "Air," a project by architects in Barcelona - "an unprecedented mapping of the city that shows the impact of air pollution on the health of citizens and their vulnerabilities" - a proposal to represent Catalonia at the Venice Biennale (postponed to 2021).
- [Nate Berg](#) uses reports of 1,000 birds crashing into Philadelphia buildings in one night ("no one knows why") to report on the efforts, progress, and challenges in designing bird-safe buildings.
- [UPenn's](#) Weitzman School of Design launches a new historic preservation initiative - the Center for the Preservation of Civil Rights Sites that "first began at the end of 2019 with the establishment of a partnership with the Robert R. Taylor School of Architecture and Construction Science at Tuskegee University."
- [Gretchen](#) Wilkins, Head of Architecture at Cranbrook Academy of Art, "says that in the face of an uncertain future, radically open architecture schools could foster whole new types of creative practice" - as Cranbrook did when it opened in 1932. "Perhaps all every school needs is a great big barn."
- [Charles](#) Holland's letter to a young architect ("he should probably develop some other hobbies"): "I have but three pieces of advice for you - #4. Don't listen to old people's advice."
- [Stephen](#) Hicks talks to LGBTQI+ architects re: how "workplace norms are changing - but how inclusive is the profession? Visibility is costly when architects aren't sure how they will be perceived" (happy endings for those profiled here).
- [Pedersen's](#) Q&A with Frances Anderton re: leaving KCRW (boo hoo!), the upcoming Olympics, L.A. River improvements, mass transit, and LACMA controversies that bookended her DnA show: "And they're more or less the same controversy! It is ironic..."
- [Ravenscroft](#) brings us eye-fuls of SANAA's first project in Australia: Sydney Modern - an extension to the Art Gallery of New South Wales "designed to contrast the existing 19th-century neo-classical buildings" (and

includes an underground World War II oil tank converted into an art space).

• [Link to](#) eye-fuls of the 3 winners of Chicago's Winter Dining Challenge that include "modular cabins with radiant heat, modular blocks with seats and heat, and modified kotatus that serve as heated tables" - the initiative includes a \$500,000 grant program to help Chicago restaurants fund "winterizing" their outdoor spaces.



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UK's Prince William launches Nobel-like prize for the environment: ...dedicating \$65 million to create...Earthshot Prize will be awarded annually to five people, organizations or groups for solutions to the five "earthshot" objectives...the hope is to have at least 50 solutions to problems within each of five areas by 2030...Each winner will receive £1 million (\$1.3 million)...Nominations will open on November 1... - CNN World

Hannah Wood: Architects take Climate Action! Archinect speaks to practitioners and educators taking on the challenge of adapting to the climate emergency: ...striving to embed climate principles into their practice and organizations. -- Matthew Barnett Howland/Dido Milne/CSK Architects; Architects' Declare; Clara Bagenal George/London Energy Transformation Initiative; Billy Fleming/Stuart Weitzman School of Design McHarg Center; Scott McAulay/ Anthropocene Architecture School- Archinect

Lina Liakou & Piero Pelizzaro: A resilient recovery - the road to better cities after COVID-19: From health to the environment, solutions must recognize how the systems that support urban life are inextricably linked: The pandemic has exposed all the problems we were not paying enough attention to...Our health and wellbeing, economy and society, infrastructure and environment, and leadership and governance - the four dimensions of urban resilience - cannot be improved in isolation...Cities must pursue responses that integrate the four dimensions of resilience. - Thomson Reuters Foundation News

Tom Ravenscroft: "Is Covid-19 going to change our cities? The answer is no," says Norman Foster: ...but could lead to more sustainable buildings, a "renaissance" for urban farming and a "new future" for monorails..."it has merely hastened, accelerated trends...that were already apparent before the pandemic...He compared the current coronavirus pandemic with previous crises...which led to improvements in building standards and health-driven architecture..."cities will prove their resilience and appeal - they will bounce back stronger and better..." -- Foster + Partners- Dezeen

Aggi Cantrill: Pop-Up Bike Lanes and the Fight Over Berlin's Streets: New spaces created during the pandemic are coming under attack from politicians and the auto industry, while cycling advocates say the changes don't go far enough: ...a flashpoint in the city's efforts to reshape its transport system...Like many cities, Berlin is accelerating a redesign of its urban spaces as residents take to cycling and walking to avoid confined buses and subways... efforts to create more permanent bike lanes - and the resistance to them - represent an intensification of an ongoing push to transform Berlin from a car-dependent city...The debate...has thrown light on the challenges found in catering to the needs of different groups. - Bloomberg CityLab

Emanuela Barbiroglio: Architects In Barcelona Use Data To Make Air Pollution Visible: ...project Air, an unprecedented mapping of the city that shows the



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impact of air pollution on the health of citizens and their vulnerabilities. As a result of the research, 12 urgent measures have been identified...Born as a proposal to represent Catalonia, in Spain, at the 17th Venice Architecture Biennale (postponed to 2021)...research for Air began in 2019 and pushes the boundaries of the theme 'How will we live together?'. "In fact," says the curator Olga Subirós, "we have read this question in a very radical way, as 'How will we survive together?'" -- Institut Ramon Llull; Mar Santamaria/Pablo Martínez/300.000 Km/s studio- Forbes

Nate Berg: 1,000 birds crashed into Philadelphia buildings overnight. No one knows why: Birds commonly fly into the sides of buildings, but design changes can help: It's a problem even Congress is trying to address...passed \$1.5 trillion House bill, the Bird-Safe Buildings Act of 2019 requires new and renovated public buildings to use materials and facade designs aimed at reducing bird collisions... now awaiting attention in the Senate, where its prospects are unclear. Some cities...have passed ordinances requiring the use of bird-safe materials...many architects have begun to implement bird-safe features in their designs...One challenge is the availability and cost of bird-friendly materials. -- Studio Gang; Renzo Piano; FXFowle- Fast Company / Co.Design

The Weitzman School of Design launches a center for civil rights sites preservation: ...a new historic preservation initiative...the Center for the Preservation of Civil Rights Sites (CPCRS)...led by...Randall Mason, an associate professor in the Graduate Program in Historic Preservation at [University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia] and former director [of the school's] nonprofit community engagement and consulting arm, PennPraxis...CPCRS first began at the end of 2019 with the establishment of an 18-month partnership [with] the Robert R. Taylor School of Architecture and Construction Science at Tuskegee University...- The Architect's Newspaper

Could a radically open architecture school help graduates invent jobs? Australian educator Gretchen Wilkins, Head of Architecture at Cranbrook Academy of Art, Michigan, says that in the face of an uncertain future, architecture schools could foster whole new types of creative practice.: Higher education is at its best a place...for open experimentation and discovery of pathways and practices that we didn't see going in, rather than for fulfilling prerequisites for predestined jobs coming out...When Cranbrook opened, the focus could not have been on preparing graduates for jobs - this was 1932 and there were no jobs. Rather, students had to invent jobs by making work. Whole new types of creative practice emerged...today...architecture school may be the best place to make that idea a reality. Perhaps all every school needs is a great big barn.- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Charles Holland: letter to a young architect:Holland runs a practice as well as teaching and writing about architecture. He should probably develop some other hobbies: Dear Young Architect, I have but three pieces of advice for you: PS 4. Don't listen to old people's advice.- Architectural Review (UK)

Stephen Hicks: Out in Architecture? Workplace norms are changing, but how inclusive is the profession for LGBTQI+ architects? As architecture catches up to the broader society, the visibility of out LGBTQI+ architect...has the potential to revolutionize the profession, but it can still be difficult for someone to openly be gay or transgender...Visibility is costly when architects aren't sure how they will

be perceived...Outing oneself...can yield different results depending on the architect's race, the firm's leadership, the state's civil rights legal protections, and the presence of allies and advocates within a specific company. -- Julia Oderda/VCBO Architecture; Amy Braun/HMC Architects; Kevin Johnson/SmithGroup; Devin Davis/Vocon; Larry Paschall/Spotted Dog Architecture - AIArchitect / American Institute of Architects

Martin C. Pedersen: Frances Anderton on Leaving KCRW, DnA, and What Comes Next: Q&A re: about the decision to step away from the station, her hopes for continuing the design dialogue, and the current state of things in Los Angeles: The whole span of the show [DnA] is bookended by LACMA controversies. "And they're more or less the same controversy! ...it is ironic..." - Common Edge

Tom Ravenscroft: SANAA reveals Sydney Modern art gallery expansion: ...an extension to the Art Gallery of New South Wales...overlooks Sydney Harbour...Designed to contrast the existing 19th-century neo-classical buildings...a series of rectangular pavilions...step down a hill towards Woolloomooloo Bay...interlocked pavilions will be connected by a large, multi-level atrium that will have views towards Sydney Harbour...a World War II oil tank...will be converted into a 2,200-square-metre underground art space.. [project is] SANAA's first in Australia. -- Kazuyo Sejima + Ryue Nishizawa-Dezeen

Chicago's Winter Dining Challenge Winners Announced, Restaurateurs Remain Skeptical: Who's going to pay to heat these cabins? The winning ideas are modular cabins with radiant heat, modular blocks with seats and heat, and modified kotatus that serve as heated tables...Each will receive a \$5,000 cash prize....a new \$500,000 grant program that's designed to help Chicago restaurants fund "winterizing" efforts in their outdoor spaces...created in partnership with restaurant association and...DoorDash. -- ASD | SKY; Neil Reindel/Perkins&Will; Ellie Henderson/Purohit Navigation - Eater Chicago

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Yesterday's News

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Today's News - Thursday, October 15, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no newsletter days - we'll be back Tuesday, October 20. In the meantime: Stay well. Stay safe.

- [ANN feature](#): Excerpt: "Stanford White in Detail" by Samuel G. White; photos by Jonathan Wallen: A rich presentation of the sensual and scenographic effects created by the legendary architect. For White, every surface was an opportunity, and few opportunities were neglected.
- [Saffron](#) on what ails Philly and how to fix it: "Almost every major problem has its roots in poverty. The only way out of that cycle is to create more good-paying jobs" (other cities - take heed).
- [British](#) architect Elsie Owusu considers how "architects can adapt to the challenges of building for a post-pandemic world - architecture must not return to 'business as usual'" - this is "a chance to see visions and dream dreams of a new profession based on equality, diversity and social justice" (follow Jane Drew's example).
- [Salama & Crosbie](#) consider the opportunities in architectural education in a post-pandemic world: "Traditional architectural education was already challenged - schools should become adaptive systems that do not strive to stay the same" (tho' "previous experiences need not be forgotten").
- [Capps x 2](#): He parses the "a slobberknocker" of stats in the National Civic Art Society's Trad vs. Mod poll: "Regardless of age, geography, or political preference - classical won out over modern by 72% to 28%."
- [He takes](#) a deep dive into how artists, activists, and city leaders are rethinking the memorialization process - and "wrestling with a difficult national dilemma: Who gets to decide what to memorialize, and how?" (great read!).
- [Kimmelman](#) tours the East Village, "home of punks and poets," with artist and author Luc Sante, who "chats about the neighborhood's history," including Warhol's Electric Circus, Astor Place, and the Tompkins Square Park riots: "Living in the neighborhood now is safer, shinier, duller. Back then it was like camping out amid the ruins of multiple pasts."

Weekend diversions + Page-turners:

- [Kamin x 2](#) re: Open House Chicago kicks off tomorrow: Because of the pandemic it is shifting to exterior and online tours and expanded to 10 days (fittingly, it's the event's 10th anniversary).
- [On a lighthearted](#) note, he highlights "the architecture of Chicago's beer buildings, even if this isn't happy hour for some of them - their ornate brickwork, fanciful turrets make them a savory alternative to less-is-more design sobriety" - part of Open House Chicago, Oct. 16-25.
- [Marianela](#) D'Aprile cheers "Balkrishna Doshi: Architecture for the People" at Chicago's Wrightwood 659 gallery: "The presence of the human is everywhere - and the architectural spaces exude a certain generosity" - he is "someone completely unafraid to try on new ideas, shapes, concepts" to create "an architecture that gives shape to human activity without ever imposing on it."
- [TCLF's "Landslide 2020: Women Take the Lead: Women who shaped the American Landscape"](#) spotlights women-designed landscapes and the threats that they face" - the online exhibition links to fab profile pages of

this year's selected sites.

- [Reinhold](#) Martin makes the case that the reissued classics "Modern Housing" (1934) and "Black Metropolis" (1945) have a place in design syllabi - especially as educators and students debate the importance of addressing racial and social justice in architecture and urbanism ("Delirious New York" doesn't fare well).
- [Crosbie's](#) great Q&A with designer Paul Wellington re: his "Black Built: History and Architecture in the Black Community," what he learned through his research, and the future of increasing the ranks of Black architects in the U.S.
- [A fascinating](#) excerpt from Roman Mars & Kurt Kohlstedt's "The 99% Invisible City: A Field Guide to the Hidden World of Everyday Design": "From uncomfortable benches to sidewalk boulders, objects that say 'go away' can be hard to detect - until you start noticing them. Some of the goals of unpleasant designs can seem noble - but they follow a potentially dangerous logic with respect to public spaces."
- [Betksy x 2](#): Daniel Stockhammer's "Upcycling: Reuse and Repurposing as a Design Principle in Architecture" is "one of the most rousing clarion calls for upcycling I have read."
- [He cheers](#) Neyran Turan's "compelling" new monograph, "Architecture as Measure" featuring "models and drawings that are both hyper-realistic and disturbingly dreamlike" that create "narratives of the violence we are perpetuating on this planet. Turan proves herself to be one of the most talented and promising architects of immense talent and critical insight."

Special Event:

- [NYC Architecture](#) Biennial 2020: "Social Inclusion in the Workplace and in Design" October 20-23: Online and free of charge - an opportunity to reach a broader audience around the world - the lectures will be shared in English, Spanish, and Mandarin. ArchNewsNow is proud to be a media sponsor!



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ANN feature: Excerpt: "Stanford White in Detail" by Samuel G. White; photographs by Jonathan Wallen: A rich presentation of the sensual and scenographic effects created by the legendary architect. For White, every surface was an opportunity, and few opportunities were neglected. - ArchNewsNow.com

Inga Saffron: Philly didn't become America's poorest big city by chance. Here's how we fix it: Almost every major problem...from gun violence to the opioid epidemic, has its roots in poverty. The only way out of that cycle is to create more good-paying jobs: There are two stories that we can tell...In one, [it] is a city resurgent, rising from the ashes of deindustrialization...In 2019, the city celebrated a remarkable milestone: 10 straight years of job growth. Yet, for many...this triumphant narrative will sound like science fiction...the last 20 years have brought the best of times and the worst of times...what can Philadelphia do to change the situation... - Philadelphia Inquirer

Elsie Owusu: How better design will improve the spaces where we work and live: Architects can adapt to the challenges of building for a post-pandemic world: ...architecture must not return to "business as usual". We can take this enforced furlough as a chance to see visions and dream dreams of a new profession based on equality, diversity and social justice...Jane Drew's global leadership on housing design and construction...provide us with lessons on the challenges and opportunities of the current crisis...perhaps we can follow her example...teams of architects, engineers and artists are well-placed to design greener communities...can be resilient and protect disadvantaged groups.



Together, we can minimise the health and social risks of Covid-19 and future pandemics, while boosting the UK's economy... - Financial Times (UK)

Ashraf M. Salama & Michael J. Crosbie: Educating Architects in a Post-Pandemic World: What opportunities does the "loss of the stable state" offer the future of education? The model that has evolved over two centuries is changing within the space of a few weeks or months...Hesitant but hopeful, architecture schools are exploring possibilities...to meet the needs of the profession to a teaching/learning process that produces people who can create opportunities for themselves...traditional architectural education was already challenged...schools should become adaptive systems that do not strive to stay the same...While previous experiences need not be forgotten, the recognition of the loss of the stable state is the key starting point. - Common Edge

Kriston Capps: Classical or Modern Architecture? For Americans, It's No Contest: In a poll, traditional buildings soundly beat modern-looking ones, regardless of age, geography or political preference. Should that matter? The responses did not vary by demographic group...Americans...pulled the lever for traditional designs by a nearly 3 to 1 margin. Overall, classical won out over modern by 72% to 28%...The National Civic Art Society poll follows a failed effort...by classicists to move an executive order to the Resolute Desk to "Make Federal Buildings Beautiful Again"...architecture may be one issue...that cuts across partisan lines... -- Justin Shubow - Bloomberg CityLab

Kriston Capps: There Must Be a Better Way to Make a Monument: As controversial statues are toppled across the U.S., artists and activists are pushing cities to rethink the memorialization process: ...wrestling with a difficult national dilemma: Who gets to decide what to memorialize, and how? ...cultural collectives across the world are working together to undo colonialism...But decolonization...is a much bigger project than toppling statues...Establishing the civic infrastructure to identify and take action to remove or remedy these signs and symbols is very different work from persuading the public that a bronze figure of a long-dead general needs to be trucked away. -- Joel Garcia; Paul Farber/Monument Lab - Bloomberg CityLab

Michael Kimmelman: The East Village, Home of Punks and Poets: Here's a Tour: Luc Sante, author of "Low Life" and artist, chats about the neighborhood's history, including CBGB, Warhol's Electric Circus and the Tompkins Square Park riots: [He] charted a kind of imaginary route for our walk, tracing ghosts in Astor Place, the Strand bookstore..."When I arrived...the contrast was palpable between newfangled hippie businesses...and the older, working class businesses...Two streams of people intersected with one another's reality but didn't really interact...Living in the neighborhood now is safer, shinier, duller. Back then it was like camping out amid the ruins of multiple pasts." -- J. William Schickel; William C. Frohne; Maki & Associates; Charles Gwathmey; Henry C. Pelton - New York Times

Blair Kamin: Pandemic forces Open House Chicago to shift to exterior and online tours: Chicago Architecture Center announced..."Unless plans change,

there will be no interior tours...the center will expand Open House Chicago to 10 days, October 16-25, marking the event's 10th anniversary...event also will emphasize entire neighborhoods rather than individual buildings...More than 20 Chicago neighborhoods will participate, along with Evanston and Oak Park. -- Lynn Osmond- Chicago Tribune

Blair Kamin: Let's toast the architecture of Chicago's beer buildings, even if this isn't happy hour for some of them: Their ornate brickwork, fanciful turrets and other decorative flourishes make them a savory alternative to less-is-more design sobriety...whether they still sell beer or have switched to coffee, some still function as the proverbial "third place," the gathering spot apart from work or home....Open House Chicago...Oct. 16-25, will feature an outdoor-only walking tour of Wicker Park's "Beer Baron Row," an impressive lineup of ornate late 19th Century mansions...outlook for some owners of the beer buildings remains as bleak as a Chicago winter sky. The beer back story. The mansions. The saga of 'Schlitz Row' -- Frommann & Jepsen (1903); Gensler; Richard Schmidt- Chicago Tribune

Marianela D'Aprile: Mind the Cliché: "Balkrishna Doshi: Architecture for the People" gets the order right, puts people before architecture: It's truly fortunate that the Tadao Ando-designed Wrightwood 659 gallery behaves as [his] other buildings do - with meticulously worked solid forms becoming receptacles for light and air - because [the show] threatens to overwhelm...The presence of the human is everywhere...and the architectural spaces...exude a certain generosity. Which imbues which? ...formal variety...reveals Doshi as someone completely unafraid to try on new ideas, shapes, concepts...common thread is...a commitment to an architecture that gives shape to human activity without ever imposing on it. thru December 12- The Architect's Newspaper

"Landslide 2020: Women Take the Lead: Women who shaped the American Landscape": ...spotlights women-designed landscapes and the threats that they face: The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF)...annual in-depth report...profiles - and raises awareness of...at-risk American parks, gardens, horticultural features, working landscapes...each of the dozen threatened landscapes...were created, designed, tended to, and championed by women...many of them pioneering in the field and some unsung and overlooked...online exhibition led to...this year's selected sites, linked to their respective profile pages in the report. -- Charles A. Birnbaum- The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF)

Reinhold Martin: Prometheus Unmasked: Two reissued classics of New Deal literature...deserve new attention from architects and urbanists: Many scholars, educators, and students concerned with racial and economic justice are now ferociously debating the content of syllabi on which books like "Delirious New York"...an unapologetic rebuke of the New Deal public planning...two New Deal classics stand out..."Modern Housing" by Catherine Bauer (1934)...with a new foreword by Barbara Penner; and "Black Metropolis: A Study of Negro Life in a Northern City," by St. Clair Drake and Horace R. Cayton (1945)...with a new foreword by Mary Pattillo...If the combined 1,357 social-scientific pages...are weighed against the 263 heavily illustrated, telegraphic pages of witty retro-manifesto, the outcome may seem predictable enough. - Places Journal

Michael J. Crosbie: Hidden Figures: The Historic Contributions of Black

Architects: "Black Built: History and Architecture in the Black Community" explores the impact of the work of Black architects on communities of color: Designer Paul Wellington...documents more than 40 works of architecture...by Black architects...now working on a new book that will focus on Black women architects...Q&A re: the new book, what he learned through his research on Black architects and their work, and the future of increasing the ranks of Black architects in the U.S.: What needs to change in the profession to increase the representation of Black architects? "Having firms involved in helping to recruit students of color into the profession." - Common Edge

Roman Mars & Kurt Kohlstedt: How Cities (and Citizens) Create Hostile Environments: From uncomfortable benches to sidewalk boulders, objects that say "go away" can be hard to detect - until you start noticing them: Some of the goals of unpleasant designs can seem noble...but they follow a potentially dangerous logic...When supposed solutions address symptoms of a problem rather than the root causes, that problem is not solved but only pushed down the street to the next block or neighborhood...Spikes beget spikes, and targeted individuals are just moved around without addressing underlying issues. - Wired

Aaron Betksy: The Case for Upcycling in Architecture: the merits of reuse as defined in a new book by Daniel Stockhammer: Out of Liechtenstein, that tiny principality wedged between Austria and Switzerland, comes one of the most rousing clarion calls for upcycling I have read..."Upcycling: Reuse and Repurposing as a Design Principle in Architecture"...Finding aesthetic and economic merit in the combinations, defects, and recombinations of upcycling is as important as the actual reuse itself. - Architect Magazine

Aaron Betksy: Why Neyran Turan's Unbuilt Architecture Matters: the architect's compelling new monograph, "Architecture as Measure": ...she wants to "shak[e] the discipline and the world" through her work...Through models and drawings that are both hyper-realistic and disturbingly dreamlike...NemeStudio, create[s] displays of existing building types deformed, distorted to reveal their origins in extractive industries, or combined to construct narratives of the violence we are perpetuating on this planet...I have watched the emergence of a group of young designers and thinkers of immense talent and critical insight...Turan proves herself to be one of the most talented and promising architects of this group. - Architect Magazine

NYC Architecture Biennial 2020: "Social Inclusion in the Workplace and in Design" October 20-23: Conference will be online and free of charge, This is an opportunity for us to reach out to a broader audience around the world - the lectures will be shared in English, Spanish, and Mandarin. ArchNewsNow is proud to be a media sponsor! - New York City Architecture Biennial

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Yesterday's News

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Today's News - Tuesday, October 20, 2020

- [Charu Suri](#) profiles the non-profit Office Hours, launched in July by architectural historian and artist Esther Choi, "offering mentorship to emerging BIPOC design creatives - predicated on the notion that self-identification is crucial to reinforcing the belief that being a BIPOC creative is possible."
- [Wainwright](#) x 2: He interviews Scottish-Ghanaian architect Lesley Lokko (now temporarily in Edinburgh) re: her resignation as dean of CCNY's Spitzer School of Architecture - "the obstacles that she encountered in New York were unlike anything she had come up against before" - and her plans for the future (in Accra).
- [He cheers](#) Denizen Works' "beautiful chapel on a barge - bringing salvation to Hackney hipsters. The holy vessel is an arresting thing to encounter on the towpath" (indeed!).
- [Robert Neuwirth](#) takes a deep dive into why "a Singaporean firm has become the go-to master planner in 10 African countries": "'You fly in, fly out and get the job done.' This attitude is exactly what worries architects across Africa" (Akon City = "Morris Lapidus on acid").
- [Meanwhile](#), Sidewalk Labs launches Delve, "a generative design tool" that "aims to guide developers, architects, and planners in the creation of healthy, sustainable, and equitable urban neighborhoods" - and "dramatically speed up and optimizes the planning process."
- [Cajsa Carlson](#) reports on a range of recycled-plastic houses, designed by Julien de Smedt in collaboration with the Norwegian startup Othalo and UN Habitat, using a system that "will allow the millions of tons of plastic waste to become useful building material" (each house incorporates around 8 tons).
- [Dan Charles](#) talks to Donnel Baird re: how his BlocPower is "fighting climate change, one building at a time - focusing on neighborhoods that don't have a lot of money to invest. 'Solar panels aren't just for rich people, or for White people. They're for everybody.'"
- [Bill McKibben](#) digs into "the most important global forecast" re: the environment "that you've never heard of" + a great Q&A with DLAND's Susannah Drake re: lessons from Sponge Park "for cities trying to deal with sea-level rise."
- [TCLF's Birnbaum](#) responds to the "evasive responses from Hirshhorn officials" re: whether they consider the Sculpture Garden a work of art - if they don't, "they should explain why."
- [Hilburg](#) reports on Design Miami's "Architects for Beirut, a fundraising initiative to help restore the historic city's damaged buildings and public spaces" by offering original drawings, signed prints, models, and books by a who's who in the architectural world (all proceeds will go to on-the-ground rebuilding efforts).
- [The National](#) Trust for Historic Preservation's annual conference, themed PastForward 2020, kicks off - online - next week "with adjusted registration rates to make this year's conference as accessible for as many people as possible."
- [Ravenscroft](#) brings us newly released images of Dubai 2020 Expo's main pavilions by a who's who in the architectural world on the day the 6-month extravaganza was set to open - now rescheduled for 2021.
- [Eyefuls](#) (and project profiles) of Dezeen Awards 2020 architecture public vote winners.
- [Call for](#) entries: Nominations for the inaugural On The Brinck Award to honor the best books about Architecture, Community & Regional Planning, and Landscape Architecture (no collections or monographs),

sponsored by University of New Mexico School of Architecture & Planning.

● [Call for](#) entries: ArchDaily's 2020 Young Practices.

● [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Excerpt: "Stanford White in Detail" by Samuel G. White; photos by Jonathan Wallen: A rich presentation of the sensual and scenographic effects created by the legendary architect. For White, every surface was an opportunity, and few opportunities were neglected.

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[Charu Suri: A Grassroots Mentorship Program Aims to Break Down Design Industry Barriers: Office Hours is offering mentorship to emerging BIPOC design creatives: When architectural historian and artist Esther Choi started the nonprofit...a mentoring initiative that features design creatives who identify as Black, indigenous, and people of color, she didn't quite realize the impact that it would have...\[It\] is predicated on the notion that self-identification is crucial to reinforcing the belief that being a BIPOC creative is possible. -- Dong-Ping Wong/Food New York - Architectural Digest](#)

[Oliver Wainwright: Interview: 'Race is never far from the surface': Lesley Lokko on quitting New York: The Scottish-Ghanaian architect resigned as dean at the Spitzer school after less than a year citing 'a lack of respect and empathy for black women': ...Lokko is widely regarded as one of the most progressive voices in architectural education. But the obstacles that she encountered in New York were unlike anything she had come up against before. "It was a textbook 'problem woman of colour' scenario," \[she says\] speaking from Edinburgh where she has temporarily relocated...plans to set up an independent school of architecture in Accra. - Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Oliver Wainwright: The floating church: inside the holy vessel bringing salvation to Hackney hipsters: The area around London's Olympic Park is a regeneration hothouse with micro-breweries, tech startups, speakeasys and spas. Now their spiritual needs are being met - with a beautiful chapel on a barge: Genesis will be moored here for up to five years...before setting off on a voyage around London's waterways...The holy vessel is an arresting thing to encounter on the towpath... -- Murray Kerr/Denizen Works - Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Robert Neuwirth: A Singaporean firm has become the go-to master planner for African cities: Surbana Jurong has signed contracts to do city master plans in 10 African countries. Why is the continent relying on outside firms to map its future? ...a global firm owned by the government of Singapore...one of the few clues regarding how the company operates: "You fly in, fly out and get the job done." This attitude is exactly what worries architects across Africa...So what do these architects think a truly African city should look like in the 21st century?...a few possible principles: -- Issa Diabaté/Koffi & Diabaté Group; Kabage Karanja/Cave_Bureau; Omar Degan/DO Architecture; Hussein Bakri/Akon City; Christian Benimana/Mass Design Group; Kunié Adeyemi/NLÉ - City Monitor](#)



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Podcast

Sidewalk Labs launches Delve, a generative design tool for optimized urban development: ...aims to guide developers, architects, and planners in the creation of healthy, sustainable, and equitable urban neighborhoods by presenting...a wide plethora of design possibilities, generated via machine learning, that respond to the unique criteria presented by individual projects...intended to dramatically speed up and optimizes the planning process...has already been employed as part of a case study...[in] planning of the 12-acre mixed-use development at the North East Lands site at Wembley Park, an 85-acre redevelopment project... - The Architect's Newspaper

Cajsa Carlson: Julien de Smedt designs range of recycled-plastic houses: ...working with Norwegian startup Othalo... in partnership with UN Habitat - the United Nations' programme for sustainable urban development - homes are designed to be a low-cost option for sub-Saharan Africa...[each] house incorporating around eight tonnes of plastic waste...the same building blocks will be used for various kinds of housing...the system will allow the millions of tonnes of plastic waste to become useful building material...aims to eventually expand...into temperature-controlled mobile storage units for food and medicine, as well as refugee shelters and larger modular buildings such as schools and hospitals. -- Frank Cato Lahti - Dezeen

Dan Charles: Fighting Climate Change, One Building At A Time: ...with a company that he founded called BlocPower. [Donnel Baird] is attacking one of the seemingly intractable sources of America's greenhouse emissions: old residential buildings...focusing on neighborhoods that don't have a lot of money to invest..."Solar panels aren't just for rich people, or for White people. They're for everybody"...deploying new technology [and] created new ways to finance...targeting...small apartment buildings, community centers, and churches, almost exclusively in low-income neighborhoods. They've worked on a thousand buildings so far, in half a dozen cities. - NPR / National Public Radio

Bill McKibben/350.org: The Most Important Global Forecast That You've Never Heard Of: A new scenario from the International Energy Agency that tries to foresee a world in which we reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 is a step in the right direction: Next year...there are signs that important parts of the world's financial system are already beginning to get the message. + Q&A with

Susannah Drake/DLANDstudio re: there may be lessons from Sponge Park [along Brooklyn's Gowanus Canal] for cities trying to deal with sea-level rise. - The New Yorker

Charles A. Birnbaum: But is it Art? Evasive Responses from Hirshhorn Officials about the Sculpture Garden Redesign: Washington, D.C. Historic Preservation Office unequivocally stated...the sculpture garden is "an important work of art"...Oddly, senior Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden officials queried on the subject could not or would not render an opinion...If [they] do not consider landscape architecture to be an art form and their sculpture garden a work of art, they should explain why...do they not have a professional and ethical obligation to make that determination before executing a plan that would have ramifications long after they depart the institution? -- Gordon Bunshaft; Lester Collins; Hiroshi Sugimoto - The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF)

Jonathan Hilburg: Design Miami/ launches an art and architectural drawing sale to fundraise for Beirut recovery: ...Architects for Beirut, a fundraising initiative to help restore the historic city's damaged buildings and public spaces...through November 17...nearly 100 architects or their offices contributed work...All of the proceeds will go towards on-the-ground rebuilding efforts. -- Norman Foster; Toyo Ito; James Wines; SO - IL; David Adjaye; Toshiko Mori; Michael Van Valkenburgh; Amale Andraos/WORKac; Makram el Kadi & Ziad Jamaledine; Barry Bergdoll; Aric Chen; Nader Tehrani; Terence Riley; Sean Anderson - The Architect's Newspaper

PastForward Online 2020: Join us online for the first virtual National Preservation Conference, October 27-30, 2020: ...with adjusted registration rates to make this year's conference as accessible for as many people as possible. Featuring the themes Resilience and Relevance...more than 32 sessions on topics such as racial justice and equity, dealing with the effects of the pandemic, climate change, the challenges facing America's main streets, and many more. - National Trust for Historic Preservation/NTHP

Tom Ravenscroft: Dubai 2020 Expo reveals main pavilions ahead of rescheduled event: ...released images of buildings by Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill, Grimshaw and Foster + Partners that will host next year's coronavirus-delayed event....scheduled to begin [today], meaning that many of the buildings on the 438-hectare (1,083 acres) site to the south of Dubai are largely complete. October 1, 2021- March 31, 2022 -- HOK; Santiago Calatrava; AGI Architects; Hopkins Architects; Es Devlin; Asif Khan - Dezeen

Dezeen Awards 2020 architecture public vote winners -- -- Vo Trong Nghia Architects; A-01; Tectone + Tact Architecte; Henrique Barros-Gomes Architects; Heatherwick Studio; Durbach Block Jagers Architects & John Wardle Architects; OV Architekti; Nic Brunsdon; Atelier Tao+C; Unparelld'arquitectes; Snøhetta; Schwartz Besnosoff Architects - Dezeen

Call for entries: Nominations for the inaugural On The Brinck Award to honor the best books about Architecture, Community & Regional Planning, and Landscape Architecture (inclusive of environmental design and urban design) published 2017-19 (no collections or monographs); sponsored by University of New Mexico School of Architecture & Planning (UNM SA+P); Round 1 deadline: November 30 - University of New Mexico School of Architecture & Planning (UNM SA+P)

Call for entries: ArchDaily's 2020 Young Practices: to highlight young, emerging practices that are providing innovative approaches, proposals, and solutions...Tell us about what your practice says about the challenges we're facing, share your portfolio with us, and describe your contribution to the future of architecture and cities; deadline: November 8- ArchDaily

NYC Architecture Biennial 2020: "Social Inclusion in the Workplace and in Design" October 20-23: Conference will be online and free of charge, This is an opportunity for us to reach out to a broader audience around the world - the lectures will be shared in English, Spanish, and Mandarin. ArchNewsNow is proud to be a media sponsor! - New York City Architecture Biennial

ANN feature: Excerpt: "Stanford White in Detail" by Samuel G. White; photographs by Jonathan Wallen: A rich presentation of the sensual and scenographic effects created by the legendary architect. For White, every surface was an opportunity, and few opportunities were neglected.- ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Wednesday, October 21, 2020

- [In Sydney](#). Woods Bagot proposes replacing up to 800km of lesser-used roads "with pedestrian networks, community spaces and market gardens" that would put more than 500,000 Sydneysiders "within 300 meters of new green space" - and "take 100,000 cars off the road" (there is some skepticism).
- [Linda Poon](#) ponders al fresco dining in winter (when "de facto ice-fishing cabins" may not be "viable"): The "larger urban planning problem": Unlike Europe, "many cities just weren't designed for the winter to be spent outdoors" (running 4 propane heaters "can emit the equivalent of driving a car around the globe three times" - yikes!).
- [SO - IL's](#) Florian Idenburg considers how the pandemic creates "contradictory demands to privately isolate and publicly assemble" that "have revealed key fissures in the urban polity" - one example: instead of double-loaded corridors, let's design "the journey from apartment to street as joyous and celebratory" - and "not a furtive flight."
- [Former WeWork](#) architecture discipline manager Michael Caton explains why and how "the architecture profession can and should reshape itself - and reinvent the way architects do business altogether" by transitioning to "buildings as products, not projects" (don't "ignore the fact that you can buy prefabricated houses from Muji").
- [Emma Newburger](#) delves into how COVID-19 is bolstering the "push towards healthier building design" and "corporate interest in redesigning work space to simulate nature, have better air filtration systems and use more sustainable materials" ("All of these things were already on the rise").
- [Construction](#) Dive takes "an unflinching look" at how racism impacts the industry in a special 6-part report.
- [Blaine Brownell](#) interviews Jack Travis re: his career and "search for a Black architecture": "What is remarkable about his story is how he transformed his early impression of disenfranchisement into opportunities for himself and other Black architects and designers. 'We're laying the groundwork.'"
- [Eve Glasberg's](#) Q&A with Mabel O. Wilson re: projects she's worked on, her involvement in MoMA's upcoming show "Reconstructions: Architecture and Blackness in America," and what she's teaching this semester at Columbia's GSAPP.
- [Q&A](#) with Saudi-Arabia based Aala Qahtani re: her inspirations, her newly-developed futuristic prototype for Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Housing, and more.
- [Emily Brooks](#) reports on Buckley Gray Yeoman's transformation of five adjacent Grade-II listed terraced townhouses in London's museum district into a 14-gallery arts hub "that mixes sensitive restoration and new build."
- [Harrouk](#) brings us eyefuls of Adjaye Associates' conceptual design for the Martyrs Memorial in Niamey, the capital of Niger - "a 4000 m² tribute" that includes a memorial, new urban plaza, and multi-use civic gathering space in the heart of the city.
- [German architect](#) Anna Heringer wins the Obel Award 2020 for her Bangladeshi community building made of rammed earth and bamboo, and "contains a therapy center for people with disabilities and a fair-trade textile manufacturing workshop for local women" (very cool).
- [Call for](#) entries: Jared Green outlines fellowship opportunities in Urban Landscape Studies at Dumbarton

Oaks, the Harvard University research institute, museum, and garden in Washington, DC; Call for entries: ICAA's Bunny Mellon Landscape Design Prize; and more.

• [Call for entries](#): KCAD's Wege Prize 2021: Best Ideas for Sustainable Future of a Circular Economy (solutions to today's "wicked problems"); open to college/university students around the world (+ big cash prizes).

• [Sign up](#) - it's free(!): Vitra Summit 2020, Oct. 22-23: an amazing line-up of participants who will reflect on "how to future-proof environments - at home, in the office and on the go" (Aric Chen; Beatrice Galilee; Beatriz Colomina; Francis Kéré; Maurice Cox; Stefano Boeri; and so many more!).

• [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Excerpt: "Stanford White in Detail" by Samuel G. White; photos by Jonathan Wallen: A rich presentation of the sensual and scenographic effects created by the legendary architect. For White, every surface was an opportunity, and few opportunities were neglected.

Special Event:

• [NYC Architecture](#) Biennial 2020: "Social Inclusion in the Workplace and in Design" October 20-23: Online and free of charge - an opportunity to reach a broader audience around the world - the lectures will be shared in English, Spanish, and Mandarin. ArchNewsNow is proud to be a media sponsor!



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'Giving back the streets': The plan to de-pave 800km of Sydney roads: The architects behind the redesign of Central Station want to take 100,000 cars off the road by transforming Sydney's residential streets from asphalt into green space...Woods Bagot says up to 800km of lesser-used roads could be replaced with pedestrian networks, community spaces and market gardens..."Streets Ahead" paper was part of a connected idea to change people's perception and use of transport as commuting habits evolve during the COVID-19 pandemic...More than 500,000 Sydneysiders would also be put within 300 metres of new green space. -- John Prentice; ERA-Co- Sydney Morning Herald

Linda Poon: What AI Fresco Dining May Look Like When It's Cold: ...rows of heat lamps may become a defining feature of Covid winter sidewalks. But costly heaters aren't the only or best option for many restaurants: The scramble to winterize outdoor dining points to a larger urban planning problem: Many cities just weren't designed for the winter to be spent outdoors...pandemic might help usher in a new winter outdoor dining trend...that's long been popular in Europe...having four propane heaters running 14 hours a day during winter months can emit...the equivalent of driving a car around the globe three times...Mark Bennett outlined his four guiding design principles to making an outdoor winter enjoyable, heating didn't make the list. -- Sam Schwartz-Bloomberg CityLab

Florian Idenburg/SO - IL: Op-Ed: When health crises shut down urban life, domestic spaces should fill the gap: The contradictory demands to privately isolate and publicly assemble...has revealed key fissures in the urban polity...The challenge...will require that architects deepen their understanding of the contours of urban life...In the double-loaded corridor...developers found a financial sweet spot...Can we imagine the journey from apartment to street as joyous and celebratory...Not a furtive flight ...an imaginative use of basic architectural elements to open up, rather than close off, social interaction could improve not just housing...but city life itself...Ironically...Something too expensive for techies in [San Francisco] proves affordable for migrant workers in Mexico.- The Architect's Newspaper



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How Architects Can Transition to Buildings as Products, Not Projects: Learn why former WeWork architecture discipline manager Michael Caton believes the architecture profession can and should reshape itself: When I joined WeWork...I consciously embarked on a radical departure from conventional architectural practice. I entered into the world of products - in this case, office-space as a service...the experience...reinforced my belief that the shift from services to products could reinvent the way architects do business altogether...significant shifts in the construction industry are already underway...startups like Katerra, Cover, and Apt are...pushing product-based approaches...Architects should not ignore the fact that today you can buy...prefabricated houses from Muji. - Architect Magazine

Emma Newburger: Bringing the outside into the office: Coronavirus bolsters push towards healthier building design: ...corporate interest in redesigning work space to simulate nature, have better air filtration systems and use more sustainable materials...More companies are embracing biophilic design - the concept of bringing the health benefits of the outdoors inside...Buildings are also adapting to demand for more outdoor work space...“All of these things were already on the rise.” -- Gail Napell/Gensler; Rick Cook/CookFox; Asheshh Saheba/Steinberg Hart- CNBC

Special report: How racism impacts construction: In this six-part series, Construction Dive takes a deep look into hate's toll on the industry...an unflinching look at how it affects workers and a breakdown of the types of systemic racism that plague the industry: Racism on the jobsite: How hate erodes construction's bottom line; Despite progress, ingrained racism still runs deep in construction; etc. - Construction Dive

Blaine Brownell: Jack Travis and the Search for a Black Architecture: interview re: his groundbreaking career: As a Black student...at the University of Illinois in the 1970s, he frequently felt like an outsider...Given the scarcity of role models, it is easy to understand how inaccessible the profession seems to Black students and young professionals...What is remarkable about [his] story is how he transformed his early impression of disenfranchisement into opportunities for himself and other Black architects and designers...envisions significant progress ahead for Black architecture. “We’re laying the groundwork.” -- SOM; Lou Switzer; Fred Schwartz; HOK- Architect Magazine

Eve Glasberg: Professor Works on Projects at the Intersection of Race and Architecture: Mabel O. Wilson co-designed the Memorial to Enslaved Laborers and co-edited "Race and Modern Architecture": ...teaches at the Graduate

School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation [GSAPP] and in the Department of African American and African Diasporic Studies... Q&A re: projects, her involvement in an upcoming exhibition at New York's Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), what she's teaching this semester..."Reconstructions: Architecture and Blackness in America"... "brings together a remarkable group of 11 architects, designers, and artists"... - Columbia News

Building emotional connections: Aala Qahtani, founder of Saudi-Arabia based Aala Qahtani Architects, talks about inspirations, her newly-developed futuristic prototype [for Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Housing], and current projects: "I feel it's my mission to take the beautiful Najdi architecture to the next level and modernise it through the effective use of technology." - Design Middle East (Dubai, UAE)

Emily Brooks: Cultural Co-dependence: Buckley Gray Yeoman has unveiled Cromwell Place, a 14-gallery arts hub in London's museum district that mixes sensitive restoration and new build: ...converted five adjacent [Grade-II listed] terraced townhouses in South Kensington to create a sequence of galleries...a sort of co-working space for fine art...period features, such as the fireplaces and the sweeping staircases with their ironwork balustrades and timber handrails, have been restored. A series of glazed bridges link old a new...Members can take a permanent office...or just drop by and use some of the shared working space. They don't have to be gallerists but individual dealers and curators, too... - Design Anthology UK

Christele Harrouk: Adjaye Associates Reveals Conceptual Design for the Martyrs Memorial in Niamey, Niger: ...a 4000 m² tribute in the capital of Niger, including a memorial, new urban plaza, and multi-use civic gathering space. Located within the heart of the city, on a raised triangular plot...the effect of the underground maze is amplified by a 20-meter high forest of pillars that blends with the shading canopy of trees on both sides of the project. -- Steensen Varming - ArchDaily

Ellie Stathaki: A Bangladeshi community building by Anna Heringer wins Obel Award 2020: German architect's Anandaloy project in rural Bangladesh scoops the prestigious [award]: ...presented with the second...Danish architecture honour...Anandaloy, which means 'place of deep joy', contains a therapy centre for people with disabilities...and a fair-trade textile manufacturing workshop for local women...Made out of rammed earth and bamboo...age-old local building techniques in soft curves and textures that connect with its place and the region's vernacular...architect...is the UNESCO Chair of Earthen Architecture, Building Cultures, and Sustainable Development - Wallpaper*

Jared Green: Fellowship Opportunities in Urban Landscape Studies at Dumbarton Oaks: the Harvard University research institute, library, museum, and garden in Washington, D.C., has a number of fellowships open to landscape architecture academia and practitioners focused on race, democracy, and urban landscapes + Institute of Classical Architecture & Art (ICAA) Bunny Mellon Landscape Design Prize; etc.; various deadlines through December - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Call for entries: Wege Prize 2021: Best Ideas for Sustainable Future of a Circular Economy;\$30,000+ cash prizes; open to college/university students

around the world; teams must have exactly 5 members; represent at least 3 different academic disciplines & 2 different institutions of higher education; Phase 1 deadline: November 9 - Kendall College of Art and Design (KCAD) Wege Center for Sustainable Design, Ferris State University (Michigan)

Vitra Summit 2020, October 22-23: This year has radically changed our perception of space...free streaming event hosted online...We invite you to reflect with us on how to future-proof environments - at home, in the office and on the go. -- Aric Chen; Beatrice Galilee; Beatriz Colomina; Christian Grosen Rasmussen; Francis Kéré; Ilse Crawford; Joseph Grima; Maurice Cox; Sharon Johnston; Stefano Boeri; etc. - Vitra Design Museum (Weil am Rhein, Germany)

NYC Architecture Biennial 2020: "Social Inclusion in the Workplace and in Design" October 20-23: Conference will be online and free of charge, This is an opportunity for us to reach out to a broader audience around the world - the lectures will be shared in English, Spanish, and Mandarin. ArchNewsNow is proud to be a media sponsor! - New York City Architecture Biennial

ANN feature: Excerpt: "Stanford White in Detail" by Samuel G. White; photographs by Jonathan Wallen: A rich presentation of the sensual and scenographic effects created by the legendary architect. For White, every surface was an opportunity, and few opportunities were neglected. - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Thursday, October 22, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no newsletter days - we'll be back Tuesday, October 27. In the meantime: Stay well. Stay safe.

- [Davidson](#) parses KPF's "bold and meek" One Vanderbilt and S9's "brawny" Dock 72 at the Brooklyn Navy Yard - these two "spectacularly ill-timed" office buildings are "totems of the city's economic hopes - when nobody's going to the office. Please wish them well" (with 200 million square feet under construction - canaries in the coal mine?).
- [Kennicott](#) gives thumbs-up (with reservations) to Planet Word, a new museum "devoted to a huge subject" - language - opening today in a "beautiful" but "severely dilapidated" 1869 school building in Washington, DC (alas, "it is a monument to the loss of cultural patrimony and public trust").
- [McGuigan](#) has a great conversation about architecture and racism with two scholars and a practitioner who "explore the history and ongoing impact of whiteness and white supremacy in the built environment and in design education."
- [Gibson reports](#) that Studio Libeskind is creating a mixed-use waterfront development in Phillipsburg, New Jersey, "intended to act as a cultural gateway that also links the surrounding towns to the Delaware River."
- [Kamin reports](#) that the once-in-doubt Chicago Architecture Biennial "will go on next year with new format and gritty subject matter" that will build on artistic director David Brown's "long-term efforts to find creative uses for thousands of vacant city-owned lots" (with hopes to retain its "international flavor").
- [Architectural Record's](#) 2020 Innovation Conference, themed "The New Future: Architecture, Urbanism, and Communities," kicks off next Tuesday with an impressive line-up of speakers. Registration is free to all and open throughout the virtual event, October 27-28.
- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Excerpt: "Stanford White in Detail" by Samuel G. White; photos by Jonathan Wallen: A rich presentation of the sensual and scenographic effects created by the legendary architect. For White, every surface was an opportunity, and few opportunities were neglected.

Weekend diversions + Page-turners:

- [Nate Berg](#) parses the "Tidal Basin Ideas Lab" online exhibition showcasing five stellar landscape architecture firms' proposals to reimagine the National Mall's endangered Tidal Basin - "with its land sinking and its waters rising, the cherry trees don't stand a chance" (never mind the major monuments that will be under water at high tide).
- [Tanya Mohn](#) digs deep into "Landslide 2020: Women Take the Lead," TCLF's online exhibition that puts the spotlight on "the little-known women behind some well-known landscapes" - raising "awareness about 100 years of women landscape architects has been an uphill battle."
- [Natalia](#) Torija Nieto cheers "Shofuso and Modernism: The Architecture and Design of George Nakashima, Antonin and Noémi Raymond, and Junzo Yoshimura" in Philadelphia that "honors the close friendship and collaboration between" the architects and interior designer and graphic artist whose "legacy is genuine and

palpable through this insightful show."

- [In Turin](#), Italy, "China Goes Urban. The City to Come" connects "the culture of traditional China with the impressive transformations of contemporary Chinese cities, and questions the challenges posed by the urban changes taking place all over the planet."

- [Belogolovsky](#) hails the "much-expanded" (734-page!) 5th edition of Kenneth Frampton's 1980 "Modern Architecture: A Critical History" - "arguably the most authoritative architectural treatise undertaken by a single author - most controversial [is] what it chooses to ignore," but it is still "a fascinating adventure - every sentence is enticing and is there for a reason."

- [Langdon](#) cheers "the thoughtful city-making prescriptions" of Peterson and Littenberg found in the "lavishly illustrated" new book, "Space & Anti-Space: The Fabric of Place, City, and Architecture" - "Americans desperately need to learn to build better neighborhoods, districts, and cities. It can give designers, planners, urban leaders, and others a more solid sense of what to do - and what to avoid."

- [Evan Pavka's](#) great Q&A with Roman Mars re: "The 99% Invisible City: A Field Guide to the Hidden World of Everyday Design" - a "sprawling 400-page tome that exposes a cacophony of designed elements that shape cities and; in turn, revealing a narrative centered on people."

- [An excerpt](#) from Stephen Dillon's "Paths to Prison: On the Architectures of Carcerality" - a provoking and disturbing account of the development of supermax prison architecture in the 1960s and '70s: "It is not enough to change the spatial politics of the prison. The prison itself must become unimaginable and the prisoner with it."

- [Fortmeyer](#) cheers Barber's "Modern Architecture and Climate: Design Before Air Conditioning" that "offers perhaps the most comprehensive and concise corrective to the reigning histories of Modernism that have tended to exclude environmental context" (the Corbu example "takes some unexpected turns").

Special Event:

- [NYC Architecture](#) Biennial 2020: "Social Inclusion in the Workplace and in Design" October 20-23: Online and free of charge - an opportunity to reach a broader audience around the world - the lectures will be shared in English, Spanish, and Mandarin. ArchNewsNow is proud to be a media sponsor!



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[Justin Davidson: Two New Office Buildings Open, When Nobody's Going to the Office: Eight months into the pandemic, New York keeps right on building...Two...are spectacularly ill-timed...One Vanderbilt, next door to Grand Central Terminal...Dock 72...keeping a lonely vigil at the Brooklyn Navy Yard...totems of the city's economic hopes...Please wish them well...no natural law prevents an immense forest of high-rises from declining into a wilderness area...It would create a glut of emptiness that would challenge the entire city's rationale for existence...One Vanderbilt is simultaneously bold and meek...Dock 72... at home in a former shipbuilder's habitat...To look around...these days is to watch the business world...conduct a real-time experiment in social psychology, and the outcome will affect us all. -- Norman Foster; Jonathan Marvel; Kohn Pedersen Fox \(KPF\); S9 Architecture - Curbed](#)

[Philip Kennicott: Planet Word, a new museum devoted to language, is a high-tech, feel-good experience: The \[1869\] Franklin School in downtown Washington, DC...One of the most significant historic structures in the city, and one of the most beautiful, \[it\] was neglected and severely dilapidated...will reopen \[as\] a modestly scaled museum devoted to a huge subject...For humans, a museum of language may seem a bit like a museum of water for fish...exhibition designer Local Projects...has attempted to break down a vast](#)



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subject so that visitors can be more cognizant of something they use reflexively and unconsciously...technology is mostly effective, although sometimes unnecessarily complicated...opens after one of the ugliest, saddest and most alarming chapters in the history of local historic preservation...it is now a monument to the loss of cultural patrimony and public trust. -- Beyer Blinder Belle - Washington Post

Cathleen McGuigan: Architecture and Racism: A Conversation: Two scholars and a practitioner explore the history and ongoing impact of whiteness and white supremacy in the built environment and in design education: "...we have to have the courage to see the failures and the hard histories embedded in the landscape before we can begin to cast a hopeful vision for the future." -- Dianne Harris/Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; Louis P. Nelson/University of Virginia; Damon Rich/HECTOR Urban Design Planning & Civic Arts Studio; Mabel O. Wilson; Mario Gooden; Justin Garrett Moore - Architectural Record

Eleanor Gibson: Daniel Libeskind to create waterfront neighbourhood on Delaware River: ...in the town of Phillipsburg, New Jersey...intended to act as a cultural gateway that also links the surrounding towns to the [river]...mixed-used development will step down to a waterfront boat launch...buildings will be residences with rooftop gardens, parking and commercial space, connected by elevated footbridges. - Dezeen

Blair Kamin: Chicago Architecture Biennial will go on next year with new format and gritty subject matter: Finding creative uses for city's vacant lots: After weeks of uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, organizers...announced...the 4th edition..."The Available City" will build on a Chicago architecture professor's long-term efforts to find creative uses for thousands of vacant city-owned lots...dovetails with...\$750 million "Invest South/West" program to boost investment in struggling neighborhoods...artistic director will be David Brown, a professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago's architecture school...will seek to retain that international flavor... - Chicago Tribune

Architectural Record's 2020 Innovation Conference Showcases a Global Lineup of Speakers: Registration is free to all and open throughout the entirety of the virtual event October 27-28: architecture and design communities across time zones will tune in to 10 virtual sessions. This year's theme is "The New Future: Architecture, Urbanism, and Communities." -- Jeanne Gang; David Adjaye; Neri Oxman; Frank Gehry; Thomas Phife; Fabrizio Barozzi; Mario Carpo; Kwesi Daniel; Adrian Parr; Sunil Bald; Mitchell Silver; Justin Garrett Moore; Martha Thorne; Branko Kolarevic - Architectural Record

Nate Berg: The Jefferson Monument will be under 4 feet of water by 2040. Here's how to redesign the National Mall: Five prominent landscape architecture firms reimagine the Mall's Tidal Basin. One proposal? Let the monuments flood to show the consequences of inaction: The Tidal Basin Ideas Lab...online exhibition...is hoping to show how this endangered site can persevere - and to solicit the public support...with its land sinking and its waters rising...The cherry trees don't stand a chance...designs confront the flooding and natural changes...while also preserving its historical significance...recent protests over systemic racism...have given the design concepts another layer of relevance. -- Donald Albrecht; Thomas Mellins; DLANDstudio; GGN (Gustafson Guthrie Nichol); Hood Design Studio; James Corner Field Operations; Reed

Tanya Mohn: The Little-Known Women Behind Some Well-Known Landscapes: "Women have literally shaped the American landscape and continue to today, but their names and contributions are largely unknown": "Landslide 2020: Women Take the Lead," an online exhibition to raise awareness about 100 years of women landscape architects and the works they designed...recognition has been an uphill battle...WxLA, a coalition to assist the next generation of women... -- Charles A. Birnbaum/The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF); Marjorie Sewell Cautley; Clermont Lee. Genevieve Gillette; Ruth Shellhorn; Beatrix Farrand; Annette McCrea; Susan Child; Martha Schwartz; Angela Danadjieva; Lawrence Halprin; Gina Ford/Agency Landscape + Planning; Anne Spencer - New York Times

Natalia Torija Nieto: "Shofuso and Modernism: The Architecture and Design of George Nakashima, Antonin and Noémi Raymond, and Junzo Yoshimura" revisits a major mid-century East-West cultural exchange: Shofuso (Pine Breeze Villa)...moved in 1958 to...Philadelphia. 62 years late...[it] has reopened with an exhibition...honors the close friendship and community-based collaboration between Yoshimura, architect and woodworker Nakashima, architect Raymond, and interior designer and graphic artist Pernessin Raymond...[Their] legacy...is genuine and palpable through this insightful show. thru November 29 - The Architect's Newspaper

"China Goes Urban. The City to Come": connects the culture of traditional China with the impressive transformations of contemporary Chinese cities and questions the challenges posed by the urban changes taking place not only in China, but all over the planet...aims to stimulate a reflection on the city of today and the future. MAO Museo d'Arte Orientale, Turin, Italy, thru February 14 - MAO Museo d'Arte Orientale (Turin, Italy)

Vladimir Belogolovsky: 5th edition of Kenneth Frampton's [1980] "Modern Architecture: A Critical History": ...arguably the most authoritative architectural treatise undertaken by a single author...much expanded...A lot of what is new...is affected by the 2008 world financial crisis that first decimated the profession...then set it on a definitive course of diverting from producing ego-centric iconic buildings...to the creation of eco-conscious environments with a social purpose and intentions...sheds light on many before overlooked architects...most controversial [is] what it chooses to ignore...Perhaps the most glaring absence...are architects associated with the green movement...book is a fascinating adventure...every sentence is enticing and is there for a reason. - STIR (See Think Inspire Reflect)

Philip Langdon: Urban Design in a Time of "Anti-Space": The thoughtful city-making prescriptions of Steven Peterson and Barbara Littenberg: ...In a lavishly illustrated new book, "Space & Anti-Space: The Fabric of Place, City, and Architecture," [they] "present the revival of Lower Manhattan as a testament to the continuing appeal of traditional urbanism. Americans desperately need to learn to build better neighborhoods, districts, and cities...book can help guide that quest. It can give designers, planners, urban leaders, and others a more solid sense of what to do - and what to avoid. - Common Edge

Evan Pavka: Q&A: 99% Invisible's Roman Mars on His New Book and Looking

Closely at Cities: "Even though it's a guide to the city," says the podcaster of "The 99% Invisible City: A Field Guide to the Hidden World of Everyday Design" - "it's really about wherever you're looking": ...co-authored with Kurt Kohlstedt...condenses a decade's worth of exploration into the quotidian and often overlooked aspects of our daily lives into a sprawling 400-page tomb that exposes a cacophony of designed elements that shape cities both big and small; in turn, revealing a narrative centered around people... - Azure magazine (Canada)

Stephen Dillon: "Nothing stirred in the air": A snow-white room. Humming lights. Dead air. Eleven cameras. Decades ago a high security prison for women deployed banal architectural elements to intensify a new regime of carceral terror...Part of the difficulty was architectural - the physical qualities of the unit produced memory loss, hallucinations, and blindness...It is not enough to change the spatial politics of the prison - larger cells, bigger windows, longer chains. The prison itself must become unimaginable and the prisoner with it. - Places Journal

Russell Fortmeyer: "Modern Architecture and Climate: Design Before Air Conditioning": Architecture's past could be a key to a more climate-friendly future, which is the case the architectural historian Daniel A. Barber makes in his new book: ...offers perhaps the most comprehensive and concise corrective to the reigning histories of Modernism that have tended to exclude, or at least consider only superficially, environmental context. He makes a detailed study of the building envelope in early Modernism...The Corbu example acts as a soft opening for a book that takes some unexpected turns. - Architectural Record

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ANN feature: Excerpt: "Stanford White in Detail" by Samuel G. White; photographs by Jonathan Wallen: A rich presentation of the sensual and scenographic effects created by the legendary architect. For White, every surface was an opportunity, and few opportunities were neglected. - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Tuesday, October 27, 2020

- [Tufts University](#) launches Pandemic Places Project, an online platform offering valuable resources and research for urban planning and design related to COVID-19.
- [Grace Farms](#) launches Design for Freedom initiative "involving dozens of experts and leaders from across" the A/E/C industry that "addresses head-on the insidious and chronically-overlooked crisis of systemic forced labor within the building materials supply chain - includes a robust, resource-filled website, a webinar series, and more."
- [Wasik wades](#) into how "former malls and abandoned shopping-center sites are in the midst of a repurposing" that "may address the issue of enough affordable senior housing - although only partly" (Dunham-Jones & Williamson weigh in).
- [Matt Shaw](#) minces no words about how wrong Trump is when he "says Dems want to ban windows" - referring to proposed energy policy reform to achieve net-zero greenhouse emissions - "net-zero energy ambitions and ample glazing are not mutually exclusive, as many recent buildings demonstrate."
- [Elissaveta](#) Brandon takes a deep dive into how Houston, which "often ranks among the top 10 most unequal metro areas in the U.S., has been building one of the most extensive - and equitable - networks of parks and greenways in the country" - and other initiatives aiming to improve quality of life in "10 historically under-resourced communities."
- [Kamin cheers](#) the Univ. of Chicago's new David Rubenstein Forum by the "purposeful provocateurs" DS+R - an "eye-grabbing pile of stacked boxes - a first pass suggests that it is more than just another superficial, look-at-me icon wannabe. This is a bold building by, and for, bold thinkers" (bird-safe glass included!).
- [Happy ending](#) for Mid-century Modern x 2: Hewitt tells the fascinating tale of BassamFellows' restoration of the Schlumberger Research Center administration building, Philip Johnson's first nonresidential commission, sitting vacant for 7 years and suffering water damage, and now the company's HQ for its design studio and showroom.
- [Micallef](#) tells the tale of how the Oculus Pavilion, "a Space Age public toilet" in Toronto, "went from architectural gem to sad derelict - and back again. Its derelict state was a melancholy sight, but 'Brighter Days Ahead,' a temporary public art installation by Giaimo Architects, foretells of the pavilion's future."
- [On a more](#) worrisome note: The new "Virtual Village" online platform, launched by the non-profit Village Preservation, "offers 36 free history tours of Union Square South - part of their larger efforts seeking landmarks protections - as the city has dubbed this area 'Silicon Alley' and has pushed through many new developments."
- [HOK's new](#) \$4.1 billion terminal at Salt Lake City International includes "several pieces of industrial-scale art" by Gordon Huether that "bring recognizable elements of the area's landscape indoors. 'Art is very much a part of the architecture.'"
- [Hurst reports](#) sad news: London-based Dixon Jones "shuts up shop after 30 years" because of Covid-19 and "a longer-term failure to agree a succession plan" + Tributes + Rob Wilson reviews the firm's impressive portfolio.
- [John Cary](#) & Casius Pealer "respond to NCARB's proposal for a 4-year accredited degree - the much larger issue when it comes to making the path to licensure more accessible and inclusive: the structural failure of internship - a primary challenge and obstacle for access to the profession today."

● [NOMA x 2](#): 2020 NOMA Phil Freelon Professional Design Awards honor 5 projects for leadership and social, economic, and environmental design.

● [NOMA welcomes](#) incoming President Pugh & recognizes outgoing President Dowdell + 2020 NOMA/NAACP/SEED Awards for built and conceptual projects "that exemplify justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion/JEDI" (scroll down).

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Tufts University launches Pandemic Places Project, a resource for urban planning and design related to COVID-19...website includes valuable resources and research around: economic impacts, tracking the pandemic, and urban design/public spaces. -- Director: Justin B. Hollander, Department of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning- Tufts University

Shining A Light: Grace Farms launches Design for Freedom initiative to abolish forced labor in the built environment: ...addresses head-on the insidious and chronically-overlooked crisis...within the building materials supply chain...includes a robust, resource-filled website, an upcoming webinar series, educational partnerships at major universities, and more...Involving dozens of experts and leaders from across a broad swath of the architecture, engineering, and construction industry... -- Sharon Prince; Bill Menking- The Architect's Newspaper

John F. Wasik: Once Meccas of Retail Therapy, Now Homes to Elder Americans: Former malls and abandoned shopping-center sites are in the midst of a repurposing - and one of those new uses is senior housing: The factors driving retail-to-housing transformation were set in motion years ago but have been accelerated by the pandemic [and] online retailing...Will this new wave of...transformation produce enough affordable senior housing for the future? Changes afoot in the new redevelopments may address that issue, although only partly...The only thing that's undeniable is the demographic wave that shows the expanding need for senior housing. -- Ellen Dunham-Jones; June Williamson- New York Times

Matt Shaw: Op-Ed: Trump says Dems want to ban windows. He couldn't be more wrong: He is referring in part to the House Democrats' plan to reform energy policy, which aims to achieve net-zero greenhouse emissions...by 2050...the building sector - responsible for 40% of emissions in the U.S. - would achieve "net-zero" by 2030...net-zero energy ambitions and ample glazing are not mutually exclusive, as many recent buildings demonstrate...go beyond typical standards for natural light, natural ventilation, and other quality-of-life-enhancing features. -- Frederick Fisher & Partners; Studio Ma; Morphosis Architects; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); WORKac- The Architect's Newspaper

Elissaveta M. Brandon: Houston's bid for park equity: The city often ranks among the top 10 most unequal metro areas in the US, but since 2012, it has been building one of the most extensive - and equitable - networks of parks and greenways in the country [Bayou Greenways 2020]: ...[it] has created over 3,000 acres of green space...Complete Communities initiative...to expand access to parks but also quality affordable homes...transit options and more in 10 historically under-resourced communities...50/50 program helped identify which 50 parks out of the 170 needed the most attention...Beyond the Bayous initiative

paves the way towards equitable distribution of parks, access and connectivity. -
- SWA Group - City Monitor

Blair Kamin: A pile of stacked boxes at the University of Chicago - exhibitionism or architecture? It's an eye-grabbing pile of irregularly stacked boxes, seemingly designed to land on magazine covers and draw attention - as well as big donations...All those things make me wonder whether the new David Rubenstein Forum...is the real deal or a reversion to the self-indulgent days of "starchitecture" ...a first pass suggests that [it] is more than just another superficial, look-at-me icon wannabe...Its in-out visual rhythms make it an arresting presence, one that seems at home alongside The U. of C.'s quirky towers, even though it lacks their Gothic verticality...This is a bold building by, and for, bold thinkers... -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Brininstool + Lynch - Chicago Tribune

Cate Hewitt: Bassam Fellows Remodels the Future: The Schlumberger Research Center administration building, designed in 1951 and built in 1952, was Philip Johnson's first nonresidential commission...By the time [they] were aware of the building, it had already sat vacant for seven years, water damage had ruined areas of the interior...In the midst of renovating and restoring [Philip Johnson's] Hodgson House, Fellows and Bassam began searching for a permanent home for their business...The PJB has become the company headquarters...as well as its design studio and showroom. - Connecticut Examiner / CT Examiner

Shawn Micallef: How a Space Age public toilet went from architectural gem to sad derelict - and back again: Coming across the Oculus Pavilion for the first time is like stumbling upon E.T.'s spaceship in a wooded clearing...Its derelict state was a melancholy sight, but a new, temporary, public art installation called "Brighter Days Ahead" foretells of the pavilion's future...Though delayed by COVID-19, the sunny rays will brighten up fall and winter for a few months until work can begin in 2021...exemplified "the adventurous optimism of the modernist era in Metropolitan Toronto's early public buildings." -- Alan Crossley & Laurence Cazaly (1959); Giaimo Architects; Brown + Storey Architects - Toronto Star

New 'Virtual Village' platform offers 36 free history tours of Union Square South: Non-profit Village Preservation has launched a new online platform...part of their larger efforts seeking landmarks protections for the "South of Union Square" area, where Greenwich Village meets the East Village...Though much of Greenwich Village, and now even parts of the East Village and Noho, have had historic districts and individual landmark...Union Square South is sorely lacking...concerning for community groups and local neighbors...as the city has dubbed this area "Silicon Alley" and has pushed through many new developments... - 6sqft (New York City)

Salt Lake City International Constructs 21st Century Terminal: ...unveiled the first phase of its \$4.1 billion redevelopment...HOK developed a design...to be functional, affordable and timeless...Several pieces of industrial-scale art bring recognizable elements of the area's landscape indoors. Airport director notes that artwork by Gordon Huether add a sense of place..."Art is very much a part of the architecture...HOK's Matt Needham predicts that the integration of art and architecture will prove to be timeless...7-story, 5-ton "The Falls" welcomes

passengers...with dichroic glasswork that changes color with changing light conditions..."The Canyons" is a series of curved tubes and microfiber panels that bend and sway to evoke the feeling of Utah's signature geological formations. - Airport Improvement magazine

Will Hurst: Dixon Jones shuts up shop after 30 years in practice: ...established in 1989 and best known for projects for major British institutions such as the Royal Opera House, the National Gallery, [etc.] - shut at the end of last month. Jeremy Dixon and Edward Jones...both in their 80s - said the practice had been hard-hit by the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic as well as a longer-term failure to agree a succession plan...had not been able to reach agreement with younger colleagues + Tributes + Rob Wilson reviews the work of Dixon Jones - The Architects' Journal (UK)

John Cary & Casius Pealer: We Need a 3-Year Internship: The founders of ArchVoices respond to NCARB's proposal for a 4-year accredited degree: NCARB CEO Michael Armstrong...calling for "an additional, more affordable entry point into the profession" ...[his] emphasis on a 4-year degree obscures the much larger issue when it comes to making the path to licensure more accessible and inclusive: the amount of time internship still takes...intended to last 3 years continues to average over twice as long...structural failure of architectural internship...remains a primary challenge and obstacle for access to the profession today. -- Intern Development Program/IDP; Architectural Experience Program/AXP - Architect Magazine

2020 NOMA Phil Freelon Professional Design Awards: ...honoring leadership and social, economic, and environmental design. -- Perkins & Will/Yanel de Angel; Moody Nolan/Curtis J. Moody; Studio Figure/Nicholas Brinen; AECOM Detroit/Pierre Roberson; SmithGroup/Dayton Schroeter - National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA)

NOMA Inducts Incoming President Jason Pugh and Recognizes Outgoing President Kimberly Dowdell + 2020 NOMA/NAACP/SEED Awards highlight the built and conceptual projects in architecture, community design, and economic development that exemplify justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion/JEDI (scroll down). -- Höweler + Yoon Architecture/Mabel O. Wilson (Studio&)/Gregg Bleam Landscape Architect/Frank Dukes/Eto Otigbe; Tulsa Housing Authority/KAI Architects; Valerio Dewalt Train; AIAS Freedom By Design; Lindsey Naganuma/Claudia Monroy-Benitez; Chicago Mobile Makers/Maya Bird-Murphy; Pathways to Equity - National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) / Design Corps Social, Economic, and Environmental Design (SEED) Network

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Yesterday's News

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Today's News - Wednesday, October 28, 2020

- [Alissa Walker's](#) take on Trump talking about "tiny windows": "No one knows what he means. Make fenestration great again? In fact, windows are becoming high-tech tools for managing warming and cooling."
- [FXCollaborative's](#) Gavet Douangvichit on how to address the issues of diversity and inclusion: "The first step is recognizing that talking about it is not enough. Step 2: Be proactive, be passionate, and be transparent with your failings and successes."
- [2021 President-Elect](#) of the Boston Society for Architecture Gregory Minott explains why "the profession runs the risk of becoming irrelevant if we do not adapt and create pathways for minorities to enter and lead the profession. We must continue having the sometimes-uncomfortable conversations, and commit to doing the work."
- [Elsa Lam](#) parses what "Engaging Change" panelists had to say about what we can do - as individuals, firms, and as an industry - to dismantle barriers of bias - all-important alliances "entail people with power seeing the potential beyond someone's skin color and sharing their power."
- [Architect](#) Sean McEwen and medical anthropologist Dan Small talk about their "anthro-architectural approach" in "designing and advocating for vulnerable populations in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside" for over two decades.
- [Carlton](#) Reid delves into how a tabloid's "hatchet job" boosted London-based Meristem Design's profile - and business of making its ever-growing popular parklets ("cars don't buy lunch").
- [Ravenscroft](#) reports on London-based Morris + Company's (cool looking) modular prefab housing system aimed, for the time being, at the South American market - "a range of flexible modular elements can be combined to create single homes or entire apartment blocks."
- [AIA Baltimore](#) and the Baltimore Architecture Foundation move into the Quinn Evans-designed Baltimore Center for Architecture and Design, their new downtown storefront digs in a Mies van der Rohe-designed tower, also home to Bmore NOMA, Baltimore Heritage, Urban Land Institute Baltimore, and ASLA Maryland.
- [Eyefuls](#) of the 20 shortlisted projects from 7 countries vying for the 2020 Oscar Niemeyer Award in Latin American Architecture.
- [Do-over](#) (bad link yesterday): John Cary & Casius Pealer "respond to NCARB's proposal for a 4-year accredited degree - the much larger issue when it comes to making the path to licensure more accessible and inclusive: the structural failure of internship - a primary challenge and obstacle for access to the profession today."

Deadlines:

- [Call for](#) entries: Expressions of Interest: Town of tomorrow: c.£8bn Thamesmead Waterfront 2-stage international master planning competition.
- [Call for](#) entries: Winter Stations 2021 - "Refuge": international competition to design temporary winter installations spaced across Toronto's beaches (no fee, includes honorarium + travel & expenses).

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Alissa Walker: Trump Keeps Talking About 'Tiny Windows,' And No One Knows What He Means: Make fenestration great again? ...in fact, windows don't have to get smaller to meet efficiency goals - they just have to get smarter...windows are also becoming high-tech tools for managing warming and cooling, which can save even more energy...What Trump is actually trying to do here is, once again, gin up irritation at rules... -- Blake Middleton/Handel Architects; Jacob Corvidae/Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) - Curbed

Gavet Douangvichit/FXC Collaborative: Op-ed: More than a PR campaign - diversity and inclusion through action: ...what actions are actually being taken to address the issues? The first step...is recognizing that talking about it is not enough, and the path to real change is going to be a process...Here are some simple steps...Step 2: Be proactive, be passionate, and be transparent with your failings and successes. - The Architect's Newspaper

Gregory Minott: Op-Ed: The future of our profession depends on diversity: ...profession runs the risk of becoming irrelevant if we do not adapt and create pathways for minorities to enter and lead the profession...Where do we begin to change the dismal diversity statistics? Beyond early exposure and education, becoming an architect in the U.S. requires a massive commitment of money and time...Minimizing the barriers...will not diminish the value of our profession...Firms can contribute through mentorship and sponsorship programs ..We must continue having the sometimes-uncomfortable conversations, and we must commit to doing the work. -- DREAM Collaborative - The Architect's Newspaper

Elsa Lam: Let's Talk About Race: What does this bias look like? It can range from overtly aggressive threats...to more subtle personal experiences...How can some of these systemic barriers be dismantled? Allyship entails people with power seeing the potential beyond someone's skin colour and sharing their power...industry also needs organizations...In Canada...is the recently formed Black Architects + Interior Designers Association (BAIDA)...Black Planners and Urbanists Association is advancing various strategies...RAIC and provincial and territorial licensing authorities, ultimately have the most important role to play in...increasing the representation of Black, Indigenous and people of colour within the profession. -- Sam Oboh; Ossie Airewele; Cheryll Case; Camille Mitchell - Canadian Architect

Architecture, Anthropology and Social Acceptance: For over two decades, architect Sean McEwen and medical anthropologist Dan Small have been involved in designing and advocating for vulnerable populations in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside - including North America's first supervised injection site. Here's the story of their endeavours, in their own words..."Stories give us a sense of profound experiences in people's lives. This is a key part of the anthropo-architectural approach" - Canadian Architect

Carlton Reid: Parklet Firm Discovers No Such Thing As Bad Publicity After Tabloid 'Hatchet Job' Boosts Business: ...mockery by the Daily Mail boosted [London-based] Meristem Design's profile, and the business could soon be selling many more of its wooden parking-bay replacements...Headlined "The death of driving...article claimed that it was a "war against motorists" for councils

to replace parking spaces with “troublesome wooden structures”...[firm] has...five new jobs created by growing demand...first parklets appeared in California 15 years ago...By 2010, San Francisco started installing city-sanctioned parklets...the concept has spread around the world...Cars don't buy lunch.- Forbes

Tom Ravenscroft: Morris + Company designs modular prefabricated housing system: London studio...has designed...MODU that is aimed at the South American market...created...for Argentina-based prefabricated housing company Phäbb...a range of flexible modular elements can be combined to create single homes or entire apartment blocks.- Dezeen

New Baltimore architecture hub opens at downtown's One Charles Center: AIA Baltimore and the Baltimore Architecture Foundation will both open offices at the newly built-out Baltimore Center for Architecture and Design, set to debut to the public at a virtual opening and ribbon cutting on Oct. 30...it's “monumental” for the organization “to really move into the heart of downtown Baltimore and expand our influence”...will house other “allied” groups...National Organization of Minority Architects's Bmore NOMA, Baltimore Heritage, Urban Land Institute Baltimore chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects/ASLA Maryland chapter... -- Scott Walters/Hord Coplan Macht; Quinn Evans Architects- Baltimore Business Journal

20 Projects Named Finalists for the 2020 Oscar Niemeyer Award in Latin American Architecture: The group of finalists hails from 7 countries...projects from prestigious firms such as Kalach, Mazzanti, Bucci, and Barclay & Crousse as well as from up and coming studios and individuals like MAPAA, Estudio 41, Messina-Rivas, Gagliardo, and Núñez. We also see the work of young collectives...Natura Futura, Comunal, Montiel, Guillén.- ArchDaily

John Cary & Casius Pealer: We Need a 3-Year Internship: The founders of ArchVoices respond to NCARB's proposal for a 4-year accredited degree: NCARB CEO Michael Armstrong...calling for “an additional, more affordable entry point into the profession”...[his] emphasis on a 4-year degree obscures the much larger issue when it comes to making the path to licensure more accessible and inclusive: the amount of time internship still takes...intended to last 3 years continues to average over twice as long...structural failure of architectural internship...remains a primary challenge and obstacle for access to the profession today. -- Intern Development Program/IDP; Architectural Experience Program/AXP- Architect Magazine

Call for entries: Expressions of Interest: Town of tomorrow: c.£8bn Thamesmead Waterfront Joint Venture 2-stage international masterplanning competition: capacity for thousands of new homes, significant commercial and leisure space, set amongst lakes, ample green space and over a mile of undeveloped River Thames frontage; Stage 1 deadline: November 25- Thamesmead Waterfront Joint Venture / Colander Associates

Call for entries: Winter Stations 2021: "Refuge" international competition: design temporary winter art installations which incorporate existing lifeguard towers spaced strategically across Toronto's beaches; includes honorarium + travel & expenses; deadline: November 17- Winter Stations (Toronto, Canada)

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Today's News - Thursday, October 29, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no newsletter days - we'll be back Tuesday, November 3. In between is a triple trick-or-treat weekend: Saturday is Halloween. It will star a Blue (full!) Moon. It's also the most depressing weekend of the year for many of us: clocks turn back an hour and it's dark by 4:30 - ugh.

- [ANN feature](#): Dave Hora kicks off a new ANN series: Nature of Order: Christopher Alexander's work and its importance in shaping a healthy, living world (based on a program by Sorrento, Italy-based Building Beauty).
- [Lisa Chamberlain](#) reports on the Rockefeller-funded 100 Resilient Cities (100RC) initiative: After disbanding last year, it's "rising from the ashes as a new, more nimble organization that is applying lessons learned" (most excellent news!)
- [Zach Mortice](#) digs into a new nationwide "Superstudio," a "sweeping pedagogical project spanning 140 design studios at scores of colleges and universities" that "aims to broaden the appeal of the Green New Deal beyond the liberal coasts."
- [Viglucchi](#) reports on the "vision plan" that "takes an unusual and seemingly counter-intuitive approach" for the Wynwood Norte working-class neighborhood in Miami to fight gentrification, spur development, and increase affordable housing - "a model for other distressed urban areas."
- [Davidson](#) cheers Marble Fairbanks & SCAPE's new public library in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, "enfolded in gardens" and "filled with light and dotted with details that will make its users happy" (the bad news: the "nosebleed-inducing" cost).
- [Osman Can](#) Yerebakan talks to Glenn Adamson & Stephen Burks re: their "Design in Dialogue" - "design's most ambitious conversation series," now nearing its 70th episode (it's "a time capsule about a very particular time for the creative world") - all are available on Friedman Benda gallery's Vimeo.
- [John Parman](#) considers "the nature of design firms" from his five-decade career with "S, M, L, and XL firms" - boiled down to 1-2-line "aphorisms on leadership and collaboration" (e.g. "Don't waste time working for an idiot...").
- [Dean Amale](#) Andraos announces Columbia GSAPP's \$1 million commitment to establish the Norma Merrick Sklarek Scholars Fund for "full-tuition scholarships intended to promote diversity, inclusion, and equity by breaking down barriers to access for graduate study."
- [Plan to](#) spend some time with the AIA Film Challenge 2020 winners: "60- to 90-second documentaries highlighting architects partnering with communities and civic leaders to design a healthy, sustainable, just world that improves peoples' lives" + link to all entries.
- [Two we couldn't](#) resist (get a head-start on holiday shopping!): Elsa Lam rounds up some (great!) "gifts by architects, for architects. Some of these objects are made as extensions of an architectural practice, others are a side-hustle."
- [Hilary Reid](#) "talked to nine architects and designers about the gifts they think other architects would appreciate. Much of which is (not surprisingly) all black" (\$130 t-shirt - really???)

Weekend diversions + Page-turners:

- [The Brooklyn](#) Museum offers "Design: 1880 to Now" that "explores tensions between craft and industry, and examine issues of cultural appropriation across decorative arts mediums" - organized by Aric Chen.
- [The North](#) Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh, NC, is finally open(!) - in time to celebrate the 10th anniversary of its Thomas Phifer-designed expansion with "West Building and the Architecture of Light."
- [An excerpt](#) from Josh Stephens' new book, "The Urban Mystique: Notes on California, Los Angeles, and Beyond": "Cities are wonderful places, but they can be terrible places too - sometimes all at once" (great read!).
- [Emily Farra](#) cheers Julia Watson's "Lo-TEK: Design by Radical Indigenism" that documents indigenous communities that embraced "regenerative agriculture, zero-waste living, and nature-based solutions long before they were 2020 buzzwords - these are real, tangible, positive things we can do right now."
- [Andreea](#) Cutieru cheers Klaus Jan Philipp's "Architecture - Drawn, From the Middle Ages to the Present" that explores "all the different inventions, revolutions, and continuities spanning 8 centuries - with numerous exquisite examples - an excellent background for further inquiries and new forms of artistic expression."
- [An excerpt](#) from Hugh Campbell's "Space Framed: Photography, Architecture, and the Social Landscape" that looks at the Camera Obscura series by Cuban-American photographer Abelardo Morell (amazing images!).

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ANN feature: Dave Hora: Nature of Order #1: Christopher Alexander's work and its importance in shaping a healthy, living world: There is an undercurrent of the idea that architecture, when carried out with processes that Alexander presents in "The Nature of Order," can indeed lead to a more whole and humane society. - ArchNewsNow.com

Lisa Chamberlain: The Death and Life of the Resilient City Movement: Rising from the ashes: a new, more nimble organization that is applying lessons learned: ...Rockefeller-funded...100 Resilient Cities (100RC)...disbanded [in] 2019 - turned out to be quite resilient. Formed in the wake of Superstorm Sandy in 2012...spent 5 years building a coalition of cities...to address climate change and foster resilience...[It's] early demise was an unexpected shock...The leadership...began forming two independent organizations...Global Resilient Cities Network...to maintain the coalition of cities...Resilient Cities Catalyst (RCC) carries forward the knowledge gleaned from developing and implementing...resilience projects..."we intentionally built in the flexibility to scale it up and down." -- Michael Berkowitz - Common Edge

Zach Mortice: Design Crit: A nationwide "Superstudio" aims to broaden the appeal of the Green New Deal beyond the liberal coasts: A sweeping new pedagogical project spanning 140 design studios at scores of colleges and universities hopes to enlist a rising generation of landscape architects and designers in this cause...The starry-eyed hope...is that the design disciplines can broaden the appeal of the GND while tiptoeing along the partisan divide...open to all built environment design fields...one measure of success will be getting the plans...into the hands of a wide swath of climate and economic justice activists...necessitates a pivot away from the traditional private-sector fee-for-service model...This activist model of practice is also a way to teach students to examine their own discipline. -- Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF); Billy Fleming/McHarg Center, University of Pennsylvania; American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA); etc. - The Architect's Newspaper



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Andres Viglucci: To fight gentrification, [Wynwood Norte] a working-class Miami enclave wins plan to spur development: ...arose from a grassroots effort to reverse the historic residential enclave's declining fortunes...takes an unusual and seemingly counter-intuitive approach that sponsors hope will be a model for other distressed urban areas where residents are at risk of displacement from redevelopment, gentrification and a shrinking supply of affordable housing...seeks to attract badly needed investment to the neighborhood, plagued by demolitions and vacant or abandoned lots and buildings, by promoting modestly larger and denser but still small-scale infill development... To encourage business formation, the new zoning would also allow...micro-retail and incubator spaces. -- Plusurbia Design - Miami Herald

Justin Davidson: Greenpoint's New Public Library "Makes You Want to Move In": We all paid a lot for it, but we got something worth having: ...polluted pit took two years and several million dollars to clean up, but it's finally birthed Greenpoint's greenest building, a library enfolded in gardens, doing double duty as an environmental education center...filled with light and dotted with details that will make its users happy...The bad news is that the 15,000-square-foot building wound up costing...\$1,533 per square foot, which is a nosebleed-inducing figure...If it costs too much to do things well, the answer is to figure out ways to pay less, not do less or do it badly. -- Marble Fairbanks; SCAPE - Curbed

Osman Can Yerebakan: Glenn Adamson, Stephen Burks, and Design's Most Ambitious Conversation Series: Since the pandemic started, the duo has been interviewing a broad roster of international figures in architecture and design: Design in Dialogue...first guest was Switzerland-based Nigerian-American designer Ini Archibog...Within six months, the series has formed a who's-who of design, all stored on gallery Friedman Benda's Vimeo channel...Now nearing its 70th episode, what is next for Design in Dialogue in a post-pandemic landscape? "The series is a time capsule about a very particular time for the creative world." -- Najla El Zein - Metropolis Magazine

John J. Parman: The Nature of Design Firms From a Five-Decade Veteran: Aphorisms on leadership and collaboration: ...boil experience down to a line or two meant for people across the board: students, midcareer professionals, and senior folks wondering if it's time to move on. (A personal note on that final category: They'll be surprised how liberating this is.): Don't waste time working for an idiot... - Common Edge

GSAPP commits \$1 million to establish the Norma Merrick Sklarek Scholars Fund supporting full-tuition scholarships over three years: Dean Amale Andraos announced [the fund] intended to promote diversity, inclusion, and equity by breaking down barriers to access for graduate study...Columbia alumna Sklarek...was among the first Black women to become a registered architect in the State of New York...the first Black woman to receive a fellowship by the American Institute of Architects...the first African-American woman to establish and manage an architectural firm. - Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP)

AIA Film Challenge 2020 winners: ...60- to 90-second documentaries

highlighting architects partnering with communities and civic leaders to design a healthy, sustainable, just world that improves peoples' lives. Grand Prize: "Dallas Holocaust & Human Rights Museum" - John Gordon, Omniplan; "From Ruins to City" - Jake Catalanotto, STUDIO V Architecture; "BOXVILLE: Creating a Just World" - Asia Taylor, "A Beacon of Light in Times of Crisis" - Jean-Marc Grambert + link to all films - American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Elsa Lam: Gifts by architects, for architects (and others): The pandemic has foregrounded the importance - and necessity - of supporting local economies and communities. In that spirit, we've assembled a 2020 gift guide of items made by Canadian architects. Some of these objects are made as extensions of an architectural practice, others are a side-hustle. -- Mari Fujito/Michael Barton; Nine Yards Studio; Deagan McDonald/Kelsey Nilsen/Origins; Amanda Large/Doublespace; Charisma Panchapakesan/CAB Architects; Natalie and Zain; Molo Design; Shirley Liu; Atelier YUL; Becki Chan; Hiroko Kobayashi; Brigitte Shim/Howard Sutcliffe - Canadian Architect

Hilary Reid: The Best Gifts for Architects, According to Architects: Much of which is (not surprisingly) all black: If you're stumped about what to get the aspiring Le Corbusier on your list, fear not: We've talked to nine architects and designers about the gifts they think other architects would appreciate. -- Barbara Bestor; Andy Lantz/RIOS; Nicholas Batie; Julia Marani; Peter Feigenbaum; Jacob Segal; Rebecca Rudolph/Catherine Johnson/Design, Bitches; f-architecture/Feminist Architecture Collaborative - New York Magazine

"Design: 1880 to Now" - Brooklyn Museum: ...an exciting range of designers and manufacturers from the late 19th century to the present day...works offer competing visions of modernity, explore tensions between craft and industry, and demonstrate critical innovations in production...also expands upon the traditional Eurocentric narrative...examining issues of cultural appropriation across decorative arts mediums; organized by Aric Chen. thru November 1, 2021 - Brooklyn Museum

"West Building and the Architecture of Light": celebrates the 10th anniversary of the Thomas Phifer-designed West Building at the North Carolina Museum of Art - finally open! Raleigh, NC, thru February 7, 2021 - North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA)

Searching for the "Urban Mystique": An excerpt from a new book by Josh Stephens, "The Urban Mystique: Notes on California, Los Angeles, and Beyond": Cities are wonderful places, but they can be terrible places too - sometimes all at once...Cities will never be "perfect" the way the suburbs have been rumored to be...ideally, they require everyone to contribute to their evolution. Urban life should center on inspiration and improvement, not passivity and resignation...Our greatest challenge is to make sure that urban life serves everyone so that rich and poor, marginalized and powerful are all enriched by one another. -- Christopher Hawthorne - PLANetizen

Emily Farra: How Indigenous Architecture Can Change the Way We Live on Earth: We're beginning to understand a great irony of climate change: that the people most affected often did the least to cause it...many...also have the technology, philosophy, and knowledge that could have prevented [natural disasters] in the first place...embracing regenerative agriculture, zero-waste

living, and nature-based solutions long before they were 2020 buzzwords...Julia Watson traveled across 18 countries for 6 years to...document their ways of life in..."Lo-TEK: Design by Radical Indigenism"...illustrates how indigenous methods...might be adopted worldwide in the face of climate crisis...The most energizing story, though, is of the climate solutions laid out in these pages...these are real, tangible, positive things we can do right now... -- Watson Salembier - Vogue

Andreea Cutieru: Klaus Jan Philipp Explores the History of Architectural Drawings: "Architecture - Drawn, From the Middle Ages to the Present"...recounts the historical development of architectural drawings, exploring all the different inventions, revolutions and continuities spanning eight centuries...with numerous exquisite examples of drawings...the culmination of years of exhibitions, lectures and essays...provides an excellent background for further inquiries and new forms of artistic expression. - ArchDaily

Hugh Campbell: Camera In Camera: Abelardo Morell's Camera Obscura photographs are enchanting and also disorienting, as the spectacle of public life is overlaid upon the realm of private experience, and the two are shown to be inextricably linked: For more than two decades, the Cuban American photographer has been working on and off on his series...photographs are both instantly enchanting and endlessly fascinating...[His] images overlay public spectacle upon private interiority, and point to their inextricable co-existence in the city. (excerpt from "Space Framed: Photography, Architecture, and the Social Landscape") - Places Journal

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Today's News - Tuesday, November 3, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE: If we don't post the newsletter tomorrow, it's because we're either out dancing in the street or crying in our beer.

- [Trevor Boddy](#) pens a thoughtful and touching tribute to Peter Cardew, 81, who "became Canada's definitive 'architect's architect' - he was the closest we have to a Sir John Soane for our times, and if a fanfare is played in his honor, it should be Elgar's 'The Enigma Variations' - that, or a skiffle band - where would we be without such dreamers?"
- [The kind](#) of news no one should have to be reporting - sadly, Alissa Walker does: "Cities are preparing for election night protests - boarding up windows, locking down, and anticipating an unsettled outcome. Here's what's happening" across the country (sigh).
- [Kimmelman's](#) conversations with Julián Castro, former mayor of San Antonio and former HUD Secretary, about the housing crisis and the role cities play + Janette Sadik-Khan, former Commissioner of NYC Department of Transportation, about how public transit can drive economic recovery in cities + Link to transcript of this episode.
- [Marcus Fairs](#) reports on Richard Florida's lecture at the (virtual) Utopian Hours conference: There's "no evidence" that urban density helps spread of coronavirus. 'The gloom and doom prognostications are overblown. We are going through a great urban reset' - dependent on "young creatives" (comments are not kind).
- [Camilo José](#) Vergara documents how NYC "street artists are depicting the terrible power of Covid-19: their fear of infection, the sadness of loss, and anger at having to quarantine."
- [Betsky minces](#) no words about Google's \$20 billion "surprisingly safe foray into city making" in Mountain View, California - there's "little to complain about, other than we would expect something more creative and daring - Google should be able to do better."
- [Conor Dougherty](#) reports on plans for a car-free neighborhood "near Phoenix, perhaps the most auto-addicted city in America - the car-addicted reality makes the architectural renderings both intriguing and a little hard to believe" (but possibly "eerily prescient" for a post-pandemic world).
- [Moore cheers](#) Adam Khan's Plot 10, an "inspired reinvention of an inner London children's play project - light and jaunty" with "bouncing brick arches" that "shouldn't be a rarity, but it has been hard to achieve."
- [Just when](#) you think you've seen it all: Ravenscroft reports on Jean Nouvel's hotel in Saudi Arabia's AIUla desert "that will be carved into a sandstone hill" near a UNESCO World Heritage site, part of the country's Vision 2030 "to encourage global tourism in the area" (no comment).
- [2016 Pritzker](#) laureate Alejandro Aravena is named chair of 2021 Pritzker Architecture Prize Jury, and Manuela Lucá-Dazio, head of the Venice Biennale visual arts and architecture sector, is named advisor and executive director when Martha Thorne steps down (after 15 years!).
- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Dave Hora kicks off a new ANN series: Nature of Order: Christopher Alexander's work and its importance in shaping a healthy, living world (based on a program by Sorrento, Italy-based Building Beauty).

Deadline + Winners all:

- [Call for](#) entries: YAC - Young Architects Competitions: FITT Group Future Headquarters in Vicenza, Italy; cash prizes.
- [Camden Highline](#) names 5 (impressive) international teams as finalists in the competition to design "1.1km of disused railway into a new green link, bridging Camden Town and King's Cross" (scroll down for images & full teams).
- [Eyefuls](#) of Architecture MasterPrize (AMP) 2020 Winners, with Tadao Ando, Vo Trong Nghia, and Landprocess taking top honors (great presentations of miles of category winners!).
- [Some preliminary](#) images of Adjaye Associates' competition-winning design for a new 80,000-square-foot student center at Rice University in Houston.
- [Three "exemplary"](#) winners of the inaugural 2020 ULI Europe Awards for Excellence hail from the Netherlands and South Africa (alas - no images, as of now, anyway).

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Obituary by Trevor Boddy: In Memoriam: Peter Cardew, 1939-2020: For good, and sometimes for ill, Vancouver's Cardew has become Canada's definitive 'architect's architect' over the past several decades...chosen as the RAIC's Gold Medal winner for 2012...But the discipline and focus needed to pull off being an architect's architect also comes at a price...[he] sometimes shared Arthur Erickson's disdain for the money side of architecture...While mouthing admiration [for his "pioneering experiment" False Creek], architects, developers and especially planners seemed threatened by his innovations...he was the closest we have to a Sir John Soane for our times, and if a fanfare is played in his honour when conditions permit, it should be Elgar's "The Enigma Variations" - that, or a skiffle band...where would we be without such dreamers? -- Rhone & Iredale; David Miller/Miller Hull; Marc Boutin; Richard Henriquez; Russell Acton/Acton Ostry - Canadian Architect

Alissa Walker: Cities Are Preparing for Election Night Protests With Curfews and Plywood: Boarding up windows, locking down, and anticipating an unsettled outcome: ...a majority of Americans are expecting Election Day demonstrations...Here's what's happening in L.A., New York, and beyond [Chicago, Portland, Oregon, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C.] - Curbed

The World As You'll Know It: ...after COVID-19: Michael Kimmelman speaks to Julián Castro, former mayor of San Antonio, Texas, and former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, about the housing crisis and the role cities play in national politics + Janette Sadik-Khan, former Commissioner of New York City Department of Transportation, about how public transit can drive economic recovery in cities + link to transcript of this episode. - Aventine Research Institute

Marcus Fairs: "No evidence" that urban density helps spread of coronavirus says Richard Florida: Cities will bounce back as young creatives take advantage of lower rents and dense urban areas prove better at mitigating the coronavirus pandemic...While some families and older people may leave city centres...in the wake of the pandemic, their departure will create opportunities for younger people..."The gloom and doom prognostications are overblown"...Reduced demand for office space will "driving down rents"...Covid-19 will lead to changes



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in the way cities are configured...The rise of remote working will make cities more, not less, important..."We are going through a great urban reset." - Dezeen

Camilo José Vergara: Spray-Painting Through the Pandemic: Since the start of the pandemic, I have been walking the streets of the communities hardest hit by the virus...street artists are depicting the terrible power of Covid-19: their fear of infection, the sadness of loss and anger at having to quarantine. My aim is to document these graphics before they are painted over by other street artists or erased by building owners...following selection of images were taken in and around New York over the last 8 months. - Bloomberg Opinion

Aaron Betsky: Google's Urban Ambitions: the tech giant's surprisingly safe foray into city making: You would think they would be more innovative...building its own signature office space, which looks to be a mash-up between a 1970s suburban terrace office structure and a big-top tent...with more than \$20 billion in construction. The results leave little to complain about, other than we would expect something more creative and daring...Middlefield Park...nothing glaringly wrong...other than the fact that Google should be able to do better...it looks reasonably, well, reasonable...Development plans by Google shouldn't just be OK. We deserve more from the Empire of Search. -- SERA, Hassell; Kristen Hall City Design; Sidewalk Labs/Daniel Doctoroff; SiteLab; Heatherwick Studio; Grimshaw Architects; Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF); Fougerson Architecture; Solomon Coldwell Buenz; SHoP Architects; Architectural Resources Group; West 8- Architect Magazine

Conor Dougherty: The Capital of Sprawl Gets a Radically Car-Free Neighborhood: On an empty lot near Phoenix, perhaps the most auto-addicted city in America, a start-up is betting \$170 million on a more walkable future: Culdesac Tempe is a 17-acre empty lot...will eventually feature 761 apartments, 16,000 square feet of retail, 1,000 residents - and exactly zero places for them to park...contractually forbidden...car-addicted reality of the area makes [the] architectural renderings both intriguing and a little hard to believe...came the pandemic...Culdesac pitch - a Sun Belt development that caters to people who work remotely and middle-class refugees from the expensive and crowded coasts - started looking eerily prescient. - New York Times

Rowan Moore: Plot 10, Somers Town, London - an object lesson in child's play: Adam Khan's inspired reinvention of an inner London children's play project is an example to all our cash-strapped councils: Really, this shouldn't be a rarity: a public building, providing a much-needed service to local children...with some new social housing forms part of a larger ensemble...new project...is in fact unusual...Outside...is light and jaunty...an inverted castle...Inside it is high-ceilinged, solid and calm...a big room for small people...Interior and playground and roof become an interconnected landscape of play...Next door is a new block of 10 flats...none of this should be abnormal, but it has been hard to achieve. -- Axel Feldmann/Objectif - Observer (UK)

Tom Ravenscroft: Jean Nouvel reveals cave hotel in Saudi Arabia's AlUla desert: ...a subterranean hotel that will be carved into a sandstone hill...Named Sharaan by Jean Nouvel...resort was informed by the nearby UNESCO World Heritage site where the remains of a Nabataean city can be found...[with] 40 rooms and three resort villas that will be cut into a cliff face...rooms will be arranged around a central 80-metre high lift shaft...The development...forms part of The Royal Commission for AlUla's plan to encourage global tourism in the area. - Dezeen

Alejandro Aravena Named Chair of 2021 Pritzker Architecture Prize Jury: Manuela Lucá-Dazio, head of the Venice Biennale visual arts and architecture sector, has been tapped as advisor and executive director...will assume her new role in March 2021 when Martha Thorne - the current executive director since 2005 - steps down...continuing as dean of IE School of Architecture and Design in Spain thereafter. -- ELEMENTAL - Architectural Record

Call for entries: YAC - Young Architects Competitions: FITT Group Future Headquarters in Vicenza, Italy; cash prizes; early bird registration (save money!): November 29 (submissions due January 27) - YAC - Young Architects Competitions

Five Finalists Revealed for Camden's New Park in the Sky: Camden Highline charity is searching to find the studio that can realise their ambitious vision of converting 1.1km of disused railway into a new green link, bridging Camden Town and King's Cross. -- Agence Ter (France); Benedetti Architects (UK); Feilden Fowles & J&L Gibbons (UK); James Corner Field Operations with Piet Oudolf (USA); We Made That & Hassell (UK) - Camden Highline

Architecture MasterPrize (AMP) 2020 Winners: ...honors designs in the disciplines of architecture, interior design, and landscape architecture. -- Architectural Design of the Year: Tadao Ando - He Art Museum; Interior Design of the Year: Vo Trong Nghia - Nocento Cafe; Landscape of the Year: Landprocess - Thammasat Urban Farm Rooftop - Architecture MasterPrize

Rice University to build new student center, selects Adjaye Associates to lead design: Houston-based Kendall/Heaton Associates will serve as executive architect...Rice plans to retain a few elements of the Rice Memorial Center, such as the chapel and the cloisters, but most of the RMC will be demolished...three-story, 80,000-square-foot structure incorporates the functions of the RMC and adds a multicultural center and a rooftop auditorium. - Houston Business Journal

Three Exemplary Real Estate Projects Announced as Winners of 2020 ULI Europe Awards for Excellence: ...inaugural awards recognize outstanding urban development projects in the Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA) region, honor two projects in the Netherlands and one in South Africa. -- de Architekten Cie; Mei Architects and Planners; Boom Architects - Urban Land Institute - ULI Europe

ANN feature: Dave Hora: Nature of Order #1: Christopher Alexander's work and its importance in shaping a healthy, living world: There is an undercurrent of the idea that architecture, when carried out with processes that Alexander presents in "The Nature of Order," can indeed lead to a more whole and humane society. - ArchNewsNow.com



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Today's News - Wednesday, November 4, 2020

- [Zoe Tabary](#) brings us one of the best deep dives we've seen re: rebooting urban life in a post-COVID-19 world: "Cities will never look the same. How they change - and whether for the better - is the big question. Whatever the next version of normal looks like, many changes are here to stay" (a long read - and well worth it).
- [Patrick](#) Sisson considers what "a second life for Midtown Manhattan's empty offices" - and business districts elsewhere - as affordable housing, but "any plan requires the financing to pencil out" and developers need to be encouraged "to take creative risks."
- [Umberto](#) Bacchi reports on a UN-Habitat report that urges "civic leaders to use the pandemic as a springboard to build better, greener, more liveable urban centers - key to improving the lives of millions."
- [Saffron](#)- reports that three Rittenhouse Square buildings, part of Philadelphia's most prestigious shopping street and part of a historic district set ablaze amid unrest in May, "are facing demolition - the "building owners will be required to reconstruct them 'to their original appearances' within a year" (in these times?).
- [Sam Lubell](#), on a brighter, greener note, delves into how Stefano Boeri's Bosco Verticale in Milan has become "a global poster child for an emerging type of architecture - uniting biophilia and urbanism."
- [A 1935 school](#) building in Shanghai "walks" to a new location via new technology dubbed the "walking machine - the city's latest effort to preserve historic structures" - as is happening across China (watch it walk!).
- [Duo Dickinson](#) delves into what went wrong with "Make It Right" in New Orleans: "Beyond the factoids of technical failure," it "reflects a much larger conflict. Good intentions are not outcomes."
- [Anna Somers](#) Cocks reports that the "official plan to save Venice from flooding sacrifices St. Mark's Basilica for its industrial port" - a "perverse decision" made because "7 ships were held up for 5 hours" by Mose flood barriers - leaving cathedral administrators to consider "what special measures they can devise to protect their 900-year-old church."
- [Anna Fixsen's](#) great Q&A with L.A.-based design journalist Frances Anderton (one of our faves) who, for 22 years, "has chronicled the dramas that continue to shape the City of Angels" as KCRW's DnA: Design and Architecture (and, sadly, ends in December).
- [The "Global](#) Hospitality Architecture Design Market Research Report 2029" is a new research study from JCMR that "provides an in-depth assessment of key market trends, upcoming technologies, industry drivers, challenges," including the "most recent post-pandemic market survey."
- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Dave Hora kicks off a new ANN series: Nature of Order: Christopher Alexander's work and its importance in shaping a healthy, living world (based on a program by Sorrento, Italy-based Building Beauty).



of normal looks like, many changes are here to stay...What may have started as emergency measures like open streets or alternative transport will help cities plan for the next shock..."if there's any silver lining...it's the opportunity for cities to reset around equity issues. If we are smart about it, the disruption...could help deliver new investments and solutions." -- Michael Berkowitz/Resilient Cities Catalyst; Ani Dasgupta/WRI- Thomson Reuters Foundation News

Patrick Sisson: Imagining a Second Life for Midtown Manhattan's Empty Offices: As workers stay home and office buildings sit vacant, some see a new role for New York City's business district - as a site for affordable housing: ...an entire ecosystem of businesses that rely on white-collar workers is threatened with extinction...some see an opportunity...Turning old office space into new affordable units...would be a boon to upward mobility...But any...plan requires...the financing to pencil out...big cities may have to rethink and reimagine the role played by business districts during a particularly tough recovery. And...encourage developers to take creative risks. -- Breaking Ground- Bloomberg CityLab

Umberto Bacchi: Use COVID-19 to build back better, cities told: The United Nations [UN-Habitat] urged civic leaders to use the pandemic as a springboard to build better, more liveable urban centres...Effective planning to build greener, more compact cities is key to improving the lives of millions... -- Robin King/WRI Ross Center For Sustainable Cities; Maimunah Mohd Sharif- Thomson Reuters Foundation News

Inga Saffron: Philly officials recommend demolition of historic Rittenhouse Square buildings set ablaze amid unrest in May: The buildings are part of Philadelphia's most prestigious shopping street and part of a historic district: Their demolition will leave a major gap in the street's continuity at a time when Center City's retailers are struggling to survive the pandemic's economic impact... The fires destroyed the interiors...leaving only their blackened and scorched front facades standing...building owners will be required to reconstruct the buildings "to their original appearances" within a year. -- Furness & Hewitt- Philadelphia Inquirer

Sam Lubell: How Milan's Bosco Verticale Has Changed the Way Designers Think About Sustainable Design: Architects draw biophilic inspiration from Stefano Boeri's famous "vertical forest": ...[two towers] covered head-to-toe with...800 trees and 5,000 shrubs...helped invigorate (along with new parks and towers by several top architects) an area once dominated by unused railroad tracks and decaying industrial buildings....became a global poster child for an emerging type of architecture...uniting biophilia and urbanism...[He] never registered any copyrights...hoping that its ideas would proliferate...green-clad structures have sprouted...around the world...his next frontier is the vertical green city... -- Jean Nouvel; Vincent Callebaut; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; WOHA; MVRDV; Thomas Heatherwick; Bill Browning/Terrapin Bright Green- Architectural Digest

A 5-story building in Shanghai 'walks' to a new location: An 85-year-old primary school has been lifted off the ground - in its entirety - and relocated using new technology dubbed the "walking machine." In the city's latest effort to preserve historic structures, engineers attached nearly 200 mobile supports under the

building...Lagena Primary School (1935)...moved to make space for a new commercial and office complex...school building set to become a center for heritage protection and cultural education...there has been growing concern about the architectural heritage lost as a result of demolition across China. - CNN Style

Duo Dickinson: "Make It Right" Goes Wrong in New Orleans: Some celebrate the failures of...Brad Pitt's patronage... Beyond the factoids of technical failure, those who rooted for the failure reflect a much larger conflict. Good intentions are not outcomes. Intentions ruled this effort's creation...Beyond rot and toxicities, the failures...were baked in the cake of its creation... When Katrina wrecked thousands of homes, over 4,500 were built by [HUD]...almost universally "traditional"... "Make It Right" was virtually an art exhibit in a sea of banality. -- Frank Gehry; David Adjaye; Thom Mayne; John C. Williams; Marianne Cusato - ArchDaily

Anna Somers Cocks: Revealed: official plan to save Venice from flooding sacrifices St Mark's basilica for Marghera, the industrial port of Venice: The mobile barriers [Mose] have at last held back a flood, but they will not be raised to protect the low-lying parts of town...perverse decision...because...7 ships were held up for 5 hours outside the lagoon by the barriers...a port that causes delays is likely to lose business, hence the opposition to the barriers...administrators of the basilica are considering what special measures they can devise to protect their 900-year-old church... - The Art Newspaper (UK)

Anna Fixsen: Interview with Journalist Frances Anderton: British design journalist...relocated to Los Angeles permanently in 1991...later [became] a producer for influential radio programs...for local NPR affiliate KCRW...Since 2002, she has chronicled the dramas that continue to shape [L.A.]...24 KCRW employees, including Anderton...taking buyouts due to the financial strain of Covid-19...Q&A re: her time as DnA: Design and Architecture's host...What are the challenges of describing buildings over the airwaves? "...you spend less time on the details of the building...You're looking for personalities, stories, conflict"...Any architects who have turned out to be...unpleasant? "Do you think I'm going to say that?" - Architectural Record

Global Hospitality Architecture Design Market Research Report 2029: A new research study from JCMR...provides an in-depth assessment of...key market trends, upcoming technologies, industry drivers, challenges [and] most recent post-pandemic market survey on Hospitality Architecture Design Market. Analysis : Gensler, Kohn Pedersen Fox, Perkins+Will, Perkins Eastman, IBI Group, HKS, ZGF Architects, NELSON Worldwide, NBBJ, Corgan, Studios Architecture, WATG, Interior Architects, KTG Architecture + Planning, Elkus Manfredi Architects, Cooper Carry, HMC Architects - TechnoWeekly

ANN feature: Dave Hora: Nature of Order #1: Christopher Alexander's work and its importance in shaping a healthy, living world: There is an undercurrent of the idea that architecture, when carried out with processes that Alexander presents in "The Nature of Order," can indeed lead to a more whole and humane society. - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Thursday, November 5, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days - we'll be back Tuesday, November 10 (maybe we'll know who the next president will be by then?). In the meantime: Stay well. Stay safe.

- [ANN feature](#): astudio's Richard Hyams kicks off the new series Building for the Next Generation. #1: Covid-19 and a New Era for Public Spaces: With the right strategy and balance of accessibility, safety, and sustainability, the public realm can play an important role in smoothing the transition from lockdown to normality.
- [Gunts reports](#) good news: BIG is leading an impressive team to design a new "cascading" student center for Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore; the bad news: it entails demolishing Williams & Tsien's 2001 three-building arts complex, the Mattin Center.
- [Milwaukee](#) suburbs "tout their historic districts" that are also high-traffic shopping districts, but their dilemma: businesses "are not permitted to remodel historic features to meet modern ADA accessibility standards" (some have ramps in back, but no signs at the front entrance).
- [Timothy](#) A. Schuler delves into the initiatives and designers who are embracing "fire as the ecological and cultural force that it is" - 'living with water' has become mainstream. There is potential for practitioners to begin treating fire the same way - as an organizing framework. Call it pyrologic urbanism."
- [Julia Gamolina's](#) great Q&A with Susan T. Rodriguez re: her years with Polshek/Ennead, striking out on her own, and her advice for young architects "I still find it astonishing how we can make a lasting, permanent imprint on the world and what a huge responsibility it is - commit and get things done."
- [Now open](#) for voting: Inaugural ArchDaily 2020 Architectural Visualization Awards - "your votes will result in 750 visualizations being filtered down to just 30."
- [The NYC](#) Public Design Commission announces 11 winners of the 38th Annual Awards for Excellence in Design - "projects exemplifying how good design serves communities."
- [The Fundació](#) Mies van der Rohe announces the 2nd Lilly Reich Grant for Equality in Architecture is awarded to the production of the documentary "[On Set with] Lilly Reich" by Valencian architects Laura Lizondo Sevilla, Débora Domingo Calabuig, and Avelina Prat García.
- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Dave Hora kicks off a new ANN series: Nature of Order: Christopher Alexander's work and its importance in shaping a healthy, living world (based on a program by Sorrento, Italy-based Building Beauty).

Weekend diversions + Page-turners:

- [Sign up](#) for the Open House Worldwide Festival, November 14-15 - a weekend of free events on the future of cities with architects, designers, urbanists, and citizens in over 40 cities - live-streamed non-stop for 48 hours.
- [Kathryn](#) Shanks' Q&A with Vienna-based artist and critic Walter Seidl, curator of "Spaces of No Control" now on view at the Austrian Cultural Forum New York, where "visitors can explore what it means to exist in and interact with public spaces increasingly controlled by an elite few."

● [Kamin's](#) (non)review of Reardon's "The Loop: The 'L' Tracks That Shaped and Saved Chicago" - a "deeply researched and vividly written" book that "reminds us that the fate of the Loop elevated tracks and the historic Loop are an essential part of Chicago's identity."

● [Zoovia Hamiduddin](#) cheers Diana Darke's "Stealing from the Saracens: How Islamic Architecture Shaped Europe" - an "engaging, eye-opening, and meticulously researched book on architecture and politics" that exposes "the imperial mindset of the Europeans."

● [Betsky x 2](#): He goes "in search of a new vernacular" via a "series of books that spotlight the postwar emergence of Modernist housing. The most comprehensive is Benjamin & Sabatino's 'Modern in the Middle: Chicago Houses 1929-1975'" + "Making Houston Modern: The Life and Architecture of Howard Barnstone": "I am not sure that he ever made Houston modern - but he certainly built some of the most interesting examples of Modernism there."

● [His search](#) continues: "Of Barns and Palaces: John Yeon, Northwest Architect" by J.M. Cava spotlights the "self-trained, high-society architect in Portland, Ore" + "Triangle Modern Architecture" by Victoria Ballard Bell spotlights "Modernist architects who worked in North Carolina. Their influence was, in the end, limited" and "not a true vernacular. It is time to ask the question again: What would be a true American vernacular?"

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ANN feature: Richard Hyams: Building for the Next Generation #1: Covid-19 and a New Era for Public Spaces: With the right strategy and balance of accessibility, safety, and sustainability, the public realm can play an important role in smoothing the transition from lockdown to normality. - ArchNewsNow.com

Edward Gunts: BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group will replace Johns Hopkins University's Mattin Center with a cascading complex: \$200-million-to-\$250 million student center expected to open on the...Homewood campus in Baltimore by the fall of 2024...will replace...three-building arts complex designed by Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects [in 2001]...location...has been controversial...Williams and Tsien made a public plea for Hopkins to consult with them and incorporate their buildings into the new center, but that ultimately seems to not have happened. -- Shepley Bulfinch; Rockwell Group; Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates - The Architect's Newspaper

In Waukesha, preserving the city's historic spaces comes at the cost of accessibility: In suburban Milwaukee, places like Waukesha and Greendale tout their historic districts... located in high-traffic shopping districts where the original structures are exempt from following accessibility standards set by the Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA]...The conflict between preservation and accessibility is common along Waukesha's bustling Main Street, where about 40 businesses, within two historic districts, are not permitted to remodel historic features to meet modern accessibility standards. - Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Timothy A. Schuler: Friendly Fire: It's time for designers to embrace fire as the ecological and cultural force that it is: ...cities across the country have, over the past 15 years, learned to "live with water"...The idea of living with water is mainstream. Now, there are glimmers of a similarly paradigmatic shift taking place around another destructive force: fire....There is potential...for practitioners to begin treating fire the same way they do water - as an organizing framework. Call it pyrologic urbanism, or "living with fire"...just as many waterfront parks function simultaneously as civic and stormwater infrastructure, open space networks can reduce wildfire risk if managed appropriately. -- ArcDR3 (Architecture and Urban Design for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience)



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Initiative; Hitoshi Abe/Jeffrey Inaba/David Jimenez Iniesta/UCLA xLAB; Scott Streeb/Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates (MVVA); Stephanie Grigsby/Design Workshop - The Architect's Newspaper

Julia Gamolina: Design's Responsibility: Susan T. Rodriguez on Curiosity, Collaboration, and Lasting Imprints: Q&A re: her years with Polshek / Ennead and striking out on her own, advising young architects to bring the best of who they are to the task: What has surprised you the most? "One of the biggest surprises was that in making public architecture you inherently become a public person. Getting good at that is essential!...I still find it astonishing how we can make a lasting, permanent imprint on the world and what a huge responsibility it is...commit and get things done." -- Ennead Architects (formerly Polshek Partnership); STR|A-D studio - Madame Architect

ArchDaily's 2020 Architectural Visualization Awards are Now Open for Voting: ...your votes will result in 750 visualizations being filtered down to just 30 – representing the best in each visualization category: Exterior, Interior, and Conceptual. First stage deadline: November 18; final round : November 25- ArchDaily

NYC Public Design Commission Announces Winners of the 38th Annual Awards for Excellence in Design: PDC [Public Design Commission] members selected 11 winning projects exemplifying how good design serves communities. -- Vicki Been; Signe Nielsen; Justin Garrett Moore; Melissa Calderon; Garrison Architects; S9 Architecture; Marvel Architects; Abel Bainnson Butz; LevenBetts; Scape Landscape Architecture; Olalekan Jeyifous; Smith-Miller + Hawkinson Architects; Allied Works Architecture; Starr Whitehouse; CDM Smith; NV5; Mark Reigelman II; Ikon.5 Architects; Arup; SWA/Balsley; Weiss/Manfredi Architecture/Landscape/Urbanism - Architect Magazine

2nd Lilly Reich Grant for Equality in Architecture awarded to the production of the documentary "[On Set with] Lilly Reich" by Valencian architects Laura Lizondo Sevilla, Débora Domingo Calabuig, and Avelina Prat García: ...will deal with the contextual limitation of the professional field and the recognition of Lilly Reich's work through...two contrasting arguments: what she contributed (what was done) and what was explained about her (what was narrated). A story that puts two timelines in parallel - that of her production and that of her historical representation... - Mies van der Rohe Foundation / Fundació Mies van der Rohe

Open House Worldwide Festival - November 14-15: A weekend of free events on the future of cities. With contributions from architects, designers, urbanists and citizens in over 40 cities across the network, we will tackle the most important issues facing our built environments across the world, from the climate crisis to housing; transport to post-pandemic design...non-stop 48 hour livestream will be free to watch... - Open House Worldwide

Kathryn Shanks: Austrian Cultural Forum New York: "Spaces of No Control": ...originally "Spaces of Control," focusing on the control and curation of

cityscapes, but...shifted...for the majority of city-dwellers, access to or restriction from their environment is out of their hands, which has both a physical and psychical impact...visitors can explore what it means to exist in and interact with public spaces increasingly controlled by an elite few. thru January 10, 2021 - Casper Magazine (Australia)

Blair Kamin: 'Rolling Thunder:' The Loop 'L' tracks shaped downtown Chicago and unified a divided city. They still matter today, a new book reminds us: ...deeply researched and vividly written..."The Loop: The 'L' Tracks That Shaped and Saved Chicago" by Patrick T. Reardon... If the book has a hero, it's Charles Yerkes...[who] should rank with Daniel Burnham and Richard J. Daley as one of the most consequential shapers of Chicago, Reardon argues. Why? Because the Union Loop...was a powerful centralizing force...[book] is nothing if not timely. It reminds us that the fate of the Loop elevated tracks and the historic Loop are deeply interconnected. Both are an essential part of Chicago's identity and require constant attention and reinvention. -- John Alexander Low Waddell - Chicago Tribune

Zoovia Hamiduddin: Europe's Cultural Appropriations: Diana Darke's "Stealing from the Saracens: How Islamic Architecture Shaped Europe" is an engaging, eye-opening and meticulously researched book on architecture and politics lays bare how some of Europe's most iconic architecture was borrowed from the Middle East and early Islam...From Christopher Wren to John Ruskin, from Antoni Gaudi to Le Corbusier - all have acknowledged the influence of Islamic architecture. What Darke euphemistically terms "misinformation"...the imperial mindset of the Europeans she has exposed - Dawn.com (Pakistan)

Aaron Betsky: In Search of a New Vernacular: a series of books that spotlight the postwar emergence of Modernist housing: The most comprehensive of these is Susan Benjamin and Michelangelo Sabatino's "Modern in the Middle: Chicago Houses 1929-1975"...the qualities of these modern structures often stood in sharp contrast to the style of neighboring houses, as the book's photographs clearly demonstrate...Sabatino collaborated on (with Barrie Scardino Bradley and Stephen Fox), "Making Houston Modern: The Life and Architecture of Howard Barnstone"...he built a successful practice with his idiosyncratic designs...I am not sure that Barnstone ever made Houston modern, as the title implies, but he certainly built some of the most interesting examples of Modernism there. - Architect Magazine

Aaron Betsky: In Search of a New Vernacular Redux: John Yeon, Triangle Modernism, and the difficulty of building an architecture of its place: "Of Barns and Palaces: John Yeon, Northwest Architect" by J.M. Cava...features the work of Yeon, a self-trained, high-society architect in Portland, Ore. "Triangle Modern Architecture" by Victoria Ballard Bell...spotlights the group of Modernist architects who worked in North Carolina...Their influence was, in the end, limited. For starters, [they] worked for the commissioning elite...This was not...a true vernacular...It is time to ask the question again: What would be a true American vernacular? -- Henry Kamphoefer; G. Milton Small Jr.; Harwell Hamilton Harris; George Matsumoto; Eduardo Catalano - Architect Magazine

ANN feature: Dave Hora: Nature of Order #1: Christopher Alexander's work and its importance in shaping a healthy, living world: There is an undercurrent of the idea that architecture, when carried out with processes that Alexander presents

 in "The Nature of Order," can indeed lead to a more whole and humane society.-
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Today's News - Tuesday, November 10, 2020

- [It's back](#) to the drawing board as Baltimore's city design panel "dissected" BIG's design for Johns Hopkins University's new student center, giving it a "lukewarm review" and concluding "more work is needed to blend the modern project into the campus footprint."
- [Lisa Prevost](#), on a brighter note, dissects how Bruce Becker's "\$50 million gamble" to transform Breuer's Brutalist Pirelli building in New Haven, CT, into Hotel Marcel with net-zero energy standards hopes to be a model for the hospitality industry.
- [Adele Peters](#) delves into how "more and more cities are legalizing backyard houses" (a.k.a. ADUs), and now seriously considering tiny houses on wheels (THOWs) that are less expensive to build and could make new - and affordable - "housing units grow much more quickly in areas with a deep housing shortage."
- [One such](#) city is Durham, North Carolina, where "affordable housing remains one of the greatest challenges - a collaboration with design firms and local researchers is working to reduce barriers to developing and financing accessory dwelling units [ADUs]."
- [Laura Bliss](#) takes a deep (deep!) dive into how, "in California's Sierra Nevada mountains, former timber war foes teamed up to show how environmental and industry interests could work together to ward off wildfire disasters" - offering "a lesson in learning to live with fire, and each other."
- [Anderton](#) talks to L.A. architect Geoffrey von Oeyen, who rebuilt a house in Malibu after the Woolsey Fire - he "reflects on living in the wildland-urban interface" + Janna Ireland re: her book "Regarding Paul R. Williams: A Photographer's View" and "finding her voice as a photographer."
- [Dewey Thorbeck](#) explains why, "after seeing a lack of outreach to rural communities in urban planning practice and instruction, he founded the University of Minnesota's Center for Rural Design": "Communities of all densities and educational backgrounds were quick to embrace the design process - to help shape their future."
- [Harrouk](#) parses Lagos, Nigeria-based Parpend design studio's annual "PERSPECTIVE" and this year's interviews with 3 Nigerian designers: "Design is not magic but it can be magical."
- [Eyefuls](#) of "Africa's most anticipated architecture projects: These buildings are symbols of ambition as much as they are of beauty" - designed by some familiar - and not so familiar firms.
- [Jim Russell](#) on how the Harlem School of the Arts is "glowing anew, thanks to the revitalization of its beloved 'gathering place'" in a "transformation inspired by" architect Celia Imrey and patron Herb Alpert - a new "glass facade floods the space with morning sunlight, ready to unveil the students' beehive of activity."
- [Architect](#) and interior designer Gloria Jaroff minces no words in a "rant" about "the boundless banality of beige. At some point, Dear Designer, you gotta take a stand - I mean, really, Beige Is Back? Explore your inner polychrome self."
- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: a studio's Richard Hyams kicks off the new series Building for the Next Generation. #1: Covid-19 and a New Era for Public Spaces: With the right strategy and balance of accessibility, safety, and sustainability, the public realm can play an important role in smoothing the transition from lockdown to normality.

• [Call for](#) entries: Fast Company's 2021 World Changing Ideas Awards: New categories include Architecture, Urban Design, Pandemic Response(!); early bird deadline (save money!): this Friday!

• [Call for](#) entries (deadline extended!): Metropolis Future 100: looking for the top architecture & design students in the class of 2021 who will be paired with design firms.

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Design of new Johns Hopkins University student center gets lukewarm reviews from city panel: ...design panel dissected designs...and concluded more work is needed to blend the modern project into the campus footprint...advised...BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group to refine the designs and vision for the four-story building's placement on the leafy 140-acre campus..."The footprint seems to be too large for the site." - Baltimore Business Journal

Lisa Prevost: Hotels Lag in Energy Sustainability. One Project May Change That: A developer converting a Brutalist office building in New Haven, Connecticut, into a hotel with net-zero energy standards hopes it will be a model for the industry: ...aims to revive the long-vacant Armstrong Rubber Company headquarters, a distinctive concrete box...designed by...Marcel Breuer in the late 1960s, as a 165-room boutique...Hotel Marcel...Among the obstacles to widespread adoption...a lack of collection of energy use data...Bruce Becker..."...with a highly efficient envelope and building systems, we'll be able to use about 80% less energy than a typical hotel building"...methods should help the hotel meet passive house standards... -- Bruce Becker/Becker + Becker - New York Times

Adele Peters: What's better than a tiny house? A tiny house on wheels: More and more cities are legalizing backyard houses. But tiny, mobile homes are even cheaper to build and buy, and their adoption could cause a massive increase in alternative housing options: ...a growing number of cities are beginning to change local regulations to allow the houses...could make a meaningful difference for affordable housing...already allowed accessory dwelling units or ADUs...But tiny houses on wheels (THOWs)...are even less expensive to build...could potentially make new housing units grow much more quickly in [areas] with a deep housing shortage. - Fast Company / Co.Design

Tiny Houses Could Make a Big Impact on Durham, North Carolina's Affordable Housing Crisis: ...affordable housing remains one of the greatest challenges facing the city...stakeholders are looking to residential backyards for a solution...collaboration with design firms and local researchers...working to reduce barriers to developing and financing accessory dwelling units [ADUs] in the hopes of alleviating some of the pressure on the city's housing market...Haven Modular plans to open a new production facility...will focus on factory-fabricated modular units...Financing remains the trickiest piece of the puzzle - Indy Week (North Carolina)

Laura Bliss: A Lesson in Learning to Live With Fire, and Each Other: In California's Sierra Nevada mountains, former timber war foes teamed up to show how environmental and industry interests could work together to ward off wildfire disasters: Fire suppression policies have long prevented naturally occurring wildfires...leading to "sick" forests clogged with excess fuel...To understand why...detente between forest adversaries is such a remarkable turn

of events, you have to go back to the early 1990s, when environmentalists waged a bitter battle to save America's trees...U.S. Forest Service had sold some 700,000 acres of the ancient trees to logging companies in the preceding decade..."We had 'no' down to a fine art. How do we define what 'yes' looks like?" - Bloomberg CityLab

Frances Anderton/DnA: LA architect Geoffrey von Oeyen rebuilds after Woolsey Fire and reflects on living in the wildland-urban interface...Horizon House was one of 488 homes in Malibu burned down + photographer Janna Ireland spent several years capturing buildings by the late architect for the book "Regarding Paul R. Williams: A Photographer's View"...She talks about Williams, about finding her voice as a photographer, and her quest to tell stories about Black people and their creativity. - KCRW (Los Angeles)

Dewey Thorbeck: Shaping Futures Through Land Use and Design: After seeing a lack of outreach to rural communities in urban planning practice and instruction, the architect and author founded the University of Minnesota's Center for Rural Design: Communities of all densities and educational backgrounds...were quick to embrace the design process. Design can cross borders, make connections, and help any population find ways to access science and technology to help shape its future. - Architect Magazine

Christele Harrouk: Architecture x Nigeria: 3 Designers Discuss Their Favorite Projects and How They Created Them: Parpend, a design studio from Lagos, Nigeria, interviews every year a group of architects... statements are compiled in a publication..."PERSPECTIVE," this edition...examines 4 projects with 3 designers..."Design is not magic but it can be magical." -- Seun Oduwole/SI.SA; Tosin Oshinowo/cmD+A/ James Inedu-George/HTL Africa - ArchDaily

Africa's most anticipated architecture projects: These buildings are symbols of ambition as much as they are of beauty... -- Adjaye Associates; Studio Seilern Architects; Heneghan Peng Architects; Kunlé Adeyemi/NLÉ; MASS Design Group; Rafael de la-Hoz Arquitecto/CHB Cabinet Hakim Benjelloun; Atelier Masomi; Patrik Schumacher/Zaha Hadid Architects; - CNN Style

James S. Russell: With Help From Herb Alpert, Letting the Light In at the Harlem School of the Arts: Dorothy Maynor never sang at the Met, but the school she founded is glowing anew, thanks to the revitalization of its beloved "'gathering place": ...dates from 1977...enclosed by concrete-block walls. Children and families came in through a forbidding brick entrance...transformation inspired by an architect Celia Imrey, and a major patron: Herb Alpert...glass facade floods the space with morning sunlight, ready to unveil the students' beehive of activity -- Ulrich Franzen; Imrey Studio - New York Times

Gloria Jaroff: The Boundless Banality of Beige: A Rant: Architect and interior designer Jaroff is not neutral on neutrals: A minimalistic approach to color in modern buildings and interiors doesn't relax me - it puts me to sleep. When I awake, I am angry. The historical notion that bleached Greco-Roman temples represent beauty is a myth...Their architecture was vividly polychromatic...Near-white is the color of noncommitment. At some point, Dear Designer, you gotta take a stand...I mean, really, Beige Is Back? ...riding the coattails of a color-of-the-year, limits your creativity. Explore your inner polychrome self... - Common

Edge

Call for entries: Fast Company's 2021 World Changing Ideas Awards: honor products, concepts, companies, policies, and designs that are pursuing innovation for the good of society and the planet; Architecture, Urban Design, Pandemic Response, etc. (New categories!); early bird deadline (save money!): November 13 (final deadline: December 11) - Fast Company

Call for entries (deadline extended!): Metropolis Future 100: Connecting TALENTED Architecture and Design Students in the class of 2021 With FIRMS: looking for the top architecture & design students; deadline extended: November 30 - Metropolis Magazine

ANN feature: Richard Hyams: Building for the Next Generation #1: Covid-19 and a New Era for Public Spaces: With the right strategy and balance of accessibility, safety, and sustainability, the public realm can play an important role in smoothing the transition from lockdown to normality. - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Wednesday, November 11, 2020

- [James Brasuell](#) delves into what a Biden presidency means when it comes to housing, land use, transportation, and climate: "It's time to stop speculating, and time to start anticipating how he might change course from his predecessor" (and "likely to encounter political, cultural, and legal resistance at every step").
- [Jameelah](#) D. Robinson parses a new report from the Urban Land Institute that looks at how the real estate industry "wants to know what cities are doing about climate change" and "how resilient communities are to natural disasters before deciding whether to buy or develop land."
- [The World](#) Green Building Council's "Building A Better Future" series, produced by BBC StoryWorks, "highlights innovation in the sustainable building sector" and "profiles 27 organizations around the world successfully unlocking the benefits of sustainable buildings."
- [The USGBC](#) is funding "500 LEED Professionals in underserved communities to build green building expertise and workforce," marking "the launch of "USGBC All In: Building Equity Together" - it is "currently seeking feedback on several priorities outlined in the draft strategy."
- [Farah Khalfe](#) profiles a "South African-founded development company that is converting vacant U.S. hotels into affordable housing" - Repvblik has been "honing a technique to develop the properties to keep rents low" - it "struggled to find investors for its unique model, but that's beginning to change."
- [Laura Rote](#) parses how Rogers Partners' 2014 Henderson-Hopkins School in Baltimore can serve as an example of safe school design in a post-pandemic world.
- [Florian](#) Heilmeyer brings us MVRDV's Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen: A "friendly alien" has landed In Rotterdam that puts "its entire collection on public display in a new salad bowl-like structure" with a mirrored façade (will it have to deal with Disney Hall or Cheese Grater curtain- or car-melting issues?).
- [Jared Green](#) looks at how, "instead of creating bridges that traverse lakes and moats, inventive landscape architects and architects in Europe bring cyclists and pedestrians through the water - creating memorable, immersive experiences for the public" (fab photos!).
- [Good news!](#) Carolina A. Miranda (one of our faves!) is named L.A. Times' arts and urban design columnist: "She will approach this work with a columnist's voice and critic's viewpoint in addition to her unending reporter's curiosity."
- [The 2020](#) Richard H. Driehaus Foundation National Preservation Award winners "inhabit three very different cities" - but "share a common goal: to make their neighborhoods stronger and more responsive to the needs of the people who live and work there."
- [Starting](#) tomorrow: Biennale Architettura Sneak Peek: the new digital project of the 2021 Venice Biennale that includes a video-interview with curator Hashim Sarkis re: his theme "How will we live together?", 5 podcasts, and a special project on Spotify.
- [Register](#) for reVISION ASLA 2020 - live (virtually) next Monday thru Wednesday, offering professional development hours both live and on demand through January 2021 (save up to 75% from the in-person event!).
- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: astudio's Richard Hyams kicks off the new series Building for the Next Generation. #1: Covid-19 and a New Era for Public Spaces: With the right strategy and balance of accessibility, safety, and

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James Brasuell: What Biden's Win Could Mean for Land Use, Transportation, and Climate: Now that the reality of a Biden presidency is settling in, what does it mean for how the United States plans its future? ...it's time to start anticipating how [he] might change course from his predecessor...One of the clearest signs...can be found in the Biden campaign's housing plan...Like with transportation, his climate agenda will be forced into the litigious and ephemeral world of executive decree... likely to encounter political, cultural, and legal resistance at every step...It's time to stop speculating, and time to start anticipating. It's time to stop capitulating, and time to start planning. - PLANetizen

Jameelah D. Robinson: Real Estate Investors Want to Know What Cities Are Doing About Climate Risks: ...industry is increasingly looking at how resilient communities are to natural disasters before deciding whether to buy or develop land: ...according to a report...from the Urban Land Institute (ULI)...firms interviewed agreed that the industry's valuation currently lags behind the recognition of climate risk...It's become difficult to ignore the increasing the frequency and intensity of weather events...Worldwide, 40 natural disaster events last year each resulted in at least \$1 billion in near-term, direct losses... - Bloomberg CityLab

World Green Building Council (WorldGBC) highlights innovation in the sustainable building sector with "Building A Better Future" series: Produced by BBC StoryWorks...films explore how sustainable buildings can address climate, health & wellbeing and resource efficiency issues...profiles 27 organisations around the world...successfully unlocking the benefits of sustainable buildings, and what that means for us all...also explores how we can accelerate the clean energy transition, reach our climate goals and support a green recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. - World Green Building Council (WorldGBC)

USGBC to Fund 500 LEED Professionals in Underserved Communities to Build Green Building Expertise and Workforce: Commitment marks the launch of new equity program USGBC All In: Building Equity Together: The draft strategy outlines 12 priorities and commitments...All In will work to engage member companies, organizations, project teams and individuals in sharing progress and lessons about how green building can play a role in addressing equity issues...USGBC is currently seeking feedback on several priorities outlined in the draft strategy... - U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)

Farah Khalfe: This South African-founded development company is converting vacant U.S. hotels into affordable housing: A former Days Inn hotel chain in Branson, Missouri. sat vacant for eight years. Now, it has been transformed into affordable housing...Plato's Cave combined hotel rooms to create studio and one-bedroom apartments with rent starting at around [\$500]...Richard Rubin, founder of Repvblik...first began converting office buildings into housing in Johannesburg...honing a technique to develop the properties...to keep rents low...company struggled to find investors for its unique model, but that's beginning to change. - Fast Company / Co.Design

Laura Rote: Safe School Design Will Transform Educational Spaces Post-

Pandemic: As a result of COVID-19, all schools must adapt to suit students' needs while prioritizing health and safety. Some experts say Baltimore's Henderson-Hopkins School is an example of how to design differently...school serves children from 6 weeks old through 8th grade as well as acts as a family resource center with everything from housing services to health access. -- Vincent Lee/ROGERS PARTNERS Architects+Urban Designers- gb&d (Green Building & Design)

Florian Heilmeyer: In Rotterdam, MVRDV Recasts the Archive as Museum: Depot Boijmans Van Beuningen will put 151,000 works - its entire collection - on public display in a new salad bowl-like structure: All museums in the world share a problem...at any given time, about 90% of collections worldwide are stowed in storage...What to do? ...open the storage spaces to public view...clad the unusual form in a mirrored facade of 1,664 panels...It is clearly an experiment that will have to prove its innovative nature...It could well end up as yet another gallery space, albeit one extraordinarily futuristic...But just speaking of the architecture...MVRDV has found a fitting design for a new breed of art storage space. -- Ad van der Steur (1935); Mecanoo Architects - Metropolis Magazine

Jared Green: Close Encounters with Water: Instead of creating bridges that traverse lakes and moats, these projects bring cyclists and pedestrians through the water, creating seamless access to nature preserves and historic sites: For some inventive landscape architects and architects in Europe, water bodies have presented an opportunity to create memorable, immersive experiences for the public. -- Burolandschap; Lens'ass Architecten; RO&AD Architecten- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Carolina A. Miranda named L.A. Times' arts and urban design columnist: Executive Editor Norman Pearlstine: "In her new role, Miranda will cover art, architecture, urban development and design, with a particular focus on equity, access and the lived experience of Los Angeles for all of its residents. She will approach this work with a columnist's voice and critic's viewpoint in addition to her unending reporter's curiosity." - Los Angeles Times

Community Spirit: The Winners of the 2020 Richard H. Driehaus Foundation National Preservation Awards: ...winners inhabit three very different cities - Memphis, Tennessee; New York; and Boston...share a common goal: to make their neighborhoods stronger and more responsive to the needs of the people who live and work there. -- Moses and Calvin McKissack (1949); Juan Self & Jimmie Tucker/Self + Tucker Architects; Stephen Yablon Architecture; Historic Boston Inc.; Urban Farming Institute; Trust for Public Land; North Bennet Street School - Preservation Magazine/National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP)

Starting tomorrow: Biennale Architettura Sneak Peek: the new digital project of the 17th International Architecture Exhibition 2021: A video-interview with curator Hashim Sarkis, 5 podcasts with the curator's voice, and a special project on Spotify: ... new digital project leading up to the 17th International Architecture Exhibition (22 May - 21 November 2021), titled "How will we live together?" - La Biennale di Venezia/Venice Biennial

Register for reVISION ASLA 2020: Don't worry about being trapped in a virtual video vacuum...Bite-sized learning opportunities...promise a change of pace. LIVE Schedule: Monday, November 16 - Wednesday, November 18. Save up to

[75% from the in-person event; up to 25 professional development hours \(PDH\) live and on demand until January 31, 2021.](#) - American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

[ANN feature: Richard Hyams: Building for the Next Generation #1: Covid-19 and a New Era for Public Spaces: With the right strategy and balance of accessibility, safety, and sustainability, the public realm can play an important role in smoothing the transition from lockdown to normality.](#) - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Thursday, November 12, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE: tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days - we'll be back Tuesday, November 17. In the meantime: Stay well. Stay safe (and Happy Friday the 13th!).

- [ANN feature](#): Artist Gordon Huether: "Amid Social & Economic Uncertainties, Major Public Art Welcomes & Elevates. We are in difficult times, and cost concerns may affect plans for site-specific art. Yet, if there was ever a time that art mattered, when art could unite us, this is that time" (his installations for the Salt Lake City Airport prove it).
- [Sisson x 2](#) - his take on efforts to deal with a warming world on both sides of the Big Pond: "Los Angeles is in a race against heat, and low-income workers are losing - the city's efforts to reduce temperatures have been explicit about making equity a key requirement."
- [He looks](#) at "how Paris plans to protect its residents from rising heat" by "combining new parks and urban greenery initiatives with big investments in alternative transportation" - but it could "fall short" because "the national government has 'so much difficulty imagining another system.'"
- [Lakhani](#) delves into how officials in Tucson, Arizona (the 2nd hottest city in the U.S.), have "promised to come up with a bold climate action and adaptation plan that puts environmental justice and equity at the heart of its green transition" (if plans aren't "diluted" by corporate influence).
- [Lebawit](#) Lily Girma reports on Key West's "unprecedented citizen-led push against mass cruise tourism" by voting for a "big ship ban - sparking hope for change across similarly challenged port communities" (Venezia?).
- [Hickman](#) reports that Pier Luigi Nervi's 1932 Stadio Artemio Franchi in Florence, "considered wildly avant-garde when it opened" in 1932, is "at risk of being demolished or irreversibly altered to make way for a new stadium" - preservationists and historians have launched dedicated website and a Change.org petition.
- [Block brings](#) us Paris-based Mosbach Paysagistes' 173-acre park on the site of a former airport in Taichung, Taiwan, that "combines nature and technology" to deal with heat distribution, humidity, and air quality (mosquito-repelling devices included).
- [Sisson \(one mo' time\)](#) talks to Joann Lui, one of Commercial Observer's 2020 Top Young Professionals who "knows what it's like to feel invisible at work," about the 2018 launch of the Women Architects Collective, "a 2,500-member (and counting) private Facebook group - to make sure the professional needs of female architects never get ignored."
- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: astudio's Richard Hyams kicks off the new series Building for the Next Generation. #1: Covid-19 and a New Era for Public Spaces: With the right strategy and balance of accessibility, safety, and sustainability, the public realm can play an important role in smoothing the transition from lockdown to normality.

Weekend diversions + Page-turners:

- [Architecture](#) & Design Film Festival 2020 kicks off - online - next week with a stellar line-up of films and a star-studded line-up of speakers, available to watch anytime during the festival from anywhere in the U.S. and Canada.

- [Farago reconsiders](#) "Countryside, the Future" at the Guggenheim: "Not for the first time events have proved Koolhaas prescient, and both health and political crises have strengthened the show's suggestion that the city is yesterday's news" (but it "remains a messy, random, arch, inconclusive exhibition").
- [William Morgan](#) cheers the now-online-only "Raymond Hood and the American Skyscraper": "Significant exhibitions like this reacquaint us with sometimes forgotten figures and force new assessments of their contributions to our cultural landscape" (fab pix + link to the exhibition).
- [A gallery](#) of images from "The Shape of Things to Come," an exhibition in Dubai "offering a glimpse of what architecture and design could look like in a post-Covid world" by "over 25 Middle Eastern design practices showcasing new concepts, product designs, and installations."
- [John Hill](#) cheers editors Cheng, Davis & Wilson's "Race and Modern Architecture: A Critical History from the Enlightenment to the Present" - the "18 scholarly contributions are a starting point, not a comprehensive take on a complex and complicated subject - a demanding book, in more ways than one" - and worth your time.
- [Rebecca Greenwald](#)'s great Q&A with Walter Hood re: his new book "Black Landscapes Matter" that "argues there is ultimately a case for hope - but only if Black landscapes are properly recognized and valued. 'The first step is to do the work - have the conversations. It's not enough to just say Black Lives Matter.'"
- [Jared Green](#) cheers Frumkin & Myers' "Planetary Health: Protecting Nature to Protect Ourselves" that gives us "a roadmap for how to undo the damage to the Earth - a thought-provoking and rich overview of the emerging field of planetary health - a must-read."
- [Rowan Moore](#) hails "Our Days Are Like Full Years: A Memoir With Letters From Louis Kahn" by Harriet Pattison: It "is not a bitter or angry book. It is a memoir of their times together, moving and heroic (on her part) as well as troubling - she's clear that their time together was worth the frustrations."
- [Eyefuls](#) of Simon Phipps stunning photos to be found in his book "Brutal North" that "captures the most aspirational and enlightened architecture" of the British north's postwar years."



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ANN feature: [Gordon Huether: Amid Social & Economic Uncertainties, Major Public Art Welcomes & Elevates: Tripling value of 1% for Art: We are in difficult times, and cost concerns may affect plans for site-specific art. Yet, if there was ever a time that art mattered, when art could unite us in inspiration, nature, and beauty, this is that time.](#) - ArchNewsNow.com

[Patrick Sisson: Los Angeles is in a race against heat, and low-income workers are losing: Entrenched geographic gaps in heat readiness and resilience across the sprawling metropolis are making notions of climate equity a far-off goal: L.A., already accustomed to droughts, heatwaves and wildfires, serves as a cautionary tale concerning the dire threat to human life posed by climate change \[and\] rampant geographic inequality...it's the slow, persistent rise in average temperatures, coupled with pollution and wildfires, that will push the limits of adaptability and add pressure to low-wage workers...city's efforts to reduce temperatures have been explicit about making equity a key requirement.](#) - City Monitor

[Patrick Sisson: How Paris plans to protect its residents from rising heat: Both the city and the greater metro region are taking a comprehensive approach, combining new parks and urban greenery initiatives with big investments in alternative transportation: Paris wants to invert typical notions of city planning...rethinking urban planning needs to happen on a regional scale...cuts in municipal budgets and less support from national leaders mean Paris has to "find ways to do more with less money." Over time, the city's current response](#)



system will fall short of the systemic changes needed to protect Parisians from a warmer future...national government [has] "so much difficulty imagining another system." - City Monitor

Nina Lakhani: Scorching Tucson, Arizona, bucks U.S. trend to put climate justice at centre of plans: Key goals include powering city buildings on renewables and curbing urban sprawl: In September...city officials declared a climate emergency...promised to come up with a bold climate action and adaptation plan that puts environmental justice and equity at the heart of its green transition...But advocates say that over the past three decades, progress has been stalled and plans diluted as a result of corporate influence - Guardian (UK)

Lebawit Lily Girma: Key West's Big Ship Ban Signals a Major Shift Ahead for Cruise Tourism: In an unprecedented citizen-led push against mass cruise tourism during a time of undertourism, Key West voters boldly chose to protect the environment and public health. It's sparked hope for change across similarly challenged port communities...the "reset" conversation is no longer just talk...Key West isn't the first US port city to demand capacity limits from the cruise lines... - Skift

Matt Hickman: Pier Luigi Nervi's iconic Stadio Artemio Franchi under threat in Florence: ...at risk of being demolished or irreversibly altered to make way for a new stadium at the same site...prompted a red-alert response from preservationists and architectural historians in both Italy and further afield...a plan that would have spared Nervi's 1932 masterwork failed to come to fruition...Considered wildly avant-garde when it first opened...90-year-old structure could potentially be spared from full demolition...preserving just a small handful of "souvenirs"...would largely erase the historic integrity of the stadium.- The Architect's Newspaper

India Block: Mosbach Paysagistes creates park for Taichung, Taiwan, on [70-

hectare/173-acre] site of former airport: Phase Shifts Park...designed by French landscape architects...combines nature and technology to create a refuge from the heat and pollution of the city...collaborated with Philippe Rahm Architectes and Ricky Liu & Associates Architects + Planners for the project...also known as Jade Eco Park...three computational fluid dynamics simulations...[covered] heat distribution across the site, another humidity and the third air quality. - Dezeen

Patrick Sisson: How a Facebook Group for Women Architects Creates Community and Opportunity: Joann Lui, now of Gensler, got tired of her old firm overlooking her: She knows what it's like to feel invisible at work...led her to create a space to let women like her help themselves. The Women Architects Collective (WAC), a 2,500-member (and counting) private Facebook group...to make sure the professional needs of female architects never get ignored...Despina Stratigakos: "Women don't need special support; they need a level playing field"...Liu: "It's not about selling yourself, it's about finding clarity about what you want to do." -- Equity By Design; Denise Scott Brown; Kavitha Mathew/AIANY Equity Co:LAB; Yoselim Bravo/Purdy + Muroff Architecture; Emma Greenberg; Eunjung Chung; Diane Hoskins; Roxana Lordache/A7 Arhitectura - Commercial Observer

Architecture & Design Film Festival 2020, November 19 - December 3: ADF 2020 will include introductions by special guests and industry leaders, followed by a feature film and Q&A's with the people involved;...additional opportunities for live chats and other programming that will take place throughout the festival...programs will be available to watch anytime during the festival - from anywhere in the United States and Canada - on any streaming device. -- Bjarke Ingels; Paola Antonelli; Ryue Nishizawa/SANAA; Francis Kéré; Glenn Murcutt - Architecture & Design Film Festival (ADFF)

Jason Farago: Rem Koolhaas Gives Beleaguered City Folk a Trip to the Countryside: In the last eight months, events have proved the celebrated architect's premise prescient. By focusing on cities, planners have missed propulsive changes in the hinterlands: "Countryside, the Future"...elicited almost universally negative reviews...Well, not for the first time, events have proved Koolhaas prescient, and both health and political crises have strengthened the show's suggestion that the city is yesterday's news....It plainly remains a messy, random, arch, inconclusive exhibition...Where it succeeds most is in its insistence on the cosmopolitanism and dynamism of the countryside...the pandemic...has judderingly accelerated new encounters between the city and its outskirts. -- Samir Bantal; Troy Conrad Therrien - New York Times

William Morgan: Raymond Hood and the drama of the American skyscraper: "Raymond Hood and the American Skyscraper"... initially organized for...the David Winton Bell Gallery at Brown University, opened online only...Significant exhibitions like this reacquaint us with sometimes forgotten figures and force new assessments of their contributions to our cultural landscape...in one of those ironies of architectural history, Modernists denigrated as too conservative the skyscraper that secured Hood's career and transformed him from dreamer to real player...Such scholarship is especially welcome now, as study of great architecture and urbanism is crucial to rebuilding after a time of pandemic. - New England Diary (Rhode Island)

What architecture could look like after Covid-19: "The Shape of Things to

Come," an exhibition in Dubai, is offering a glimpse of what architecture and design could look like in a post-Covid world...Featuring over 25 Middle Eastern design practices, it is showcasing new concepts, product designs, and installations from architects and interior designers...part of Dubai Design Week... - CNN Style

John Hill: "Race and Modern Architecture: A Critical History from the Enlightenment to the Present" edited by Irene Cheng, Charles L. Davis II, Mabel O. Wilson: ...the 18 scholarly contributions...are a starting point, not a comprehensive take on a complex and complicated subject...It's a demanding book, in more ways than one, but a reader's interest will no doubt point them to the essays worth devoting their time. - A Daily Dose of Architecture Books (dDAB)

Rebecca Greenwald: "Black Landscapes Matter": Q&A with landscape designer Walter Hood re: his new book: ...collection [of essays] examines a past, present, and future of the Black American experience as spatially archived in cities...After witnessing the role of the public realm in the killings of Trayvon Martin and Michael Brown, Hood and coeditor Grace Mitchell Tada initiated a dialogue with other practitioners...the book argues there is ultimately a case for hope - but only if Black landscapes are properly recognized and valued. -- Hood Design Studio-Metropolis Magazine

Jared Green: The Planetary Health Framework: The Way to Achieve a Sustainable Future: In "Planetary Health: Protecting Nature to Protect Ourselves," edited by Drs. Howard Frumkin and Samuel Myers, we are given a roadmap for how to undo the damage to the Earth...a thought-provoking and rich 500-page overview of the emerging field of planetary health...it seems difficult to imagine a better framework for understanding Earth's contemporary human-environmental dynamics...a must-read...If we truly commit to maximizing human and environmental health in all communities, and undertaking all that entails, we will get on a pathway to saving the planet. - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Rowan Moore: "Our Days Are Like Full Years: A Memoir With Letters From Louis Kahn" by Harriet Pattison - moving and heroic: Life as the lover of the restless U.S. architect...was fulfilling - but never easy: ...[her] hope that he would leave his wife for her was pushed into a remote and, as it turned out, never achieved future. Yet [it] is not a bitter or angry book. It is a memoir of their times together, moving and heroic (on her part) as well as troubling, built around the letters he sent to her...she's clear that their time together was worth the frustrations. - Observer (UK)

"Brutal North" by Simon Phipps: Concrete jungle: the brutalist buildings of northern England - in pictures: A new book captures the most aspirational and enlightened architecture of the north's postwar years - featuring competitive church building and an endless supply of reinforced concrete - Guardian (UK)

ANN feature: Richard Hyams: Building for the Next Generation #1: Covid-19 and a New Era for Public Spaces: With the right strategy and balance of accessibility, safety, and sustainability, the public realm can play an important role in smoothing the transition from lockdown to normality. - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Tuesday, November 17, 2020

- [Doug Saunders](#) delves into how cities, from Lisbon and Victoria, BC, to Paris, Montreal, and Istanbul, are seizing "opportunity from the pandemic crisis to change how they operate for the better," with mayors "implementing more fundamental changes to education, housing and infrastructure" (great read!).
- [Alasdair](#) Lane delves into why "biodiversity activists in the U.K. are calling for a new urban-planning designation - 'rewilding'" - and highlights "something remarkable - a 1,200-home community on the outskirts of Cambridge" that is "an oasis of nature."
- [Alex Bozickovic](#) offers a visually fascinating presentation of PUBLIC WORK's proposal to "convert 9.5 acres of asphalt into green space" on Toronto's University Avenue that "could be Toronto's equivalent of La Rambla in Barcelona. The impact on vehicle traffic would be near zero. But the effect on the city could be enormous."
- [Syrian architect](#) and author Marwa Al-Saboun talks about how "French colonial design segregated Syria's cities and laid the groundwork for division and civil war. The future of the country may depend on how it decides to rebuild" (audio).
- [Kriston](#) Capps brings us some unsettling news: Trump never signed the "controversial 'Making Federal Buildings Beautiful Again' executive order" - but "without any authorization - the GSA appears to have adopted a modernism ban" with RFQ's that include language from the EO."
- [Saffron](#) considers three projects that "tell us a lot about what urban offices will look like when the pandemic finally ends" in Philly - they "are likely to be short, stout - with lab spaces for scientists - these innovation districts can help the city weather this difficult time. It's more important than ever that their architecture reflects that important role."
- [Nate Berg](#) parses how, "as office buildings empty out," architect Danish Kurani "has developed a specialization in converting commercial buildings into innovative new educational facilities. Adapting a former office into a learning environment isn't a huge stretch, he says."
- [William](#) Morgan cheers "Brown University's new policy toward old houses" by offering to sell five for \$10 each and offering to help with relocation costs to make way for two new dorms - "evidence of a new chapter in town and gown relations - we are seeing a happier way to planning College Hill's future."
- [Ravenscroft](#) brings us eyefuls of MAD Architects' conversion of an 18th-century courtyard building in Beijing into a new kindergarten for 400 - topped with a (fun-looking!) red rooftop playground.
- [A gallery](#) of buildings designed "for the new climate reality - using sustainable materials and innovative techniques" (and not all the usual suspects!).
- [A museum](#) kind of day: Kennicott: "Smart, clear and a little institutional, SOM's National Museum of the United States Army is far more than an exercise in institutional hagiography - this is a professional museum, full of revelatory and emotionally powerful objects" with "carefully parsed language aimed at getting most of the story correct."
- [Hickman](#) x 2: The National Native American Veterans Memorial "Warrior's Circle of Honor" on the National Mall just opened. "It is the first national landmark in the U.S. capital to pay tribute to the countless American Indians, Alaska Natives, and native Hawaiians who have served in the U.S. military throughout the decades."

• [He parses](#) Reed Hilderbrand and Trahan Architects' vision for the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum in Washington, DC: "The concept design is the first major project within Reed Hilderbrand's master plan update for the 109-acre core landscape of the U.S. National Arboretum."

• [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Artist Gordon Huether: "Amid Social & Economic Uncertainties, Major Public Art Welcomes & Elevates. We are in difficult times, and cost concerns may affect plans for site-specific art. Yet, if there was ever a time that art mattered, when art could unite us, this is that time" (his installations for the Salt Lake City Airport prove it).

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Doug Saunders: The urban cure: How cities seize opportunity from the pandemic crisis to change how they operate for the better: More bike lanes and sidewalk dining are obvious changes...But many mayors are implementing more fundamental changes to education, housing and infrastructure...pandemic has...forced them to forge new institutions that are likely more effective, and lasting, than the old bureaucracies...Some changes...mutating from impromptu jury-rig innovations into lasting fixtures...larger changes...will be driven not by inventive opportunism but by difficult force of circumstance. -- David Miller/C40 Cities; Mary Rowe/Canadian Urban Institute; Brent Toderian - Globe and Mail (Canada)

Alasdair Lane: Biodiversity activists in the UK are calling for a new urban-planning designation: "Rewilding" places nature at the centre of urban development: On the outskirts of Cambridge, England...oasis of nature is Trumpington Meadows, a 1,200-home community where wildlife protection meets something rather surprising: city expansion...something remarkable...Efforts to rewild cityscapes haven't always been popular...Yet there is clear evidence that nature can coexist harmoniously with urban life...harder to reconcile is the urgent need for new affordable housing...With both camps eyeing scarce inner-city "brownfields"...housing and environmental imperatives might clash the most. - City Monitor

Alex Bozickovic: Rebirth of the promenade: Post-pandemic cities will need more open space. Landscape architects PUBLIC WORK say we can find it by remaking streets - starting with Toronto's University Avenue: ..could get an overhaul on a grand scale...plan would convert 9.5 acres of asphalt into green space, creating a larger network that could be Toronto's equivalent of La Rambla in Barcelona...The impact on vehicle traffic...would be near zero. But the effect on the city could be enormous + Remaking streets around the world. -- Dunington-Grubb & Stensson (1960s)- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Marwa Al-Sabouni: How Can The Architecture Of A City Play A Role In War? Syrian architect and author says French colonial design segregated Syria's cities and laid the groundwork for division and civil war. The future of the country may depend on how it decides to rebuild. - NPR / National Public Radio / TED Radio Hour

Kriston Capps: Trump's Defeat Didn't Stop His 'Ban' on Modern Architecture: [He] never signed a controversial "Making Federal Buildings Beautiful Again" executive order. But a neoclassical-only building mandate is still happening...The GSA appears to have adopted a modernism ban, without any authorization in place...now looks like procurement policy at the federal agency...Design is already underway in Alabama for what might be Trump's first mandatory classical courthouse...The country builds plenty of classical

courthouses, AIA's Robert Ivy says. But they shouldn't be mandatory. -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Hartman-Cox Architects; HBRA Architects; Jenkins-Peer Architects/Robert A.M. Stern Architects; Payne Design Group; National Civic Art Society; Kian Goh; Witold Rybczynski - Bloomberg CityLab

Inga Saffron: Don't count out office buildings yet. Philly developers push ahead with new, pandemic-resistant designs: A growing number of lab buildings are becoming oases of activity when traditional offices are empty: Together, these three designs tell us a lot about what urban offices will look like when the pandemic finally ends...Instead of soaring trophy towers...new workplaces are likely to be short, stout...most new buildings will be laid out with lab spaces for scientists...these innovation districts...can help the city weather this difficult time. It's more important than ever that their architecture reflects that important role. -- PAU Studio (Practice for Architecture and Urbanism; Gensler; ZGF Architects; HWKN; KieranTimberlake - Philadelphia Inquirer

Nate Berg: As office buildings empty out, here's one creative use for all of that space: Office buildings can be turned into schools pretty easily, as one project in the Bay Area shows: The office-to-school conversion was designed by architect Danish Kurani, who has developed a specialization in converting commercial buildings into innovative new educational facilities...converted a vacant office building in the San Francisco suburb of Livermore into the new home of Acton Academy East Bay...Adapting a former office into a learning environment isn't a huge stretch, he says. - Fast Company / Co.Design

William Morgan: Brown University's New Policy Toward Old Houses: [Its] offer to sell five houses...for \$10 each may mark a welcome change in the school's attitude towards neighborhood expansion. That Brown is actively searching for someone to move the dwellings that stand in the way of two planned dormitories, and offering money to help the relocation is further evidence of a new chapter in town and gown relations...it is unrealistic to expect an unblemished record...But let us assume that this time is different, and that we are seeing a happier way to planning College Hill's future. -- Antoinette Downing; KieranTimberlake Architects; Toshiko Mori Architect; Deborah Berke Partners - GoLocalProv.com (Providence, Rhode Island)

Tom Ravenscroft: MAD Architects tops Beijing kindergarten with red rooftop playground: ...converted an 18th-century courtyard building in Beijing into the YueCheng Courtyard Kindergarten...topped with a playspace...wrapped the new kindergarten...around a traditional courtyard building that was originally constructed in 1725...new structure completely surrounds the historic buildings, which have been converted to become part of the kindergarten...historic buildings contain enclosed art and dance classrooms, as well as a teacher's office and lounge, the new structure contains an open-plan teaching space for 400 children. -- Ma Yansong - Dezeen

Aaliyah Harris: Building for a flooded future: Architects are designing for the new climate reality: Using sustainable materials and innovative techniques, these designs from across the world could be increasingly important in a future where flooding might be widespread. -- Heatherwick Studio; Snorre Stinessen Arkitektur; Baca Architects; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Aldayjover Arquitectura y Paisaje; SLA; Marlies Rohmer Architects; Grimshaw Architects; KCAP Architects&Planners; Felixx Landscape Architects & Planners; NLÉ;

Philip Kennicott: Trump has tried to coopt the Army. This new museum shows why that won't be easy: Smart, clear and a little institutional, the National Museum of the United States Army at Fort Belvoir...is far more than an exercise in institutional hagiography or...a mostly theme-park recruitment experience...this is a professional museum, full of revelatory and emotionally powerful objects...shining, steel-clad pavilions [are] trim and efficient and perhaps intentionally bland in a corporate way, but manicured like a well-pressed uniform...Carefully parsed language aimed at getting most of the story correct...the tone, the clarity and temperance of its message, gives one hope that it will indeed support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. -- Colin Koop/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Christopher Chadbourne & Associates; Eisterhold Associates - Washington Post

Matt Hickman: National Native American Veterans Memorial opens on the National Mall: ...on the grounds of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC. It is the first national landmark in the United States capital to pay tribute to the countless American Indians, Alaska Natives, and native Hawaiians who have served in the U.S. military throughout the decades...designed by Harvey Pratt, a multimedia artist, Marine Corps Vietnam veteran, and member of the Arapaho and Cheyenne Tribes of Oklahoma..."Warrior's Circle of Honor"...selected from a shortlist of six concepts...by the competition jury. -- Butzer Architects and Urbanism - The Architect's Newspaper

Matt Hickman: Reed Hilderbrand and Trahan Architects reveal their vision for the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum in Washington, DC: The concept design...is the first major project within Reed Hilderbrand's master plan update for the 109-acre core landscape of the U.S. National Arboretum...446-acre botanical research complex...Established in 1982 as the world's first public bonsai museum...also home to a collection of viewing stones, an art form related to bonsai, which populates its own pavilion..."it's really rare that we get a design team that isn't thinking about the building on one drawing and the landscape on another drawing." - The Architect's Newspaper

ANN feature: Gordon Huether: Amid Social & Economic Uncertainties, Major Public Art Welcomes & Elevates: Tripling value of 1% for Art: We are in difficult times, and cost concerns may affect plans for site-specific art. Yet, if there was ever a time that art mattered, when art could unite us in inspiration, nature, and beauty, this is that time. - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Wednesday, November 18, 2020

- [Stacey McLachlan's](#) (great) dive into how, in the 2010s, universities' design-build programs "were fledgling entries into a new era of hands-on architecture" - today, they give students the "ability to see all of the different ways in which they can contribute to our built world. We can't all be Bjarke Ingels - but, really, how many Bjarques does the industry even need?"
- [Nate Berg](#) delves into how "COVID-19 may accelerate a pattern that turns dull, transit-oriented developments into neighborhoods that resemble bustling cities. But there are risks."
- [Rowan Moore](#) uses an "inelegant" and "plasticky" looking new building on London's Charing Cross Road, along with others, as examples of new "buildings whose components seem to have met on a blind date," creating "the rise and rise of ugly buildings" ("a Hieronymus Bosch-type garden of monsters" included).
- [Miriam Sitz](#) puts the spotlight on Steven Holl's "luminous" Kinder Building, opening Saturday, at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, completing the campus that includes a Mies and a Moneo: "As a literal beacon - the Kinder graciously draws the public in - then encourages them to see the collection, and the city beyond, in a new light."
- [Lizzie Crook](#) reports on Shenzhen Horizontal Design's transformation of the ruins of a brick house into the Zhang Yan Cultural Museum "to help revive" the Beijing suburb "and demonstrate how old, rural architecture in China can be reused."
- [John King](#) cheers Oakland's "adventurous" new waterfront park that "is a startling remake of a derelict pier" and "a startling act of urban reinvention" (a 9-foot-tall hillock cloaked in lush green grass - a head-scratching apparition) - the initial phase of a 65-acre development that will eventually host housing, including 15% affordable units.
- [Kamin cheers](#) "a big, beautiful wall" at Northwestern University that protects "a field house and athletics center from the pounding of Lake Michigan" - it "could have been a monstrosity - instead, it's a curving piece of sculpture," and "anything but an eyesore" (it won an AIA Chicago Design Award as a "divine detail").
- [Providence](#), Rhode Island, announces \$17M budget for Kennedy Plaza redesign by Arup "to revitalize its appearance and purpose - to foster community space, pedestrian access, and climate resilience."
- [Brussat](#) begs to differ: "The attempt to ruin" Kennedy Plaza, "the central public square of Providence is ongoing. Now -.they are planning to 're-envision' aspects of Waterplace Park, the river walks, the pedestrian tunnels" and more with unneeded "placemaking modifications."
- [A round-up](#) of USGBC's new programs and LEED updates + Leadership Awards - "10 extraordinary individuals, companies and projects working to advance healthy, resilient and equitable buildings and communities."
- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Artist Gordon Huether: "Amid Social & Economic Uncertainties, Major Public Art Welcomes & Elevates. We are in difficult times, and cost concerns may affect plans for site-specific art. Yet, if there was ever a time that art mattered, when art could unite us, this is that time" (his installations for the Salt Lake City Airport prove it).

Winners all:

- [Emporis Skyscraper Awards](#): Russia's "massive" Lakhta Center in St. Petersburg is named Skyscraper of the Year; Second Place: Hadid's Leeza Soho in Beijing; Third Place: SOM's 35 Hudson Yards + link to remaining 7 runners-up.
- [The 18 \(very cool!\) winners of the Docomomo US 2020 Modernism in America Awards](#) "highlight the best in preservation practice by today's architects, designers, preservation professionals, and grassroots advocates."
- [The Copper](#) Development Association and the Canadian Copper & Brass Development Association announce "8 innovative copper building projects in the U.S. and Canada as winners in the 2020 North American Copper in Architecture Awards.
- [One of our](#) faves: Winners of Architectural Record's 2020 Cocktail Napkin Sketch Contest - including "the two most amusing submissions."

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Stacey McLachlan: [How Can Higher Education Build a Better Architect? In the 2010s, design-build programs were the cutting edge of architectural education...courses were fledgling entries into a new era of hands-on architecture...now, more than ever, we need programs that create citizens, not starchitects, and that treat empathy as reverently as drafting skills...The biggest benefit of...outside-the-classroom courses is the ability for students to see all of the different ways in which they can contribute to our built world. We can't all be Bjarke Ingels - but, really, how many Bjarkes does the industry even need? -- Iñaki Alday/Tulane School of Architecture UrbanBuild; Dan Rockhill/University of Kansas Studio 804; Harriet Harriss/Pratt School of Architecture; Lesley Lokko; CUNY Spitzer School of Architecture- Dwell](#)

Nate Berg: [American suburbs are about to look more like European cities: COVID-19 may accelerate a pattern that turns dull, transit-oriented developments into neighborhoods that resemble bustling cities. But there are risks: Some but not all TODs have sought to create mini districts, with a healthy mix of commercial and residential uses and a heavy emphasis on commuters and people without cars. What got built, though, often fell short..."I think that's the influence of the 15-minute city"...but it could also create challenges for TODs without affordable housing. -- Robyn Brown/IBI Group; Mariia Zimmerman/MZ Strategies - Fast Company / Co.Design](#)

Rowan Moore: [The rise and rise of ugly buildings: An inelegant new neighbour to Foyles bookshop on London's Charing Cross Road is typical of buildings whose components seem to have met on a blind date. So how do they end up like this? Notwithstanding the fact that \[Ilona Rose House\] is clad in quite expensive concrete, it looks plasticky...\[it\] is by no means the worst. \(For that you might have to go to the south side of the Thames, to a Hieronymus Bosch-type garden of monsters\)...ugly buildings have always been with us...there's no magic bullet. But it would help if everyone - architects, developers, builders, planners - had a stronger idea of what makes a building good... -- MATT Architecture; SODA; Feilden Clegg Bradley - Observer \(UK\)](#)

Miriam Sitz: [Steven Holl's Luminous Kinder Building at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston: Home to the only Mies van der Rohe museum in the U.S. \[and\] a gallery building by...Rafael Moneo, the institution's...Sarofim Campus is at long last complete...Clad in a vertical array of translucent glass tubes and topped by a complex clerestory roof...glass tubes and the structural cast-in-place-concrete walls...could reduce overall cooling requirements by some 40%...As a literal](#)

beacon...[237,213-square-foot] Kinder graciously draws the public into the museum - then encourages them to see the collection, and the city beyond, in a new light. -- Chris McVoy; Deborah Nevins & Associates; Larry Burns/Kendall/Heaton Associates; Guy Nordenson & Associates; Transsolar; L'Observatoire International; Olafur Eliasson; Carlos Cruz-Diez - Architectural Record

Lizzie Crook: Chinese ruins transformed into museum by Shenzhen Horizontal Design: A white-concrete gallery that slots into the ruins of a brick house is among the three exhibition spaces that make up the Zhang Yan Cultural Museum...to help revive the village of Zhang Yan in Shanghai's suburbs and demonstrate how old, rural architecture in China can be reused...the village's original history museum was restored to make the second [of three galleries]- Dezeen

John King: Oakland's new waterfront park is a startling remake of a derelict pier: Township Commons...a startling act of urban reinvention that...should pull people...to an area that until now has been off the map...Part historic restoration, part sculptural intervention, the 4.5-acre landscape replaces a mostly demolished [1930s] shipping terminal...the initial phase of Brooklyn Basin, a 65-acre development...[park] is an adventurous departure from the norm...preserving the...classically styled concrete facade...Within the remnants of the warehouse...there's another unexpected sight - a 9-foot-tall hillock cloaked in lush green grass...a head-scratching apparition that pulls you west. -- Liz Einwiller/Sarah Kuehl/EinwillerKuehl; Flynn Architecture; MWA - San Francisco Chronicle

Blair Kamin: Now THAT'S a big, beautiful wall; award-winning lakefront barrier at Northwestern University shows how to upgrade infrastructure: ...protects a...field house and athletics center from the pounding of Lake Michigan. This wall could have been a monstrosity - an ugly, straight-lined barrier of steel or concrete. Instead, it's a curving piece of sculpture...utilitarian projects can be attuned to human experience as well as environmentally responsive...takes a sinuous route along the shoreline...it curves in both its path and its profile. The result is anything but an eyesore. -- Ralph Johnson/Bryan Schabel,/Perkins and Will; SmithGroup - Chicago Tribune

Providence announces \$17M budget for Kennedy Plaza redesign: ...plans to shift a majority of buses out of [the plaza]...to revitalize the space's appearance and purpose...will include aesthetic and functional improvements...to foster community space, pedestrian access and climate resilience....city and London-based firm Arup Group which is known for designing King's Crossing in London, are working to create an interactive website portal that will allow the community to offer input...- Providence Business News (Rhode Island)

David Brussat: Kennedy Plaza is still at risk: ... the attempt to ruin the central public square of Providence is ongoing. The plaza's beauty has diminished greatly since its Art Nouveau waiting kiosks were replaced by sterile modernist ones, but [it] remains an effective main hub for public transit. Not for long, though...Now...they are planning to "re-envision" aspects of Waterplace Park, the river walks, the pedestrian tunnels...and other downtown amenities...Arup...to design this "single cohesive vision...placemaking modifications"...More than anything else, the "vision" sounds like a perfect

opportunity to waste taxpayer money on things that aren't needed. - Architecture Here and There

USGBC Readies the Green Building Industry for a LEED Positive Future During Greenbuild: New programs and LEED updates bring focus to social equity and health while pushing buildings to commit to net zero and preparing for a shift to regenerative strategies: USGBC All In new equity program; Living Standard campaign expanded; Return on Investment (ROI) Study; LEED Zero for Design rating system; Leadership Awards - 10 extraordinary individuals, companies and projects working to advance healthy, resilient and equitable buildings and communities. - U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)

New Atlas: Russia's massive Lakhta Center [St. Petersburg] named skyscraper of the year [Emporis Skyscraper Award]: From over 700 skyscrapers...completed in 2019...designed by Gorproject and RMJM, is Europe's tallest building and the 13th-tallest worldwide...Second place, Zaha Hadid Architects' Leeza Soho [Beijing, China] is one of the firm's finest works to date...Third place goes to New York City's 35 Hudson Yards, by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) + link to remaining 7 runners-up - New Atlas (formerly Gizmag)

Winners of the Docomomo US 2020 Modernism in America Awards: 18 projects highlight the best in preservation practice by today's architects, designers, preservation professionals, and grassroots advocates. - DOCOMOMO US

The Copper Development Association (CDA) has just announced 8 innovative copper building projects in the United States and Canada as winners in the 2020 North American Copper in Architecture (NACIA) Awards. With a newfound consideration for healthy design in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, designers are turning to the timeless metal for its sustainable and antimicrobial properties. -- Samuel Anderson Architects; Archimania; Brandes Maselli Architects; A&E Architects/Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates; OMNIPLAN Architects/Berenbaum, Jacobs & Associates; Barry J. Hobin & Associates; Danielle Hannah/Sharanne Paquette; EVOQ Architecture - Copper Development Association/Canadian Copper & Brass Development Association

2020 Cocktail Napkin Sketch Contest Winners: Now in its 10th year, Architectural Record's annual [contest] showcases the passion and skill of a diverse group of architects, designers, and students. RECORD editors selected the winning sketches, as well as five runners-up and the two most amusing submissions. -- Phil Pokorny Architecture; Kyoko Iwasaka Architects; Gregory Klosowski/Pappageorge Haymes Partners; Michael Pope/Modus Studio; Geoff Parker/Mass Architects; Jaime Ycaza/Ycaza Group; Samuel Ringman/Ringman Design + Illustration; Tony Costello/Costello & Associates - Architectural Record

ANN feature: Gordon Huether: Amid Social & Economic Uncertainties, Major Public Art Welcomes & Elevates: Tripling value of 1% for Art: We are in difficult times, and cost concerns may affect plans for site-specific art. Yet, if there was ever a time that art mattered, when art could unite us in inspiration, nature, and beauty, this is that time. - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Thursday, November 19, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE: We're taking a Thanksgiving Day break to contemplate how much we have to be thankful for, even in this weird world we're all stuck in - and start planning for next year's celebration - with friends and family - in person! We'll be back Tuesday, December 1. In the meantime: Stay well. Stay safe.

- [ANN feature](#): Patrick MacLeamy: In this excerpt from his new book, "Designing a World-Class Architecture Firm: The People, Stories, and Strategies Behind HOK," the former HOK CEO contends that just as buildings need strong foundations, companies on firm footing stand a better chance of long-term success.
- [Patrick](#) Sisson takes a deep (and fascinating) dive into "how a federal volunteer corps could enlist architects to design not just buildings, but a new social fabric. The nation doesn't need more Hoover Dams as much as it needs a corps of architects to help fix what's broken," from housing to "restoring our natural land and ecosystems."
- [Betsky considers](#) how COVID-19 "has brought the profession to an apparent standstill - so far, I see the pandemic leading only to the design of cleaner surfaces and not more experimentation" - projects like the Driehaus Prize winners present "the true opportunity for the discipline - in the struggle for true sustainability and social equity."
- [Edward Gunts](#) explains why "Modernist architects may have dodged a bullet" with the election of Joe Biden - "there's a good chance" that the "Making Federal Buildings Beautiful Again" EO won't be signed, giving Biden "a chance to rethink many other real estate- and architecture-oriented decisions that Trump has never resolved" (like: where to build a new FBI HQ; U. S.-Mexico border wall; fencing around the White House; Mount Rushmore(!); etc.).
- [Architect](#) D'Arcy Jones gives (mostly) thumbs-up to BIG & DIALOG's "daring" and "brawny" Vancouver House - "a symbol of structural audacity and soaring real estate values" with "a nonchalant personality - major moves were handled with aplomb. But value engineering's inevitable effects show up in some smaller details."
- [Justin Davidson](#) considers the almost-completed 52-story 200 Amsterdam Avenue in NYC that "may soon have to be partly undone" - lopping off the top 20 or so floors - "a slow-motion decapitation from the inside out, which is about as gruesome as it sounds."
- [Adele Peters](#), on a brighter note, parses HGA's prefab STAAT Mod (Strategic, Temporary, Acuity-Adaptable Treatment), "Lego-like modular ICU rooms turning hospital parking lots into COVID-19 units."
- [Anthony](#) Pak of Priopta, a Life Cycle Assessment consultancy, considers embodied carbon, and offers his "basic primer on material-by-material assessment, focusing on the biggest carbon considerations for each material" - Architecture 2030's Carbon Smart Materials Palette website "is among the best resources for further research."
- [The Museum](#) of Modern Art announces the establishment of the Emilio Ambasz Institute for the Joint Study of the Built and the Natural Environment, "dedicated to understanding the interaction between architecture and ecology" and "highlighting the urgent need for an ecological recalibration."
- [The Lincoln](#) Institute of Land Policy launches the Center for Geospatial Solutions "to expand the use of

advanced technology to manage land and water resources with precision," and "will prioritize access to people and communities that have been historically marginalized, governments in the developing world, under-resourced non-profit organizations, start-ups," etc.

- [Yesomi Umolu](#) will take the reins of London's Serpentine Galleries next year as the inaugural director of curatorial affairs and public practice - the native Londoner is now the director and curator of Logan Center Exhibitions at the University of Chicago, and was the artistic director of last year's Chicago Architecture Biennial.

- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Artist Gordon Huether: "Amid Social & Economic Uncertainties, Major Public Art Welcomes & Elevates. We are in difficult times, and cost concerns may affect plans for site-specific art. Yet, if there was ever a time that art mattered, when art could unite us, this is that time" (his installations for the Salt Lake City Airport prove it).

Weekend diversions + Page-turners:

- [The World](#) Architecture Festival launches new WAFVirtual, November 30 - December 4 (free registration!) - speakers will include Jeanne Gang, Ben van Berkel and Sir Peter Cook.

- [Design Miami/ 2020](#), themed "America(s)" curated by Aric Chen, kicks off next Friday with 10 international design galleries, four Curio presentations, and much more.

- ["Memphis: Plastic Field"](#) at the MK Gallery in Milton Keynes, U.K., "will explore the subversive and irreverent spirit of the Memphis Group" with "the design collective's most significant objects whose bold and playful look pushed boundaries - full of punch and vitality."

- [Welton cheers](#) Steve Kroeter's Louis I. Kahn Facsimile Project to reissue "The Notebooks and Drawings of Louis I. Kahn," by one of his students and early employees, Richard Saul Wurman, that has been out of print for almost 50 years.

- [Cole Akers](#), Curator + Special Projects Manager at The Glass House, brings us a great interview with Janna Ireland re; her book "Regarding Paul R. Williams: A Photographer's View," the importance of Williams' work, and more.



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[ANN feature: Patrick MacLeamy: The Pyramid Strategy: In this excerpt from his new book, "Designing a World-Class Architecture Firm: The People, Stories, and Strategies Behind HOK," the former HOK CEO contends that just as buildings need strong foundations, companies on firm footing stand a better chance of long-term success. - ArchNewsNow.com](#)

[Patrick Sisson: A Fresh New Deal: How a federal volunteer corps could enlist architects in building a better nation: ...considering the impact of the nation's most famous public works program offers a thrilling prospect: uniting around a new national vision that asks architects and engineers to design not just buildings, but a new social fabric...The nation doesn't need more Hoover Dams...as much as it needs a corps of architects to help fix what's broken, whether that be housing or massive investments in restoring our natural land and ecosystems...A program proactively putting architects to work...could potentially pay big dividends. -- Kate Orff/SCAPE; Bryan Lee Jr./Colloqate Design; Colin Brice/Mapos - AIA Architect](#)

[Aaron Betsky: Architecture in Limbo: how the COVID-19 pandemic has brought the profession to an apparent standstill: ...so far, I see the pandemic leading only to the design of cleaner surfaces and not more experimentation...It is the discovery of memory, beauty, and meaning in the existing built landscape, and](#)



the use of architecture to unlock the possibilities there, that seems like the true opportunity for the discipline...the utilization of our knowledge and skills in the struggle for true sustainability and social equity, these are the projects I hope to explore once the long hiatus of the pandemic comes to a close. - Architect Magazine

Edward Gunts: Classicism, walls, and other design issues may fall to a new presidential administration: Modernist architects...may have dodged a bullet when Joe Biden was declared the winner...Trump's draft executive order "Making Federal Buildings Beautiful Again" still could be put into effect while he's in office. But...there's a good chance that it won't be, and...Biden won't see the need for it...will have a chance to rethink many other real estate- and architecture-oriented decisions that Trump has weighed in on but never resolved. The list includes: Selecting a site for a new FBI headquarters; National Garden of American Heroes; U. S.-Mexico border wall; Fencing around the White House; Mount Rushmore; etc. - The Architect's Newspaper

D'Arcy Jones: International Icon: Vancouver House, Vancouver, British Columbia: The daring [project] is a symbol of structural audacity and soaring real estate values: cantilevers dramatically over the Granville Bridge, following the mandated setback lines...resulting brawny tower has a nonchalant personality that belies its virtuosic structural engineering and labour-intensive architectural coordination...incongruity between what the building is saying, versus how it says it, is a theme that runs through the project, with uneven but ultimately satisfying results...major moves were handled with aplomb. But value engineering's inevitable effects show up in some smaller details. -- BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; DIALOG - Canadian Architect magazine

Justin Davidson: How Do You Chop 20 Stories Off a Too-Tall Building? Now that the 52-story tower at 200 Amsterdam Avenue is almost done, it may soon have to be partly undone...crews now putting on the final touches will have to start unraveling the top 20 or so floors, breaking freshly installed glass, slicing through new steel beams, and grinding down recently poured concrete...narrow, stretched-out tower...has turned area residents into self-appointed land-use experts...If the ruling stands, Upper West Siders will witness a slow-motion

decapitation from the inside out, which is about as gruesome as it sounds. --
Elkus Manfredi- Curbed

Adele Peters: These Lego-like modular ICU rooms are turning hospital parking lots into COVID-19 units: While traditional construction of an intensive care unit might take 12 to 24 months, this can be put in place in just a few weeks: The prefab system, called STAAT Mod (Strategic, Temporary, Acuity-Adaptable Treatment), has the same complex features as standard hospital rooms...Boldt Company reached out to HGA - which designs hospitals - and suggested partnering on prefab modules...can be configured to meet the needs of a particular site... -- Kurt Spiering; Kate Mullaney; Kyle Weisman - Fast Company / Co.Design

Anthony Pak/Priopta: Embodied Carbon: Key Considerations for Key Materials: To meet the 2030 Challenge, we need to not only achieve net zero operational carbon, but also radically reduce embodied carbon...There are many facets to the carbon profile of materials - the Carbon Smart Materials Palette website by Architecture 2030 is among the best resources for further research...[Here's my] basic primer on... material-by-material assessment, focusing on the biggest carbon considerations for each material. - Canadian Architect

The Museum of Modern Art Announces Major Gift from The Legacy Emilio Ambasz Foundation (LEAF) to Establish a Research Institute: Emilio Ambasz Institute for the Joint Study of the Built and the Natural Environment Will Be Dedicated to Understanding the Interaction between Architecture and Ecology: ...through a range of curatorial programs and research initiatives to foster dialogue, promote conversation, and facilitate research...highlighting the urgent need for an ecological recalibration. - Museum of Modern Art / MoMA (New York City)

Geospatial Technology: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy Launches Center for Geospatial Solutions: ...to expand the use of advanced technology for land and water conservation...will give people and organizations the tools they need to manage land and water resources with precision...to confront pressing challenges such as climate change, loss of habitat, and water scarcity...will help practitioners...especially in the nonprofit sector...will prioritize access to technology for people and communities that have been historically marginalized, governments in the developing world, under-resourced nonprofit organizations, startups... - Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Yesomi Umolu Takes Top Serpentine Galleries Post with Focus on Structural Change: ...director and curator of Logan Center Exhibitions at the University of Chicago...inaugural director of curatorial affairs and public practice...newly formed position...overseeing all curatorial, interpretation, and editorial operations at the [London] museum...will be tasked with fostering a more inclusive audience experience...native Londoner, was the artistic director of last year's Chicago Architecture Biennial... -- Hans Ulrich Obrist- ARTnews

World Architecture Festival has launched new WAFVirtual, November 30 - December 4. Register for free. Join the worldwide architectural community for a week of live content, special prizes, talks, panel discussions and networking opportunities...Headline speakers will include Jeanne Gang, Ben van Berkel and Sir Peter Cook- World Architecture Festival (WAF)

Design Miami/ 2020 Explores the "Americas" With Over 100 Contemporary Objects: A diverse program of events and virtual talks, November 27 - December 6: theme, "America(s)," curated by...Aric Chen...will play host to 10 international design galleries and four groundbreaking Curio presentations...This year's Design Commission winner is Chilean design collective, Great Things to People (gt2P), who will present their proposed installation called "Conscious Actions." The site-specific work consists of interactive, playground devices that will be installed throughout the neighborhood. - Hypebeast

The 80s Revisited: "Memphis: Plastic Field" will explore the subversive and irreverent spirit of the Memphis Group, bringing together over 150 of the design collective's most significant objects whose bold and playful look pushed boundaries...Founded by...Ettore Sottsass...debuted its first collection at Milan's Salone del Mobile in 1981...caused a sensation...Their furniture was colourful, kitsch and geometric, drawing on Pop Art, Bauhaus and Art Deco to create an entirely new aesthetic full of punch and vitality. MK Gallery, Milton Keynes, U.K., November 21 - April 24, 2021 - MK Gallery (Milton Keynes, U.K.)

J. Michael Welton: The Louis I. Kahn Facsimile Project: A book of Kahn's early drawings and words, out of print for almost 50 years, is about to be reprised. "The Notebooks and Drawings of Louis I. Kahn" was first published by Falcon Press in 1962...Steve Kroeter, editor-in-chief at Designers & Books, launches a Kickstarter campaign to fund [the] project, aimed at reprinting the 1973 MIT Press edition of the book...projects were not of [Kahn's] choosing, but by one of his students and early employees, Richard Saul Wurman...just turned 85, and is still highly active...was the creator of the first TED Conference... - Architects + Artisans

Cole Akers/The Glass House: Regarding Paul R. Williams: An Interview with Janna Ireland: For nearly five years, [she] has criss-crossed Southern California photographing [his] work of Paul Revere Williams...Her sensitive and elegant images of Williams' work are collected in "Regarding Paul R. Williams: A Photographer's View"...Q&A re: her book and the importance of Williams' work. - National Trust for Historic Preservation/NTHP / African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund

ANN feature: Gordon Huether: Amid Social & Economic Uncertainties, Major Public Art Welcomes & Elevates: Tripling value of 1% for Art: We are in difficult times, and cost concerns may affect plans for site-specific art. Yet, if there was ever a time that art mattered, when art could unite us in inspiration, nature, and beauty, this is that time. - ArchNewsNow.com

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Yesterday's News

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Today's News - Tuesday, December 1, 2020

- [Fred A. Bernstein](#) takes issue with attempts "to redefine the meaning of 'green'" by folks like Duany who preach that resilient features are more green than attempting to mitigate climate change. But "features that contribute to resilience aren't part of the solution. They are, in fact, part of the problem."
- [Ravenscroft's](#) Q&A with Architects Declare folks re: how some leading signatories "are breaching promises made - undermining its efforts to prevent climate change" and "damaging its legitimacy" - time to tighten up the rules (Schumacher doesn't come off well here).
- [Mark Johanson](#) delves into how "Covid-19 caused rapid shifts in travel infrastructure to make streets friendlier to bikers and pedestrians - at least 365 global cities have allocated new street space for walking and cycling. Can these changes endure?"
- [Camille Squires](#) looks at how Barcelona's affordable housing and mobility initiatives (a la "superblocks") "helped it respond to the pandemic - and allowed it to adapt quickly to the needs of such an unprecedented moment."
- [Sarah Holder](#) & Kriston Capps consider "the indoorification of outdoor dining. At what point does eating outside become no different from eating inside - what exactly is a Covid-safe outdoor space?"
- [John King](#) x 2: He rounds up 11 (out of @ 300) "cool" dining parklets in San Francisco representing "a pop-up landscape running the gamut, from elaborate to idiosyncratic."
- [He cheers](#) AIA San Francisco "moving forward with plans to turn the ground floor of the historic" Hallidie Building into the Center for Architecture + Design by Aidlin Darling Design, "confident that the downtown scene will rebound."
- [Kamin's](#) (glowing!) take on Jeanne Gang's Vista Tower, "one of Chicago's finest skyline giants": "It's a stirring work of skyline artistry. It doesn't simply show that women can play the male-dominated skyscraper game. They can play it very well, thank you."
- [Chaseedaw](#) Giles parses Ford's plans for Detroit's Corktown, envisioned by PAU and Gensler as the Michigan Central mobility innovation district - the 30-acre site plan "weaves the existing historic neighborhood into new structures to create an alluring, modernized regional destination for high-tech talent" (it seems the Gensler team "had fun" - something you don't hear very often).
- [Justin Davidson](#) delves into how "New York's approval system for new building is a recipe for mediocrity" - major development projects should "demand the best design that New York's architectural talent pool can offer. I am not optimistic about that last part. No neighborhood should be forced to choose between terrible and meh."
- [Environmental](#) neuroscientist Robin Mazumder, "recognizing that not everyone experiences public space in the same way, is working to create more equitable urban environments - a collaborative approach is necessary and a diversity of lived experiences, and disciplinary backgrounds is required."
- [Architect](#) & researcher Cristina Monteiro explains why the "coronavirus should inspire us to rewild cities to better support our children - flip neglected spaces into ones that are loved and well-used by local children and which contribute far more to the ecology of the city. The role for design is of profound importance."
- [Carey L.](#) Biron parses the national conservation nonprofit American Forests' Tree Equity Score - a new tool to

help "urban leaders see where more trees are needed to help vulnerable communities tackle pollution and rising heat."

● [Call for](#) entries: Applications for 2021 ULI Hines Student Competition - Europe, open to university and business school students from across the region, due January 31 (and a reminder that the 2021 ULI Hines Student Competition - Americas' deadline is December 4!).

● [Wainwright](#) re: the "'toxic dispute' over Zaha Hadid's £100m estate": The "four-year feud has finally been settled in an explosive court hearing" that "exposed the dramatically frosty nature of the dispute between the trustees" ("unjustified hostility" towards Schumacher included).

● [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Patrick MacLeamy: In this excerpt from his new book, "Designing a World-Class Architecture Firm: The People, Stories, and Strategies Behind HOK," the former HOK CEO contends that just as buildings need strong foundations, companies on firm footing stand a better chance of long-term success.

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Fred A. Bernstein: Op-ed: Attempting to redefine the meaning of "green" could weaken efforts to mitigate climate change: Andrés Duany declared houses with generators, fortifications against rising waters, and other resilient features to be "green...minimizing carbon dioxide emissions and mitigating climate change - is naive at best and a dereliction of duty at worst"...In fact, it is his approach that is naive and a dereliction of duty...Luckily, there are thousands of architects who are up to the task, working to create net-zero buildings...When it comes to climate change...features that contribute to resilience aren't part of the solution. They are, in fact, part of the problem. -- Chris Hellstern/Miller Hull Partnership; Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk; Eric Corey Freed - The Architect's Newspaper

Tom Ravenscroft: Leading architects "clearly contravening" climate pledges says Architects Declare: High-profile studios including Zaha Hadid Architects are breaching promises made when they signed up to [AD] and undermining its efforts to prevent climate change...17 high-profile UK practices including ZHA and Foster + Partners were founding signatories...UK body admitted that its rules are too lax and the actions of some signatories have damaged its legitimacy..."we will be conducting a survey with our signatories about tightening the declaration points. We know this may lead to some practices withdrawing" ... -- Patrik Schumacher - Dezeen

Mark Johanson: How bike-friendly 'slow streets' are changing cities: Covid-19 caused rapid shifts in travel infrastructure to make streets friendlier to bikers and pedestrians. Can these changes endure...? ...urban planning experiments could not only radically alter the way we commute...but also make [cities] more resilient to future shocks...at least 365 global cities...have allocated new street space for [walking and cycling]...measures have not been without their detractors...there are simple policies that can incentivise cycling...Some are rolling out experimental pilot programmes that, in normal times, could take a decade...to go from idea to implementation..."revolutionary...in the field of transportation planning." -- Tabitha Combs - BBC The Life Project (UK)

Camille Squires: How Barcelona's housing and mobility efforts helped it respond to the pandemic: Mayor Ada Colau says her city's ongoing work to create affordable housing and safer streets provided a foundation for its crisis response: ...allowed it to adapt quickly to the needs of such an unprecedented moment...The most well known...was the creation of Barcelona's "superblocks," which restrict the movement of vehicles...Reshaping public spaces for such

considerations as social distancing and the safe continuation of businesses fits in with existing goals to make Barcelona more liveable for the people who call it home. - City Monitor

Sarah Holder & Kriston Capps: The Indoorification of Outdoor Dining: Restaurants are enclosing outdoor spaces with tents and domes ahead of the winter months. At what point does eating outside become no different from eating inside? The most sophisticated of these structures have taken on a decidedly permanent look...the architecture of the outdoor dining age has advanced to a point where diners might never notice that they're sitting outside...So what exactly is a Covid-safe outdoor space? - Bloomberg CityLab

John King: San Francisco is having a parklet moment. Here are 11 cool ones to check out right now: The architectural icon that symbolizes 2020 is the humble dining parklet. Or, sometimes, not so humble at all. At least 300 of the structures have been erected along San Francisco streets since the coronavirus reached pandemic stage...according to the city's Shared Spaces program...Economic reality dictates that most parklets are more about function than flair...there's a pop-up landscape running the gamut, from elaborate to idiosyncratic...Full disclosure - I haven't actually had food or drinks in any of them. Until there's a reliable vaccine in place, count me as one of those people who would rather be safe than sorry. - San Francisco Chronicle

John King: Famous S.F. building to get new storefront tenant - an architecture center: Defying the trend of empty storefronts on commercial streets, San Francisco architects are moving forward with plans to turn the ground floor of a historic...building into a gathering space that includes a cafe and gallery...in the Hallidie Building on Sutter Street will house the city's chapter of the American Institute of Architects...confident that the downtown scene will rebound...design is by one of the city's most highly regarded small firms - Aidlin Darling Design... - Willis Polk (1918) - San Francisco Chronicle

Blair Kamin: An exclusive look at Jeanne Gang's Vista Tower, now Chicago's third-tallest building: ...the hype would be meaningless if the \$1 billion, 101-story tower did not merit a more important distinction: It's a stirring work of skyline artistry...appears as liquid as it is solid, as if the waters of Lake Michigan had burst upward and transformed themselves into fluid, undulating tiers of glass...It doesn't simply show that women can play the male-dominated skyscraper game. They can play it very well, thank you... the tower sends the upbeat message that downtown has a future...not just for the 1%...It is one of Chicago's finest skyline giants... -- bKL Architecture; Julianne Wolf/Studio Gang; OLIN - Chicago Tribune

Chaseedaw Giles: Ford Unveils Details of its Plans for Detroit's Corktown: Practice for Architecture and Urbanism (PAU) and Gensler envision how the Michigan Central mobility innovation district will embrace the past and provide future opportunities for Detroit's communities: Two years ago...it created waves because the site included some of Detroit's most iconic buildings - landmarks that had languished for decades...30-acre site plan...weaves the existing historic neighborhood into new structures to create an alluring, modernized regional destination for high-tech talent. -- Albert Kahn; ishaan Chakrabarti - Metropolis Magazine

Justin Davidson: New York's Approval System for New Building Is a Recipe for Mediocrity: ...we're dredging [Gowanus Canal] for an idea everyone can live with: ...the charmingly fetid waterway keeps tempting developers, new residents...hope to shape a new high-rise neighborhood on its toxin-laced banks...subsidized showpiece is Gowanus Green...all 950 apartments will be affordable...[should] demand the best design that New York's architectural talent pool can offer. I am not optimistic about that last part...No neighborhood should be forced to choose between terrible and meh, but that's the way the system works if the city doesn't guide development - a worse option wins by default. -- Jared Della Valle/A.J. Pires/Alloy Development- Curbed New York

Robin Mazumder: Public spaces are essential - but not yet equal: Recognising that not everyone experiences public space in the same way, this environmental neuroscientist is working to create more equitable urban environments: As a racialised person with a disability, my experiences of both marginalisation and privilege elucidated the complexity of the human experience...shaped by barriers created in our social and physical environments...I am suggesting we consider an experiential equity. I propose this term to acknowledge the psycho-spatial disparities...a collaborative approach is necessary and a diversity of lived experiences, and disciplinary backgrounds is required. - City Monitor

Cristina Monteiro/DK-CM: Coronavirus should inspire us to rewild cities to better support our children: What would it take to retrofit our existing towns and cities to make access to woodland an easy, natural part of a child's education? We would need to create a 0.5-hectare [1.2-acre] area of woodland - the minimum size for a viable habitat...within easy reach of every school...Local authorities, schools, landowners and the wider community should be coming together to explore how nature can be intensified in their local area...flip neglected spaces into ones that are loved and well-used by local children and which contribute far more to the ecology of the city...The role for design is of profound importance...- Dezeen

Carey L. Biron: 'Tree equity': U.S. cities urged to focus planting in areas most at risk: A new tool helps urban leaders see where more trees are needed to help vulnerable communities tackle pollution and rising heat: [American Forests] Tree Equity Score's coverage will broaden to about 70% of the country's urban population by 2022...Tree policy is having a moment in the United States...- Thomson Reuters Foundation News

Call for entries: Applications Open for 2021 ULI Hines Student Competition - Europe: a team challenge for university and business school students from across the region that tests their skills in applying their knowledge of all aspects of real estate and land use in a practical case study; deadline: January 31, 2021. Reminder 2021 ULI Hines Student Competition - Americas; deadline: December 4- Urban Land Magazine (Urban Land Institute/ULI)

Oliver Wainwright: 'Toxic dispute' over Zaha Hadid's £100m estate finally settled: Court case at end of four-year feud hears contested allegations of financial mismanagement and 'clandestine relationships' between practice principal and junior staff: ...[dispute] has been taking place between the executors of her estate, with claims and counterclaims filed over the interpretation of her wishes and the future of her architecture practice. The long-running feud has finally been settled in an explosive court hearing...hearing

exposed the dramatically frosty nature of the dispute between the trustees... --
Patrik Schumacher; Brian Clarke; Rana Hadid; Peter Palumbo - Guardian (UK)

ANN feature: Patrick MacLeamy: The Pyramid Strategy: In this excerpt from his new book, "Designing a World-Class Architecture Firm: The People, Stories, and Strategies Behind HOK," the former HOK CEO contends that just as buildings need strong foundations, companies on firm footing stand a better chance of long-term success. - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Wednesday, December 2, 2020

- [Peter Dumbadze](#) talks to 4 young, American architectural offices (3 launched in early March) re: how they "operate in response to the pandemic's challenges [and] address the wounds caused by centuries of injustice."
- [Q&A](#) with Jamaica-born Greg Minott, co-founder of The Dream Collaborative and president-elect of the Boston Society for Architecture/BSA re: making "Boston's design scene more diverse. Diversify the designers, he suggests, and we're one step closer to a city that will work for all of us."
- [Shawn Micallef](#) cheers Toronto's "plan to make COVID-19 winter more enjoyable" that "includes things that should have been done long ago - now is the time to push for more."
- [Moore x 2](#): He ponders city life in a post-pandemic world: He doesn't see "the abandonment of big cities and offices predicted by more excitable commentaries" or "tumbleweed blowing through the City of London" - he does see "a welcome shift in priorities - to a saner approach to the places where we live and work."
- [He minces](#) no words re: why "the Tulip's towering vanity must be nipped in the bud" and not be given planning permission - "its outdated futurism resembles nothing more than the fantasies of a third-world dictator [and] comes across mostly as an unconvincing act of attention-seeking" (i.e. ego trip).
- [AIA Houston](#) and the Architecture Center Houston had to start from scratch and re-restore their storefront HQ after Hurricane Harvey did in the freshly renovated space a month before they were slated to move in (lots of pix, too!).
- [Welton talks](#) to Cornell- and MIT-trained Hiroshi Okamoto re: an early OLI Architecture project, the Mu Xin Art Museum on Wuzhen, China, that required draining a canal to build 60% of the museum that would end up underwater in the refilled canal (great pix!).
- [Saskatoon](#) Public Library picks the design team- for its new central library: Formline Architecture, Chevalier Morales Architectes, and Architecture49 were chosen for their "approach that will embody local First Nation and Métis identities, traditions and cultures, and that will express the aspirations of the Saskatoon community" (Formline is 100% Indigenous-owned).
- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Patrick MacLeamy: In this excerpt from his new book, "Designing a World-Class Architecture Firm: The People, Stories, and Strategies Behind HOK," the former HOK CEO contends that just as buildings need strong foundations, companies on firm footing stand a better chance of long-term success.

Winners all:

- [A great](#) presentation of the winners of Canadian Architect magazine's 2020 Awards of Excellence.
- [Eric Owen](#) Moss takes home the 2020 American Prize for Architecture for "four decades of prolific architecture and urbanism," bestowed by the Chicago Athenaeum and The European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies.
- [Great presentation](#) of the organizations' American Architecture Awards 2020 (in miles of categories).
- [Anne Whiston](#) Spirn is named the 2020 ASLA Medal winner "in recognition of her lifetime of achievements as an author, professor, and thought leader in landscape architecture" + link to a great Q&A.

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Peter Dumbadze: Novel Architecture in the Age of the Novel Coronavirus: In a time of unprecedented uncertainty, young architecture practices are proposing solutions to meet the demands of multiple simultaneous crises: For architects, this current moment poses questions not only about how firms operate in response to the pandemic's challenges but also how they address the wounds caused by centuries of injustice. Metropolis spoke with four young, American architectural offices - Team B Architecture & Design, PINO PAVESE Architecture Office, WIP, and table of co....3 launched their businesses in early March, only Team B knows a pre-COVID world. - Metropolis Magazine

Architect Greg Minott Wants to Make Boston's Design Scene More Diverse: The Dream Collaborative cofounder and president-elect of the Boston Society for Architecture/BSA talks fostering diversity in local design: After finishing graduate school and moving to Boston for a job, he realized how whitewashed the field was - and how badly it needed diversification. "I was in a firm of 200 to 300 people, and there were just two of us that were minorities"...Diversify the designers, he suggests, and we're one step closer to a city that will work for all of us. - Boston Magazine

Shawn Micallef: Toronto has rolled out its plan to make COVID-19 winter more enjoyable. More could be done: ...getting through the pandemic winter means embracing the outdoors...to try to like winter..."Welcome T.O. Winter Plan" designed to encourage people to get outside safely...much has been learned over the last eight months in how to take advantage of what the city already has...Some are initiatives that should continue, post-pandemic, if Toronto is to be a true winter city...includes things that should have been done long ago...now is the time to push for more. - Toronto.com

Rowan Moore: Life after Covid: will our world ever be the same? ...how a post-pandemic world will emerge into a new normal: It highlighted the importance of adequate living space and access to the outdoors. It renewed...an appreciation of social contact...These changes do not add up to the abandonment of big cities and offices predicted by more excitable commentaries...and of tumbleweed blowing through the City of London, but a welcome shift in priorities...changes could help to address...the imbalance in the nation's housing that was at breaking point before Covid...there is at least a chance that the travails of 2020 could lead to a saner approach to the places where we live and work. - Observer (UK)

Rowan Moore: The Tulip's towering vanity must be nipped in the bud: There's no evidence the 305-metre 'cultural attraction' would boost confidence in the Covid-battered City of London: Designed by Foster + Partners...[its] object is not to maximise lettable square metres...the project serves to feed the egos of the Safras and of Lord Foster...A public inquiry...to recommend whether [it] should be given planning permission...means that all sorts of ingenious arguments are being produced for and against it...its outdated futurism resembles nothing more than the fantasies of a third-world dictator...comes across mostly as an unconvincing act of attention-seeking. + U.S. election commentary - Observer (UK)

Peep the Architecture Center Houston and AIA Houston's New Downtown Digs: The groups are finally moving into their ultra-modern space, three years after a major setback: The historic B.A. Riesner...has been re-restored...about a month before the groups were slated to get into their new-and-improved space, Hurricane Harvey doused the freshly renovated space with four feet of water, and the groups were forced to start over from scratch...designed by Murphy Mears Architects...balances the tenets of minimalist modern design with the best flood-protection practices..."the space became a little more unique than it otherwise would have been"...currently showcasing the highly anticipated "2020 Visions" exhibit. - Houstonia Magazine

J. Michael Welton: The Mu Xin Art Museum: OLI Architecture: Trained at Cornell and M.I.T., followed by an stretch in I. M. Pei's office...One of [Hiroshi Okamoto's] firm's first projects was the [Museum] in the historic water town of Wuzhen [Zhejiang Province, China]...dedicated to the life, art, and writing of...20th-century Renaissance man...his home town...had come to appreciate the economic power of tourism...the 72,000 square-foot museum...sits on a canal that was drained to build the 3-story museum...60%...now underwater. Once completed, the canal was refilled...a museum with a distinctively Western and contemporary look, but one that celebrates the life and work of a now-famous Eastern aesthete. - Architects + Artisans

Saskatoon Public Library announces the new central library design team: Formline Architecture, Chevalier Morales Architectes and Architecture49...chosen for their expertise and proposed approach...that will embody local First Nation and Métis identities, traditions and cultures, and that will express the aspirations of the Saskatoon community. The team also demonstrated successful experience in designing sustainable, universally accessible buildings...Formline is 100% Indigenous-owned and specializes in culturally sensitive and environmentally responsible design... - Canadian Architect magazine

Canadian Architect announces Winners of 2020 Awards of Excellence: Now in their 53rd year, these awards are the highest recognition for excellence in the design stage in the Canadian architectural sector...The jury selected 6 Awards of Excellence, 5 Awards of Merit, 3 Student Awards of Excellence, 1 Photo Award of Excellence, and 3 Photo Awards of Merit. -- Zeidler Architecture; Modern Office of Design and Architecture & Henry Tsang Architect; KPMB Architects & TreanorHL; Ja Architecture Studio; Saucier+Perrotte Architectes; Lemay + Angela Silver + SNC-Lavalin; Sisam Architects; Pelletier de Fontenay + Leclerc Architectes; etc. - Canadian Architect magazine

Eric Owen Moss: Icon-maker wins the 2020 American Prize for Architecture: The Los Angeles-Based Architecture Office Honored for Four Decades of Prolific Architecture and Urbanism: ... selected as this year's Laureate...by both The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design and The European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies. - Chicago Athenaeum/European Centre for Architecture, Art, Design and Urban Studies

Awarded Categories for American Architecture Awards 2020: Over 120 shortlisted buildings have won...for the best new buildings designed and constructed by American architects in the U.S. and abroad and by international architects for buildings designed and built in the United States. - Chicago

[Anne Whiston Spirn, 2020 ASLA Medal Winner: In recognition of her lifetime of achievements as an author, professor, and thought leader in landscape architecture...and for her continuing drive to promote environmental justice...Since 1987, she has directed the West Philadelphia Landscape Project, an action research program + link to Q&A - American Society of Landscape Architects \(ASLA\)](#)

[Results: UIA-HYP CUP 2020 International Student Competition in Architectural Design: "City Puzzle & Puzzle City": design mixed-use buildings per plot for around 8.000-32.000 inhabitants focused on Media and Culture in Yangliuqing, Tianjin, P. R. China. First Prize: Oldcity Pacemaker by Huang Luyao, Wang Jupeng, Liu Jixin and Zheng Xiaoqi; etc. - Urban Environment Design \(UED\) Magazine \(China\) / International Union of Architects \(UIA\)](#)

[ANN feature: Patrick MacLeamy: The Pyramid Strategy: In this excerpt from his new book, "Designing a World-Class Architecture Firm: The People, Stories, and Strategies Behind HOK," the former HOK CEO contends that just as buildings need strong foundations, companies on firm footing stand a better chance of long-term success. - ArchNewsNow.com](#)

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Today's News - Thursday, December 3, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days - we'll be back Tuesday, December 8. In the meantime: Stay well. Stay especially safe.

- [ANN feature](#): Dave Hora's Nature of Order #2: The First Eight of Christopher Alexander's 15 Fundamental Properties of Wholeness: These are properties that describe how centers work together to produce life in a given scope of the structural fabric we inhabit, the wholeness.
- [Sisson parses](#) a new report that "paints a disturbing future" when it comes to "how climate change will slowly drown a significant part of the nation's already inadequate stock of affordable housing" ("some potential good news, too").
- [Shannon Mattern](#) (in a tweet): "I wrote about plexiglass as a pandemic prophylactic and a polymeric paragon of paranoia and racial prejudice" (and a fascinating history of plexi in architecture).
- [Colleen Wilson's](#) deep (deep!) dive into the potential future(s) for Penn Station, now "a shell of its former flawed-but-bustling pre-pandemic self" - the big question is whether it "will return to greatness for its bustling commuter dwellers or simply those who want to stand in awe of an urban wonder in the middle of New York City" ("lipstick on a pig" included).
- [Kimmelman's](#) latest walkabout - this time around the "resilient and proud" Chinatown, "the tiny community that remains the origin story for Chinese culture in New York" - with Nancy Yao Maasbach, president of the Museum of Chinese in America, as his guide.
- [Ravenscroft](#) x 2: After his Q&A with Architects Declare folks (see Tuesday's News), Foster + Partners withdraws from the climate change group "following tensions over signatories who have designed airports."
- [That was](#) yesterday - today he reports that Zaha Hadid Architects has also "withdrawn from climate action network" Architects Declare: "We need to recognize that we have a significant difference of opinion with the [AD's] steering group on how positive change can be delivered."
- [Diana Budds](#) reports that "a largely anonymous group of designers and architects" is demanding that MoMA remove Philip Johnson's name "from all spaces and titles" because of "his white-supremacist past" - 31 "prominent names" also signed on to the initiative that "joins other recent efforts to address racism in cultural institutions, design, and academia."
- [ICYMI: ANN feature](#): Patrick MacLeamy: In this excerpt from his new book, "Designing a World-Class Architecture Firm: The People, Stories, and Strategies Behind HOK," the former HOK CEO contends that just as buildings need strong foundations, companies on firm footing stand a better chance of long-term success.

Cool competition (no fee; cash prizes!):

- [Call for](#) entries: Low-Rise: Housing Ideas for Los Angeles (international): asks architects and landscape architects to imagine appealing and sustainable new models of low-rise, multi-unit housing (sponsored by the Mayor's Office; overseen by Christopher Hawthorne, L.A.'s Chief Design Officer).

Weekend diversions + Page-turners:

- [Philadelphia-based](#) architect Joel Levinson launches the Daring Diagonal Virtual Museum, "dedicated to the obscure but surprisingly commonplace geometric motif of diagonality that appears in art, architecture, and numerous design-related disciplines - visual treats and fascinating articles fill the 33 galleries."
- [Wainwright](#) cheers "Memphis: Plastic Field" at the MK Gallery in "modernist" Milton Keynes - "a luscious feast of eye-searing colors, polished synthetic surfaces and clashing patterns, executed with brash, swaggering brilliance - exactly the saturated, joyful tonic we all need" in these times (a great analysis of Memphis history, too).
- [Gompertz](#) cheers "Memphis: Plastic Field" in Milton Keynes - "a town that took to post-modernism like Don Johnson to a fuchsia suit in Miami Vice. It is their gaudy, joyous world of ebullient expressiveness you enter -.Memphis was a rebuke to a cold, glum world. We could do with a bit of that spirit today."
- ["All Will Be Well: Children's Rainbows from Lockdown"](#) at the V&A: "step inside a large scale installation of these joyful artworks. These homemade rainbows became an international signal of hope and animated streetscapes around the world during lockdown."
- [Kolson Hurley](#) cheers "the enigma Jason Diamond plumbs in 'The Sprawl: Reconsidering the Weird American Suburbs' - an enjoyable, generous, and heartfelt tour around the suburbs of the American psyche."
- [Brussat](#) hails "The Art of Classic Planning: Building Beautiful and Enduring Communities" - a "comprehensive, fascinating and brilliant volume by Nir Haim Buras" that "should be the new bible for the planning profession. My joy at his thumping of modernism knows no end."
- [Welton](#): "In a time of fake news - why not take a look at fake architecture around the world?" In Anne-Catrin Schultz's "'Real and Fake in Architecture: Close to the Original, Far from Authenticity?' we have the perfect read for 2020."



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[ANN feature: Dave Hora: Nature of Order #2: The First Eight of Christopher Alexander's 15 Fundamental Properties of Wholeness: These are properties that describe how centers work together to produce life in a given scope of the structural fabric we inhabit, the wholeness.](#) - ArchNewsNow.com

[Patrick Sisson: In Many Cities, Climate Change Will Flood Affordable Housing: Rising seas risk inundating housing markets in coastal cities that lack options for low-income residents, says a new study: "Sea level rise and coastal flooding threaten affordable housing"...examines how climate change will slowly drown a significant part of the nation's already inadequate stock of subsidized and market-driven affordable housing...paints a disturbing future...problem is intertwined with housing discrimination...analysis undergirding the report...is far more precise than previous efforts...reveals some potential good news, too. -- Environmental Resource Letters](#) - Bloomberg CityLab

[Shannon Mattern: Purity and Security: Towards a Cultural History of Plexiglass: ...demand for plexiglass has skyrocketed...The new architectures of protection hastily installed across our built environments aim to keep us safe. Yet the plexi shields and hoods are little more than the architectural equivalents of hydroxychloroquine, snake oil neatly packaged...jury-rigged shells mocked up so that we can keep working and consuming and pretending that social space hasn't split open at its long-deepening fault lines...In contested neighborhoods, plexi...marks patrons as suspect.](#) - Places Journal



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Colleen Wilson: New York Penn Station was plagued with problems before COVID-19. Is the pandemic the time to fix them? [It] didn't need a pandemic to make it the least desirable transit hub...sits there, a shell of its former flawed-but-bustling pre-pandemic self...pandemic could be an opportunity to take advantage of the lull...to transform this derelict pit into a visionary hub...The question that remains is how - or whether - Penn Station will return to greatness for its bustling commuter dwellers or simply those who want to stand in awe of an urban wonder in the middle of New York City. -- FXCollaborative Architects; WSP USA; Vishaan Chakrabarti/Practice for Architecture and Urbanism/PAU; ReThinkNYC- USA Today

Michael Kimmelman: Chinatown: Resilient and Proud: ...the tiny community that took root by the 1870s...remains the origin story for Chinese culture in New York...discover the monuments, parks and restaurants that have shaped the neighborhood for 150 years. -- Andrew S. Yuen; Calvert Vaux; C.B.J. Snyder- New York Times

Tom Ravenscroft: Foster + Partners withdraws from Architects Declare climate change group: ...stating that aviation needs "the most sustainable buildings"...The decision to leave...was made following tensions over signatories, including...Zaha Hadid Architects, who have designed airports...The studios have been criticised for being involved in the aviation sector..."clearly contravening" climate pledges...Foster believes that aviation has a role in tackling climate change and preventing future pandemics. - Dezeen

Tom Ravenscroft: Zaha Hadid Architects withdraws from Architects Declare: ...has withdrawn from climate action network...a day after fellow founding signatory Foster + Partners left the group... "As a founding signatory, we agreed to continue and accelerate our work towards progressive change in our built environment, However, today we need to recognise that we have a significant difference of opinion with the [AD] steering group on how positive change can be delivered." - Dezeen

Diana Budds: Artists to MoMA: Take Down Philip Johnson's Name: The founding director of the museum's Architecture and Design department was a known white supremacist: ...a largely anonymous group of designers and architects documenting [his] influence on MoMA and the field of architecture - sent a letter to the museum, demanding that his name be removed from all spaces and titles. 31 prominent names in architecture, design, and art also signed on...What disqualifies Johnson...is his white-supremacist past, which is well documented...initiative joins other recent efforts to address racism in cultural institutions, design, and academia. -- V. Mitch McEwen; Kate Orff; Amale Andraos; Justin Garrett Moore; Bryan C. Lee- Curbed

Call for entries (no fee!): Low-Rise: Housing Ideas for Los Angeles (international): asking architects and landscape architects to imagine appealing and sustainable new models of low-rise, multi-unit housing; cash prizes; registration deadline: December 18 (submissions due February 12, 2021)- Mayor's Office & Christopher Hawthorne, Chief Design Officer for the City of Los Angeles

The Daring Diagonal Virtual Museum launches: Diagonality Signature Geometry of the Modern Era "Hidden in plain sight" ...dedicated to the obscure but surprisingly commonplace geometric motif of diagonality that appears in art, architecture, and numerous design-related disciplines...Visual treats and fascinating articles fill the 33 galleries...- Daring Diagonal Virtual Museum

Oliver Wainwright: An MDF bookcase for £12,000? The jolting genius of design superstudio Memphis: The high-voltage style, comic-strip colours and eye-watering price tags of this Italian collective changed the world of design - what better place for "Memphis: Plastic Field" than modernist Milton Keynes? The first glimpse you get of the garish thrills in store in this new exhibition is through a big picture window...of the MK Gallery...[for] anyone with a fondness for the era - it is a luscious feast of eye-searing colours, polished synthetic surfaces and clashing patterns, executed with brash, swaggering brilliance...exactly the saturated, joyful tonic we all need. thru April 25 -- Ettore Sottsass- Guardian (UK)

Will Gompertz: Memphis Group: "Memphis: Plastic Field" at MK Gallery in Milton Keynes: ...a town that took to post-modernism like Don Johnson to a fuchsia suit in Miami Vice...Bold, brash, and squiggles galore: a synthetic garlic to ward off the minimalist vampires...It is their gaudy, joyous world of ebullient expressiveness you enter when walking into the exhibition...The show is as much a manifesto for their willingness to challenge the status quo as it is a celebration of a notable design movement...Memphis was a rebuke to a cold, glum world...We could do with a bit of that...spirit today. In the meantime, you can get a flavour of it at the MK Gallery. thru April 23 -- Ettore Sottsass- BBC News

"All Will Be Well: Children's Rainbows from Lockdown": ...step inside a large scale installation of these joyful artworks paired with quotes from the young creators...These homemade rainbows became an international signal of hope and animated streetscapes around the world during lockdown. thru February 21, 2021 - V&A Museum / Victoria and Albert Museum

Amanda Kolson Hurley: The Weird Beauty of Suburbia: How can a place that we're intimately familiar with...be so unknowable? This is the enigma Jason

Diamond plumbs in "The Sprawl: Reconsidering the Weird American Suburbs," a collection of essays tracing the "undercurrent of strangeness"...The result is an enjoyable, generous, and heartfelt tour around the suburbs of the American psyche...But suburbia is already changing, perhaps more rapidly than Diamond is willing to credit...there's reason to think the suburbs of the future will be more inclusive - and weirder - than the suburbs of today. - Reason Magazine

David Brussat: "The Art of Classic Planning: Building Beautiful and Enduring Communities": ...comprehensive, fascinating and brilliant volume by Nir Haim Buras, who founded the Washington, D.C., chapter of the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art (ICAA)...urges planners to embrace anew the planning practices that worked for thousands of years before the onset of those we suffer under today...My joy at Buras's thumping of modernism knows no end...book should be the new bible for the planning profession. - Architecture Here and There

J. Michael Welton: A Real Book about Fake Architecture: In a time of fake news...why not take a look at fake architecture around the world? That was Anne-Catrin Schultz's thinking when she sent out a call for entries on the topic...The result is a book called "Real and Fake in Architecture: Close to the Original, Far from Authenticity?" ...here we have the perfect read for 2020... - Architects + Artisans

ANN feature: Patrick MacLeamy: The Pyramid Strategy: In this excerpt from his new book, "Designing a World-Class Architecture Firm: The People, Stories, and Strategies Behind HOK," the former HOK CEO contends that just as buildings need strong foundations, companies on firm footing stand a better chance of long-term success. - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Tuesday, December 8, 2020

- [Fred A. Bernstein](#) reports on MoMA and Harvard GSD's responses to the call to remove Philip Johnson's from titles and public spaces "because of his racist and white supremacist activities" - MoMA & Stierli "are taking this issue very seriously"; GSD Dean Whiting: "Undoing that legacy - of the field, not only of Johnson - is arduous and necessary...we are committed to seeing it through."
- [Trevor Boddy](#) offers some not-all-that optimistic "scenario speculations" for architecture's post-pandemic future. "The rainbow above these dark clouds - this is the last, best chance for architects to make a case for how their skills can empower better lives. No-one can advocate for positive rebuilding better."
- [Evelyn Lee](#) bemoans "the seeming shortage" of "emotionally intelligent leaders" - the lack of "EQ is striking for a profession that focuses on human-centered design: Now, more than ever, firm leaders should empathize with what their employees are experiencing. Here are 10 ways to help you build your EQ."
- [A look at](#) how some San Francisco Bay Area architects & landscape architects have been designing "sturdy" restaurant parklets that are "up to code and can last" for free. "When something is there, it's a lot harder to take it away" (of course, much may be moot with California's new lockdown mandates).
- [Rina Chandran](#) looks into the challenges of converting offices left vacant by COVID-19 to homes "to fix housing shortages" - turning them into "warehouse spaces for e-commerce companies, manufacturing facilities such as 3-D printing, vertical schools or urban farms is a far more feasible option" (Singapore has a cool idea for parking garages).
- [Nate Berg](#) delves into architect John Klein's new system that "helps architects design buildings with factory-produced parts - making them cheaper and more environmentally sustainable" that "can then be covered with whatever facade the architect designs."
- [Saffron](#) minces no words about the fate of Philly's 1965 International House, a residence hall with "a sculptural tour de force" facade "that stands as a monument to the idealism of the '60s" and is expected to be landmarked - "but don't expect the honor to protect" it - "odds are high that this landmark work of architecture will be chopped up for parts."
- [Gina Pollara](#), on a brighter note, reports that Louis Kahn's Point Counterpoint II music barge has found a new home on the Delaware River in Philly (Kahn called home), alongside the 1917 Delaware Power Station being transformed into an arts and culture hub.
- [Adjaye in Africa x 2](#): Ravenscroft reports on the "vision" for the Edo Museum of West African Art in Benin City, Nigeria, that "forms part of an initiative" of The Legacy Restoration Trust and the British Museum (unclear whether some of the British Museum's 900 the Benin bronzes will be repatriated or just on loan).
- [Waite reports](#) on a less-controversial Adjaye (and MMA Design Studio) project - the Thabo Mbeki Presidential Library in Johannesburg that "will be built as eight cylindrical granary-style domes and constructed with a rammed-earth façade and timber cladding made from local wood species."
- [The Cultural](#) Landscape Foundation reports that Sugimoto's proposed design for the Bunshaft and Collins' the Hirshhorn Museum Sculpture Garden "hit a major speed bump" at a hearing last week, with one commissioner "warning the end result could make it look like an 'Olive Garden' - approval now seems unlikely."

- [On a brighter](#) note in DC: the National Building Museum is celebrating its 40th anniversary through December 12 with "a pre-holiday feast of free virtual programs and events - and special deals at the Museum Shop" (good timing for gift-giving).
- [On a much](#) sadder DC note: Katie Gerfen pens her farewell letter as editor-in-chief of ARCHITECT magazine: "After much reflection, I have realized that it is time...for me to leave to take on new challenges - to find new stories to tell and new ways in which to tell them."
- [Executive](#) director of the NYC Public Design Commission Justin Garrett Moore is heading to the Mellon Foundation "to serve as the inaugural program manager for Humanities in Place [and] help shape the Monuments Project."
- [One we couldn't](#) resist: Gandalf and Bilbo Baggins (a.k.a Ian McKellen and Martin Freeman) and others join the Project Northmoor, a campaign to buy JRR Tolkien's house in Oxford and "turn it into a literary center before it is put on the market."
- [ANN feature](#): Dave Hora's Nature of Order #2: The First Eight of Christopher Alexander's 15 Fundamental Properties of Wholeness: These are properties that describe how centers work together to produce life in a given scope of the structural fabric we inhabit, the wholeness.

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Fred A. Bernstein: MoMA and Harvard GSD Respond to Activists' Call to Remove Philip Johnson's Name: ...from every "leadership title, public space or honorific" at those institutions because of his racist and white supremacist activities...MoMA's Philip Johnson Chief Curator of Architecture and Design, Martino Stierli: "The Museum and I are taking this issue very seriously and extensively researching all available information"...GSD's dean, Sarah Whiting...said the school will begin calling a house it owns...often known as the Philip Johnson Thesis House, by its address: 9 Ash Street..."Undoing that legacy - of the field, not only of Johnson - is arduous and necessary...we are committed to seeing it through." -- Emanuel Admassu, Sekou Cooke; J. Yolande Daniels; Felecia Davis; Olalekan Jeyifous; V. Mitch McEwen; Germane Barnes; Amanda Williams; Walter Hood; Mario Gooden; Mark Lamster - Architectural Record

Trevor Boddy: Post-pandemic Futures: ...many architects are breathing a sigh of relief at having navigated...a harrowing year...But what is most dangerous...is a false sense of security...Here are some scenario speculations...The rainbow above these dark clouds is the prospect that this is the last, best chance for architects to make a case for how their skills can empower better lives...No-one can advocate for positive rebuilding better...The single word that every architect needs to broadcast now is "public"...it could be the foundation of rebuilding. - Canadian Architect magazine

Evelyn Lee: Architecture Needs More Emotionally Intelligent Leaders: The seeming shortage of EQ is striking for a profession that focuses on human-centered design: Now, more than ever, firm leaders should empathize with what their employees are experiencing...EQ is typically broken down into four areas: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, and relationship management...Here are 10 ways to help you build your EQ - and perhaps increase your chances of becoming a high-performer: -- Slack Technologies - Architect Magazine

Restaurant parklets are expensive, so Bay Area architects, landscape architects, artists have been designing them for free: ...not only to help local



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restaurants, but also in the hopes of sparking ideas about what public space could look like in the future...one step in creating a more vibrant, people-centric city...optimism is part of what drove these architects to build sturdy parklets that are up to code and can last..."When something is there, it's a lot harder to take it away." -- Alec Hawley/Fauvescraper Studio; David Koo/Brennan Cox/Groundworks Office; Kristen Sidell/Rudabeh Pakravan/Sidell Pakravan Architects - San Francisco Chronicle

Rina Chandran: Left vacant by COVID-19, can offices become homes to fix housing shortages? South Korean government...will add 114,000 homes for public housing...by buying empty hotels and offices and converting them into residences. Singapore is pushing a plan...for converting excess car park spaces into residences, shops, restaurants and indoor farms...it may be "far more feasible" to turn unused offices into warehouse spaces for e-commerce companies...modern manufacturing facilities such as 3-D printing, vertical schools or urban farms are a far more feasible option...Apart from being difficult and expensive, converting offices into housing can also have "negative social consequences".... - Thomson Reuters Foundation News

Nate Berg: The case for cookie-cutter buildings: A new system helps architects design buildings with factory-produced parts - making them cheaper and more environmentally sustainable: But the decentralized construction industry isn't exactly conducive to standardization...architect John Klein...set out to create a systematized approach...Generate uses a catalog of pre-tested designs for the main structural components...standard kit of parts can then be covered with whatever facade the architect designs. -- CLT/compressed laminated timber; Passive House; Placetaylor - Fast Company / Co.Design

Inga Saffron: Debate over International House highlights what's wrong with preservation in Philly: Everything is negotiable: ...Philadelphia Historical Commission...is expected to recommend the designation of...the brutalist-style residence hall that stands as a monument to the idealism of the '60s...But don't expect the honor to protect the former student dormitory...already having discussions with the developers over how to carve [it] up...a design by ALMA Architecture would virtually entomb [it] inside a contemporary addition...the equivalent of someone being buried up to their chest in beach sand...odds are high that this landmark work of architecture will be chopped up for parts. -- Bower & Fradley (1965); Robert Geddes - Philadelphia Inquirer

Gina Pollara: Louis Kahn's Music Barge Finds New Home: Point Counterpoint II...having narrowly escaped the scrapyards, this 195-foot-long double-hulled steel vessel will finally dock permanently in Philadelphia - coincidentally the city Kahn called home...long, low profile that resembles a flute...doubles as a floating art gallery...Yo-Yo Ma made a plea in 2017...to save "this remarkable mobile cultural institution" from the scrap heap...[will dock] on the Delaware River, alongside the renovated power station...[will serve] as the key musical component of the arts complex when it opens in 2022. -- Robert Boudrea; Nathaniel Kahn; George Djurkovic; Lee Skolnick - Architectural Record

Tom Ravenscroft: Adjaye Associates reveals vision for Edo Museum of West African Art in Nigeria: ...a site in the centre of Benin City...forms part of an initiative...by The Legacy Restoration Trust and the British Museum...to feature archaeological remains found during construction and may include reconstructions of the structures that formerly occupied the site...building's arrangement is derived from the ruins of the historic city that the current Benin City stands above. - Dezeen

Richard Waite: David Adjaye unveils designs for rammed earth library in Johannesburg: ...a new learning centre, museum, gallery and events spaces dedicated to South Africa's second post-Apartheid president...Thabo Mbeki Presidential Library...will be built as eight cylindrical granary-style domes and constructed with a rammed-earth façade and timber cladding made from local wood species...Adjaye Associates is working with Johannesburg-based MMA Design Studio... - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Planning Officials on the Hirshhorn Sculpture Garden Redesign - Not so Fast: The proposed revitalization of the Sculpture Garden hit a major speed bump at a National Capital Planning Commission hearing on December 3. Commissioners repeatedly expressed skepticism about core elements of the redesign proposed by the artist Hiroshi Sugimoto, with one warning the end result could make the Sculpture Garden look like an "Olive Garden"...[approval] now seems unlikely...a growing chorus that acknowledges that this masterpiece by Gordon Bunshaft and Lester Collins is an important work of art. - The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF)

National Building Museum Celebrates 40th Anniversary with a Week of Free Events: On December 12, 1980, President Jimmy Carter signed an act of Congress that established a museum...to inspire curiosity and knowledge about the world we design and build...during the week of December 7–12 the Museum will host a pre-holiday feast of free virtual programs and events...and special deals at the Museum Shop. - National Building Museum / NBM (Washington, DC)

All Good (and Terrible) Things ... : Katie Gerfen reflects on a difficult 2020 and a hopeful future in her farewell letter as editor-in-chief of ARCHITECT: 2020 has...pushed us beyond our limits with a confluence of events that revealed the many ills plaguing our society that we have ignored for too long...But...there have been successes to celebrate...I look forward to seeing how this resilient industry will continue to confront the challenge of designing the equitable, safe, and sustainable places and communities...after much reflection, I have realized that it is time...for me to leave ARCHITECT to take on new challenges - to find new stories to tell and new ways in which to tell them. - Architect Magazine

Justin Garrett Moore exits New York City Public Design Commission for the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation: ...to serve as the inaugural program manager for Humanities in Place [and] help shape the Monuments Project, a five-year, \$250 million grant initiative...that will fund the creation of new memorials, monuments, and "historic storytelling spaces"...will also provide grants to efforts that relocate problematic and painful relics existing in the public realm [or] leave these monuments standing where they are but in a newly contextualized manner... - The Architect's Newspaper

Campaign to buy JRR Tolkien's house backed by Lord of the Rings actors: Ian

[McKellen and Martin Freeman support £4.5m crowdfunding campaign to turn the Oxford home where Tolkien wrote his most famous books into a museum: Author Julia Golding has launched Project Northmoor, a charity that has started a crowdfunding campaign... to buy the house and turn it into a literary centre before it is put on the market.](#) - Guardian (UK)

[ANN feature: Dave Hora: Nature of Order #2: The First Eight of Christopher Alexander's 15 Fundamental Properties of Wholeness: These are properties that describe how centers work together to produce life in a given scope of the structural fabric we inhabit, the wholeness.](#) - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Wednesday, December 9, 2020

- [Biron parses](#) a survey of U.S. mayors who are "'bleak' about recovery from pandemic's effects - worried that public transit and neighborhoods will not recover for years to come," though "findings also suggest changes that may become permanent, such as street design, planning and land use."
- [Arieff parses](#) what Big Techs' empty campuses say about the post-Covid world - and "what about the workers who cleaned the offices, prepared the meals and drove the shuttles? They are made even more vulnerable."
- [Amy Crawford](#) delves into the dilemma of there being "no room for teens in the pandemic city: Talk of child-friendly cities is on the rise, but it tends to focus on families with younger children. Designers have long attempted to limit teenagers' use of public space. What would a park for adolescents look like?"
- [Amir Kripper](#) is concerned about the discipline of adaptive reuse - "spectacle architecture may have something to do with it - the Rem-ification of adaptive reuse deserves closer inspection."
- [Belmont Freeman](#): "Even before the global health crisis, Cuba was in trouble -.crises expose the underlying flaws of a society, and the coronavirus has proved that rule to a scorching degree," exposing "the underlying dysfunctions of the communist economy" ("then there's the Trump factor").
- [Kamin x 2](#): He offers his top 10 picks of the best Chicago architecture of 2020 that "raised our sights and spirits."
- [He explains](#) that, "even as the pandemic has emptied everything - building has gone on in Chicago, reminding us that downtown has a future, even if we don't know precisely what that future will be - a whole lot of improvising is going on, some of it innovative enough to merit a lasting presence."
- [One we couldn't resist](#): Feargus O'Sullivan reports that Amsterdam is cracking down on "garish" Christmas lights and holiday displays, "spurred by a recent lighting-display arms race" ("the ultimate expression of municipal Grinchery" perhaps?).
- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Dave Hora's Nature of Order #2: The First Eight of Christopher Alexander's 15 Fundamental Properties of Wholeness: These are properties that describe how centers work together to produce life in a given scope of the structural fabric we inhabit, the wholeness.

Winners all + 1 Deadline reminder:

- [Call for entries](#) (deadline looms!): 2021 P/A Awards: The 68th annual edition of the program for innovative unbuilt work.
- [NYC-based](#) architect and activist Pascale Sablan wins the AIA 2021 Whitney M. Young Jr. Award "for her work in promoting women and designers of color in architecture" with initiatives such as the "Say it Loud" exhibitions - and is now the president-elect of NOMA.
- [Chandran](#) reports that the Aga Khan Agency for Habitat Pakistan project is a gold prize winner of UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards "for shielding villages from natural disasters" by "combining satellite images and mapping tools with local knowledge and community participation - AKAH projects in Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Syria and India are also using this approach in nearly 2,500 villages covering 3 million people."

• [The Architect's](#) Newspaper announces 47 winners of the 2020 AN Best of Design Awards - "the quality of the submissions has rarely been stronger or more timely" (scroll down for links to Parts 1 & 2)

• [Dezeen Awards](#) 2020 feature 45 winners.

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Carey L. Biron: U.S. mayors 'bleak' about recovery from pandemic's effects: National survey finds particular concern over schools and downtown businesses: ...worried that workers will avoid offices and public transit and neighborhoods will not recover for years to come...fear small closed-down businesses will not quickly be replaced by new ones, and renters, immigrants and minority-owned businesses will suffer long-term distress...findings also suggest changes that may become permanent post-pandemic, such as street design, planning and land use...potential need for more bicycle infrastructure... -- Menino Survey of Mayors - Thomson Reuters Foundation News

Allison Arieff: What Facebook's empty campus says about the post-Covid world: When Big Tech found it could work from home, an economy of lower-paid workers lost out: Facebook, Google and others have always maintained that their innovative corporate culture was what set them apart. How could they be so quick to abandon the physical core of that culture? ...what about the workers who cleaned the offices, prepared the meals and drove the shuttles? ...[they] are made even more vulnerable...Spontaneous interaction may no longer be the guiding principle of Big Tech's buildings, but it will return. Meanwhile, the economic fragility of those who help facilitate it never went away. - New Statesman (UK)

Amy Crawford: There's No Room for Teens in the Pandemic City: With schools remote, sports canceled, and libraries closed, teenagers in many U.S. cities find themselves unwelcome in parks and public spaces: Talk of child-friendly cities has recently been on the rise, but it tends to focus on...families with younger children...Adolescents, on the other hand, are often an afterthought - or, through anti-teen policies or hostile design, they may be deliberately excluded...Designers have long attempted to limit teenagers' use of public space...What would a park for teenagers look like? - Bloomberg CityLab

Amir Kripper: Curb Your Enthusiasm: In Praise of Constraints: The compelling challenge of adaptive reuse: I've devoted a good chunk of practice to reinterpreting, modernizing, and expanding historically sensitive places...I am growing worried for the discipline...once again, spectacle architecture may have something to do with it...the Rem-ification of adaptive reuse deserves closer inspection...we may...figure out which of these mindsets is best suited to handle the wholesale building types - shopping malls, streetfront retail, traditional office headquarters - that Covid-19 is reducing to artifacts. Machado Silvetti; Harry Weese; Rem Koolhaas/OMA; Kripper Studio - Common Edge

Belmont Freeman: Post-Castro: Six decades after the revolution, Cubans envision a new society that blends the equities of socialism with the energies of capitalism. The challenges are daunting: Last year Havana celebrated [its] 500th anniversary...The historic core saw a frenzy of renovation activity...But even before the global health crisis...Cuba was in trouble...crises expose the underlying flaws of a society, and the coronavirus has proved that rule to a scorching degree...if the island's medical infrastructure remains sound and its

social solidarity strong, the pandemic has intensified the underlying dysfunctions of the communist economy. The cruelest of these is food insecurity...Havana continues to crumble... - Places Journal

Blair Kamin: Best Chicago architecture of 2020: The design of St. Regis Chicago [formerly Vista Tower], a new bridge and the pandemic-ready Rush Hospital [and the preservation of both the old Cook County Hospital and the Chicago house of Emmett Till] raised our sights and spirits...Wolf Point East...another bright presence to the skyline. -- Jeanne Gang/Studio Gang; Pelli Clarke Pelli; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); KOO architects; Perkins and Will; Andrew Metter; Epstein; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Mies van der Rohe; Edith Farnsworth; Balkrishna Doshi; Open House; Chicago Architecture Center - Chicago Tribune

Blair Kamin: Chicago architecture in 2020: In a year like no other, anxiety soared about the future of downtown Chicago, but so did new skyscrapers: Even as the pandemic has emptied everything...building has gone on here...reminding us that downtown has a future, even if we don't know precisely what that future will be...a whole lot of improvising is going on, some of it innovative enough to merit a lasting presence once the pandemic ends...a return to normalcy remains months away...downtown's boosters remain undeterred. -- Goettsch Partners; Studio Gang - Chicago Tribune

Feargus O'Sullivan: Amsterdam Cracks Down on Garish Christmas Lights: Holiday displays in the Dutch capital may soon...need to be registered online with the municipality if they cover more than a square meter (10.8 square feet) or more than 10% of a building's façade...In UNESCO-protected city center, the rules will be yet more stringent...spurred by a recent lighting-display arms race...governing aldermen already stand accused of resembling that least-popular of Christmas characters: Scrooge. - Bloomberg CityLab

Call for entries: 2021 P/A Awards: The 68th annual edition of the program for innovative unbuilt work; must be commissioned by paying clients for execution. Projects must have a completion date after February 1, 2021; deadline: December 14; late entries: December 18 - Architect Magazine

Pascale Sablan Wins AIA 2021 Whitney M. Young Jr. Award: ...recognized the New York-based architect and activist for her work in promoting women and designers of color in architecture: A past recipient of the AIA Young Architects Award... created and curated... "Say it Loud" exhibitions, which highlight the work, voices, and experiences of 345 diverse architects...serves as the Northeast regional vice president of the National Organization of Minority Architects...was recently elected president-elect of NOMA. -- S9 Architecture; Beyond the Built Environment; FXFowle Architects - Architect Magazine

Rina Chandran: Pakistan project wins award for shielding villages from natural disasters: Combining satellite images and mapping tools with local knowledge and community participation have made settlements safer: ...Aga Khan Agency for Habitat (AKAH) Pakistan project...a gold prize winner at the World Habitat Awards organised with the United Nations housing agency (UN-Habitat)...projects in Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Syria and India are also using this approach...completed risk assessments in nearly 2,500 villages covering 3 million people. - Thomson Reuters Foundation News

Best of the Best: Winners of the 2020 AN Best of Design Awards: What attributes connect these 47 discrete works, representing a total of 50 categories...To begin with, the quality of the submissions has rarely been stronger or...more timely. -- Ho"weler + Yoon Architecture/Mabel O. Wilson/Gregg Bleam Landscape Architect/Frank Dukes/Eto Otitigbe; Adjaye Associates; Outpost Office; Koning Eizenberg; Marlon Blackwell Architects; PRODUCTORA; etc. - The Architect's Newspaper

Dezeen Awards 2020: 45 Winners; Public vote winners; Architecture; Interiors; Design; Studios; Designer of the year: Formafantasma; Emerging interior designer: Formafatal; Emerging designer: Shahar Livne Design; Architect of the year: Alison Brooks Architects; Interior designer: Esrawe Studio; Emerging architect of the year: Gad Line+ Studio; Architecture Project of the Year: TAA Design; etc. - Dezeen

ANN feature: Dave Hora: Nature of Order #2: The First Eight of Christopher Alexander's 15 Fundamental Properties of Wholeness: These are properties that describe how centers work together to produce life in a given scope of the structural fabric we inhabit, the wholeness. - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Thursday, December 10, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days - we'll be back Tuesday, December 15. In the meantime: Stay well. Stay especially safe.

- [Saffron](#) re: Louis Kahn's "quirky and little-known" Point Counterpoint II music barge that "could be permanently moored at a glorious ruin that is being restored and converted into a mixed-use hub" - but "it is not quite the done deal" as has been reported."
- [Justin Davidson](#) cheers ODA's Denizen, an art-filled 2-block apartment complex in Brooklyn with "the weirdness of a live-in Museum of Bushwick" - there's "hardly an undecorated surface" and "an almost comical variety of finishes" that "reads as exuberance rather than chaos - a development that's deliberately messy."
- [Wainwright](#) cheers the winners and shortlisted firms in the U.K.'s Home of 2030 competition: "Given the likelihood of their eminently buildable ideas being watered down by the usual commercial constraints, the teams have chosen to go it alone - a fitting result for a competition that appeared to be little more than a government PR exercise to distract from the reality of retrograde reforms."
- [Gunts reports](#) on the official opening of the White House's classically-inspired tennis pavilion that "draws 'tone deaf' criticism": "First Lady Melania Trump unveiled her latest contribution to the White House grounds and to American architecture."
- [Architect](#) Teresa Hoskyns and formTL engineers have developed "Lunar Dome," a mobile tent that accommodates 1,600 visitors for the 3D Apollo 11 traveling roadshow (videos are fun - and who doesn't like a moon story?).
- [M Moser's](#) pilot office for Okta's new HQ in San Francisco "explores a dynamic environment that serves as home bases for remote working employees to come together - designed to be a hub to give employees a 'recharge.' on Okta culture."
- [On the fifth](#) anniversary of the Paris Climate Agreement, "ASLA joins over a thousand leaders in affirming a commitment to global climate action" with the "America Is All In" declaration.

Winners all + 1 Deadline:

- [Call for](#) entries: C40 Students Reinventing Cities: International competition to harness new models for green and thriving city neighborhoods; choose one (or several) site(s) from the 18 participating cities.
- [AIA 2021](#) honors include: Gold Medal: Edward Mazria; 2021 Architecture Firm Award: Moody Nolan; Edward C. Kemper Award: Anthony Schirripa; and Whitney M. Young Jr. Award: Pascale Sablan.
- [Katie Gerfen](#) & Edward Keegan present winners of the 2020 Studio Prize - 6 studios that "encouraged students to think critically about the role of architecture and how designers can better engage with the communities they serve" (great presentations - and hope for the future!).
- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Dave Hora's Nature of Order #2: The First Eight of Christopher Alexander's 15 Fundamental Properties of Wholeness: These are properties that describe how centers work together to produce

life in a given scope of the structural fabric we inhabit, the wholeness.

Weekend diversions + Page-turners:

- [For your](#) amusement - Ben Flatman's take on "The Crown": "Whatever happened to the episode where Charles triggers the architects? The prince's notorious speech was a missed opportunity for the profession to interest the public in what it does - they could always shoehorn in the carbuncle speech at the start of season five."
- ["Broken Nature,"](#) opening Saturday in MoMA's street-level galleries, "shows how design and architecture might jumpstart constructive change" and the concept of and strategies for restorative design (scroll down for lots of pix).
- [Ostrowski's](#) Q&A with Daniel Parolek re: his book, "Missing Middle Housing: Thinking Big and Building Small to Respond to Today's Housing Crisis," in which he argues that "building more medium-density housing could ease affordability squeeze" (once past the barriers).
- [Dan Parolek:](#) "The answer to America's housing crisis might be housing types" that "provide a broad range of affordability. The reality in most cities is that their planning and regulatory systems are barriers to delivering the housing choices that communities need" (adapted from the introduction to "Missing Middle Housing").
- [Rowan Moore](#) talks to "the audacious Dane" Bjarke Ingels re: his new book, "Formgiving: An Architectural Future History": With "a WTF fondness for puncturing piety and pomposity - he offers his 'oxymoron,' which makes complexity and contradiction into a charmingly consumable package."
- [Jared Green](#) rounds up the Best Books of 2020 that "renew our hope for racial justice, human and environmental health, and climate action - now is a great time to explore bold new ideas."
- [Welton offers](#) his essay from JoAnn Locktov's "Dream of Venice Architecture" - an "exquisite gem of a tome" that in "an era of pandemic, will transport its reader to better times and places."



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Inga Saffron: Music barge designed by Louis Kahn could anchor in Philadelphia as a concert stage: ...a quirky and little-known Kahn design could be installed on the Delaware River waterfront...Point Counterpoint II, would be permanently moored at...a glorious ruin that is being restored and converted into a mixed-use hub...it is not quite the done deal...It is still not clear whether the 50-year-old barge...can be salvaged at a reasonable cost. The developers would also need to obtain approval from the city...If quixotic effort does succeed, it would be a poignant finale for one of Kahn's most unusual designs..."It would truly be a happy ending," said Nathaniel Kahn. -- Lee Skolnick; Strada; Gensler-Philadelphia Inquirer

Justin Davidson: The Art on This Big Bushwick Project Is Not a Mere Marketing Ploy: Denizen aims to engage with its Brooklyn surroundings: ...it's rare to come across a building generous enough to embrace that sense of architectural citizenship...two-block apartment complex on the old Rheingold Brewery site...a design intended to melt hostility...There is hardly an undecorated surface...the weirdness of a live-in Museum of Bushwick...ODA expanded on the flavor of roughness with an almost comical variety of finishes...reads as exuberance rather than chaos...a development that's deliberately messy. -- Eran Chen; ODA Public Engagement in Neighborhoods (OPEN) - Curbed New York

Oliver Wainwright: The house of the future? A sun-filled, shape-shifting, shed-share paradise: What will homes be like 10 years from now? Judging by the winners of the Home of 2030 competition, sharing will be key: Given...the



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likelihood of their ideas being watered down by the usual commercial constraints, the 6 shortlisted teams have chosen to go it alone...It is a fitting result for a competition that appeared to be little more than a government PR exercise to distract from the reality of retrograde reforms...the ambitions of the winning teams are admirable - and...eminently buildable - but there is little evidence...that either the government or the volume housebuilding sector has any intention of putting them into practice. For that, we must...hope that a progressive coalition...has the imagination to follow their lead. -- Jennifer Beningfield/Openstudio; Chris Brown/Igloo Regeneration; MawsonKer - Guardian (UK)

Edward Gunts: The White House's classically-inspired tennis pavilion is complete, draws "tone deaf" criticism: First Lady Melania Trump unveiled her latest contribution to the White House grounds and to American architecture...lead architect was identified as Steven Spandle...the White House was the primary precedent he studied in designing the pavilion and its classical detailing... - The Architect's Newspaper

Apollo 11 mobile tent allows visitors to experience moon landing milestones in 3D: Architect Teresa Hoskyns and formTL engineers have developed a large-scale mobile tent called 'Lunar Dome' for the Apollo 11 roadshow....accommodating 1,600 visitors, it was conceived as a temporary structure...individual elements are optimized for quick assembly and easy transport. -- Matthew Churchill - Construction Specifier

Okta's New HQ Transforms Their Use Of Physical Space Around The World: San Francisco pilot office by M Moser explores a dynamic environment that serves as home bases for remote working employees to come together...while maintaining independence: ...designed to be a hub that could give employees a "recharge" on Okta culture...zoned to support different work activities and behavior and anchored by "home bases" that teams can personalize to provide a greater sense of belonging than a standard free address space typically

provides. - Work Design Magazine

America Is All In - And So Is ASLA: On the fifth anniversary of the Paris Climate Agreement, ASLA joins over a thousand leaders in affirming our commitment to global climate action: ...a call to action for the incoming administration to recommit the U.S. to global climate action...expanding U.S. leadership at home and abroad, and reimagining community partnerships to advance just and equitable climate solutions for all. - American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Call for entries: C40 Students Reinventing Cities: A global competition to harness new models for green and thriving city neighbourhoods; choose one (or several) site(s) from the 18 participating cities; registration deadline: March 18, 2021 (submissions due May 27, 2021) - C40 Cities

AIA announces its top honors for 2021, including Edward Mazria as Gold Medal recipient: In the 1990s, he helped to establish the AIA's Committee on the Environment (COTE) and went on to found Architecture 2030; Moody Nolan [wins] the 2021 AIA Architecture Firm Award. The largest African American-owned and operated firm in the U.S. with 11 offices nationwide; Pascale Sablan/S9 Architecture, recipient of the 2021 Whitney M. Young Jr. Award, is advancing change in a field not historically known for racial or gender diversity; Anthony Schirripa receives AIA 2021 Edward C. Kemper Award. A leader in the Institute...New York-based architect is known for his mentorship and advocacy work in the profession. - The Architect's Newspaper

Katie Gerfen & Edward Keegan: Winners of the 2020 Studio Prize: ...six studios that encouraged students to think critically about the role of architecture and about how designers can better engage with the communities they serve...as COVID-19 forced schools to shift to remote instruction...the level of investigation, inquiry, and exploration did not falter. -- CCNY Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture; Cornell University, College of Architecture, Art, and Planning; Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP); Carleton University, Azrieli School of Architecture and Urbanism; University of Virginia, School of Architecture; California Polytechnic State University - Architect Magazine

Ben Flatman: Whatever happened to "The Crown" episode where Charles triggers the architects? The prince's notorious speech was a missed opportunity for the profession to interest the public in what it does: The dramatic core of this "missing episode" should surely have been the infamous 1984 "carbuncle speech"...In architectural folklore it's come to be seen as an unforgivable act of treachery...But reading the speech today, the striking thing is how mainstream most of it sounds...they could always shoehorn in the carbuncle speech at the start of season five...something tells me season five isn't going to be kind to the prince. - BD/Building Design (UK)

"Broken Nature": From regenerating coral reefs to contemplating feeding an overpopulated planet, the works...show how design and architecture might jumpstart constructive change...highlights the concept of restorative design, and offers strategies to help humans repair their relationship to the environments that they share with other species and each other. thru August 15, 2021 -- Triennale di Milano - Museum of Modern Art / MoMA (New York City)

Jeff Ostrowski: 'Missing middle' homes could ease affordability squeeze, architect says: In "Missing Middle Housing," Daniel Parolek proposes building more medium-density housing, such as duplexes, four-unit buildings and cottage apartments. Those housing types were common in American cities before World War II...These cozier housing types are smaller than suburban houses, but they also cost significantly less..."Unfortunately, there's a lot of barriers. First and foremost - zoning...neighborhood opposition...building codes... -- Opticos Design - MSN.com

Dan Parolek: Missing Middle: The answer to America's housing crisis might be hiding in plain sight: ...housing types, such as duplexes, fourplexes, cottage courts, and courtyard buildings, are examples of Missing Middle Housing...provide a broad range of affordability...within walking distance to amenities...The reality in most cities is that their planning and regulatory systems are barriers to delivering the housing choices that communities need...Density- and use-based planning and zoning were established to separate uses and create suburban environments, which makes it difficult, or impossible, to mix forms, uses, and types that result in walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods. - The Architect's Newspaper

Rowan Moore: Bjarke Ingels: the BIG-time architect with designs on the entire planet: The audacious Dane behind projects as diverse as Google's new HQs, Copenhagen's ski-slope power plant and flood defences for New York tells our critic that he now has designs on the Earth as a whole: ...bridles at the suggestion that he is megalomaniac. "I made a mistake...when I named my office BIG"...but his new book, "Formgiving: An Architectural Future History," does place the work...in the context of a timeline of the creation of absolutely everything [and] introduces the concept of Masterplanet...a WTF fondness for puncturing piety and pomposity...he offers his "oxymoron", which makes complexity and contradiction into a charmingly consumable package. -- BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Heatherwick Studio; Rem Koolhaas - Observer (UK)

Jared Green: Best Books of 2020: ...a number of new books...renew our hope for racial justice, human and environmental health, and climate action...now is a great time to explore bold new ideas -- "Black Landscapes Matter" - Walter Hood & Grace Mitchell Tada; "The Art of Earth Architecture: Past, Present, and Future" - Jean Dethier; "Impact: The Effect of Climate Change on Coastlines" - Alex MacLean; "The Invention of Public Space: Designing for Inclusion in Lindsay's New York - Miana Mogilevich; "Lo-TEK. Design by Radical Indigenism" - Julia Watson; "Transforming Landscapes: Michel Desvigne Paysagiste"; "Parks and Recreation System Planning: A New Approach for Creating Sustainable, Resilient Communities" - David Barth; etc. - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

J. Michael Welton: From Dream of Venice: 'Lost No More': JoAnn Locktov asked me to contribute an essay to..."Dream of Venice Architecture"...an exquisite gem of a tome...With essays by the likes of Tadao Ando, Mario Botta, Louise Braverman, Frank Harmon, Thomas Woltz and the late William Menking, it's the perfect 2020 holiday gift. During an era of pandemic, this book will transport its reader to better times and places. - Architects and Artisans

ANN feature: Dave Hora: Nature of Order #2: The First Eight of Christopher Alexander's 15 Fundamental Properties of Wholeness: These are properties that

describe how centers work together to produce life in a given scope of the structural fabric we inhabit, the wholeness. - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Tuesday, December 15, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE: Just a heads-up that this will be the final week of news for the year - hopefully the Nor'easter heading our way tomorrow won't affect the last newsletter of 2020 on Thursday.

- [ANN feature](#): Turan Duda & Jeffrey Paine: Predicting the Unpredictable - 2021 Workplace Trends: Several emerging trends will improve our ability to navigate the future with employee health and wellness in mind.
- [A tribute](#) to and in-depth profile of Carol R. Johnson, 91, "founder of what became one of the largest woman-owned landscape architecture practices in the U.S., and a role model for women in the profession - in 1998 she was the first American woman to receive the ASLA Medal."
- [Betsky makes](#) the case for "why we should cancel Philip Johnson" - but that doesn't mean we should "pretend that he never existed. His life, after all, has many lessons to teach us. He was a cultured, rich cad who made us forget our own failings as a country and as a profession."
- [Lamster](#) minces no words re: plans for a "garish" fountain in Dallas's Klyde Warren Park - "an unsustainable gusher of civic hubris. Is it really necessary to say that the presentation of such an extravagant folly at a moment when food lines stretch for a mile is grotesque, not to mention utterly tone deaf?"
- [Pedersen](#), on a brighter note, has a great Q&A with Christopher Hawthorne re: the Low-Rise: Housing Ideas for Los Angeles design challenge, and his 2+ years as the city's chief design officer (registration for Low-Rise challenge: December 18!).
- [William](#) Morgan mulls the post-COVID office: "Nothing will be normal ever again - despite our national yearning for a return to normalcy - the long evolution to gigantic and often remote office buildings was the abnormal. The office isn't going away," but it will require "some radical and creative rethinking."
- [Hickman](#) reports on a dead mall in Columbus, Indiana, "getting a new lease on life as a health-focused community hub - in a refreshing deviation from the norm" (becoming a private mixed-use development), a non-profit now owns the property and plans to transform it into a public asset."
- [Studio Gang's](#) first Colorado project is a 13-story building that "won't look anything like the rest of the historic buildings that surround Denver's Civic Center Park" - hosting a hotel, micro-apartments, a public rooftop bar - and more.
- [Ravenscroft](#) brings us eye-fuls of Tehran-based ZAV Architects' multi-colored domed cultural retreat on the Iranian island of Hormuz, constructed using a low-tech method so that "the buildings could be largely completed by people in the local community" (we want one!).
- [Shafaieh](#) reports on Toshiko Mori's Harvard GSD studio that took students to Hokkaido, Japan, to "focus on the ecology, and economy, of creating and designing with wood in communities where forests are abundant or special" (fab photos by Maggie Janik!).
- [GSD's Alex](#) Krieger takes us on his "iconic tour of Boston - a city in constant need to create land" (fab video by Janik).
- [A who's](#) who of nearly 70 architects and designers have donated art to ARCH (Architecture for Change)'s just-launched one-week auction "to raise funds for a scholarship program for Black women" established by the

Architects Foundation (some stunners with starting bids \$50!).

- [In the "AIA's](#) ongoing effort to meaningfully address structural racism in the built environment and to uphold our professional values," its Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct is revised "to prohibit the design of spaces intended for execution, torture and prolonged solitary confinement."
- [The Graham](#) Foundation awards grants to 36 international organizations - "all committed to expanding on the ways we interact with architecture. It's quite a varied list, too" (with link to details).
- [Not again!](#) Venice is "hit by high tides of up to 5 feet after its MOSE flood barrier system was not activated as a result of mistaken forecasts."

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[ANN feature: Turan Duda, FAIA & Jeffrey Paine, FAIA: Predicting the Unpredictable - 2021 Workplace Trends: Several emerging trends will improve our ability to navigate the future with employee health and wellness in mind.](#) - ArchNewsNow.com

[Obituary: Remembering Carol R. Johnson, 91: ...founder of what became one of the largest woman-owned landscape architecture practices in the U.S...When she founded her Cambridge, MA-based firm in 1959...there were few women landscape architects working on urban design and planning issues...she also made her mark as an educator at Harvard GSD and as a role model for women in the profession...did have opportunities that were unusual for a woman...her first foreign project, the landscape associated with the U.S. Pavilion at Montreal's Expo '67, where she collaborated with Buckminster Fuller and Cambridge Seven Associates...in 1998 she was the first American woman to receive the ASLA Medal.](#) - The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF)

[Aaron Betsky: Why We Should Cancel Philip Johnson: ...on the call to strip the architect's name from public institutions: ...it's long overdue. For all of his significance...despite his philanthropic generosity...there is no getting around the fact that he was a Nazi supporter...No longer honoring him with gallery and curator titles does not mean...we pretend that he never existed. His life, after all, has many lessons to teach us...With a flippant witticism, \[he\] could make anything seem, if not OK, at the very least amusing. To spend time with \[him\] was to find yourself charmed, bought, and sold...He was a cultured, rich cad who made us forget our own failings as a country and as a profession.](#) - Architect Magazine

[Mark Lamster: Klyde Warren Park's splashy proposed fountain is a design belly flop: Dallas needs better spaces, not gaudy baubles that reinforce dated stereotypes: Introduced with a garish rendering and billed as the "world's tallest interactive fountain"...spouting jets of water nearly 100 feet in the air...amplified by music and colored lights...\[city\] does not need a corny gimmick that propagates an ersatz vision of itself...an unsustainable gusher of civic hubris...Is it really necessary to say that the presentation of such an extravagant folly at a moment when food lines stretch for a mile is grotesque, not to mention utterly tone deaf? -- James Burnett/OJB Landscape Architecture; Jim Garland/Fluidity Design Consultants; Alexandra Lange](#) - Dallas Morning News

[Martin C. Pedersen: Christopher Hawthorne on Low-Rise: Housing Ideas for Los Angeles design challenge: The newest effort organized by the city's chief design officer: Q&A re: his two-plus years in government, the latest "ideas"](#)

challenge...and other issues facing the city: "...the genesis for Low-Rise is the stalemate in our policy debates about the future of housing policy in low-rise residential neighborhoods...We see using the winning proposals primarily...as the basis for further public engagement and discussion...We see a symbiotic relationship between this design challenge and...various planning, policy and code efforts. - Common Edge

William Morgan: The Post-COVID Office: Nothing will be normal ever again. Despite our national yearning for a return to normalcy, the coronavirus has changed how we live, how we work, and where we work...The pandemic has helped us to see that the long evolution to gigantic and often remote office buildings was the abnormal. The Internet and related technology has made working outside of the corporate environment highly doable and perhaps preferable...The office isn't going away...There is still a desire to have one...we need to do some radical and creative rethinking... - GoLocalProv.com (Providence, Rhode Island)

Matt Hickman: From Auntie Anne's to Ellipticals: In Columbus, Indiana, a dead mall is getting a new lease on life as a health-focused community hub: ...in a refreshing deviation from the norm, the Fair Oaks Mall won't give way to a private mixed-use development...nonprofit...now owns the 36-acre property and plans to transform the mall into a public asset: A health and recreational campus centered around "holistic well-being"...goes beyond turning an old Sears into a very large Equinox...25% will be reserved for nonprofit community partners... -- César Pelli/Gruen Associates; MKSK; Perkins + Will - The Architect's Newspaper

Renderings reveal look of new 13-story triangular building by Denver's Civic Center Park: 13-story, mixed-use building...won't look anything like the rest of the historic buildings that surround the park...distinctive windows that are meant to evoke the growth patterns of aspen trees...Populus...will feature a 250-key hotel, 40 micro-apartments, a public rooftop bar and view deck... -- Urban Villages; Jeanne Gang/Studio Gang - Denver Business Journal

Tom Ravenscroft: ZAV Architects creates colourful domed cultural retreat on Iranian island of Hormuz: ...[Presence in Hormuz] holiday community that is housed in around 200 brightly coloured domes overlooking the Persian Gulf...constructed using a low-tech method with a structure made of stacked sandbags...supported with steel and finished with cement...method meant that the buildings could be largely completed by people in the local community. - Dezeen

Charles Shafaieh: "Making Next to Forest": Toshiko Mori's studio demonstrates how design decisions relate to natural-resource use and protection: She took students to Hokkaido, Japan...focused on the ecology, and economy, of creating and designing with wood in communities where forests are abundant or special. Photography by Maggie Janik - Harvard University Graduate School of Design (GSD)

Land for a City on a Hill: Alex Krieger's iconic tour of Boston: ...professor and former chair of the Harvard GSD Department of Urban Planning and Design speaks of the historic and contemporary geographical, infrastructural, and racial conditions of Boston, a city in "constant need to create land." Video by Maggie Janik - Harvard University Graduate School of Design (GSD)

India Block: David Adjaye, Forensic Architecture and Daniel Libeskind donate works to support black women in architecture school: Organised by architectural initiative ARCH (Architecture for Change), the auction [launched yesterday] will run for one week to raise funds for a scholarship programme for black women...100% of net proceeds...to the Desiree V Cooper Memorial Fund...established by the Architects Foundation in memory of the late, black female architect...Each recipient will receive \$25,000 towards their education. -- Hector Esrawe; Jennifer Bonner; David Rockwell; Jerome Byron; Sean Griffiths; Perry Kulper; Michel Rojkind; Mark Foster Gage; Leroy Street Studio; Hernan Diaz Alonso; FreelandBuck; Jean Pierre Crousse - Dezeen

AIA Board of Directors commits to advancing justice through design: AIA Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct to prohibit the design of spaces intended for execution, torture and prolonged solitary confinement: ...reflects AIA's ongoing effort to meaningfully address structural racism in the built environment and to uphold our professional values. - American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Graham Foundation awards its 2020 Grants to Organizations: ...36 international organizations who will split \$480,000 in grants, all committed to expanding on the ways we interact with architecture. It's quite a varied list, too..., broken up into four sections: Exhibitions; Film, Video, and New Media Projects; Publications, and Student-Led Publications. - The Architect's Newspaper

Venice floods as forecasts fail to predict extent of high tide: Flood barriers were not activated after forecasts predicted high tide of only 1.2 metres [@ 4 feet]: ...hit by high tides of up to 1.5 metres (5 feet) after its flood barrier system was not activated as a result of mistaken forecasts...By the time the water had entered the lagoon...completely flooding the narthex of St Mark's Basilica, it was too late for the MOSE system to take effect. - Guardian (UK)

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Today's News - Wednesday, December 16, 2020

- [Mark Wilson](#) talks to experts from MIT, Parsons, OCAD, Twitter, etc. re: "10 new rules of design. Think of it as a new manifesto to overhaul the framework the industry is using to create a more equitable future for everyone. #2: End the idea of 'cultural fit' - it's racist."
- [Nicolas](#) Valencia parses "the megatrends reshaping the architecture and construction industry - and the globe": Architectural Challenges in Emerging Countries; Urbanization and Smart Cities: Managing Cities Bigger than Countries; etc.
- [Chris Teale](#) reports on experts who say: "Green buildings 'unheralded hero' in emissions fight" - Joe Biden's Clean Energy Plan includes a national building strategy "to create 1 million jobs to upgrade 4 million buildings and weatherize 2 million homes, all within four years."
- [Borland](#) parses studies re: how the multifamily industry is prepping for permanent remote work that "will trigger several new trends - one recommended being vigilant about reacting too quickly to new trends, because there remains market uncertainty."
- [Nellie Peyton](#) offers one of the most in-depth takes on the proposed \$6 billion mega-Akon City of "shiny, pinkish buildings that would look at home in any sci-fi movie" powered by cryptocurrency in Senegal that "has been met with suspicion and bemusement - locals are wondering whether the promised benefits will ever come."
- [Three 6-story](#) heritage buildings will form the base of SHoP Architects' 79-story mixed-use supertall tower in Toronto that includes "expanding civic activity" beyond the atrium.
- [Jared Green](#) reports on a reVISION ASLA 2020 session with three Black women landscape architects and students who explained how Black cultural landscapes "are often made invisible and disrespected" - but "can form the basis of more affirming, inclusive, and resonant place-making today, which in turn can help heal the scars of the past."
- [King cheers](#) two projects in San Francisco's Presidio that, put together with Crissy Field (2001), "add up to the unmatched environmental resurrection of the backside of an Army post."
- [Gamolina's](#) great Q&A with Martha Thorne re: architectural education, the role of the Pritzker, and advice to young architects: "Always question what are considered 'truths.' We need to challenge assumptions in order to find new and better ways of doing things."
- [Q&A](#) with Eric Höweler re: how "uncovering the half-hidden clues and themes embedded in the Harvard Yard gates informed his design" for the newest gate outside Houghton Library (Kamin's "The Gates of Harvard" helped).
- [Two we couldn't](#) resist: Bacchi reports on the EU-funded initiative to "nurture" the well-being of the residents of Lucca, Italy, by making the city "Europe's first 'Human-animal smart city'" that "puts pooches first with a pet-friendly planning scheme."
- [Not much](#) to do with architecture but ... Paris city hall fined €90,000 "for putting too many women in senior roles - mocked as absurd by Mayor Anne Hidalgo: 'I am happy to announce that we have been fined.'"
- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Turan Duda & Jeffrey Paine: Predicting the Unpredictable - 2021 Workplace Trends: Several emerging trends will improve our ability to navigate the future with employee health and wellness in

mind.

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Mark Wilson: 10 new rules of design: The design industry has been caught up in Eurocentric ideas for too long. We talked to leading experts from MIT, Twitter, and more, who want to help break the spell: ...what should you be doing to embrace BIPOC designers as a baseline rather than an exception...Think of it as a new manifesto...to overhaul the framework the industry is using to create a more equitable future for everyone. #2: End the idea of "cultural fit" - it's racist. -- Forest Young/Wolff Olins; Ceasar McDowell/MIT; Kimberly Dowdell/HOK/NOMA; Durell Coleman/DC Design; Kelly Walters/Parsons School of Design; Dori Tunstall/Ontario College of Art & Design (OCAD); etc. - Fast Company / Co.Design

Nicolas Valencia: What Are the Megatrends Reshaping the Architecture Field and the Construction Industry? Before the pandemic, the world was already facing a series of global transformations in the field of construction...sector should be able to understand and adapt to the megatrends that are reshaping the globe: Architectural Challenges in Emerging Countries; Urbanization and Smart Cities: Managing Cities Bigger than Countries; Climate Crisis: Energy-Efficient and Low-Footprint Solutions; etc. - ArchDaily

Chris Teale: Green buildings 'unheralded hero' in emissions fight, experts say: Joe Biden's Clean Energy Plan says it would create 1 million jobs to upgrade 4 million buildings across the United States and weatherize 2 million homes, all within four years...will also be needed in a national building strategy, with cities and states having led the way previously... - Smart Cities Dive

Kelsi Maree Borland: The Multifamily Industry Preps for Permanent Remote Work: The majority of workers will return to offices following the pandemic, but there will be a substantial increase in the remote work segment of the employment market: ...will trigger several new trends While many developers are already making these changes, the report also recommended being vigilant about reacting too quickly to new trends, since there remains market uncertainty. - GlobeSt.com

Nellie Peyton: Future or fantasy? Senegal questions 'Akon City': Senegalese-American singer Akon says he'll build a futuristic city in rural Senegal. Villagers don't know what to think: The designs, which show shiny, pinkish buildings that...would look at home in any sci-fi movie...architect Hussein Bakri has carved out space for a parking lot - for flying cars...proposal has met with suspicion and bemusement...Questions about land rights, financing and feasibility remain unanswered, and locals are wondering whether the promised benefits will ever come...The list of promises is long. -- KE International; Xavier Ricou; APIX; BAD Consult - Thomson Reuters Foundation News

SHoP Architects unveils a mixed-use supertall tower in Toronto: ...if approved, will straddle...entertainment and financial districts and soar 79 stories above one of the city's oldest streets...Three 6-story heritage buildings will form the base...emphasis on encouraging and expanding civic activity will extend out of the atrium...thanks to a planned sidewalk-widening effort that will allow for outdoor cafes, greenery, seating, and improved pedestrian circulation. --

Jared Green: Black Cultural Landscapes Can Be Sources of Healing: Black American cultural landscapes are often made invisible and disrespected...at reVISION ASLA 2020, three Black women landscape architects and students explained how these places can form the basis of more affirming, inclusive, and resonant place-making today, which in turn can help heal the scars of the past. - Ujiji Davis Williams/SmithGroup; Whitney Barr; Anjelyque Easley - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

John King: Crissy Field has new neighbors - 7 acres of tidal wetlands and a hilltop park-to-be: ...in San Francisco's Presidio...two projects are the latest elements in a remarkable ongoing transformation...While Quartermaster Reach might be of interest primarily to birdwatchers...the 14-acre park taking shape to the west could become a Crissy Field-like destination...Put all these endeavors together - including Crissy Field, which opened in 2001...they add up to the unmatched environmental resurrection of the backside of an Army post...Large public endeavors rarely go smoothly. Fortunately for the Bay Area, the outcomes often are worth the wait. - San Francisco Chronicle

Julia Gamolina: Service to Humanity: Martha Thorne on the Pritzker Prize, Architectural Education, and Affecting Change: Dean of IE School of Architecture & Design...in Madrid and Segovia, Spain...Executive Director of the Pritzker Architecture Prize...[she] talks about her international experiences, her role in academia, and the role of the Pritzker Prize, advising young architects to "always question what are considered 'truths.' We need to challenge assumptions in order to find new and better ways of doing things." - Madame Architect

New gate outside Houghton Library adds another story to storied Harvard Yard: Designer reveals a hidden world, rich history: The Peter J. Solomon Gate starts a new chapter to the history of the gates that have stood there over the years. Q&A with Eric Höweler re: uncovering the half-hidden clues and themes embedded in the Yard gates; how that informed his design: "Blair Kamin's book ["The Gates of Harvard"] is a kind of investigative journalism, almost an archaeology...We hoped this gate might tell different stories...so we have hidden messages and patterns, images and silhouettes that you might not see at first..." -- Höweler + Yoon Architecture - Harvard Gazette

Umberto Bacchi: Italian city puts pooches first with pet-friendly planning scheme: EU-funded project hopes to turn picturesque Lucca in Tuscany into Europe's first 'Human-animal smart city': ...initiative aims to nurture residents' well-being by making the city an animal-lovers' paradise - with dedicated dog-walking paths and pet-therapy programmes...could include...an app showing owners where to find water for thirsty pooches... -- Diletta Moretti - Thomson Reuters Foundation News

Paris city hall fined for putting too many women in senior roles: Paris mayor to pay fine of €90,000 for breaking national rules in 2018 on gender parity: ...a decision mocked as absurd by the mayor, Anne Hidalgo..."I am happy to announce that we have been fined"...Since 2018 the absurd rule on parity in management had been repealed. - Guardian (UK)

[ANN feature: Turan Duda, FAIA & Jeffrey Paine, FAIA: Predicting the Unpredictable - 2021 Workplace Trends: Several emerging trends will improve our ability to navigate the future with employee health and wellness in mind.](#) - ArchNewsNow.com

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Yesterday's News

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Today's News - Thursday, December 17, 2020

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the final newsletter of 2020(!). We wish everyone a happy - even though a very different - holiday season. We'll be back Tuesday, January 5(!). In the meantime: Stay well. Stay especially safe (and please don't travel!).

- [ANN double-feature](#) to end the year: Peter Gisolfi: Consider the Place: The idea of place is a much freer, more far reaching, and potentially more inspiring understanding of setting than one that simply extols the virtues of contextual design.
- [Trahan Architects](#) & Spackman Mossop Michaels reveal their design for the renewal of Luther George Park in downtown Springdale, Arkansas - made possible by a grant from the Walton Family Foundation's Design Excellence Program.
- [Saffron](#): "When will this be over?' has become, 'When this is over...' - for all the terribleness of this pandemic, the hundreds of thousands of lives lost, we've learned some unexpected lessons - here's what we should keep."
- [Bloomberg](#) Green invited Julien De Smedt, Casper Mork-Ulnes, and Koichi Takada, all architects known for their focus on sustainability, to envision what dream homes might look like once the EU goes net-zero (great presentation!).
- [How New](#) Orleans-based Bryan C. Lee, Jr., founder of the nonprofit design & architecture firm Colloqate, "is using design justice to empower communities through outdoor spaces - 'the very premise of architecture is complicit in systems of racism. Public spaces present an opportunity to build community and host civic engagement.'"
- [Gamolina's](#) (great) Q&A with Pritzker Prize laureates Yvonne Farrell & Shelley McNamara: "Architecture is a universal right. As a profession, we need to communicate that more. If we're not careful, we sound exclusive, and architecture deserves more than that" (and "advising young architects to nurture their true friendships").
- [Baldwin's](#) (great) Q&A with Vivian Lee, Maureen Boyer, and Christiana Kyrillou, the women who head Woods Bagot studios in New York, San Francisco, and Los Angeles: "What do we bring to the table is not contingent on being female."; "We are not just women leaders; we are leaders, period."
- [Welton cheers](#) Hamilton, Ontario-based Thier + Curran Architects' transformation of the town's 1850 Gasworks building into a music hall "dedicated to the concept of introducing children to music. Every city on the planet would do well to embrace that kind of concept."
- [Hickman](#) reports that Noguchi's site-specific 1957 "Ceiling and Waterfall for the Lobby of 666 Fifth Avenue" has been removed as part of a KPF renovation; the good news: It is now "safely in the hands of the Noguchi Foundation, which is exploring ways in which it can be re-introduced into the public realm in a new location."
- [One we couldn't](#) resist: 'Christmas Star' will be closest visible conjunction of the "planetary giants" Jupiter and Saturn in 800 years - looking like one large star on the winter solstice, Dec. 21, in the southwest sky.
- [ICYMI: ANN](#) feature: Turan Duda & Jeffrey Paine: Predicting the Unpredictable - 2021 Workplace Trends: Several emerging trends will improve our ability to navigate the future with employee health and wellness in mind.

Deadline:

- [Call for](#) entries/RFP: On Olive Residential Design Competition as a part of a residential development in St. Louis; open to Black Emerging Architects (national) & Local Emerging Architects; \$30,000 to take the house through schematics, and the house will be built.

Weekend diversions & Page-turners:

- [Blake Gopnik](#) takes issue with MoMA's "Broken Nature": "A show, and a field, that seems set to push back against our consumerist urges feels almost consumed by them" - with "the faulty message that our species can get out of its existential predicament simply by craving somewhat more earth-friendly goods."
- ["Aldo Rossi. The Architect and the Cities"](#) opens today at the MAXXI in Rome with more than 800 models and archival documents "associated with the late lion of Italian postmodernist design" (Huxtable described him as "a poet who happens to be an architect").
- [Finbarr Toesland's Q&A](#) with Leslie Kern re: her book "Feminist City: Claiming Space in the Man-made World": "If the majority of architects are men -.they perhaps have a limited set of life experiences that don't allow [them] to notice certain issues" facing women and other marginalized groups.
- [A fab photo-essay](#) excerpted from "Enabling Connections to Empower Place: The Carolinas", by Kofi Boone, that appears in Hood and Mitchell's "Black Landscapes Matter."
- [Kamin offers](#) "a rich array of design books for the holidays. They're all related to Chicago and its suburbs, but have much broader appeal" (they all sound great!).
- [In "Philip Cox: An Australian Architecture,"](#) Patrick Bingham-Hall "depicts the evolution of Australian society and architecture as a whole in the post-WWII years."



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ANN feature: [Peter Gisolfi: Consider the Place: The idea of place is a much freer, more far reaching, and potentially more inspiring understanding of setting than one that simply extols the virtues of contextual design.](#) - ArchNewsNow.com

ANN feature: [Trahan Architects and Spackman Mossop Michaels reveal their design for the renewal of Luther George Park in downtown Springdale, Arkansas: The project is made possible by a generous grant from the Walton Family Foundation's Design Excellence Program.](#) - ArchNewsNow.com

[Inga Saffron: As we contemplate the end of the pandemic, here's what we should keep: From working from home to voting by mail to dining by the light of a street lamp, the pandemic has reshaped our worlds in ways that are not all bad. We could even end up learning to love Zoom: "When will this be over?" has become, "When this is over..." ...for all the terribleness of this pandemic, the hundreds of thousands of lives lost, we've learned some unexpected lessons...If we can improve our parks and open up our streets to people instead of cars, cities could become even more livable.](#) - Philadelphia Inquirer

[Laura Millan Lombraña: Architects Imagine the Dream Homes of Europe's Green Future: Three leaders in sustainable design envision what buildings might look like once the continent goes net-zero: Bloomberg Green invited Julien De Smedt, Casper Mork-Ulnes, and Koichi Takada, all architects known for their focus on sustainability to perform an exercise of imagination. Pick a place in Europe, design a single-family home to suit that climate, and make it produce](#)



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more energy than it uses. - Bloomberg Green

This architect is using design justice to empower communities through outdoor spaces: New Orleans-based Bryan C. Lee, Jr...founder and design principal for a nonprofit design and architecture firm Colloqate...wants to use architecture and design justice to tell a story about the displacement of people, cultures, communities, and environments across [NOLA]...architecture is not simply a profession of designing buildings and structures...the very premise of architecture is complicit in systems of racism...Public spaces present an opportunity to build community and host civic engagement. - Grist Magazine

Julia Gamolina: A Universal Right: Pritzker Laureates Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara on the Fundamentals of Architecture, Building Bit by Bit, and Friendship: ...advising young architects to nurture their true friendships: "Architecture is a universal right...As a profession, we need to communicate that more...If we're not careful, we sound exclusive, and architecture deserves more than that." -- Grafton Architects - Madame Architect

Eric Baldwin: The Women of Woods Bagot: Architects Building New Futures: ...the firm's three US studios are now each run by women...Each Director has taken the reins before the global pandemic was underway, and now the trio is working to rethink how the practice can address diverse challenges in New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles. Q&A with Vivian Lee, Maureen Boyer, and Christiana Kyrillou: "While we're proud of being women leaders, we're wary of tokenism"; "What do we bring to the table is not contingent on being female."; "We are not just women leaders; we are leaders, period." - ArchDaily

J. Michael Welton: Architecture in Service to Kids and Music: Hamilton, Ontario, may be a blue-collar steel town...it's a music town too...Bill Curran, principal in Thier + Curran Architects...recently completed the design and renovation of a music hall there, dedicated to the concept of introducing children to...music...Voortman Charitable Foundation...bought the town's (1850)

Gasworks building...a building that [now] enhances kids' musical experience [and] thoughtful architecture to enrich their lives even further. Every city on the planet would do well to embrace that kind of concept. - Architects + Artisans

Matt Hickman: Site-specific Isamu Noguchi installation pulled from 660 Fifth Avenue lobby: "Ceiling and Waterfall for the Lobby of 666 Fifth Avenue" (1957)...undulating, illuminated installation...was an original feature of the landmark Carson & Lundin-designed high-rise, which opened to significant fanfare in 1957...Noguchi Foundation...makes clear, [it] has indeed been removed as part of [KPF] renovation and is now, reassuringly, safely in the hands of the foundation, which is exploring ways in which it can be re-introduced into the public realm in a new location. -- Carson & Lundin (1957); Kohn Pedersen Fox - The Architect's Newspaper

Call for entries: Request for Proposals/RFP: On Olive Architectural Residential Design Competition: single-family residences as a part of a residential development in the Grand Center area of St. Louis; open to Black Emerging Architects (national) & Local Emerging Architects; \$30,000 to take the house through schematics, and the house will be built; deadline: January 30, 2021 - On Olive

'Christmas Star' will be closest visible conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn in 800 years: The conjunction of the planetary giants will look like one large star on the winter solstice, Dec. 21, in the southwest sky. - NBC News

Blake Gopnik: The Mixed Message of Earth-Friendly Design: "Broken Nature" at MoMA offers up a trove of 'restorative' projects. Does buying more elegant objects help heal the planet? A show, and a field, that seems set to push back against our consumerist urges feels almost consumed by them...a number of the objects...send the faulty message that our species can get out of its existential predicament simply by craving somewhat more earth-friendly goods. -- Paola Antonelli - New York Times

A major Aldo Rossi retrospective opens today at the MAXXI in Rome: "Aldo Rossi. The Architect and the Cities"...display more than 800 letters, sketches, photographs, models, letters, and various archival documents associated with the late lion of Italian postmodernist design...Ada Louise Huxtable...member of the Pritzker Prize jury, famously described Rossi as "a poet who happens to be an architect." thru August 29, 2021 - The Architect's Newspaper

Finbarr Toesland: What makes a city feminist? We live in places designed by and for men. In "Feminist City: Claiming Space in the Man-made World," geographer Leslie Kern offers alternatives: ...women and other marginalised groups are left out of planning decisions that impact their lives, and they must deal with countless hidden obstacles that make navigating the city unnecessarily arduous. Q&A re: how lockdowns have highlighted several failures of cities, the need for an intersectional approach to urban planning and whether a truly feminist city is close to becoming a reality: "If the majority of architects are men...they perhaps have a limited set of life experiences that don't allow [them] to notice certain issues." - City Monitor

The Black Landscapes That Matter: centuries of oppression followed by disinvestment have led to the erasure of many places important to Black history,

and the histories behind them. That must change. If spaces and landscapes are to reflect America as it is, then America as it is must be able to see itself in America's spaces and landscapes...photo essay excerpted from "Enabling Connections to Empower Place: The Carolinas", by Kofi Boone...appears in "Black Landscapes Matter," edited by Walter Hood and Grace Mitchell - Next City (formerly Next American City)

Blair Kamin: From the Great Fire to modernist houses to Jeanne Gang, a rich array of design books for the holidays: They're all related to Chicago and its suburbs, but have much broader appeal: "Chicago's Great Fire: The Destruction and Resurrection of an Iconic American City" by Carl Smith: scholarly yet highly readable...captures the immediacy of the calamity; "Broken Glass: Mies van der Rohe, Edith Farnsworth, and the Fight Over a Modernist Masterpiece" by Alex Beam: charts the evolution of Mies van der Rohe's celebrated steel-and-glass house and the devolution of the relationship between its architect and client; "Modern in the Middle: Chicago Houses 1929-1975" by Susan S. Benjamin and Michelangelo Sabatino: lucid text...handsome historic photographs, fills a significant gap in our understanding of mid-20th-century modernism; "Studio Gang: Architecture" by Studio Gang; "Evanston's Design Heritage: Architects, Designers & Planners" by Design Evanston - Chicago Tribune

A career celebrated in "Philip Cox: An Australian Architecture": Photographs, sketches, drawings and original artworks capture his career: Patrick Bingham-Hall depicts the evolution of Australian society and architecture as a whole in the post-WWII years. "[His] career spans an era that was the making of modern Australia"...The Sydney-born architect, who just turned 81, is best known for the "structural gymnastics of his public buildings" -- COX Architecture - Australian Design Review

ANN feature: Turan Duda, FAIA & Jeffrey Paine, FAIA: Predicting the Unpredictable - 2021 Workplace Trends: Several emerging trends will improve our ability to navigate the future with employee health and wellness in mind. - ArchNewsNow.com

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