• "Morris Lapidus: The Architecture of Joy" is "strikingly" illustrated and ready to charm a new generation.

• Hawthorne revisits McWilliams’s 1946 "Southern California: An Island on the Land" that is "easily the most significant volume ever published on L.A.'s civic and urban

• "Success by Design" by Jenn Kennedy "offers great insight for starting a firm, provides inspiration to persevere during difficult times, and truly allows the personalities

• Calys cheers "The Power of Pro Bono" in which he "rediscovers some sense of the idealism that was the reason so many of us chose to be architects in the first

• Lubell offers a luscious eyeful of prize pieces from the Neon Museum in Las Vegas, about to celebrate its 15th anniversary.

• In Toronto, "Villanueva: An Extraordinary Alien" presents a major project in Caracas "designed by the most influential Venezuelan architect of the 20th century."

• Weekend diversions:

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  • In Palm Beach, "The Extraordinary Joseph Urban" details the extraordinary breadth of his architecture, illustrations, set design, and set design.

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by the most influential Venezuelan architect of the 20th century, Carlos Raul Villanueva. -- Ruth A. Mora; Gaston Soucy; Eduardo Lee - Metro News Toronto

Neon Baby! ...one of the coolest institutions in the world: The Neon Museum, located on the far northern end of The Strip [in Las Vegas]. The museum, about to celebrate its 15th anniversary, and ready to open its new visitors center next year (a rehab of the swooping, Paul Williams-designed La Concha Hotel)... By Sam Lubell -- West Star Architects [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

The Good Fight: John Cary collects stories from architects and their clients in his new book "The Power of Pro Bono"...rediscover some sense of the idealism that was the reason so many of us chose to be architects in the first place...a collection of photographic enticement and prose engagement. By George Calys -- John Peterson/Public Architecture; SHoP Architects; Samuel Mockbee; David Baker; Gensler - The Architect's Newspaper

"Success by Design" by Jenn Kennedy: ...a focused work outlining the history of 25 architectural firms scattered across California...offers great insight for starting a firm, provides inspiration to persevere during difficult times, and truly allows the personalities of the architects to shine through. [images] - ArchDaily

Reading L.A.: Carey McWilliams and Southern California’s "vast drama of maladjustment": His 1946 book "Southern California: An Island on the Land" is...easily the most significant volume ever published on L.A.’s civic and urban character...knits skepticism with consistent, if always clear-eyed, enthusiasm...the heart of the book remains its effort to document and dissect L.A.’s exceptionalism... By Christopher Hawthorne - Los Angeles Times

Buildings That Jump Up And Bite: The 'Super-shlock' of Architect Morris Lapidus Gets Its Due In The Age of Comfort: By putting people first, he has charmed a new generation of admirers, that has dedicated recent tributes to his work, such as the strikingly illustrated "Morris Lapidus: The Architecture of Joy" by Deborah Desilets. [images, links] - The Forward (NY)


Zaha Hadid Architects: Guangzhou Opera House, Guangzhou, China

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