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Obituary: Zaha Hadid died aged 65... "...had a heart attack on Thursday while in hospital in Miami..." "She was so distinct that there isn't anybody like her"... "...no one had any more impact than she did. She fought her way through as a woman."... Guardian (UK)

Obituary: Kirsten Childs 1944–2016: The Green Building Movement Has Lost One of Its Unsung Heroes: Our buildings are better places to live and work in today because of her efforts. By Alex Wilson -- Croxton Collaborative Architects -- BuildingGreen.com

Architects Being Valued Enough? ...architecture...has seen some of its traditional areas of dominance encroached upon especially in the procurement space...The result...is a growing polarisation between very large and very small firms and a hollowing out of the 'middle ground'... "...the public sector should feel some sense of obligation to at least give small to medium sized practices a chance." -- Sourceable (Australia)

Has Landscape Architecture Failed? In our defense, we might argue that landscape architecture is a very young and very small profession...less a story of failure and more one of a discipline taking the time...to prepare for a more significant role in this, the 21st century... landscape urbanists had to also become urban designers and urban planners..."...the urbanists of our age." By Richard Weller and Billy Fleming- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

There's still time to improve awkward elements of new Milwaukee Buck arena: ...when it comes to the design process...we are in a fourth-quarter timeout...there's time for corrections, but defeat is a possibility...[the architects] have made an almost incalculable number of winning moves...[designs] reveal a number of awkwardnesses, including deadened public spaces and a very clunky back side. By Mary Louise Schumacher -- Populous; Epstein Uhen Architects - Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

The Cities Doubling Down on Highways: Physically expanding roads doesn't cure congestion. So why are places like Arkansas spending millions to do just that? It's a testament to Americans' continuing obsession with cars...No matter the effects on the city underneath. By Alana Semuels

More Before-and-After Photos of the World's Best Street Designs: A newly updated archive lets you track images of urban makeovers across the world: ...a compelling, increasingly comprehensive and completely addictive overview of just how many cities are rethinking street plans that once prized car access above all else. By Feargus O'Sullivan -- Urb-i -- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

A parking garage that won't be just a parking garage: ..."Seaport Transportation Center"...Massport's efforts underscore a trend that has emerged in the past few years: designing garage complexes that contribute to - rather than detract from - street-level activity and an urban area's aesthetics. -- Fennick McCrede Architecture - Boston Globe

Two cities architects play key role in Congo clinic: Interesting developments continue to sprout from an ambitious venture in central Africa. It's Aai, a multiyear clean water-health-agriculture development...the world's first "social enterprise strip mall."...
A Push to Rebuild a Mies Van Der Rohe Modernist Gem: German architects and planners are seeking to rebuild his Wolf House. But some experts oppose the idea: "...could eventually become Europe's first Mies van der Rohe museum..." the question of architectural reconstruction raised "a really deep-seated ideological debate." By Gerrit Wiesmann - New York Times

My hero: Berthold Lubetkin: He may not have understood the needs of penguins, but, unlike some of our present politicians, he did understand that, in his words, "nothing is too good for ordinary people". By Marina Lewycka - The Lubetkin Legacy - Guardian (UK)

Call for entries: Build Earth Live Hyperloop Competition: create a plan to link Dubai and Abu Dhabi with a super-speed Hyperloop; live, 48-hour worldwide virtual design collaboration, May 23 - 25 (brief will be released by the 1st week of May) - Asite / Vectorworks

Why Waste Architecture On Building? "The Other Architect" Shows How To Fix Cities With Architectural Thinking: A stimulating exhibition at the Canadian Centre for Architecture...The simple premise...is that architecture need not entail building...More than an exhibition, [it] is a deeply-contextualized call to action...to make architectural thinking accessible to everyone. By Jonathon Keats - Forbes

The Moscow Metro Celebrated in All Its Glory at Shchusev Architecture Museum, Moscow: "Moscow Metro. Subterranean Monument"...visitors can retrace the history of this symbol of Moscow...and be convinced once again that the metro system is not just public transportation, but a living museum beneath the earth. - The Moscow Times (Russia)

"A New Look at Humanism in Architecture, Landscapes and Urban Design" by Robert Lamb Hart: ...a fresh examination of humanism and its impact on the built environment...No small task...offers a perspective...that is in danger of being lost...Whether today's young architects will cultivate their attention on the philosophical and scientific humanism underpinning modern architecture only the future can tell. By George Calys - San Francisco Examiner

Journey Back to the Dreamy, Gorgeous Architecture of Utopia: The idea of "utopian architecture" is a fraught one. Utopia, by definition, is a place where things are perfect. But who, exactly, gets to decide what is perfect? "The Tale of Tomorrow: Utopian Architecture in the Modernist Realm" offers a more measured interpretation. By Margaret Rhodes -- Zvi Hecker; Buckminster Fuller; Eero Saarinen; Paolo Soleri; Bruce Goff; John Lautner; Louis Kahn; Robert Bruno; Ricardo Bofill [images] - Wired

Q&A: Allan T. Shulman Dishes on the Bacardi Family's Architectural Impact on Miami: ...investigates the family's lesser-known legacy in an upcoming tome..."Building Bacardi: Architecture, Art & Identity"...an image- and fact-filled tour of these structures that boasts legendary architects, noted artists, and company leaders. - Ocean Drive magazine (Florida)

A Coloring Book for All Who Love Architecture: ...get a load of "Fantastic Structures," the dazzling new coloring book from the Canadian artist Steven McDonald...This is no casual design jaunt: the book takes advanced scribblers to six continents...[images] - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership, Kalamazoo, Michigan: Studio Gang's Arcus Center embodies the ideas of social justice - an inclusive building encouraging equality, openness and conversation...continuously considered how they could use their agency as architects to address issues of social justice themselves. By Nina Tory-Henderson [images]