EDITOR’S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We’ll be back Tuesday, April 12 - but a heads-up that our wonky schedule for next week may make for an erratic posting schedule - we’ll do our best...

• Anderton talks Zaha with Giovanni, Wiscombe, Hodgetts, Funu and Bourlier: "if there was a Mount Olympus of architects, she would be on it."

• Sorkin recalls "a madcap Brazilian sojourn with Zaha Hadid. What a trip."

• Glancy bemoans "the way we develop, extend and build - insensitive architecture and gormless planning...we are fast becoming urban illiterates."

• Davidson x 2 (and on much brighter notes): his own guide (and kudos) to LA’s "wildly inventive new architecture."

• He spotlights Maltzan's and Bestor's residential complexes: "Hoping to transform the city without trauma, L.A. architects are trying for density without towers."

• Kamin cheers plans to bring the 102-year-old Cook County Hospital back to life with a hotel and apartments, though future phases "have potential trouble spots."

• Moneo has big plans for 13 acres of Miami's Jockey Club, but "residents hope to permanently block development."

• OMA and Hassell win the competition to design the new Western Australian Museum in Perth, though there's an approved back-up team that includes Nouvel, should contract "negotiations fail to succeed."

• Sisson cheers MoMA's "A Japanese Constellation: Toyo Ito, SANAA, and Beyond" - a "timely reminder of the beauty and daring that can be brought to public architecture, and the questing intellect required to push the profession forward."

• Ruthen cheers "Your Future Home: Creating the New Vancouver" at the Museum of Vancouver - it "touches on four of the city's hot-button current issues: housing affordability, density, transportation, and public space."

• "Hénault has high praise for "An Architecture for Modern Quebec, 1958-1974" at Montreal's UQAM Centre de design, and hopes "another venue will host this rich incursion into the brave '60s, lest we forget the heroic uctuators of our recent past."

• Eyful of Oliver’s "stunning - if oddly surreal - series of images" of China's largest ghost town in "Ordos: A Failed Utopia" (amazing images!).

• Hollwich x 2 re: his "bright, friendly, funny" book "New Aging: Live smarter now to live better forever."

• Weekend diversions:
  • The new PBS documentary series "10 That Changed America" explores America's built environment, from homes to parks to towns, with the "hope to broaden America's understanding of its architecture and cities" (it's not "a mere televised listicle").
  • Sisson cheers the new Frank Lloyd Wright Heritage Trail in Wisconsin (road trip!).
  • Lange loves MoMA's "A Japanese Constellation: Toyo Ito, SANAA, and Beyond" - a "timely reminder of the beauty and daring that can be brought to public architecture, and the questing intellect required to push the profession forward."
  • Ruthen cheers "Your Future Home: Creating the New Vancouver" at the Museum of Vancouver - it "touches on four of the city's hot-button current issues: housing affordability, density, transportation, and public space."

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DNA/Frances Anderton: Zaha Hadid, a Titan of Contemporary Architecture...

Michael Sorkin: Travels With Zaha: A critic remembers a madcap Brazilian sojourn with Zaha Hadid: There would be gales of laughter, oceans of gossip, acute observations, urgent detours, deep appreciation, and the greatest tenderness. What a trip.

Architectural Record

Britain’s urban literacy is a national scandal: Jonathan Glancey laments the loss of city making skills: ...the way we develop, extend and build in all too many towns and cities worldwide today demonstrates, in thousands of square feet of insensitive architecture and gormless planning, the fact that we are fast becoming urban illiterates. ["How to Read Towns and Cities: A crash course in urban architecture"]; - BD/Building Design (UK)

A Guide to Los Angeles’s Wildly Inventive New Architecture: These buildings embrace nature, density, and public space: Public transit is reintroducing the car-free life, and architects are reinventing the local vernacular. By Justin Davidson -- Michael Maltzan; Tighe Architecture/John V. M butto Architects; M/AD Architects; Eric Owen Moss; Bestor Architecture; Genesier; Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF); James Corner Field Operations; Frederick Fisher; Diller Scofidio + Renfro-- New York Magazine


Restoration plan for old Cook County Hospital has welcome elements: The plan would breathe new life into one of Chicago's great buildings...also could bring urban vibrancy to the Illinois Medical District...that now resembles a dull suburban office park...would transform the 102-year-old building...into a hotel and apartments...later phases of the plan are also appealing, though they have potential trouble spots. By Blair Kamin -- The Chicago Consultants Studio; Siodmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) [Images] - Chicago Tribune

Pritzker-prize architect Rafael Moneo to design Jockey Club condo project... will design the property's transformation into Aperion Miami, a complex including 240 luxury condo units, a 90-room boutique hotel and a new deep-water marina...will encompass 13 acres...Residents hope to permanently block development in the area. - Miami Herald

OMA, Hassell to design new Western Australian Museum [in Perth]: In case the negotiations fail to succeed, the government has approved a reserve proposal by French practice Ateliers Jean Nouvel, local practices Cameron Chisholm Nicol and Parry and Rosenthal Architects. -- - Rem Koolhaas - ArchitectureAU (Australia)

The G-List Revisited: Finding the Greatest and Greenest Buildings: Are standards of design excellence and sustainable performance in architecture finally coming together? "Lessons from the Leading Edge" can help more architects integrate design and performance in cost-effective ways...a common theme among design firms that have won both COTE Top Ten and AIA Honor awards. By Lance Hosey -- Marc L'Italien/EHDD; Angela Brooks/Brooks + Scarpa - Architect Magazine

New wave of landscape interpretation: From the Wild Atlantic Way to Dublin city centre, the importance of landscape architecture in establishing a better - and greener - quality of life is just beginning to be understood: ...landscape architecture may finally have taken its due place on the podium of Irish-built design. -- Irish Landscape Institute (LI); Mitchell + Associates; Stephen Diamond Associates; Paul Hogarth Company; Bernard Seymour Landscape Architects; Cunnane Stratton Reynolds - Irish Times
Adelaide Will Plant 100,000 Square Meters of Greenery by 2020: The Adelaide Design Manual outlines a greener approach...and ensures consistency across projects at all scales...will transform Adelaide into a design-led city.

AIA Selects Ten Recipients for the 2016 Housing Awards -- Lake|Flato Architects; Bohlin Cywinski Jackson (2); Cutler Anderson Architects; Duvall Decker Architects; Mithun; Lorcan O’Herlihy Architects; William Rawn Associates, Architects; LEO A DALY; HGA

New PBS Documentary Series Explores America’s Built Environment: From Fallingwater to Chicago’s Pullman neighborhood, the show’s creators hope to broaden America's understanding of its architecture and cities...a three-part series, “10 That Changed America”...This spirit of an American tapestry of architecture and design elevates the shows above a mere televised listicle.

The New Frank Lloyd Wright Heritage Trail in Wisconsin: ...helps bring added attention to the influential architect's work, especially lesser-known structures. Here's a map of the trail that you might want to add to your summer road trip plans.

MoMA Offers Japanese Navigators in an Architectural Firmament: “A Japanese Constellation: Toyo Ito, SANAA, and Beyond”...timely reminder of the beauty and daring that can be brought to public architecture, and the questing intellect required to push the profession forward.

Your Future Home in Your Future City: An exhibition and debate series dives into Vancouver’s most contentious urban issues, including housing affordability, densification, transportation, and public space: “Your Future Home: Creating the New Vancouver” touches on four of the city’s hot-button current issues; at the Museum of Vancouver.

Architects of the Quiet Revolution: An exhibition at UQAM Centre de design traces the ground-breaking work of Papineau Gérin-Lajoie Le Blanc: “Une architecture du Québec moderne, 1958-1974” (“An Architecture for Modern Quebec, 1958-1974”) explores an optimistic period during which Montreal leapt into the future...Hopefully...another venue will host this rich incursion into the brave sixties, lest we forget the heroic architects of our recent past.

If you build it, they won't come: Abandoned architectural marvels in China’s largest ghost town: ...officials poured over $1 billion into the development...The result, according to French photographer Raphael Olivier, is a “very beautiful city, full of contradictions”...“Ordos: A Failed Utopia” his stunning - if oddly surreal - series of images...Foreigners consider the city to be abandoned. Chinese consider the city to be still developing.

Meet The Architect Who Is Radically Rethinking How We Age: Matthias Hollwich wants to upend the way we think about getting old, starting with the design of our homes and cities: “New Aging: Live smarter now to live better forever” offers a strategic guide to designing your life so that you’re happy and comfortable to the very end...Q&A re: how architecture can erase the stigma of the “elderly,” and the responsibilities that designers and architects have to improving life at any age.

ANN feature: Zaha. A special issue: I didn’t know Zaha Hadid. We met once - in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, of all places. My encounter with her left an indelible impression.

Venice Biennale Curator Series: Denmark: Q&A with Boris Brorman Jensen and Kristoffer Lindhardt Weiss about what exciting ideas visitors can expect from the Danish Pavilion: Art of the Many/Right to Space...“will not be a catwalk of great projects...we want to find the cracks in everything and point to where the projects are really struggling to promote certain ideas.”

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