

ARCHITECTURAL NEWS + PRODUCTS VOLUME 9, ISSUE 3

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

PATRICIA URQUIOLA'S PLANTER FROM SERRALUNGA PAGE 4

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

See new products for patios, landscapes, and poolside

COMEBACK KIDS

Southern New England manufacturers are thriving







HYDRO BAN® Shower System

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contents

may/june 2017



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NEWS

6 | IN BRIEF

AlA COTE announces 2017's Top Ten Awards. Philip Johnson's Glass House Sculpture Gallery reopens. Frank Gehry's early archive goes to the Getty Research Institute.

58 DATES + EVENTS

60 | TRADE SHOW NEWS

Installations by architects at Milan Furniture Fair took a broad approach to design. Michelle Obama and other speakers at the AIA Conference in Orlando addressed socially conscious design.

DEPARTMENTS

- 3 EDITOR'S LETTER
- 8 NEW PRODUCT ROUNDUP

64 | PARTNERS IN DESIGN

Andre Kikoski teams up with Lenny Kravitz to design a luxury residential building in Manhattan's Nolita neighborhood.

FEATURES

14 SECOND COURSE

Rockwell Group re-creates the feel of an iconic eatery in a new space.

20 LIGHT MEAL

St. Louis architecture firm Mitchell Wall designs an intimate dining experience at the base of a residential building.

44 | MADE IN THE U.S.A.

Manufacturing in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island is on the upswing.

46 | GREENSOURCE

Sustainable design contributes to employee well-being at a bank's new Mexico City headquarters.

PRODUCT SPECS

- 24 ARCHITECTURAL LIGHTING
- 28 FINISHES
- 32 FLOORING
- 36 OUTDOOR FURNISHINGS
- 40 | LANDSCAPE

CONTINUING EDUCATION

48 NOAH'S ARK-ITECTURE Floating buildings satisfy the desire to be near water while protecting against sea-level rise and dodging soaring property values.

STEP OUTSIDE

In Milan, a light-permeable housing prototype by SO-IL and MINI blurs the line between inside and out (top left). Tom Fereday's SP01 outdoor furniture withstands ocean and wind exposure (left). Pedestrians win with Snøhetta's redesign of Times Square plazas (above).



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Time to Get Away



WITH SUMMER COMING, we've been thinking more about how to escape from the everyday. In this issue of SNAP, we look at hospitality and leisure projects—and the products that help transform these environments into special destinations. A pair of restaurant case studies make the point. Legendary restaurateur **Danny Meyer**, working side

by side with architect **David Rockwell**, has re-created his first great establishment, the **Union Square Café**, capturing its casual neighborhood spirit through careful detailing and the sensitive use of materials. Similarly, the St. Louis restaurant **Parigi**, designed by local firm **Mitchell Wall**, strives for a relaxed bistro-like feel, but with slightly more formal touches, as in its selection of lighting.

Elsewhere in these pages, you can savor the essence of the season with products that take you outside, whether by the pool, on a terrace, or at a ball-game. From high-performance decking, large-scale lighting solutions, and weather-resistant furniture, these design elements enhance the experience of enjoying outdoor spaces.

Also check out our dispatches from the **Salone del Mobile** in Milan and the Expo at the **AIA Convention** in Orlando, as well as news about the **COTE** awards for the top 10 sustainable works of architecture in 2017.

The Editors

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SUSTAINABLE PROJECTS HONORED

The John H. Sbrega Health and Science Building at Bristol Community College in Fall River, Massachusetts, designed by Sasaki, was one of 10 recipients of the 2017 COTE Awards. The winners were celebrated at the 2017 AIA Conference on Architecture in Orlando.

COTE Announces the 21st Annual Top Ten Awards

IN APRIL, THE AIA Committee on the Environment (COTE) announced the recipients of the 2017 **COTE Top Ten Awards**. The program recognizes buildings that wed superior design and sustainable performance.

"People are inspired by examples and positive solutions more than mandates, but they're both needed," says Top Ten juror and **International Living Future Institute** CEO Amanda Sturgeon. "The Top Ten reinforces that those principles are realizable and beautiful."

Top Ten evaluation criteria underwent a significant revamping for this year's awards cycle to reflect **Lessons from the Leading Edge**, an analysis of previous Top Ten winners by Lance Hosey that the AIA published last year. This year's application emphasized actual performance, as well as metrics concerning occupant health and comfort, resilience, and economic sustainability.

Several commonalities distinguish the 2017 Top Ten. Because they have long lives and are used as pedagogical tools, Sturgeon says, "education projects have been at the leading edge of sustainability since the early days"; five higher-education facilities and the **VMDO Architects**-designed Discovery Elementary School in Arlington, Virginia, earned slots in the Top Ten. The awards pool also includes a hospital, two public buildings, and an environmental center. Sturgeon adds that all the winning projects employ cutting-edge sustainability initiatives like net zero and net-positive performance. — *David Sokol*



Glass House Sculpture Gallery Reopens

WHILE SCULPTURES by the likes of Robert Rauschenberg, John Chamberlain, Bruce Nauman, and Robert Morris deserve permanent places of honor in a building designed by one of architecture's legends, birds and rodents decidedly do not. Thanks to a \$2 million restoration of **Philip Johnson**'s Sculpture Gallery at the Glass House, these priceless works are safe again from the elements—and the wildlife—of New Canaan, Connecticut.

In May, the gallery reopened to the public after a two-year-long renovation that left the structure—one of 14 on the 49-acre museum property—with a new roof, updated lighting system, and fresh paint inside and out. Built in 1970 to house Johnson's personal collection, the gallery is thought to have been inspired, in part, by the narrow streets and staircases of the Greek islands.

Time took a toll, and the Sculpture Gallery fell into disrepair: The steel was rusting, the lighting didn't work, the gutter liners were failing, and several glass panels in the skylights had been replaced with imperfect matches, allowing water inside. "We made sure none of the art was damaged," says communications director Christa Carr, "but when it rained, we had buckets hidden behind the sculptures, and sometimes you'd come in and see birds flying or chipmunks running around."

No more. —*Miriam Sitz*

Gehry Archive Goes to L.A.'s Getty

THE GETTY RESEARCH INSTITUTE in

Los Angeles has procured **Frank Gehry**'s early archive. The acquisition, announced in late March, will cover three decades of Gehry's career—from 1954 to 1988—and comprises thousands of sketches, drawings,

RESTORED TO FORMER GLORY The sculpture gallery at Philip Johnson's

at Philip Johnson's famed Glass House, in New Canaan, Connecticut, reopened in May with new glazing and lighting.

and photographs. It will also contain hundreds of office records, personal papers, and models for 283 projects, including his Santa Monica residence, the Walt Disney Concert Hall competition, and the Vitra Design Museum.

The extensive collection, part of which is being donated by Gehry and the rest purchased, represents a significant step for the Getty; the museum has been making efforts to comprehensively document the culture and influence of Southern California architecture.

Though the archive only includes work predating the architect's 1989 Pritzker Prize, the time period is crucial in understanding Gehry's later work, according to senior curator Maristella Casciato—especially in showing how his presence around the L.A. art scene during the 1960s and '70s shaped his practice. Also apparent is the centrality of sketching and model-making to the 88-yearold architect's design process.

Over the next two years, materials will be transported from Gehry's office and L.A. model warehouse to the Getty. While drawings, photographs, and other papers will be kept at the Getty Research Institute, the plan for models is storage at an off-site facility. Three-dimensional photographs of the models, along with other selections from the archive, will be digitized and eventually put online. —*Alex Klimoski*



NEW HOME FOR GEHRY MODELS The Getty has acquired Frank Gehry's early archive, including this working model of the 1989 Vitra Museum, in Weil am Rhein, Germany.

OGRAPHY

E Ho

Contemporary Curve

Jefferson County Western Health Center, Midfield, AL

Owner: Jefferson County Department of Health Architect: Birchfield Penuel & Associates, Birmingham, AL General contractor: M.J. Harris Construction Services, Birmingham, AL Installing contractor. CSC Roofing, Birmingham, AL Profiles: Tite-Loc curved, Reveal Wall Panels Colors: Cardinal Red, Sierra Tan



"The curved roof in Cardinal Red and the Sierra Tan metal wall panels complement the other materials and really create a contemporary appearance..."

Tom Kidwell, senior associate and project architect, Birchfield Penuel & Associates





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NEW PRODUCT ROUNDUP



Goods and materials set the scene for hospitality.

1. MOROCCO

MANUFACTURER: HessAmerica PERFORMANCE: This bollard provides glare-free LED light via low-power consumption with louvered optics and stainlesssteel hardware.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$ APPLICATIONS: The 39 and 43"

heights were designed for corporate campuses, parks, cultural centers, and other public areas.

KEY \$=value, **\$\$**=mid-range, **\$\$\$**=high-end

HESSAMERICA.COM (SNAP #200)

2. PALISSADE

MANUFACTURER: Hay PERFORMANCE: The powdercoated steel pieces include dining chairs, tables, stools, benches, lounge chairs, and

a sofa. PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: The collection, by Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec, comes in light gray, anthracite, and olive for both commercial and residential projects. HAY.DK

(SNAP #201)

= ECO-FRIENDLY ATTRIBUTES

3. PRISM

MANUFACTURER: Pennoyer Newman

PERFORMANCE: The handcrafted 18-high-by-20"-wide lead-gray planter made of a marble, rock, and resin composite comes predrilled with drainage holes.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: This modern, geometric planter can be used in residential or commercial, interior or outdoor settings.

PENNOYERNEWMAN.COM (SNAP #202)



MANUFACTURER: Landscape Forms

PERFORMANCE: Low-glare LED technology and traditional style meet in this line of cast-aluminum street- and area lights; choose from three color temperatures. PRICE RANGE: \$\$

APPLICATIONS: Designed with Robert A.M. Stern Architects and lighting design firm Fisher Marantz Stone, the lamp is for public or commercial settings. LANDSCAPEFORMS.COM (SNAP #203)

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NEW PRODUCT ROUNDUP









5. VIVISPECTRA ELEMENTS

MANUFACTURER: Forms+Surfaces PERFORMANCE: In six new nature-inspired patterns, this

interior or exterior glass comes in sizes up to 60 x 120". PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: It can be used as a wall cladding, a light panel, and in elevators, as well as for room dividers, partitions, railings, backlit displays, and other custom fabrications. FORMS-SURFACES.COM (SNAP #204)

^{6.} ан16 кітснем

MANUFACTURER: Boffi PERFORMANCE: The compact kitchen, for outdoor use, is manufactured in AISI316 stainless steel. PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: The monoblock, which includes a cooking zone with professional burners, a washing zone, a worktop, and a drawer, is compatible with standard gas-barbecue cylinders. BOFFI.COM (SNAP #205)

= eco-friendly attributes

7. TOBI-ISHI OUTDOOR

MANUFACTURER: B&B Italia PERFORMANCE: The table's overhang and the vertical trapezoidal bases combine to create a strong sculptural statement. PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: Designed by Edward Barber and Jay Osgerby, the cement Tobi-Ishi Outdoor comes in gray and anthracite. BEBITALIA.COM (SNAP #206)

8. Planterspeakers

MANUFACTURER: PlanterSpeakers

PERFORMANCE: Hidden in architectural planters, these sealed and weatherproof speakers are offered in many shapes, sizes, and materials.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: Controllable via smartphone, the speaker can create outdoor sounds for gardens, decks, or patios. PLANTERSPEAKERS.COM (SNAP #207)

KEY \$=value, \$\$=mid-range, \$\$\$=high-end

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UNION SQUARE CAFÉ, NEW YORK

Second Course

CHALLENGE: Re-create the feel of an iconic eatery in a new space. **SOLUTION:** Retain the intimacy of the old restaurant with similar scale and volumes while introducing new elements.

> DANNY MEYER was only 27 when he opened his first restaurant, the Union Square Café, in New York in 1985, yet the CEO of what is now one of the world's most dynamic restaurant groups easily recalls his original design concept. He told Larry Bogdanow to "create a restaurant that will look like an architect never set foot in it, with a

design that is so timeless it won't be dated in a couple of years."

That architect specialized in glamorous residences at the time, but Meyer wasn't going there. "I knew exactly what I wanted," he says. "I had visited trattorias in Italy, bistros in France, and liked the casual 1980s bar-and-grill culture of San Francisco. I'd been collecting ideas for years that I recorded in a notebook."

The restaurant space was a rabbit warren of low-ceilinged rooms joined by narrow corridors. What Bogdanow produced looked like a club, with wide-plank cherry floors, a 27-foot bar, vintage wood tables and chairs, green wainscoting, and, everywhere, colorful paintings by Judy Rifka. It was low-key, laid-back, and the food was good. It was an immediate success and soon came to be known as America's neighborhood restaurant. But that particular neighborhood got a little less seedy over the years and is home now to high-tech headquarters, design firms, and high-end eateries. So in 2014, when Meyer's landlord wanted to double his rent, Meyer decided to move. He spent the next year and a half looking around Union Square. His requirement? The place could be no more than a six-minute hand-truck walk from the Union Square Greenmarket, where his chefs shop.

When he found a space on 19th Street and Park Avenue South, he asked the architect David Rockwell if he could re-create the old Union Square Café there.

FINE DINING

Behind the bar dining area and central staircase is the main dining room. Custom pendant lights hang at the ceiling height of the old space.

LONG DRINK

Just past the entry vestibule, patrons are greeted by the 27-foot-long mahogany bar. Its rounded light fixtures were inspired by ones from the original restaurant.

That Meyer would hire Rockwell Group, a Tony Award–winning firm known for theater sets and flashy restaurants, to replicate an unpretentious joint is surprising. But, says Meyer, "David's office is on Union Square. He had been eating at the restaurant for 25 years, and I needed to work with someone who truly understood the original. At the same time, I told him, 'I don't want a Rockwell.'" Rockwell understood.

"What was memorable about the original was the feel and the experience; the idea was to take its DNA and implant it in a new body," Rockwell says. "This gave us the opportunity to examine on a granular level what made the old one special."

Because of the new space's size—far larger than the original, with 1,800 square feet in the ground-floor dining area, 2,400 on the mezzanine, and 4,700 in the cellar, which holds the bakery and main kitchen—Rockwell's concept was to break it down into distinct zones. "We wanted to define the space so the rooms had an appropriate scale," he says. The new place can accommodate 215 diners and 20 at the bar. Private dining rooms upstairs can feed another 50.

The new restaurant sits on a prominent corner, but Rockwell put the entrance on the side street to give it a neighborhood feel. He installed two-story-high mullioned windows on both facades to mimic the windows of the old place and give it a sunny interior. The space next door, also leased by Meyer, was transformed into a separate establishment called Daily Provisions, which sells drinks, sandwiches, and fresh bread from the on-site bakery at reasonable prices. "Danny said we had to give the neighborhood a gift, a place for people to start the day, have lunch, and get things on the way home," says Richard Coraine, chief of staff of the Union Square Hospitality Group.

Past the entry vestibule and the maître d' desk at Union Square Café is a mahogany bar—still 27 feet, 1 inch long, like the old one bordered by colorful cement tiles (to recall the former terra-cotta ones). The old DNA continues with wide-plank cherry floors, green wainscoting, and the same Rifka paintings. Opposite the bar are five round walnut dining tables for walk-ins.

A dramatic new staircase serves as both focal point and space divider. From eating balconies on the two upper levels, diners can survey the action below. In the rear is a smaller upstairs bar (transplanted from the original space) and an alcove with red leather banquettes.

Rockwell designed new café chairs (in ash, with elongated, curved backs) for comfort



CASE STUDY: HOSPITALITY



COMFORT FOOD

The staircase is a focal point, breaking the loftlike space into distinct zones, including two levels of balcony dining above the main dining room (left). The upstairs bar was transplanted from the original restaurant (bottom left). Daily Provisions, the 675-square-foot next-door eatery, has a different color palette but similar feel as the restaurant (bottom right).

and square cherry tables with elegant brass inserts. He introduced many other refinements. Custom golden pendant lights hang at precisely the ceiling level of the old restaurant, 9 feet from the ground, and divide the soaring height of the space in half visually. LED strips inside them point up toward bronze mesh "hats." Here the Broadway set designer shows his mettle. "It's hard to create sparkle with LED lighting," Rockwell says. "If you have flat lighting, your eye falls asleep." So he installed spotlights on the ceiling that beam down on the mesh fixtures, making them glow.

Danny Meyer is famously sensitive to noise; tables are purposefully spaced far enough apart so conversations cannot be overheard. For sound absorption, Rockwell installed ceiling panels wrapped in acoustic fabric and wood beams with microperforations. Explains Rockwell, "Here the sound is alive, but you can hear yourself."

"Danny and I met twice a week to review every detail," says Rockwell. "We retained the soul of the place by not trying to copy it." In his 2006 book, *Setting the Table*, Meyer wrote: "In the end, what is most meaningful is creating positive, uplifting outcomes for human experiences and human relationships. Business, like life, is all about how you make people feel. It's that simple, and it's that hard." Amen.





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CASE STUDY: HOSPITALITY BY JOSEPHINE MINUTILLO



PARIGI RESTAURANT, ST. LOUIS

Light Meal

CHALLENGE: Create an intimate dining experience in a residential building with large storefront windows. **SOLUTION:** Separate the layout into several zones defined by lighting.

> NAMED AFTER THE Italian word for Paris, Parigi was designed to look as if it were an Italian restaurant in the heart of the French capital. Located instead at the ground level of a luxury apartment building in Clayton, a tony St. Louis suburb, the eatery fuses Italian design inspiration, and leading Italian design brands, with a traditional bistro feel.

Lighting played a large role in achieving that effect. The restaurant's main space is divided into three zones—the general seating area, private dining, and the bar—with a different lighting scheme corresponding to each. The main dining room, which includes booths at the center and small tables along the expansive storefront windows, features rows of bare LED A lamps—a nod to Adolf Loos—suspended from brass lamp holders along the ceiling. "Exposed bulbs were very commonplace in bistros at the turn of the last century," explains architect Susan Bower, who led the design team at locally based firm Mitchell Wall. "They also work here to provide spherical illumination and bounce light up to show off the ceiling posters."

A mash-up of images of Italian and French art, food, fashion, and cinema designed by architect Stephen Leet, these PVC panels are affixed to the ceiling due to the limited wall space. Those cross bands of artwork, though, also serve to tie the two linear seating areas together. Embedded in the salmon-colored partition walls that separate them are vertical architectural fixtures, whose LED light sources emit a soft glow around the lampshade and beneath the base toward the floor.

On the low wall by the booths, upholstered in a bright orange that was a popular color for Ferraris in the 1960s, is a line of large table lamps. Finished in copper, they offer diffused light while mingling with James Beard Award-nominated chef and owner



Ben Poremba's collection of copper pots and espresso makers.

Brass-toned panels in tandem with cleverly concealed LED accent ropes are responsible for the golden hue around the bar. Rotating sconces with long cantilevering arms satisfy Poremba's wish for the bar to be a flexible space.

A large window on the kitchen, visible from the main dining room and bar, is framed by heat lamps that both keep food warm and

LOOKING RADIANT

At the bar, LED rope lights allow the brushed-aluminum panels, which are anodized with a brass finish, to glow (above). Bare bulbs dot the ceiling while copper-finished Foscarini table lamps line the top of the booths (top).

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act as subtle ornament. "Light and heat emanate from the kitchen," says Bower. "We wanted that to be the brightest spot."

On the opposite end of the restaurant, and exuding a very different kind of illumination, is the private dining room. Painted turquoise, with walls left bare to allow for presentations during business lunches and dinners, the central focus is a beautifully tiered Ingo Maurer chandelier. It is called Lacrime del Pescatore—Italian for "tears of the fisherman"-because its nylon nets are dripping with 385 crystals. A single 3,050K halogen spot, mounted separately on an adjacent wall, projects onto the luminous drops.

"Installing that piece was like installing an artwork," recalls Todd Lannom, consultant and supplier for the project, who also provided lighting for three of Poremba's earlier restaurants in a grittier part of downtown St. Louis. "Each crystal had to be added individually, and the placement of the nets adjusted with the incremental weight. It's amazing though how light fills that volume with just one bulb."

"Given the context of the restaurant in a suburban high-rise, we really wanted that space to sparkle and evoke the clinking of glasses," says Bower. "The defraction of light into a rainbow of colors makes you feel as if you've entered a very special place."



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l	ARCHITECTS
	Mitchell Wall Architecture and Design
	ТҮРЕ
	Hospitality
	PRODUCT
	Lacrime del Pescatore

MANUFACTURER
IngoMaurer
PERFORMANCE
Layered nylon nets in three different
5 5
sizes drip with 385 crystals.
APPLICATIONS

A separate 4 ^{1/3}-inch-diameter halogen or LED spot is fixed to the wall and projects light onto the chandelier. PRICE RANGE \$\$\$ INGO-MAURER.COM (SNAP #208)

CRYSTAL-CLEAR

In the private dining room, a chandelier of layered nylon nets drips with crystals (above left). Vertical fixtures are embedded in walls and mounted several inches above the floor (above).

= ECO-FRIENDLY ATTRIBUTES

KEY \$=value, **\$\$**=mid-range, **\$\$\$**=high-end

IN THIS PROJECT



BIRDIE

MANUFACTURER: Foscarini **PERFORMANCE:** Made with sturdy yet lightweight materials, the table fixture uses one 120V halogen 150W E-26, LED retrofit or fluo 26W E-26 lamp. **PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$**

APPLICATIONS: The slim stem recalls the trunk of a tree, its shade is a reinterpretation of the classic reading lamp, and the "branch" turns the fixture on or off at a touch. FOSCARINI.COM (SNAP #209)



SOFT SPUN LED LARGE

MANUFACTURER: Flos

PERFORMANCE: This flush-mount luminaire features an LED lamp with an electronic driver (120V/50–60Hz). PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: Designed by Sebastian Wrong, the fixed wall lamp, mounted several inches above the floor, offers symmetrical light distribution.

FLOS.COM (SNAP #210)



TILT MINI

MANUFACTURER: Cedar & Moss **PERFORMANCE:** The 5¹/₂"-deep x 6¹/₂"-long fixture is position adjustable to 90° with an E-26 medium base (maximum 75W) and 5"-diameter canopy.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$

APPLICATIONS: This custom wall or ceiling fixture is handcrafted in heavy-gauge solid brass parts with wax finishes. **CEDARANDMOSS.COM**

(SNAP #211)



DLH-400

MANUFACTURER: Hatco

PERFORMANCE: This handsome heat lamp offers eight mounting configurations and four switch options.

PRICE RANGE:\$

APPLICATIONS: The DLH-400 keeps food warm in commercial serving areas while complementing the decor. It is available in a range of colors and gloss or plated finishes. HATCOCORP.COM (SNAP #212)

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ARCHITECTURAL LIGHTING



Heart of the Matter

AT 106,000 SQUARE FEET, Hillman Hall by **Moore Ruble Yudell** (MRY) and **Mackey Mitchell Architects** doubles the footprint of Washington University's George Warren Brown School of Social Work. According to MRY partner Buzz Yudell, the expansion was intended not only to accommodate students, faculty, and local residents but also to amplify their kinship. "That meant opening up the building more than the university's traditional Gothic structures allowed," Yodell says.

The centerpiece of Hillman Hall is a glazed rotunda known as the Maxine Clark and Bob Fox Forum, a double-height volume that projects from an undulating northwest elevation to maximize visibility to the Brown School's two existing facilities and wider campus. "It is used all day and into the evening," Yudell explains. "It can host colloquia, parties, lectures, and events and reverts to informal study and gathering." The Forum's focal point is a suspended woodwork ceiling with maple-veneered members that radiate from an oculus. This "shrouds quite a bit of ductwork and all the equipment required for multifunctionality," says Gabe Guilliams, associate principal of lighting at **BuroHappold Engineering**, which collaborated on the project. "It also provides the illumination that makes transparency legible."

To transform this decorative veil into a chandelier, the design team embedded the tops of individual members with 1,900 linear feet of LED **Feelux** luminaires. The magnetically backed fixtures, also connected by HDV, uplight the ceiling evenly at a color temperature of 3000K. "Ten years ago, that wouldn't have been possible, but with lowvoltage LED fixtures the size of a pencil, we could route channels into the wood," Guilliams says. —David Sokol



RADIANT PAVILION

The Maxine Clark and Bob Fox Forum (above), part of Hillman Hall, was conceived as a more transparent interpretation of Collegiate Gothicstyle architecture. The Forum's woodwork ceiling (top) glows due to integrated linear LED luminaires; a 17-foot-diameter pendant suspended beneath the lattice, downlights, and demountable spotlights rounds out the lighting.

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ARCHITECTURAL LIGHTING



PANTRAC

MANUFACTURER: Erco PERFORMANCE: Installs to two-

circuit track with an Erco turning adapter. Several wattages are available with luminous flux from 1260lm to 3300lm; dimming via phase or integrated potentiometer.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: These wall-washing, cast-aluminum LED luminaires, intended for museums and galleries, project 3000K or 4000K light via Spherolit lens technology for uniform illumination with increased spacing. ERCO.COM

(SNAP #213)

KEY \$=value, \$\$=mid-range, \$\$\$=high-end



ONE ILLUMINATES

MANUFACTURER: Orsman Design PERFORMANCE: Line-voltage fixtures cast 3000K light downward in a controlled beam spread of 40°. Stock shade sizes range from 2 to 4 feet OAL, and stems between 9 to 15 inches are offered.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: Three styles make up this collection of Nathan Orsman-designed LED art lights for commercial and residential settings, set for release this summer. ORSMANDESIGN.COM

(SNAP #214)

= ECO-FRIENDLY ATTRIBUTES

62

L03

MANUFACTURER: MP Lighting PERFORMANCE: The RoHScompliant anodized-aluminum or marinegrade stainless-steel fixture comes with a tempered glass lens, aluminum flange, splice box, and level gauge. It can be cast in concrete for submerged use or buried.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$

APPLICATIONS: Suited to core drilling retrofits without back box and flange, the submersible LED luminaire produces 50,000 hours of light in freshwater up to 3 meters deep. MPLIGHTING.COM

(SNAP #215)



FLICKER FREE MR16

MANUFACTURER: Soraa PERFORMANCE: Available in 6W, 7.5W, and 9W versions as well as 95CRI and 80CRI. Beam angles range from 10 to 36°, and color temperatures from 2700K to 5000K. PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: By incorporating advanced digital drivers, the new generation of fully dimmable MR16 LED lamps eliminates stroboscopic effect. The 6W and 7.5W versions are usable in closed, nonventilated indoor and outdoor fixtures.

SORAA.COM (SNAP #216)

Street Life

THE CORRIDOR OF LUXURY couture, fine art, and furnishings known as the Miami Design District had a Walt Disney *Beauty And The Beast* moment this past holiday season, when London-based designer **Philippe Malouin** completed his temporary commission *Speed of Light* for the neighborhood's development company **Dacra**. The installation was on view for a six-week period coinciding with Christmas and New Year's.

Consider *Speed of Light* an urban-scale version of the animated film's anthropomorphic candelabra, Lumiere: Located in the Design District's pedestrian artery, Paseo



Ponti, the piece included two tubular-steel assemblies, each comprising a roller coaster–like track connected by a pair of poles. A hardwired LED-illuminated globe loops around each track, ascending to its peaks via the remote-controlled motorized buggy



to which it is attached and zooming around the descents by gravity. The London-based studio

JLK-DS fabricated the LED fixtures and consulted on lighting design. Besides trailing the globes on foot, visitors watched the lighted sphere's journey from the concrete seating in which the steel poles were mounted. "It's important that light is used during the holidays, but to me it was important to not get stuck in holiday-based iconography," Malouin says. Instead, he reinvented the streetlamp to convey: "Be our guest." —D.S.

GLOW BALL

Late last year, Philippe Malouin created Speed of Light for the Miami Design District as an alternative to the traditional holiday lights that decorate downtown shopping corridors. An LED-illuminated globe wended its way around the steel structure's elevated tracks on a wheeled carriage.



CASE STUDY



Project: Matsuhisa Denver - Denver, CO

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Homecoming Scene

WOLF-GORDON launched from a Manhattan sublet in August 1967 with not even a sample book to show clients. Eventually moving to a 15,000-square-foot Long Island City, New York, office, this once humble distributor of vinyl wallcoverings has since become a powerhouse with a product offering that includes textiles and coatings, as well as collaborations with architects and designers like Laurinda Spear, Karim Rashid, and Petra Blaisse. Earlier this year, near its 50th anniversary, Wolf-Gordon relocated its headquarters to a smaller office designed by **Lewis.Tsurumaki.Lewis** (LTL Architects) just steps from its first home.

Chief creative officer Marybeth Shaw asked LTL to transform the new 8,300-square-foot workplace into a contemporary, interactive space in which to showcase Wolf-Gordon's inventory. "The primary challenge involved the shift from a roomy facility to the realities of Manhattan real estate," says architect Marc Tsurumaki. "The space had to [achieve] more with less in terms of overlapping uses and flexible functions." The payback: its central location and improved employee environment.

The design team fabricated an 80-foot-long armature from blackened steel by Philadelphiabased **Veyko** that divides open workstations from the rest of the office. More than 40 movable steel-frame panels are suspended from the structure, each displaying one of the company's materials. The panels rearrange into various combinations, Tsurumaki explains, "to allow for differing degrees of enclosure and permeability between working and gathering areas, to orchestrate informal collaboration, and for public events, training sessions, or talks." The interior was designed to inform visitors about Wolf-Gordon's offerings and features many of its veneers, coatings, and wallcoverings, along with upholstery and acoustical surfacings: The dry-erase coating



DOUBLE DUTY Lewis.Tsuramaki.Lewis created a system of movable steel-frame panels for Wolf-Gordon's office that doubles as a flexible wall system and changing display for its textiles and finishes (top). Acoustical draperies maintain privacy and lower the noise factor in conference rooms, also surfaced with the company's wallcoverings (above).

Wink was applied to walls, textiles designed by Mae Engelgeer are found on the lounge and reception furniture, and an acoustical fabric–wrapped panel stretches above the workstations beneath the ductwork. LTL's strategy also embodies a lesson about good design in general: reconceiving even common elements like display systems can boost a project's functionality. —David Sokol



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FINISHES



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PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: New primer and topcoat systems are available for restoration of architectural metal structures.

NEVERFADECOATINGS.COM (SNAP #217)



CENTURY

MANUFACTURER: Benjamin Moore PERFORMANCE: The new collection comprises 75 colors, ranging from mid-tone to dark shades, inspired by natural elements such as minerals, gems, spices, and plants. Each batch is sealed.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: This small-batch, low-VOC, ultrapremium paint features a Soft Touch matte finish that offers a tactile experience likened to a calfskin glove.

EXPERIENCECENTURY.COM (SNAP #218)

= ECO-FRIENDLY ATTRIBUTES



TOPOGRAPHIES

MANUFACTURER: Calico PERFORMANCE: Scuff-resistant as well as moisture- and heat-tolerant, this vinyl

product is a type II substrate and Class A Fire Rated ASTM E-84.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: Design studio Snarkitecture translated the concept of excavation into a textural wallcovering that is approved for residential and commercial use. CALICOWALLPAPER.COM

(SNAP #219)



TRACELESS LAMINATE

MANUFACTURER: Wilsonart PERFORMANCE: The technology integrates with the laminate during manufacturing, so it is more durable than a topcoat. It will be initially marketed in five tonal patterns, with Greenguard Gold certification for low chemical emissions. PRICE RANGE: \$\$

APPLICATIONS: Launching in late May, this Greenguard Gold-certified, fingerprintresistant material facilitates the use of matte and silken surfaces in commercial settings. WILSONART.COM/TRACELESS (SNAP #220)

KEY \$=value, \$\$=mid-range, \$\$\$=high-end

Dining by Design

IN THE WORLD OF HOSPITALITY, finishes make the venue. They distinguish the casual upscale restaurant from the more democratic cafeteria, or the formal dining room from the foodie laboratory. Yet for the new Manhattan restaurant Villanelle, local firm Wid Chapman Architects sent mixed messages. Refined quarter-sawn straightgrain oak floors offset an eggshell-finish gray brick wall and complement the knotty pine that clads a central bar and dropped ceiling above it; drywall is also painted gray with an eggshell sheen. Meanwhile, the bar's **honed** Carrara marble counter and satin-brass wall shelves provide a glamorous contrast to the rustic cladding. This material palette's hybrid quality reflects the approach of chef Nick Licata, who relies on ingredients from regional purveyors. One of Licata's desserts combines seasonal parsnips with white chocolate and sea salt.

Besides setting the appropriate tone, Chapman advocates using materials to define space. "Materials can clarify the dimensional and programmatic parts of a restaurant," he says. Here, the long and narrow storefront demanded modulation. By placing the bar in the center and employing pine planks in that zone, Chapman created a cozy nook for 10 cocktail sippers that divides the 44-seat dining room into two comfortable areas. "Some small spaces beg to feel unified and expansive," Chapman explains. "A long thin space can afford to be broken into parts." —D.S.





FOOD FOR THOUGHT Architect Wid Chapman used finishes and materials to define the space at New York City's Villanelle restaurant (above). The gray walls of the front and back dining rooms are painted in an eggshell finish: rustic pine cladding surrounds the honedmarble bar-on its base, the ceiling, and the opposite wall (left).





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Circle Games

LONDON STUDIO Raw Edges partnered with Italy-based Persian rug company Golran to update the latter's Lake collection with a floral pattern whose color appears to change depending on the viewing angle.

The new design, available in three colorways and introduced at **Milan Design Week** in April, is an extension of an earlier range the studio launched in 2014. It references the work of Israeli artist **Yaacov Agam**, who used color and lenticular patterns to create optical art. In this process, lenticular lenses—a technology also used for 3-D displays—produce printed images with an illusion of depth or movement as the onlooker changes location.

While working with Raw Edges on the first collection, **Eliahu Golran**, one of the company owners, expressed interest

in an original floral sketch. "Ever since, he has asked us, 'Why not expand the collection?' As the first design was very triangular and sharp, we wanted to create a pattern with a grid of circles that developed in a more floral direction," says Raw Edges cofounder **Shay Alkalay**.

Hand-knotted from silk and wool in Nepal, the rugs follow a circular grid pattern that creates color-filled spaces. They are made with varying pile heights so the hues are perceived differently depending on the viewer's vantage point (colors appear more intense from one end and more muted from the other). "You see plainer graphics on one side, and more color on the other," explains Alkalay. "When you walk around it, you experience the change almost as if it were animated." —Ashleigh VanHouten



DOUBLE TAKE

Raw Edges design studio and Persian rug company Golran expand their Lake collection with new floral patterns inspired by lenticular art. The designs, made with varying pile heights, appear to change color and intensity according to the viewing angle.



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SNAP 57

FLOORING



MOSAIC

MANUFACTURER: Chilewich PERFORMANCE: Made from woven vinyl with a commercial-grade, polyurethane cushion backing, this floor mat achieves a jacquard diamond motif with bicolor yarns. PRICE RANGE: \$-\$\$

APPLICATIONS: The collection comes in blue and gray and formats ranging from 23 x 36" to 72 x 106 ½". All products are low VOC and Green Label Plus certified.

KEY \$=value, **\$\$**=mid-range, **\$\$\$**=high-end

CHILEWICH.COM

(SNAP #221)

OUTLIER

MANUFACTURER: Bentley Mills PERFORMANCE: From the Outskirts tile and broadloom collection, Outlier's geometric design uses pattern tufting technology to combine metallic lines and insets for a layered look.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$

APPLICATIONS: Available in 10 colorways and 24" square and 18 x 36" tile options, Outlier is NSF 140 certified and CRI Green Label Plus certified.

BENTLEYMILLS.COM (SNAP #222)

= ECO-FRIENDLY ATTRIBUTES



LUCE

MANUFACTURER: Lunada Bay Tile PERFORMANCE: Semiopaque glass mosaic tiles inspired by the interplay of the sun on water reflect and refract light to create the effect of movement. PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: Suitable for light traffic, the tiles are made with postconsumer recycled glass and are available in 12 pastel hues and four patterns: Clipper (1.375 × 5″), Feather (1 × 2.5″), Fin (1.125 × 5″), and 2″ Hexagon. LUNADABAYTILE.COM

(SNAP #223)



HANGAR

MANUFACTURER: Emser Tile **PERFORMANCE:** Offering a linearconcrete look in a glazed body-match porcelain tile, Hangar's large panel options are suitable for commercial and residential use alike.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$-\$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: Made without VOCs and with recycled content, Hangar is available in four colors—ash, sand, smoke, and coal—and three tile sizes: 63 x 126", 31" square, 24 x 47", and 12 x 24".

VIEGA.US (SNAP #224)

A Step Up

INTERNATIONAL FASHION footwear retailer the Dune Group partnered with Havwoods International to bring a greater focus to the floors in their 95 worldwide stores. Dune, working with UK-based design firm Four-by-Two, wanted a light and a dark color palette, to define a "catwalk" of planks, cut and laid in a V shape to subtly guide customers around the store. Havwoods recommended the smooth Venture plank and textured Henley collections with a UV-dried hardwax-oil finish, the most wear- and stain-resistant and water-repellent oil finish in the line. The finish is comparable to a lacquer and makes the planks easier to clean, says Allan Singh, general manager for Havwoods North America. The dark plank is also smoked, meaning the color penetrates the surface: an important detail in a high-traffic floor.

There are pros and cons to both the smooth and textured choices, Singh points out, adding, "A textured surface is better at disguising any superficial scratches or marks. However, a floor with a textured finish is not suitable for sanding, or even spot sanding and refinishing."

The project continues as new stores open, and different styles were chosen for different flagships. Aspen Raw and Quadro, featuring knots and color variation, were selected for the 10-inch-wide Venture and Henley planks in New York, London, and Zurich, while the more cost-effective, FSC-certified Vogue chevrons in Oak Neutro and Oak Bronzo from the Italian collection were selected for stores throughout the Middle East. — AVH



FANCY FOOTWORK

Havwoods International is providing the flooring for all 95 of the Dune Group's shoe stores around the world; here, Aspen Raw from the Venture plank collection has been cut and laid in a V shape, which draws the eyes downward.
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Culture Club

AUSTRALIAN DESIGNER TOM Fereday

collaborated with leading Italian manufacturers on the **SP01** Outdoor series of furniture, distributed in the United States by **Modern Principle**. Designed to withstand the intense ocean and wind exposure of the Australian outdoors, durability is paramount, and all pieces undergo rigorous 1,500-hour salt-mist testing.

"The conditions on the coast of Australia are much tougher than [those] you typically encounter in most parts of the U.S. and the rest of the world," explains **Matt Lorrain**, creative director for SP01. "Our salt-mist test is about twice [as thorough as] what the auto industry does."

Made up of pared-back elements whose

fine lines belie the collection's toughness, the collection is characterized by bent metal wire mixed with a natural palette of marble and FSC-certified timber. The line includes three chairs, a stool, and three tables, available in five powder-coated colors: black, salmon, blue, green, and white. All the furniture in SPo1's outdoor launch has been given the GECA (Good Environmental Choice Australia) rating.

"In Australia, our environments tend to blend indoor and outdoor spaces freely, with more flexibility between the two. This collection reflects that lifestyle," says Fereday. "Each piece is incredibly durable yet is beautiful enough to stand on its own within an interior." —Ashleigh VanHouten



HARDWIRED

Built to withstand the tough Australian outdoors, the SPo1 series of deceptively simple yet durable chairs and tables by Tom Fereday is made from powder-coated metal wire.



катасні

MANUFACTURER: Janus et Cie PERFORMANCE: The eight-piece collection includes an armchair, lowand high-back lounge chairs, sofas, and cocktail and side tables, all with an aluminum frame, in four new colors.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: The collection is made with a 100 percent recyclable proprietary synthetic JANUS fiber in a variegated, herringbone weave that is resistant to ultraviolet light, snagging, and tears. JANUSETCIE.COM

KEY \$=value, \$\$=mid-range, \$\$\$=high-end

(SNAP #225)



NAR53

MANUFACTURER: Royal Botania PERFORMANCE: French landscape architect Louis Benech designed the Nara collection—which also features several other chair styles, a lounge bench, and dining, low, and side tables—for Royal Botania's Black Label series of exclusive, handmade outdoor furniture.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: Made from sustainably harvested solid teak, the three-legged NAR53 chair measures 22 x 34 x 15". ROYALBOTANIA.COM (SNAP #226)

= ECO-FRIENDLY ATTRIBUTES



MBRACE

MANUFACTURER: Dedon PERFORMANCE: This Sebastian Herkner-designed collection brings together mesh-like woven Dedon-fiber seating and a sustainably sourced teak base for the first time.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: MBrace includes a lounger (shown here, 30 x 33 x 42"), a wingback chair, a rocker, and an optional footstool in three colorways.

DEDON.DE (SNAP #227)



MONZA

MANUFACTURER: Plank PERFORMANCE: Designed by Konstantin Grcic, the Monza armchair has been updated for outdoor use with iroko wood and a polypropylene backrest. PRICE RANGE: \$\$

APPLICATIONS: The backrest of the chair is available in nine colors, among them three new warm, nature-inspired hues: caffe latte, caramel, and terra brown. PLANK.IT

(SNAP #228)

Rest Your Seoul

KOREAN DESIGNER Jiyoun Kim created 24 Dokkaebi stools as part of a larger art installation in the **Hangang Art Park**, near the Han River in Seoul. Four artists including Kim were selected to provide permanent works for the project, which was initially launched by the city's government body. The task: devise original pieces that revolve around the theme of *suim*, Korean for "rest."

Named after a playful goblin mentioned in Korean folk tales, the 24 cylindrical stools one for each pine tree in the selected installation site—are made of mirror-polished stainless steel and measure 14 inches in diameter and 181/2 inches high. The tops are painted in eight nature-inspired gradient colors with a resilient matte clear coat. The stool's mirrored surface captures reflections of the surrounding grass, trees, and sky, creating the illusion that the colored portion is floating in midair. "Just like Dokkaebi easily manipulating his appearance, these stools naturally immerse into the surrounding areas," says Kim. "They will also transform according to the colors of the forest that change as the year passes." — AVH





POLISHED PERCHES

Jiyoun Kim's Dokkaebi stools, part of a permanent installation in Seoul's Hangang Art Park, were made from mirror-polished steel that reflects the surrounding forest; the matte-painted tops appear to float in midair.



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Walk This Way

IN 2010, New York City authorities selected international design firm Snøhetta to design permanent pedestrian plazas in Times Square. The \$55 million project, which spans 85,000 square feet of former roadway, was officially completed in December 2016, nearly doubling the amount of public space for pedestrians in the tourist hot spot.

The scheme permanently closes off Broadway between 42nd and 47th streets to traffic, replacing congested streets with five pedestrian plazas ranging from 10,000 to 22,000 square feet. Snøhetta added ten 30-to-50-foot-long Granicor granite benches with embedded power supply, eliminating the need for temporary generators during events—along Broadway. The benches aid in securing the plazas' perimeters, as do bollards: not insignificant in light of an out-of-control driver who struck many pedestrians, killing one and injuring others, on adjacent Seventh Avenue last month.

Snøhetta used dark precast-concrete pavers from Wausau Tile, selected in two finishes to create visual interest and embedded with nickel-size steel discs that capture the neon glow from the marquees above. The designers also widened sidewalks by 12 inches and eliminated obsolete phone booths, many traffic lights, and most curbs.

"When Broadway closed to cars in 2009, we observed that people still largely used the sidewalks to circulate through Times Square. By removing the curbs, we changed the way people experience the space," explains **Nick** Koster, project architect for Snøhetta.

In reducing traffic and providing more pedestrian space, the design has had a positive impact on health, public safety, and the environment, says Snøhetta founding partner Craig Dykers. "You can even find some quiet spots and good food there now, something New Yorkers cherish," he adds. — Ashleigh VanHouten



GO ZONE

Snøhetta's redesign of the pedestrian plazas in Times Square changed the way visitors move through and experience the bustling tourist hub, by removing curbs, widening sidewalks, and adding long granite benches.



MOISTURESHIELD INFUSE

MANUFACTURER: MoistureShield PERFORMANCE: This composite decking with wood-grain finish is infused with MoistureShield CoolDeck technology that optimizes heat reflection, so boards absorb up to 35 percent less heat than other capped composites in similar colors.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$

APPLICATIONS: Made from 95% total recycled content and available in five colors, the deck board is 1 x 6" with 12, 16, and 20' options and can be installed on or in the ground, or underwater.

MOISTURESHIELD.COM (SNAP #229)

KEY \$=value, \$\$=mid-range, \$\$\$=high-end



CLIMBER

MANUFACTURER: Flos

PERFORMANCE: Designed by Piero Lissoni, the aluminum die-cast LED light is surface-installed and available in monoor bi-emission versions: lower optics are retracted to restrict glare while the glass of the upper optic is flush with the light to prevent water deposits.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: The outdoor light comes in three sizes and four finishes: white gray, black, anthracite, and deep brown. FLOS.COM

(SNAP #230)

= ECO-FRIENDLY ATTRIBUTES



GO OUTDOORTABLE

MANUFACTURER: Landscape Forms PERFORMANCE: Made with Panguard II powder-coated aluminum to keep surfaces cool, this outdoor work surface provides power access and an optional canopy with lighting.

PRICE RANGE: \$\$-\$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: Ideal for campuses and community spaces, the hardwired or solarpowered table is offered in dining height and three standing heights. Power garages close when a device is plugged in, making them weather and corrosion-resistant. LANDSCAPEFORMS.COM (SNAP #231)

CASSERO

MANUFACTURER: Serralunga PERFORMANCE: Designed by Patricia Urquiola, these architectural polyethylene planters have a concrete-texture effect, as if they were pulled directly from a mold. PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

APPLICATIONS: UV-protected for outdoor use and available in tall (60 x 47 x 70") and long (100 x 48 x 55") versions, these 100 percent recyclable vases come in four natural tones.

SERRALUNGA.COM (SNAP #232)

Light It Up

AS OF MARCH 2017, PNC Park, the 38,362-seat home of the **Pittsburgh Pirates** Major League Baseball team, has benefited from a retrofit LED lighting system from **Eaton's Ephesus Lighting Solutions** on the playing field, replacing a metal-halide system. This upgrade reduces glare, provides more uniform on-field illumination, and requires little to no maintenance.

"To minimize glare, we maximize the number of point sources on the fixture—the total number of LEDs used—to essentially spread the light out more evenly across its face," says **Mike Lorenz**, Ephesus president. "We also use custom lenses to precisely direct the light where we want."

The retrofit incorporated Ephesus **Stadium Pro** fixtures with a LandBurst digital control system allowing 100 percent dimming capabilities, color temperature tuning, and advanced control capabilities within each fixture. This provides more options for special effects, as "the lights not only dim but can also flash and create dynamic scenes," says Lorenz.

Halide lights are traditionally used in professional sportsstadium lighting systems because the large amounts of light and energy required also generate high amounts of heat, which can cause LED lights to degrade or fail. "Our lights generate less heat than other lighting systems and are designed to handle heat more efficiently," Lorenz explains. Two main sections of the Stadium Pro are designed with "fins" to maximize surface area, and the power supply in the



rear and the LEDs in the front are thermally isolated from each other, allowing heat to dissipate.

"The season is only a few weeks old," says Pittsburgh Pirates president **Frank Connelly**, "but the response to our new LED lights has been very positive from players, broadcasters, and fans alike."—AVH



CLEAR VIEW

Pittsburgh's PNC Park switched out traditional metal-halide lighting for Ephesus LED Stadium Pro fixtures, which provide a more uniform illumination and advanced dimming control and result in reduced maintenance and energy costs.



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Comeback Kids

Manufacturing in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island is on the upswing. BY J. MICHAEL WELTON



SLOW TO PULL

out of the Great Recession of 2008, manufacturing in Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachu-

setts is picking up a head of steam.

That's especially true in Stamford, Connecticut, home to **Accurate Lock and Hardware**. "On a revenue basis we've probably doubled compared to five years ago," says Ron Salvatore, chairman at the firm.

Business is booming too at **Laticrete**, in Bethany, Connecticut. "A year ago—2016—was a record year," says Sean Boyle, vice president of marketing.

Ira Moscowitz, director of advanced manufacturing programs at Mass Technology Collaborative, says manufacturing employment in Massachusetts has stabilized over the past five years, with compensation rising. "The average salary is about \$20,000 higher than the state average," he says.

At **Excel Dryer** in East Longmeadow, Massachusetts, where the XLERATOR[®] Hand Dryer is made, the slowdown never even happened. "We've had 10 years of double-digit growth," says Bill Gagnon, vice president of marketing.

Manufacturers are taking a second look and relocating to Rhode Island, according to Stefan Pryor, secretary at the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation. "We have new packages for smaller manufacturers: incentives like tax credits, job training, and innovation vouchers," he says.

Business is thriving at **Dryvit Systems** in West Warwick, Rhode Island, as automation changes the way products are made. "The materials are being measured and inserted into blenders controlled by computers," says Barbara Catlow, director of marketing communication, "so we don't need someone to pour and scoop or measure raw material."

For southern New England, 2017 is looking like the year of the comeback.

Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island





2 MANUFACTURER: 2 Chemetal LOCATION: Easthampton, Massachusetts PRODUCTS: Metal designs and laminates for interiors in brushed, aged, and patinated aluminum, copper, and brass. FOUNDED: 1963 EMPLOYEES: 42 PRICE RANGE: \$-\$\$ CHEMETAL.COM



MANUFACTURER: Excel Dryer

LOCATION: East Longmeadow, Massachusetts

PRODUCTS: XLERATOR[®],

hand dryers. FOUNDED: 1963

EMPLOYEES: 48

PRICE RANGE: \$\$

XLERATOReco®, and ThinAir®



4 MANUFACTURER: East Coast Lightning Equipment Inc. LOCATION: Winsted, Connecticut PRODUCTS: Lightning Protection Systems. FOUNDED: 1984 EMPLOYEES: 25 PRICE RANGE: \$\$ ECLE.BIZ











6 MANUFACTURER: Accurate Lock and Hardware LOCATION: Stamford, Connecticut

PRODUCTS: Custom solutions for high-end residences, commercial buildings, institutional facilities, and landmarks like the White House, Ellis Island, and state capitols. FOUNDED: 1972 EMPLOYEES: 112 PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$ ACCURATELOCKANDHARDWARE.COM



7 MANUFACTURER: Dryvit Systems LOCATION: West Warwick, Rhode Island PRODUCTS: Insulated wall systems and high-performance interior and exterior coatings. FOUNDED: 1969 EMPLOYEES: 75 statewide; 280 worldwide

PRICE RANGE: \$\$ DRYVIT.COM

SNAPSHOTS

CONNECTICUT

The Constitution State is home to **5,000 manufacturers** who employ nearly



people and generate more than **12.7%** of state GDP.



Connecticut's educated workforce ranks fourth in the nation: **34.7%** of the population over 25 has a bachelor's degree or higher.

The median hourly wage for an aerospace engineer in the state is



while the national average is \$44.

SOURCES: CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF LABOR; CONNSTEP.ORG; CONNECTICUTECONOMICDEVELOPMENT.COM

MASSACHUSETTS

The Bay State's **7,756 manufacturers** employ



people in the state.



Among the Massachusetts industries shedding jobs is transportation equipment, down **7.5%**. Lumber/wood and furniture/fixtures are both down **2.5%**.

Manufacturing employment levels in the state inched down for a second straight year in 2016, despite a



SOURCE: MANUFACTURERS' NEWS

RHODE ISLAND



manufacturing firms call the state home.

The Ocean State exported **\$1.75 million** in manufactured goods in 2016, which amounted to 77 percent of all manufactured goods statewide.

Exports in manufactured goods rose

28.2%

in Connecticut between 2010 and 2016.

SOURCE: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS

GREENSOURCE



A Good Neighbor

Sustainable design strategies contribute to employee well-being and to the changing neighborhood of an international bank's new headquarters in Mexico City.

BY HEATHER CORCORAN

WHEN DESIGNING AN OPERATIONS Center for banking giant **BBVA Bancomer** in Mexico City, **Skidmore, Owings & Merrill** (SOM) faced more than the usual challenges in attaining LEED certification. There were also the specifics of the capital city, which often experiences brownouts and blackouts as development puts pressure on its infrastructure. Rising temperatures and long periods of drought, too, have dried up reservoirs as the city rapidly sinks. With that in mind, the architects set out to design a modern building that would tread lightly on the existing systems.

"If you want to be forward-thinking with sustainability, a big part of that is also all the local issues you're talking about," explains Kim Van Holsbeke, an associate director at SOM and part of the team behind the 30-story, 1.66 million–square– foot commercial building in Parques Polanco, a development in the city's emerging mixed-use Nuevo Polanco area.

While the SOM crew had its own ideas about green building, there were already guidelines put in place by the local government to ensure that rainwater would be harvested, graywater would be treated on-site, and solar energy would be used to heat water. "They are stringent," Van Holsbeke notes, but SOM even went further, with a building that treats blackwater on-site and collects condensation from its cooling system for reuse. Additionally, low-flow fixtures and fittings from **American Standard** and **Kohler** cut back on water waste.

WELCOME BENEFITS

A lively aluminum screen punctuates the structure's highperformance glass facade, regulating solar gain (left and top); the building has an average of 26 square feet of outdoor space per employee. A terrace between the 11th and 12th floors (above) provides places for employees to enjoy lunch on-site.





30% SOLAR WATER HEATING Heating water through solar green technologies reduces the building's energy consumption to a goal of 14% below ASHRAE standards.

DAYLIGHTING Daylighting provides maximum natural light and reduces reliance on artificial lighting and energy consumption while creating a more comfortable and efficient works extrements.

SOLAR SCREENING Exterior fins reduce direct solar heat gain and allow a more evenly distributed temperature throughout the building.

WATER EFFICIENT FIXTURES Innovative water technologies help reducted the building's water consumption by RAINWATER HARVESTING Harvesting rainwater reduces irrigation demand by more than 50%, while providing supplemental water supply for fire suppression and toilet flushing.

OUTDOOR GREEN SPACE 80% of the site area is programmed as green space throughout the building, providing provinent gathering spaces for building occupants, and allowing additional light and air to filter through the interior environments.

GREY/BLACKWATER TREATMENT Waste water is treated and reused on site. Treated water is utilized for toilet flushing, HVAC cooling tower makeup water, and irrigation.

Adding to that, SOM devised a plan that would not only allow the building to power itself through cogeneration but also to bring in high-voltage power lines from a half mile away to supplement the on-site system, while creating a stronger grid for the surrounding neighborhood. Energy-saving LED light fixtures paired with ample daylighting further lessen the load on the local power grid.

Along with architectural interventions, the team devised other programs to cut down on the building's environmental impact. Inspired by businesses in Silicon Valley, they developed a nine-line employee transportation system terminating at the Operations Center. Together with a bike path that provides easy access to subway lines, these buses led to a 50 percent decrease in the number of employees who drive to work each day—proof, SOM design partner Gary Haney says, that companies with viable alternatives can devote less space to cars. Furthermore, a subsidized meal plan and full-service cafeteria significantly reduces the number of BBVA's 5,100 employees who leave the building for lunch.

BBVA invested an additional \$8.6 million beyond the cost of the building to engage the changing neighborhood: of that, \$4.4 million went toward direct community development, such as the planting of 355 trees. "It became a real outreach, way beyond the confines of the site," Haney says. But the architecture also contributes toward this goal. The building is enclosed with an elegantly shaded skin of aluminum and VRE-38 low-E-coated **Viracon** glass, part of a panelized exterior closure system manufactured by Inasus that includes the curtain wall and brise-soleil with an Interpon powder coating by **AkzoNobel**. The client's responsible approach to employee well-being fed back into the sustainability goals, too. There is an average of 26 square feet of outdoor space per employee—irrigated by reclaimed water—providing a connection with nature during the workday as well as gathering and meeting places that are refreshing. Meanwhile, the building's external solar shades assure a comfortable workplace with plenty of sunlight minus glare and heat, and "communicating" stairs between floors encourage exercise. The decision to eliminate the hierarchy of private offices along the perimeter of floors in favor of a more democratic open plan actually helps bring daylight to these interior workspaces.

Inside, partitions of recycled wood are just one of the sustainably sourced materials utilized on the project. But finding such products on the Mexican market, especially at a competitive price, wasn't always easy. So SOM worked with their clients to choose local materials that would provide more energy-efficient (and budgetfriendly) alternatives than would shipping in more familiar sources from abroad. "It doesn't always come with a certificate that we're accustomed to in our marketplace," Van Holsbeke notes of the developing market. Still, if the completed project is any indicator, building green is possible in any location.

"When you're competing for a high-end workforce, these things aren't just nice—they're necessary," Haney says of the building's holistic approach to wellbeing. "They make a difference when someone is offered a job. [Prospective employees] want to know the building is green; they want to know they can walk and have a coffee or get lunch whenever they want. It's the new standard."

OFFICE SMARTS

The lobby, imagined as a "street," has peaceful, verdant views (top). Sunny stairwells that encourage employees to climb between floors (above) are among the building's many sustainable and health-conscious features (above right). **CONTINUING EDUCATION:** FLOATING BUILDINGS

FROM ARCHITECTURAL RECORD





Noah's Ark-itecture

Buoyant buildings offer one solution for sea-level rise, escalating property values, and the desire to be near the water. BY KATHARINE LOGAN

AS THE ICE MELTS and the seas rise, building on waterfront and flood-prone sites begins to look a lot like foolishness, yet backing away from the water takes more willpower than most cities and towns can muster. Ever since the first settlements took root on flood-fertilized riverbanks, next to the water is where people have always wanted to be.

So what are the options for staying put and living with water rather than moving away from it? They range from keeping water out—with barriers, stilts, and raised ground planes—to letting water in, with ground floors designed for periodic inundation, to, ultimately, rising above it all, with floating architecture. Yes, really. "Whether it's New York or London, Bangkok or Dhaka, all these cities are growing, all these cities are next to the water, and all are threatened by the water," says Koen Olthuis, founding principal of Netherlands-based Waterstudio. "Floating developments can be part of the solution."

The technology of floating architecture isn't new. Each of the projects considered here uses tried-and-true technology adapted from marine applications to achieve its unusual results, whether it's a floating house, an island, a church, or a plaza.

Houseboats, for example, have been around for centuries, and the floating houses that make up a neighborhood in Ijburg, under development in Amsterdam's Lake Ijssel, are "really just better houseboats," says Olthuis, "built to the same standards as a house on land, using the same methods and materials."

For all their similarities to houses on terra firma, however, the float houses Olthuis has designed for Ijburg differ in a crucial aspect: their buoyant "foundations," or lower levels. Formed in a single pour to eliminate joints, and emphatically free of cracks, a prefabricated concrete tub—or hull—is designed to displace a volume of water with a weight equivalent to the weight of the house. The hull is submerged the depth of half a story and secured to telescoping piles at diagonally opposite corners, allowing the house to rise and fall with the water but not wander about. (Typically, bedrooms are located on the partially submerged level, and the water reduces heating and cooling loads on the house.) As a refinement, automatic air-water balancing tanks help keep the house level when the residents invite more than a few friends to a party.

A buoyant foundation can also be used to build amphibious architecture on flood-prone land. Amphibious architecture retains a connection to the ground under ordinary circumstances and floats as high as needed when flooding occurs. As a flood-mitigation strategy, amphibious architecture works with natural cycles, instead of trying to resist them.

VILLA FLOTILLA The floating houses designed by Waterstudio, which make up a neighborhood on Amsterdam's Lake Ijssel, have "foundations" formed in a single pour to eliminate joints. Waterstudio's 1,440-square-foot Villa De Hoef, for example, usually sits in a garden beside a waterway in the small Dutch town of De Hoef. When the waterway floods, which happens every 10 years or so, the house floats; as the flood recedes, the house returns to its original position. With a maximum anticipated flood level for the site of only 4 feet, the project's engineers

CONTINUING EDUCATION: FLOATING BUILDINGS

FROM ARCHITECTURAL RECORD





NOT ALL WET

The Waterstudio's Villa De Hoef (above), in the Netherlands, normally sits on dry ground alongside a waterway. But when it floods, the house floats. A developer is currently seeking zoning approval to build 29 Waterstudio-designed private floating islands (left) on an inlet north of Miami Beach.

deemed it safe to tether the house with cables and surround it with a wooden deck, in preference to telescoping piles. A skirt of nylon net prevents flood debris from becoming lodged beneath the house. "Low-tech, low-maintenance," says Olthuis. Maintaining the amphibious system requires periodic visual inspection of the cables and deck, and, every five years, a recalculation of the house's added or moved live load to determine and adjust its center of gravity. This is in case the occupants have accumulated more belongings or rearranged the furniture.

Expanding the applications for floating architecture, Waterstudio is now designing private islands that will float on a patented platform moored to the seabed. With projects under way for Dubai and the Maldives, the firm's Amillarah project is currently seeking zoning



POP-UP CHURCH

Denizen Work's proposal for a floating and relocatable church (above and left) for the Diocese of London features a roof composed of a pair of asymmetrical, pleated wings. These are lifted, like the pop-top of a vintage camper, once the vessel is docked.

approval for a "villa flotilla," as the *Miami Herald* dubbed the proposal, with 29 floating islands on Maule Lake, an inlet north of Miami Beach.

Expected to sell for about \$12.5 million each, the floating islands will make only a few hundred very wealthy people happy, notes Olthuis. Ultimately, however, he sees a more egalitarian future for the technology, as a solution for people worldwide who live in slums that are close to open water and vulnerable to flooding. Improving these so-called wet slums is almost impossible, since governments are unwilling to condone illegal settlements by sponsoring upgrades and because lenders are unwilling to invest in something that will be

flooded out.

But, building on their experience developing floating islands, Waterstudio has proposed simple schools and critical infrastructure, such as water-treatment plants, that would sit on small floating islands and be connected to the slums. The firm has recently completed a prefabricated floating school that will be shipped to Dhaka and assembled next to a wet slum there. Such facilities typically qualify as temporary solutions, which makes them acceptable to government officials. They can be relocated as needed, retaining their value, which makes them attractive to investors. And they can be leased



FROM ARCHITECTURAL RECORD



WALKING ON WATER

Carlo Ratti's scheme for Currie Park (above and opposite page) in West Palm Beach, Florida, consists of interconnected piazzette. The park, which will float on Lake Worth Lagoon, incorporates amenities such as a restaurant, an amphitheater, and a circular pool. for limited periods, which makes them accessible to the communities that need them. "It's a delicate system, where you get investors, regulators, and users all together to improve life in these wet slums," says Olthuis.

A versatile, affordable, and mobile solution is exactly what the Church of England's Diocese of London was looking for when it commissioned London-based Denizen Works to design a floating church and community hub to support the diocese's outreach program along London's waterways.

With the rocketing cost of land, London's waterways are the busiest they've been since the Industrial Revolution, with a floating bookshop, cinema, restaurants, and even a puppet theater, as well as a significant residential component. The activity on the water could soon be eclipsed, however, by the activity of new development along the water's edge. In 2015, the mayor's London Plan identified key brownfield "Opportunity Areas," many of which lie along these waterways.

With its floating church, the diocese is responding both to the anticipated growth of

new waterfront communities on brownfields and underdeveloped lands, and to the difficulty of finding space in the rapidly redeveloping city for a new church. "We spotted this opportunity," says Hayley Harding, program management officer with the diocese, "and felt that it was something that could grow and support development and change."

The priority for the diocese is to establish a presence in emerging communities—on and beside the water—as early as possible, and in a space that the local parish can own and manage, running both secular and worship activities as it sees fit. The floating church will moor at key regeneration sites for three- to five-year periods, offering services, and developing relationships with growing communities. Ultimately the diocese will evaluate whether and how to build a permanent facility.

The competition brief for the project called for a multifunctional space that could accommodate a diverse program of worship and celebrations, art exhibitions, yoga classes, parent-and-toddler groups, and supper clubs. "They're not just looking to bring the church to these emerging communities," says Murray Kerr, director at Denizen Works, "but a sense of community as well."

Denizen's winning scheme, developed in collaboration with Turks Shipyard and based on a traditional wide beam canal boat, provides 500 square feet of interior space, plus decks, in a vessel that is 60 feet long and 12 feet wide but less than 6 feet above the waterline, so that it can easily clear the London canal system's low bridges. The design, which is projected to cost about \$370,000, includes an innovative roof that generates a play of light and volume. Once the vessel is docked, the roof's two asymmetrical segments can be raised to reveal pleated sides much like the bellows of a church organ (or, more prosaically, the pop-top of a vintage camper). The longer wing shelters the hall, while the shorter one covers the ancillary spaces, including a kitchen and an office. Crafted from resinimpregnated sailcloth, the translucent bellows will provide a soft, ambient light during the day and act as a Chinese lantern at night, says Kerr, "creating a warm, inviting glow for



passersby and imbuing the interiors with a celestial quality."

"They delivered something we weren't expecting," says Harding. "This beautiful volume is something that can be a sacred space as well as a community asset. And Denizen's partnership with a shipyard demonstrates that it is viable."

The church will be Denizen's first project to float. By contrast, the work of Turin, Italy–based Carlo Ratti Associati demonstrates an abiding fascination with water, so it's no surprise that the firm's 2016 master plan for the Currie Park waterfront at West Palm Beach, Florida, incorporates a significant water-based element. What is unexpected is the use of a technology adapted from submarines to carve volumes of habitable space into the surface of the Lake Worth Lagoon.

"One of the aims of our work is to imagine an architecture that adapts to human need, rather than the other way around—a living, tailored space that is molded to its inhabitants' needs, characters, and desires," says Carlo Ratti, the firm's founding partner and the director of the Senseable City Lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "Water is a reconfigurable material, and it allows us to develop adaptive, 'fluid' designs."

The plan envisions a floating plaza (or, perhaps more accurately, a series of floating piazzette) projecting out onto the lagoon. The plaza will hang in the water, with its surface about 5 feet below sea level, providing views across the water from this unusual perspective. The project is anticipated to have virtually no environmental impact, floating in the lagoon just like a midsize boat, using no fuel, and discharging nothing into the water. As part of the 50-acre master plan, the plaza will connect to West Palm Beach's city center along a pair of leafy promenades, and will incorporate such facilities as an organic restaurant with its own hydroponic cultivations, a circular pool, and an amphitheater.

Now in design development while seeking municipal approvals, the plaza will consist of a series of lightweight steel modules composing a peninsula of about 5,000 square feet. The structure's deck will be made of galvanized steel (similar to boat construction), with teak finishes. Beneath the plaza, a series of sensor-activated air-water chambers will open and close, releasing or taking in water according to the number of people walking on the surface, and adjusting for a height differential of up to 20 inches, which accommodates loading changes of up to 100 pounds per square foot. "The use of responsive digital technologies is often employed to introduce movement and complexity to static architecture," says Ratti, "but it can equally be used to achieve stasis and equilibrium within a moving landscape."

With this project, West Palm Beach aims to reclaim its connection to the natural environment it is part of, give shape to a vibrant new district, and, says Ratti, "radically redefine the relationship between architecture and water." Ratti has identified the theme that unites these disparate examples of floating architecture: a floating plaza that engages with water in a playful new way; a floating church that enables an ancient institution to reach out to its changing city; floating islands that uplift the few and the many; amphibious architecture that celebrates a river even in flood; and a floating neighborhood that provides a city with new "ground." All of these offer new possibilities for changing waterfronts and new possibilities for us to stay where we really want to be—by the water.

KATHARINE LOGAN IS AN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNER AND WRITER FOCUSING ON DESIGN, SUSTAINABILITY, AND WELL-BEING.

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at architectural record.com, and complete the online test. Upon passing the test, you will receive a certificate of completion, and your credit will be automatically reported to the AIA. Additional information regarding credit-reporting and continuing-education requirements can be found online at continuingeducation.bnpmedia.com.

Learning Objectives

- Outline the range of solutions for flood-prone areas that involve living with water rather than trying to keep it out.
- 2 Describe how marine technologies can be adapted to create floating buildings, islands, and public spaces.
- **3** Outline the distinguishing characteristics of amphibious architecture.
- 4 Discuss what makes floating islands an appropriate location for critical facilities and infrastructure in wet slums.

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MANUFACTURERS' SPOTLIGHT SECTION

In these pages are products brought to you directly from manufacturers. You'll find price, application, performance data, and contact information–the facts needed to make the right decisions. Use the reader service card in the issue or go online at architecturalrecord.com to request further details.



Danish designer Cecilie Manz fuses modernity and warmth in her Luv collection for Duravit, in which the soft-toned matte glazes of the washbowls combine with furniture finishes in characteristically Nordic colors. (SNAP #233)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Doors, Windows

Page 55

Page 55

Doors, windows, storefronts, entrances, skylights, framing systems, glazed curtain walls, and translucent wall and roof assemblies.

Equipment

Page 55 goods, among

A broad range of electrical and tech goods, among them audiovisual, multimedia, and control systems. Also covers elevators and appliances.

Interior Finishes, Furnishings

Products for finishing and furnishing building interiors, including flooring, wallcoverings, ceilings, furniture, shelving systems, and window treatments.

Landscaping, Sitework

Exterior improvement products such as site furniture, bollards, pavers, landscape edging, and exterior green walls. Also includes gazebos and other site structures.

Materials

Basic products used in construction, among them lumber, concrete, and masonry units. Includes paint, coatings, and structural materials and fittings.

Mechanical Systems, HVAC, Plumbing Page 56

Products for conditioning, moving, holding, and controlling air, water, and other fluids. Examples include fans, ventilators, and boilers.

Roofing, Siding, Thermal & Moisture Protection

Page 56

Page 56

Pages 56-57

Goods for constructing the building envelope, such as exterior wall and roof panels, sheathing, thermal insulation, and waterproofing.

Specialty Products

Pages 57-58

Products for special applications or that apply to more than one category, such as gates, ladders, columns, signage, awnings, canopies, and railing systems. DOORS, WINDOWS

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SNAP 234

DOORS, WINDOWS

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SNAP 240

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DOORS, WINDOWS

SNAP 235

DOORS, WINDOWS

EQUIPMENT

SNAP 239

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SNAP 236

DOORS, WINDOWS

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MATERIALS

SNAP 242

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SNAP 245

SNAP 247

SNAP 249

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SNAP 251



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SNAP 40



NEW AND UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

Hansel & Gretel

NEW YORK CITY

June 7-August 6, 2017 Jacques Herzog and Pierre de Meuron team up with Ai Weiwei for a large-scale installation commissioned for the Park Avenue Armory. Referencing the story of Hansel and Gretel, the interactive exhibit explores the meaning of public space in a surveillance-laden world. For more information, visit *armoryonpark.org*.

Frank Lloyd Wright at 150: Unpacking the Archive NEW YORK CITY

June 12–October 1, 2017

Marking the 150th anniversary of the American architect's birth, this exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art will comprise approximately 450 works made from the 1890s through the 1950s, including architectural drawings, models, building fragments, films, television broadcasts, prints, furniture, tableware, textiles, paintings, photographs, and scrapbooks, a number of which have rarely or never been publicly exhibited. For more information, visit *moma.org*.

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SNAP 254

ONGOING EXHIBITIONS

Moholy-Nagy: Future Present LOS ANGELES

Through June 18, 2017

This exhibit, the United States' first László Moholy-Nagy retrospective in nearly 50 years, reveals a utopian artist who believed that art could work hand in hand with technology for the betterment of humanity. *Moholy-Nagy: Future Present*, taking place at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), examines the career of this pioneering painter, photographer, sculptor, and filmmaker and includes more than 250 multimedia works from public and private collections across Europe and the United States. For more information, visit *lacma.org*.

Todd Eberle: Empire of Space

wuho.architecture.woodbury.edu.

Through June 24, 2017 Empire of Space highlights the work of photographer Todd Eberle, this year's recipient of the JSI Excellence in Photography Award from Woodbury University's Julian Shulman Institute. The exhibit will feature some of Eberle's best-known images, among them portraits of Hillary Rodham Clinton, Frank Gehry, Julius Shulman, Florence Knoll Bassett, Martha Stewart, David Adjaye, Peter Zumthor, and Philip Johnson For more information visit

Design Episodes: Form, Style, Language CHICAGO

Through June 25, 2017

In anticipation of the Art Institute of Chicago's fall 2017 new permanent display of architecture and design works, this exhibition presents highlights from the Institute's own collection as three provocative episodes or vignettes: the modern chair, the emergence of postmodern design, and contemporary identity systems in graphic design. Each of three distinct "episodes" in the exhibit is tied together by *Boundary Lines*, a custom-designed installation by graphic designer Amir Berbic that occupies the gallery windows overlooking Griffin Court. For more information, visit artic.edu.

Mies van der Rohe and James Stirling: Circling the Square

Through June 25, 2017

Comparing the design methods of two of the most highly recognized architects of the 20th century, this exhibit at the Royal Institute of British Architects offers a renewed look at the pair's respectively iconic architectural schemes proposed for the same London site. The exhibition features newly restored models and materials and other items that provide insight into the workings of the Stirling office, from initial sketch ideas to Stirling's famous "worm-eye" axonometric views. For more information, visit *riba.org*.

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ARCHITECTURAL R E C O R D





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Bureau Spectacular: insideoutsidebetweenbeyond SAN FRANCISCO

Through August 13, 2017

In its first museum presentation on the West Coast, the Los Angeles-based architecture studio Bureau Spectacular has designed a large-scale installation that further develops its ideas on past, current, and future architecture seen in the drawing *insideoutsidebetweenbeyond*, which SFMOMA acquired in 2015. Led by Jimenez Lai, Bureau Spectacular views architecture as a medium capable of rewriting cultural narratives. Reconsidering urban architecture inside, outside, between, and beyond the monotonous rectangular buildings seen in most city skylines, the exhibition offers an urban landscape littered with surrealistic architectural forms and jarring environments. For more information, visit *sfmoma.org*.

The World of Radio

NEW YORK CITY

Through September 14, 2017 The centerpiece of this exhibition at the Cooper Hewitt Museum is a 1934 batik mural by Arthur Gordon Smith celebrating the career of soprano and radio star Jessica Dragonette, which will be displayed alongside radios, drawings, and photographs of the era. The mural contains multiple vignettes that illustrate milestones in radio's history and familiar Jazz Age icons, such as a wall of Art Deco skyscrapers crisscrossed by airplanes and musical notes. For more information, visit cooperhewitt.org.

LECTURES, CONFERENCES, AND SYMPOSIA

Architectural Record Innovation Conference West

June 7, 2017

At the Mission Bay Conference Center at UCSF, RECORD brings together architects, designers, and industry leaders who are generating a range of creative solutions for the built environment today and into the future. Keynote speakers include Elizabeth Diller, Craig W. Hartman, and Thom Mayne. For more information, visit west.arinnovationconference.com.

NeoCon

CHICAGO

June 12-14, 2017

This three-day event at the historic Merchandise Mart features nearly 1 million square feet of exhibition space, three floors of showrooms, and one floor of temporary exhibitors. Thousands of new products, including contract accessories, floor coverings, furniture, lighting, technology, textiles, tile, stone, and other surfaces, will be launched. For more information, visit *neocon.com.*

Mundaneum 2017: re_Thinking Architecture and Cities in the Americas SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA

July 5–7, 2017

This event at the School of Architecture of the Universidad Véritas offers critical observations concerning the current state of architecture and cities in the Americas and explores new visions of the built environment in the context of the clashing realities in the region. Speakers include Alejandro Echeverri, Michael Sorkin, Neil Brenner, Michael Rotondi, Juvenal Baracco, James Wines, Carlos Cubillos, and Patrick Dillon. For more information, visit facebook.com/ MundaneumCostaRica2017.

COMPETITIONS

Public for All: Rethinking Shared Space in NYC

Submission deadline: June 20, 2017 The Design Trust seeks innovative ideas for creating more accessible, resourceful public spaces and sustainable models for their operation and maintenance to strengthen the voice of communities and enliven neighborhoods. Projects may be site-specific but must have the potential to change the way we develop and manage public space citywide. For more information, visit designtrust.org/rfp.

Reshape 17 | Wearable Technology Competition

Submission deadline: June 30, 2017 For this contest, proposals will focus on wearables as prosthetic skin providing augmented functions such as growth, movement, respiration, and nutrition. Reshape 17 goes toward integrated and holistic strategies with the objective of eliminating electronics in favor of programmable materials. For more information, visit *youreshape.io*.

URBAN SOS 2017: hOUR CITY

Submission deadline: July 17, 2017 Presented by AECOM and Van Alen Institute, with 100 Resilient Cities, this global competition challenges multidisciplinary student teams to propose solutions to urban issues and support more equitable access to resources, improve the built environment, and enrich quality of life. Students are encouraged to propose policy strategies, business models, and other solutions to address their chosen challenge, but these proposals must be accompanied by a physical intervention at a specific site in a city within the 100 Resilient Cities network. Visit aecom.com.

International Student Tall Building Design Competition

Submission deadline: July 24, 2017 This competition from the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH) aims to shed new light on the meaning and value of tall buildings in modern society. Participants are free to site their projects anywhere in the world. Proposals should show evidence of a clear understanding of how considerations of structure, environment, servicing, etc., are as vital to the success of a tall building as form, materials, and aesthetics. Visit *ctbuh.org*.

Planetarium: The Experience of Space

Submission deadline: August 11, 2017 Eleven magazine's latest challenge invites creatives around the world to imagine a new typology of planetariums, one that reflects today's renewed interest in space as well as an emerging understanding of our world. For more information, visit eleven-magazine.com.

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TRADE SHOW NEWS



International Architects Make Their Mark on Milan's Furniture Fair

MILAN'S ANNUAL FURNITURE FAIR, which this year took place April 4 to 9, is not just about furniture. Increasingly, exhibits outside the fairgrounds—the Studio Fuksas-designed epicenter of the Salone del Mobile—deal with design in a broader sense. And each year, architects play an important role.

New York-based firm **Diller Scofidio + Renfro** put together a striking exhibit inside the courtyard of the Palazzo Litta, in the city center. Called *Off the* *Cuff*, the installation was composed of 300 pairs of stuffed Trussardi jeans, linked waist to waist and cuff to cuff to create a tensile catenary diagrid that acted as a canopy over the courtyard.

Another New York firm, **SO-IL**, teamed up with **MINI** to create *Breathe*. The installation proposes a resource-conscious approach to shared city living within a compact footprint. A flexible metal frame spanning three levels supported a light-permeable

outer skin with a special coating that filters and neutralizes the air. A roof garden featured vigorous oxygen-producing plants to further improve air quality and the urban microclimate. "*Breathe* brings its residents into direct contact with their environment," said **Ilias Papageorgiou**, principal at SO-IL. "By making living an active experience, the installation encourages visitors to confront our tendency to take resources for granted." IN THE JEANS The individual pairs of pants in Diller Scofidio + Renfro's canopy within the courtyard of the Palazzo Litta point to the human scale in relation to the built environment.







RESET is a stress-reduction installation for the workplace. Conceived by **Ben van Berkel**, founder and principal of Amsterdambased **UNStudio**, and **Jeff Povlo**, founder of social design company **SCAPE**, together with a multidisciplinary team of experts that included neuroscientists, the RESET pod was designed to empower people to deal with stress more effectively. It was exhibited as part of the *Joyful Sense at Work* exhibition within the fairgrounds. UNStudio's Knowledge Platforms and Product department are actively engaged in investigations into new ways of working and the role that architecture and design can play in the creation of physically, socially, and psychologically healthy spaces. "I've been interested for a long time in the relationship between health and architecture," van Berkel explained while giving a tour of RESET. "Studies have shown that we spend 80 percent of our time indoors." UNStudio also presented flatware for **Alessi** and a chair for the Spanish brand **Ondarreta**.

OMA, together with Dutch designer **Sabine Marcelis**, created **Knoll**'s stand at the fairgrounds. Inspired by **Mies van der Rohe**'s 1929 Barcelona Pavilion, it featured faux-marble floors, a replica of **Georg Kolbe**'s statue *Dawn*, and, of course, Barcelona chairs among the company's newest offerings.

There were, at last, some architects who showed furniture they had designed for various brands. Japanese architect **Sou Fujimoto** created a very architectural piece for the Italian line **Alias**, drawing inspiration from the relationship between architectural space and the human body. Called Bookchair, the compact shelving unit is an object within an object, incorporating a chair that can be extracted.

Shanghai studio **Neri & Hu** acts as creative director for **Stellar Works**. The architects designed several elegant new pieces as well as porcelain ware for the brand, whose collections also feature furnishings by **Yabu Pushelberg** and **Rockwell Group**. —Josephine Minutillo

FOR A LIVING

(Clockwise from above) Ben van Berkel de-stresses inside his RESET pod. Sou Fujimoto's Bookchair is an object within an object. OMA's design for the Knoll stand recalls the Barcelona Pavilion. SO-IL's *Breathe* installation features a lightpermeable outer skin with a special coating that filters the air.





Designing with a Conscience

IF THERE'S ONE takeaway from the speakers at this year's AIA conference in Orlando, it's this: when it comes to architecture education and practice, social and environmental responsibility can have profound effects for future generations.

In her first appearance since leaving the White House, former first lady **Michelle Obama** sat down with AIA president **Thomas Vonier** in front of more than 10,000 architects. The architectural community itself was a pivotal focus of their conversation.

Candid about the profession's struggle to recruit and retain women and African-American architects, Vonier asked Obama, "Can you give us any advice about things we can do better?"

Obama was frank. "You can't be an architect if you don't know architects exist," she said, calling on the audience to mentor children as a means to raise the next, more diverse generation of architects and designers in a profession where young people of color lack role models. The same applies for empowering women in the workplace, according to Obama. "You need more women who are going to push if they have the leverage," said the former FLOTUS. "Not everyone has the leverage, so you have to push for the women who don't."

Other speakers included Berlin-based architect **Diébédo Francis Kéré**, who highlighted the importance of using local materials and labor, citing several of his school projects throughout his home country of Burkina Faso. **Michael Murphy** of Boston-based **Mass Design Group** spoke to the potential of design to unite people and of his firm's proposal with John McAslan + Partners for a London Holocaust memorial. And Pritzker Prize winner **Alejandro Aravena** addressed principles of forward-looking architecture, which form the foundation of his strategy for "incremental social housing" in his native Chile.

—Anna Fixsen and Miriam Sitz

SPREADING THE WORD (from top) Michelle

Obama, flanked by AIA CEO Robert Ivy and AIA president Thomas Vonier, spoke of the important role that architects play in the "lifeblood" of a city. Alejandro Aravena gave a classroom-style lecture on how to anticipate housing needs in a rapidly urbanizing world. Diébédo Francis Kéré emphasized the value of education, particularly in Africa, where the need is great.





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Architectural Grille	5,57
Armstrong World Industries	31
Aurora Storage Products, Inc.	55
Azon Usa	25,55
C	
C.R.Laurence	9
D	
Dri Design	17,57

E.		
	Easi-Set Industries	56
	Epro Services Inc	12,56
	Excel Dryer Inc	23
F	fiberC by Rieder	CV3
G	Graham Architectural Products 55	
Ľ	Infinity Drain	56
J	Invisible Structures Inc	57
	Just Manufacturing	56
	Laticrete International	CV2

M		
Madrax	43	
Overly Manufacturing Co	13,56	
Pella Corp	2	
Petersen Aluminum Corp	7, 58	
Precision Ladders	57	
R Raydoor	27,55	
Richards-Wilcox	55	
S SAFTIFIRST	11	
SAFTIFIRST O'Keefe's Inc	39	
Schluter Systems	21	

Schweiss Doors	55
Simonswerk	59
SNAP Clear Seas	63
SNAP Digital Academy	58
SNAP Learn And Earn	4
Sto Corporation	CV4
Stonhard	56
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U	
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BY ALEX KLIMOSKI

PARTNERS IN DESIGN



A NEW LUXURY residential building is rising on the corner of Manhattan's Mulberry and Kenmare streets—a crossroads of popular downtown neighborhoods SoHo and Nolita. The project, called 75 Kenmare, is a collaboration between New York-based architect Andre Kikoski and Kravitz Design, the studio of rocker turned designer Lenny Kravitz.

Although Kikoski is known for high-end interiors projects, including The Wright restaurant at New York's Guggenheim Museum, Kravitz took the reigns on interior design while Kikoski tackled the building envelope. To develop an exterior that would belong to the neighborhood, Kikoski took inspiration from surrounding buildings' masonry facades. But instead of using brick, the architect opted for vertical cast-in-place concrete panels with deep, curving grooves. "It has a fresh look that has the same DNA as all the other buildings," he says, "but is its own thing."

In some ways, Kravitz's interiors are in conversation with the facade. The lobby, for instance, features a geometric pattern for the natural stone floor and an exposed concrete ceiling. Additionally, the blackened steel and lustrous bronze used for Kikoski's chamfered window frames are echoed in some of the Kravitz-designed bathroom fixtures.

The overall result, says Kikoski, "has an elegant but rock star feel." (SNAP #270)



ANDRE KIKOSKI Kikoski is a Manhattan based architect. His firm AKA has won over 30 design awards for interior design, architecture, and product design. He is a trustee of the Van Alen Institute and alumni council emeritus at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design. akarch.com



LENNY KRAVITZ Kravitz is a musician and head of Kravitz Design, a New York-based studio providing design, product development, and branding services. kravitzdesign.com



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