

## Today's News - Wednesday, November 1, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Our hearts go out to - and grieve with - our city and the victims of yesterday's truck attack in Manhattan.

### It's a Stirling Prize kind of day (so newsletter is a bit longer - and later - than usual):

- [Wainwright](#) weighs in on dRMM's Hastings Pier (which also won the public vote): the "stark wooden wonder" is "the most obviously appealing building on an unadventurous shortlist. For its ingenuity and public-minded story, the pier makes a worthy winner."
- [Ijeh applauds](#) "dRMM's heroic reworking of Hastings Pier" as a "genuine example of urban renewal" (that the "shortlist was largely uninspiring helped").
- [Reactions](#) to the "bookies' favorite" to win the Stirling Prize are (mostly) positive (with a touch of wit: "How many Hasting piers do we need to reach France? Give dRMM a Stirling prize for every 280m").
- [Waite's](#) Q&A with dRMM's Alex de Rijke re: Hastings Pier: "Sometimes you don't need a building. Sometimes you just need architecture that is made possible by other means."

### In other news:

- [Moore finds](#) miles of "metaphors and allusions" easy to come by in the "Republic of Bloombergia" (a.k.a. Bloomberg European HQ): London "hasn't seen such an ambitious homage to corporate power in decades. It is biobloombergology - it is Starship Enterprise and baroque palazzo at once, somewhat Ian Fleming, the interior of the personal volcano of a benign Blofeld" (as well as being "the id and the superego of the city").
- [New renderings](#) of Zumthor's \$600 million LACMA expansion project via the newly-released environmental impact report: William Pereira, Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer, Renzo Piano, Bruce Goff buildings still bite the dust (but it's looking like a sand-colored swoosh - no longer a black blob!).
- [King parses](#) Perkins Eastman's winning redesign of San Francisco's Harvey Milk Plaza that "would recast the neighborhood's Muni subway station," but the "transformation of the plaza is by no means assured - \$10 million will need to be raised privately," and will be "subjected to more scrutiny as the proposal moves" forward.

### Of politics, policies, zoning, smart cities, gentrification - oh - and architecture:

- [Finch explains](#) why, "if you think that architecture isn't about politics, think again. From memorials to the housing crisis, the profession is intrinsically tied up in political machinations."
- [Budds delves](#) into a new study that finds "the key to solving cities' biggest problems" is thinking small (and "an added benefit to this approach: It cuts out politics").
- [Florida](#) looks at "the flip side of NIMBY zoning: Yes, land-use restrictions make cities unaffordable. But they also keep inequality between regions from becoming even worse."

- [McMurrian](#) explains how electric companies, state utility regulators, consumer advocates, and community leaders working toward similar goals can ensure smarter communities.
- [Peters parses](#) a new study that finds that "as people in cities file more patents, the gap between rich and poor starts to increase" (blame it on "innovation intensity").
- [Bliss looks](#) at the up- and down-sides of how Columbus, Ohio, is handling its \$50 million Smart City Challenge grant for transportation innovation that's supposed to "help its most vulnerable families. Now some worry their needs are fading into the background" (is it "an urban renewal scheme in the worst sense of the term"?).
- [Jirku talks](#) to Missika, the deputy mayor of Paris, re: Réinventer Paris, "his passion project - and why he believes shared spaces are the future of the city": "Sharing is not a fad, it is a movement."
- [Louisville](#), Kentucky, launches the \$14.5 million Green Heart project that "will study the connection between urban green space and human health" (and do a lot of good for at least one neighborhood).
- [A look at](#) the rise of the wooden skyscraper from Vancouver to Vienna: "insurance companies aren't delighted, but a small band of renegade architects is determined to lead us into a wood renaissance."
- [Che looks](#) at "why timber towers are on the rise in France": "concrete is losing its cachet" with architects and developers "increasingly turning to wood for their office towers and apartment complexes."

## Winners all!!!

- ["Flatiron Reflections"](#) wins this year's Flatiron Public Plaza Holiday Design Competition, where you'll "see NYC through a 'bundle of shimmering tubes.'"
- [Great presentation](#) of the AIA Innovation Award winners "that highlight collaboration between design and construction teams to create better process efficiencies and overall costs savings."
- [Voters choose](#) the AIA 2017 I Look Up Film Challenge People's Choice Award winner: Paul-Vincent Alexander's "A Roof of Their Own" (with links to all the winning videos).
- [Fast Company's](#) Innovation By Design Award winners in 13 categories - we highlight the Spaces, Places, and Cities - projects "that improve the urban fabric."
- [Flying Pigs](#) on Parade, Chicago's Union Station, and a Coney Island restaurant are among the winners of the Association of Licensed Architects 19th Annual Design Awards.

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Oliver Wainwright: Walking tall: Hastings Pier wins the Stirling architecture prize: Nicknamed the Plank, de Rijke Marsh Morgan's stark wooden wonder...was praised for changing 'the idea of what architecture is': ...it eschews the usual kiss-me-quick seaside clutter...crowdfunding campaign...has given locals a sense of ownership...the most obviously appealing building on an unadventurous shortlist...For its ingenuity and public-minded story, [it] makes a worthy winner. -- 6a Architects; Reiach & Hall/Michael Laird; Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners; Baynes and Mitchell; Groupwork + Amin Taha [images]- Guardian (UK)

Ike Ijeh: The verdict: 2017 Stirling Prize winner: ...the decision of to award the [Prize] to dRMM's heroic reworking of Hastings Pier stands as one of the few Stirling prizes to recognise genuine urban renewal. It also complements the wider reinvention of the British seaside resort...in which architecture has also been playing a starring role...viscerally demonstrate the power of architecture - particularly in depressed urban conditions - to regenerate, rebrand and reinvent...making a real difference to the fortunes of ordinary people and the profile of the depressed coastal communities in which they still sometimes live.-



BD/Building Design (UK)

Reaction: dRMM wins the Stirling Prize with Hastings Pier: ...the bookies' favourite - has been named the best building in Britain this year. Here's what you thought about dRMM's victory: "How many Hasting piers do we need to reach France? I'd encourage dRMM to keep on it ... give them a Stirling prize for every 280m." - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Richard Waite: dRMM Stirling Prize interview: 'Sometimes you don't need a building': Alex de Rijke...talks about its Hastings Pier scheme, describing it as "less of a building and more of a platform for future architecture": "...sometimes you don't need a building. Sometimes you just need architecture that is made possible by other means." - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Rowan Moore: Bloomberg European HQ - welcome to the Bloombergeum: ...boasts beehives, a wellness centre and its very own Roman temple. The City hasn't seen such an ambitious homage to corporate power in decades: Republic of Bloombergia...so all-encompassing in its vision that it takes ownership of both the id and the superego of the City of London...Rarely is this nature just nature. It is biobloombergology...it is Starship Enterprise and baroque palazzo at once, somewhat Ian Fleming, the interior of the personal volcano of a benign Blofeld. - Foster + Partners [images]- Observer (UK)

LACMA Reveals New Renderings and Drawings of Zumthor-Led Expansion Project: ...\$600 million transformation designed by Atelier Peter Zumthor...environmental impact report...provides some details of the museum plans...the project has undergone several major changes, most notably changing its original form to protect the nearby La Brea tar pits and changing its color from black to sand. [images]- ArchDaily

John King: SF architecture firm chosen to redesign Castro's Harvey Milk Plaza: Perkins Eastman...would recast the neighborhood's Muni subway station with a tiered amphitheater that at its summit forms a glass portal to the entrance...Transformation of the plaza is by no means assured...\$10 million will need to be raised privately...It's also sure to be subjected to more scrutiny as the proposal moves from a conceptual scheme into the public realm. [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

Paul Finch: If you think that architecture isn't about politics, think again: From memorials to the housing crisis, the profession is intrinsically tied up in political machinations: The biggest wide-ranging political story in connection with architecture is the newly discovered interest on the part of government in delivering a mass housing programme in the reasonably immediate future – as opposed to delivering speeches about it, that is...Action is now being considered because housing shortage has become a middle-class problem. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Diana Budds: The Key To Solving One Of Cities' Biggest Problems? Think Small: A city doesn't need a grand action plan to reduce climate change risks, according to a new study. ...risk-specific plans, while technically smaller in scope, yielded more direct policy change than the comprehensive plans...researchers suggest that municipalities that are just beginning to launch climate adaptation plans start by addressing specific risks and working closely with planning departments on policy recommendations. There's also an added benefit to this approach: It cuts out politics. - Fast Company / Co.Design

Richard Florida: The Flip Side of NIMBY Zoning: Yes, land-use restrictions make cities unaffordable. But they also keep inequality between regions from becoming even worse: Obama administration indicted unduly strict land-use rules as leading to damaging rents and holding back American innovation and economic progress...Believe it or not, a growing number of studies find that the widening gap between thriving coastal superstar cities and tech hubs and the rest of the country could be even bigger, if not for these restrictions.- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Katrina McMurrian/Critical Consumer Issues Forum: How collaboration facilitates smarter communities: When it comes to making their communities smarter, electric companies, state utility regulators, consumer advocates, and community leaders are up against similar challenges and working toward similar goals. Ongoing cooperation...will ensure that we can improve the well-being of citizens across the nation.- Smart Cities Dive

Adele Peters: It's Not A Coincidence That Innovative Cities Become Very Unequal: A new study finds that as people in cities file more patents, the gap between rich and poor in those cities starts to increase: ...blames a phenomenon it calls "innovation intensity." Researchers looked at 2 million patents - all linked to specific U.S. metro areas...The conclusion: A growth in high-tech innovation clearly causes a growth in inequality.- Fast Company

Laura Bliss: Who Wins When a City Gets Smart? Columbus, Ohio, won a \$50 million grant for high-tech transportation innovation, with a promise to help its most vulnerable families. Now some worry their needs are fading into the background: Smart City Challenge...a year and a half later, there's money sitting in the bank, and the outlines of Smart Columbus are taking shape. The big question: Will vulnerable moms get the lift they need? There is no plan for a pilot. None of the Smart City ideas have a start date...could be an urban renewal scheme in the worst sense of the term... -- Sidewalk Labs- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Irena Jirku: What Will Come of the Competition to Reinvent Paris? Jean-Louis Missika, deputy mayor of Paris, talks about his passion project - a design competition for underutilized spaces - and why he believes shared spaces are the future of the city: ..."nowadays the meaning of co-working, community gardening, and shared housing lies, above all, in human interaction." -- Réinventer Paris- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Louisville, KY project will examine links between health and greening cities: \$14.5 million Green Heart project...will study the connection between urban green space and human health...researchers will primarily examine residents' physical health, such as diabetes and heart disease risk, but they will also look

at changes in aspects of mental health, such as stress and depression.- Smart Cities Dive

'Plyscrapers': The rise of the wooden skyscraper: Timber skyscrapers are sprouting up across the globe, from Vancouver to Vienna. Are they strong enough? Will they rot? And won't they burn down? ...insurance companies aren't delighted, but a small band of renegade architects is determined to lead us into a wood renaissance nevertheless...cross-laminated timber (CLT)...is a true wonder material. -- Ola Jonsson/CF Möller Architects; Anthony Thistleton/Waugh Thistleton Architects- BBC (UK)

Jenny Che: Why Timber Towers Are On the Rise in France: From Bordeaux to Paris, concrete is losing its cachet: Spurred by concerns over climate change and the negative impacts of concrete manufacturing, architects and developers in France are increasingly turning to wood for their office towers and apartment complexes...Wood construction has been propelled forward by the growing availability of cross-laminated timber (CLT). -- Steven Ware/Art & Build; PLP Architecture; Jean-Paul Viguier et Associes; Stefano Boeri- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

See the city through a 'bundle of shimmering tubes' near the Flatiron Building: The winner of this year's Flatiron Public Plaza Holiday Design Competition, "Flatiron Reflections," opens November 20th offers viewers a mix of social and more personal experiences. "The installation is designed for three scales of experience"; at the intersection of Broadway, Fifth Avenue, and 23rd Street, thru January 1, 2018. -- Van Alen Institute; Future Expansion [images]- Curbed New York

AIA Innovation Award recipients selected: Program honors projects that highlight collaboration between design and construction teams to create better process efficiencies and overall costs savings. -- Hariri Pontarini Architects; Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture/CharcoalBlue/Bulley & Andrews; Nautilus Group & Stanley Saitowitz | Natoma Architects; University of Detroit Mercy School of Architecture [images]- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Voters choose 2017 I Look Up Film Challenge People's Choice Award winner: The public cast more than 268,000 votes...Of the 82 films submitted, the winner, Paul-Vincent Alexander's A Roof of Their Own, garnered almost half the votes with 122,527 total. [links to videos of winners]- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Innovation By Design Awards 2017: Fast Company's sixth annual awards...in 13 categories: Spaces, Places, and Cities: Projects that improve the urban fabric, including urban planning, architecture, and interactive products such as kiosks or apps. -- MAD Architects; Macro Sea; DBI; Marvel Architects [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

ALA 2017 Design Awards Winners Announced: Flying Pigs on Parade, Chicago's Union Station, a Coney Island restaurant...among the projects winning top honors at the Association of Licensed Architects 19th Annual Design Awards. -- Arthur Dyson Architects; Demonica Kemper Architects; Peterssen/Keller Architecture; Design Bridge; Holabird & Root; Sullivan Goulette Wilson; New World Design; EwingCole; INVISION Architecture; Elements Architects; etc. [link to images]- Association of Licensed Architects (ALA)

ANN feature: Charles F. Bloszies: Left Coast Reflections #3: The Wall: The wall may never be built, but the real damage the Trump Administration is likely to inflict on the built environment will have lasting consequences.-

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This week at ARCspace

Robert Martin: Steven Holl interview: ...awarded The Daylight Award in Architecture by the VELUX Foundation...[he talks] about his relationship with daylight: Apart from new materials, do you see any other emerging trends in the application of daylight? "I see a trend of ignorance when it comes to the correct use of daylight in architecture! But it's about real estate now...it's not surprising."

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Yesterday's News

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## Today's News - Thursday, November 2, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, November 7. To our fellow Americans: don't forget to set clocks back an hour this weekend (ugh - lucky Arizona!).

- [ANN feature](#): Silva's "From the Treetops #2" looks at Sacramento's overlooked waterfront: "There is a laundry-list of possibilities for creating those oh-so important physical and the more elusive perceived connections to our urban waterfront."
- [Bliss considers](#) how vehicle attacks don't have to be inevitable: "With vehicles increasingly being used as the weapons of choice for acts of terror, the debate over how to protect vulnerable bodies has turned to design measures cities should take."
- [Hawthorne](#) minces no words about what he thinks of plans for Johnson/ Burgee's 1984 AT&T Building: "The Snøhetta plan would transform one of the archly ironic landmarks of postmodern architecture into something agreeably 'updated,' which is to say perfectly bland - the glass curtain wall will hang over the Madison Avenue sidewalk like a guillotine of good taste."
- [Hill considers](#) the AT&T Building makeover as "disfiguring a PoMo icon," but points out that "Gwathmey was the first architect to disfigure the building" in 1993 (a protest is planned for tomorrow at 1pm "aimed at derailing Snøhetta's plans").
- [Wainwright](#) x 2: he spends some quality time with Richard Florida: "the 'rockstar of regeneration' has seen his blueprint for urban creativity blamed for opening up the great can of gentrifying worms" ("It was the service class - the class I had forgotten - that was taking it on the chin," sayeth "the prophet of placemaking").
- [He considers](#) the very busy Adjaye, "his reputation as a worldly charmer," and London's "emotionally fraught" Holocaust Memorial project. "Beyond his evident ability to be able to talk the project into happening, others point to his skill for handling this kind of charged memorial space."
- [Mock talks](#) to Walter Hood about his vision for the landscape of Pei Cobb Freed's International African American Museum in Charleston, South Carolina, that "uses mnemonic devices to trigger memories, both warm and unpleasant": "I was tired of going to different African-American institutions and not being moved" (check out the videos!).
- [Small brings](#) home "10 lessons from Chicago's new landscapes" that "can help Milwaukee improve its own public spaces."
- [Bernstein](#) has a great Q&A with Garrett Jacobs of Open Architecture Collaborative, the successor to Architecture for Humanity, re: the group's origin and goals: "We're much smaller," but "I think our ambitions are way bigger" (there are now 22 chapters in 11 countries).
- [Cary offers](#) 5 lessons for "how all architects can up their social impact" (an excerpt from his most excellent new book, "Design for Good: A New Era of Architecture for Everyone").
- [Wagner of Baylis Architects](#) bemoans the disappearance of affordable housing in Seattle, and what the profession should do about it: "Let's start with our own expectations. When did we decide that a child needed her own bedroom or his own bath?"

• [Hurst ponders](#) whether "business ineptitude is to blame for architects' low pay" - architecture "needs a new business model," but that "involves architects learning some of that stuff they were never taught at architecture school."

• [Edelson](#) talks to "architectural storyteller" Liam Young, who "uses fiction and film to explore visions of the future" by "exploring where new forms of agency for the architect might exist when so much of what defines cities is being outsourced to large-scale tech companies."

#### Deadlines:

• [Call for](#) entries: AIA | DC's SHOP, MEET, THRIVE: Livability in the New American City: propose a future for retail in the livable city of the 21st century (launched yesterday with a Nov. 15 deadline - a sort of PechaKucha competition).

• [Call for](#) entries: AIACC / PG&E 7th annual Architecture at Zero competition: a zero net energy (ZNE) building for a science education facility in Tiburon, California (free student registration).

• [Public voting](#) now open for ISARCH Awards for architecture students.

#### Weekend diversions:

• [Ciampaglia](#) cheers "Kevin Roche: The Quiet Architect," a "long overdue" documentary that "makes up for lost time" (the 95-year-old Roche "seemed bemused at the idea that anyone would have interest in such a film").

• [The New](#) York Transit Museum's "Bringing Back the City: Mass Transit Responds to Crisis" highlights the unseen recovery efforts during and after Hurricane Sandy and non-Sandy events by MTA engineers and transit workers (link to digital version of the show).

• ["Artists in Exile"](#) Expressions of Loss and Hope" brings "a little piece" of war-torn Damascus to the Yale University Art Gallery with "a meticulously detailed model, by turns beguiling and unsettling - which is precisely the point."

• [Budds cheers](#) "Poster Girls: A century of art and design" at the London Transport Museum that puts a long-overdue spotlight on "the women designers behind the London Tube's kickass graphic design who should be household names, but aren't," from 1912 to present day (fab images!).

• [Eyefuls](#) of "Tadao Ando: Endeavors," a "huge retrospective" at the National Arts Center Tokyo that includes a life-sized replica of the Church of the Light: "Ando's people lean in to whisk him away, and he departs - looking like a very satisfied man."

• [Hall Kaplan](#) cheers "The Landscape Architecture of Lawrence Halprin" at L.A.'s A+D Museum: it's "an appealing overview of the life and work of the pioneering landscape architect who I consider one of the most influential designers of his time, right up there with Olmsted."

• [O'Connell](#) considers "The Landscape Architecture Legacy of Dan Kiley" at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee: "Kiley is the Modernist hero you've never heard of": he "continues to enthrall students. 'Once they understand modernism, he becomes a magical figure to them.'"

#### Page-turners:

• [Heathcote](#) gives (mostly) thumbs-up to "Richard Rogers: A Place For All People": in the new autobiography, "words don't do justice to all his audacious creations - part memoir, part manifesto and part list of thank yous" ("Perhaps an actual biographer might have squeezed more revealing stories").

• [Messner](#) mulls Philp's "A \$500 House in Detroit: Rebuilding an Abandoned Home and an American City": "many will find it hard to see themselves in his shoes, but this may be a strength" - it adds "a significant voice to the dialogue, without fetishizing or romanticizing the city and the lives of those who live there."

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ANN feature: Jason A. Silva: From the Treetops #2: Sacramento Riverfront Development Brings New Life to an Overlooked Part of River City: There is a laundry-list of possibilities for creating those oh-so important physical and the more elusive perceived connections to our urban waterfront. Critical to the success of riverfront development: access, activation, and awareness. - ArchNewsNow.com

Laura Bliss: Vehicle Attacks Are Not Inevitable: Cars kill, in acts of terror and everyday collisions. Cities have tools to stop it: With vehicles increasingly being used as the weapons of choice for such "lone wolf" acts of terror, the debate over how to protect vulnerable bodies has turned to design measures cities should take...Physical changes to the traffic landscape save lives - both in explicit acts of terror, and in the mundane carnage cars inflict every day. - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Christopher Hawthorne: Philip Johnson's AT&T Building has always been vain, idiosyncratic and flawed. Let's keep it that way: ...the Snøhetta plan has major flaws. It would transform one of the archly ironic landmarks of postmodern architecture into something agreeably "updated," which is to say perfectly bland...transparency is more often these days a sign of deadly earnestness and lack of imagination...I hope Olayan will pay close attention to the critical backlash and seek out some architectural second opinions. Otherwise Snøhetta's glass curtain wall will hang over the Madison Avenue sidewalk like a guillotine of good taste. -- John Burgee (1984) - Los Angeles Times

John Hill: Disfiguring a PoMo Icon: Snøhetta released renderings of their proposed renovation of 550 Madison Avenue, better known as the AT&T Building, designed by Philip Johnson and John Burgee and completed in 1984...a section of the pink-granite base...would be removed in favor of a wavy glass wall...Charles Gwathmey was the first architect to disfigure the [building]...when it was not even 10 years old...there are a petition and protest (Friday, November 3 at 1pm) aimed at derailing Snøhetta's plans. Too bad opposition to Sony's plan, if any, didn't achieve the same back in 1993. [images] - A Daily Dose of Architecture/Archidose

Oliver Wainwright: 'Everything is gentrification now': but Richard Florida isn't sorry: 15 years after "The Rise of the Creative Class," the 'rockstar of regeneration' has seen his blueprint for urban creativity blamed for gentrification and inequality. [He] says mistakes were made - but he regrets nothing: He's the prophet of placemaking, the king of the downtown revival...at once celebrated by mayors for reviving their struggling cities and vilified by critics for fuelling urban inequality..."The New Urban Crisis"...widely interpreted as a mea culpa for opening up the great can of gentrifying worms..."It was the service class - the class I had forgotten - that was taking it on the chin." - Guardian (UK)

Oliver Wainwright: David Adjaye: Holocaust memorial architect who is feted around world: ...the British-Ghanaian has never been busier: ...his reputation as a worldly charmer has always preceded him...So how will Adjaye fare as architect of the Holocaust memorial...an emotionally fraught project...Beyond his evident ability to be able to talk the project into happening, others point to [his] skill for handling this kind of charged memorial space. -- Adjaye Associates; Ron

Arad [images]- Guardian (UK)

Brentin Mock: A Design Dilemma: How to Visualize the Trauma of Slavery: Landscape designer Walter Hood talks about his vision for the International African American Museum...in Charleston, South Carolina: The outline of enslaved bodies in the Brooks Map left such an impression...he made it part of the museum's landscape, embedded into the ground...this kind of landscape design uses mnemonic devices to trigger memories, both warm and unpleasant..."I was tired of going to different African-American institutions and not being moved." -- Henry Cobb/Pei Cobb Freed & Partners; Hood Design Studio [videos]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Virginia Small: 10 Lessons From Chicago's New Landscapes: Major landscape architecture projects have had huge impact. What can we learn? ...Millennium Park...is widely credited with launching a renaissance of public spaces...Creative ideas are not bounded by locale...Here are 10 takeaways...which can help Milwaukee improve its own public spaces. -- Charles Birnbaum/The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF); Ron Henderson; American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA); Brad McCauley/Site Design Group; Terry Gue Design Associates; Piet Oudolf; Gustafson Guthrie Nichol; James Corner Field Operations; Michael van Valkenburgh; etc.- Urban Milwaukee

Fred A. Bernstein: Interview with Garrett Jacobs of Open Architecture Collaborative

The director of the successor organization to Architecture for Humanity speaks about the group's origin and goals: How does your organization compare to AFH? "We're much smaller...So your ambitions are smaller? "Personally, I think our ambitions are way bigger. I want to change the way architects think about their profession. I'd like them to find ways to serve many more people than architecture has traditionally served.- Architectural Record

John Cary: Five Lessons on Designing for Good: Designing buildings that have a positive impact on the world shouldn't be the work of just a few specialized public interest designers. Here's how all architects...can up their social impact: In a time of such heightened inequality, the ethical dimension of design has never felt more important...It's time for rigorous assessment of impact to become standard... [excerpt from "Design for Good: A New Era of Architecture for Everyone"] -- Michael Maltzan Architecture; MASS Design Group; bcWORKSHOP; Studio Gang; Ryan Gravel- Next City (formerly Next American City)

Rich Wagner: How 'affordable' housing is disappearing in Seattle: The AEC industry needs to continue to explore how it can offer less-expensive housing: There is no one solution, but through many small improvements, the collective can make considerable progress...Let's start with our own expectations...When did we decide that a child needed her own bedroom or his own bath? When did we all want a den, a big pantry, a media room? -- Baylis Architects- Daily Journal of Commerce (Oregon)

Will Hurst: Is business ineptitude to blame for architects' low pay? The RIBA's zero-tolerance approach to wages is a positive step, but architecture also needs a new business model: That will be far harder to introduce and involves architects learning some of that stuff they were never taught at architecture school...- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Zach Edelson: Architects who democratize technology through speculation:  
Liam Young calls himself an “architectural storyteller.” He uses fiction and film to explore visions of the future that amplify trends and technologies already present...often collaborates with science fiction writers, technologists, and urbanists...Q&A re: his practice, his recent films, and the power of storytelling.... "We're interested in exploring where new forms of agency for the architect might exist when so much of what defines cities is being outsourced to large-scale tech companies." -- Darryl Chen/Tomorrow's Thoughts Today;  
Unknown Fields Division- The Architect's Newspaper

Call for entries:SHOP, MEET, THRIVE: Livability in the New American City:  
Using Washington, DC as an example, propose a future for retail in the livable city of the 21st century; deadline: November 15- AIA | DC Urban Design Competition

Call for entries: AIA California Council (AIACC) / PG&E 7th annual Architecture at Zero competition: a zero net energy (ZNE) building for a science education facility in Tiburon, California (free student registration); cash prizes; registration deadline: January 10, 2018 (submission due January 30, 2018)- AIA California Council (AIACC) / PG&E

Public voting for ISARCH Awards for architecture students: November 2-20  
[images]- ISARCH

Dante A. Ciampaglia: Kevin Roche Documentary Gets U.S. Premier at ADFF [Architecture & Design Film Festival]: "Kevin Roche: The Quiet Architect"...[is] long overdue...makes up for lost time...director Mark Noonan packs so much into the film...that it can feel a bit dizzying. Still, [the film] works as a necessary introduction to Roche, who, at 95, seemed bemused at the idea that anyone would have interest in such a film...gives him a voice in the larger cinematic conversation about architects and their place in our society... -- Kevin Roche John Dinkeloo and Associates- Architectural Record

See how the MTA responded to Hurricane Sandy at this New York Transit Museum exhibit: "Bringing Back the City: Mass Transit Responds to Crisis" highlights the unseen efforts from transit workers during Hurricane Sandy: ...also focuses on how MTA engineers are planning for the future and the new equipment that is being tested out...[and non-Sandy] recovery efforts...like the blizzard of 2010 and Hurricane Irene to...the 9/11 attacks and the blackout of 2003; thru September 2019 [link to digital version of the show]- Curbed New York

A Little Piece of Downtown Damascus in New Haven: A meticulously detailed model brings a glimpse of the Syrian civil war to the Yale University Art Gallery: "Artists in Exile: Expressions of Loss and Hope"...transforms scavenged piano keys, old radio components, a gas-mask filter and even a dried eggplant into the weathered building blocks of tiny urban edifices...And it draws you in...a macabre dollhouse...by turns beguiling and unsettling - which...was precisely the point; thru December 31 -- Mohamad Hafez/Pickard Chilton [images]- New York Times

Diana Budds: The Women Designers Behind London Tube's Kickass Graphic Design: "Poster Girls: A century of art and design" sheds light on the women behind London's best transportation posters...History has a bad memory.

Women are footnotes, flat out forgotten, or unfairly robbed of credit...[the show] is one of the latest to give designers, who happen to be women, the acknowledgement they're due...TfL estimates that around 170 women have designed over 1,000 posters in its collection...this is one step in recognizing the contributions of those who should be household names, but aren't; London Transport Museum, thru January 2019 [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

Tadao Ando: The Japanese boxer turned Pritzker Prize winner who buried the Buddha: "Tadao Ando: Endeavors": The National Arts Center Tokyo has erected [a life-sized replica of the Church of the Light] on its terrace for its huge retrospective of Ando life's work...His people lean in to whisk him away, and [he] departs...looking like a very satisfied man; thru December 18 [images]- CNN Style

Sam Hall Kaplan: Landscape Architecture of Halprin Remembered and Exhibited: "The Landscape Architecture of Lawrence Halprin"...an appealing overview of the life and work of the pioneering landscape architect...who I consider one of the most influential designers of his time, right up there with Frederick Law Olmsted...Los Angeles Conservancy is offering walking tours of [his] downtown project November 5 & December 17; A+D Museum, Los Angeles, thru December 31 -- The Cultural Landscape Foundation/TCLF - City Observed

Kim O'Connell: Respect: Landscape Architect Dan Kiley Is the Modernist Hero You've Never Heard Of: Millions of people have visited his creations, but only a small fraction know his name...Kiley continues to enthrall students..."Once they understand modernism, [he] becomes a magical figure to them." "The Landscape Architecture Legacy of Dan Kiley" at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, October 30, 2017–January 12, 2018 -- Charles Birnbaum/The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF); Jane Amidon- Redshift

Edwin Heathcote: How Richard Rogers' power of ideas will long outlive him: ...a new autobiography reveals the blueprints that built the career of British starchitect...words don't do justice to all his audacious creations: ...the Pompidou remains a monument to that moment of idealism in a more equitable and democratic future. "Richard Rogers: A Place For All People" is his attempt to illuminate that moment and extend its ideals into our cynical age. Part memoir, part manifesto and part list of thank yous, it is also a stab at summing up a life...Perhaps an actual biographer might have squeezed more revealing stories. This self-censoring format glosses over inconsistencies in the architect's career.- GQ UK

Matthew Messner: How a \$500 house tells the story of a changing Detroit: "A \$500 House in Detroit: Rebuilding an Abandoned Home and an American City" by Drew Philp: ...many will find it hard to see themselves in his shoes, but this may be a strength for the book. Rather than fetishizing the experience, Philp constantly questions his actions...while [it] never professes to tell the whole story, it does add a significant voice to the dialogue, without fetishizing or romanticizing the city and the lives of those who live there. - The Architect's Newspaper

ANN feature: Charles F. Bloszies: Left Coast Reflections #3: The Wall: The wall may never be built, but the real damage the Trump Administration is likely to inflict on the built environment will have lasting consequences.-

This week at ARCsphere

Robert Martin: Steven Holl interview: ...awarded The Daylight Award in Architecture by the VELUX Foundation...[he talks] about his relationship with daylight: Apart from new materials, do you see any other emerging trends in the application of daylight? "I see a trend of ignorance when it comes to the correct use of daylight in architecture! But it's about real estate now...it's not surprising."

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## Today's News - Tuesday, November 7, 2017

- [Trump's tax plan puts the Historic Tax Credit program "under fire," which doesn't make much sense](#) considering the HTC has "spruced up more than 40,000 total structures, corralling \$117 billion in private investment for such redevelopment work."
- [Scott Brown](#), Goldberger, Bergdoll, Riley, Merkel, and others weigh in on Snøhetta's plan to overhaul Johnson & Burgee's AT&T Building: it's "ham-handed," and "Trump-era architecture, and must be stopped."
- [It's looking](#) more and more like "YIMBYism the future of environmentalism" and no longer "a Trojan horse for developers" when it comes to housing.
- [A round-up](#) of 9 projects "set to transform Toronto - among the most ambitious: Canada's tallest building, an underground park and an entire new 'future city.'"
- [Great profiles](#) of 3 cities vying for Amazon HQ2: Detroit; Toronto (where the company could "attract talent from around the world without worrying about whether employees could earn and keep their visas"), and Austin. "But ... (of course there's a but)."
- [Gehry's](#) "elusive" Eisenhower Memorial (finally) breaks ground: "After 17 years of soap opera-like drama," it "has reached its happily-ever-after stage."
- [Report #1](#) from Abu Dhabi: the British Museum ends loan deal with the Foster-designed Zayed National Museum "because work has not yet started - it is now unclear whether the museum is merely being further delayed or if its future is in doubt."
- [Report #2](#) from Abu Dhabi: Authorities claim that the Zayed National Museum collaboration with British Museum is "successfully concluded," and "denied reports that a 10-year consultancy had been ended early."
- [Freeman](#) uses Yale's two new residential colleges ("a superblock of neo-Gothic fantasy") as a jumping-off point to explain that "with their new architecture, universities all too often abdicate leadership in promoting artistic innovation as they pander to plutocratic donors."
- [Sacchetti](#) offers a terrific round-up of independent groups who are "blending research, activism, and critical thought in architecture - issues that existing institutions simply can't address. They are young, shrewd, and versatile - or perhaps they are simply the kinds of practitioners our times need."
- [Australia's](#) ABC News is quite taken with Goldhagen's take on "how architecture shapes your identity and affects your brain. She says architects need to get better at explaining why design matters."
- [Kellert](#) parses "what is and is not biophilic design," and offers "a set of five conditions for the effective practice of biophilic design."
- [Eyefuls](#) of Hadid's desert laboratory in Riyadh that includes Saudi Arabia's "very first prayer space to be designed by a woman. Proof that she is still having a posthumous influence on design."
- [Eyefuls](#) of a "wowza" ski and yoga resort in the Caucasus Mountains made of shipping containers ("Is there anything shipping containers can't be recycled into?").
- [KPF tapped](#) to design a dual-tower condo, "the first residences and mixed-use building for the \$3 billion Water Street Tampa, a 9 million-square-foot mega-development."

- ["YAP-ee"](#): the 2018 MoMA PS1 Young Architects Program finalists announced.
- [Eddy's new](#) documentary "Starship Chicago: A Building on the Brink" puts the spotlight on Jahn's threatened Thompson Center - and you can view it free online through November 12.
- [Bayley makes](#) his pick of "20 designs that defined the modern world," though "the mis-use and abuse the word 'design' has been attenuated to a condition of near meaninglessness."



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Trump's Tax Plan Might Do Away with the Program that Helps Renovate Historic Architecture: The Reagan Administration's Historic Tax Credit program comes under fire: ...provides a 20% tax credit for the redevelopment of blighted buildings and renovation of notable architectural landmarks...no federal dollars are at risk if plans are scrapped...HTC has...spruced up more than 40,000 total structures, corraling \$117 billion in private investment for such redevelopment work.- Architectural Digest

Po-No You Didn't! ...controversy erupts over AT&T Building: ...plans to renovate and overhaul the base of Philip Johnson's iconic AT&T Building (now 550 Madison Avenue).The response to Snøhetta's design proposal was immediately mixed, with many in the architectural community deriding the new design as anti-contextual and ham-handed. -- Denise Scott Brown; Paul Goldberger; Sean Griffiths/FAT; Barry Bergdoll; Terence Riley; Paul Gunther; Adam Nathaniel Furman; Jayne Merkel- The Architect's Newspaper

Nathanael Johnson: Enviro and Developers: A Love Story: Is the future of environmentalism build, build, build? ...when it comes to housing, new-school environmentalists...understand that it's necessary to support things, too...YIMBYs...[are] part of a national trend, as millennial environmentalists embrace a different shade of green from their predecessors...Is YIMBYism the future of environmentalism?- Grist Magazine

Nine architecture and urbanism projects set to transform Toronto: ...some of the most ambitious, including Canada's tallest building, an underground park and an entire new "future city." -- Sidewalk Labs/Waterfront Toronto; 3XN; Hariri Pontarini Architects; Ken Greenberg/Marc Ryan/Adam Nicklin/Public Work; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Henning Larsen Architects; Penda; Foster + Partners/Core Architects [images]- Dezeen

The great hunt for Amazon HQ2: 3 cities on our short list: The case for Detroit; Toronto: With the changing U.S. attitude toward immigration - a battle the technology sector has taken up - a Canadian headquarters would allow Amazon to attract talent from around the world without worrying about whether employees could earn and keep their visas...Austin = Austizon...But ... (of course there's a but).- Smart Cities Dive

With groundbreaking, elusive Eisenhower Memorial moves from dream to reality: After 17 years of soap opera-like drama - including villains, family squabbles and money problems - the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial has reached its happily-ever-after stage. -- Frank Gehry [images]- Washington Post

British Museum ends loan deal with Abu Dhabi: Construction delays to the Zayed National Museum are behind the move: Work on the building...has been



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at a standstill since 2011...terminated a co-operation deal, two years before the 10-year contract was due to end because work has not yet started on the building on Saadiyat Island...it is now unclear whether the ZNM is merely being further delayed or if its future is in doubt. -- Foster + Partners- The Art Newspaper (UK)

Zayed National Museum collaboration with British Museum 'successfully concluded': Culture and tourism authority speaks of successful conclusion to relationship with London and says development of Saadiyat museum will continue: ...authority denied reports...that a 10-year consultancy with the British Museum for the Saadiyat Island museum had been ended early...a revised timeline for the completion of the [ZNM] and the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi will be announced when building tenders have been awarded. -- Norman Foster/Foster + Partners- The National (UAE)

Belmont Freeman: Tradition for Sale: Yale has just completed two new residential colleges...a superblock of neo-Gothic fantasy. This reversion to an archaic visual language exemplifies a troubling trend. With their new architecture, universities all too often abdicate leadership in promoting artistic innovation as they pander to plutocratic donors. -- Robert A. M. Stern Architects- Places Journal

Vera Sacchetti: These Independent Groups Are Blending Research, Activism, and Critical Thought in Architecture: There are some issues that existing institutions simply can't address. Thankfully, researchers, nonprofits, and publications around the world are filling the gap: Their claims are bold and their goals ambitious...They are young, shrewd, and versatile - or perhaps they are simply the kinds of practitioners our times need. -- Tom Jacobs/Architects Advocate Action on Climate Change; Lauren Johnson/Ryan Day/QSPACE; Jason Hilgefort/Land+Civilization Compositions (L+CC)/Future+; Peter Zellner/Free School of Architecture; Nelly Ben Hayoun/University of the Underground (UoU); Justinien Tribillon/Catarina de Almeida Brito/Offshore Studio/Migrant journal; Leopold Lambert/Funambulist; uca Marullo/Eugenio Cosentino/Stefano Colombo/Parasite 2.0; David Martin/MADWorkshop; Miller Prize Competition- Metropolis Magazine

How architecture shapes your identity and affects your brain: Studies have shown that long-term episodic memories are processed in the same part of the brain that is used for spatial navigation and place recognition. And according to...Sarah Williams Goldhagen, this makes intuitive sense..."If the built environment isn't supporting you, then the chances are it's probably hurting you"...[She] says architects need to get better at explaining why design matters.- ABC News / Blueprint for Living (Australia)

Stephen R. Kellert: What Is and Is Not Biophilic Design? If design doesn't focus on aspects of the natural world that contribute to human health and productivity in the age-old struggle to be fit and survive, it is not biophilic: ...distinctive

characteristics yield a set of five conditions for the effective practice of biophilic design. Each underscores what is and IS NOT biophilic design...- Metropolis Magazine

Zaha Hadid Architects' new energy research centre is fit for a king: ZHA has never subscribed to the cult of quiet functionalism...Perhaps that's why Riyadh's new King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center (KAPSARC) is such a dramatic and radical statement...a desert laboratory...Perhaps most notably...the country's very first prayer space to be designed by a woman. Proof that Zaha Hadid is still having a posthumous influence on design. [images]- Wallpaper\*

Shipping containers stack up into striking ski resort lodge: Wowza: Is there anything shipping containers can't be recycled into? The answer continues to swing towards "no"...Quadrum Ski and Yoga Resort, newly built in the Caucasus mountains of Georgia...entirely of repurposed containers clad in wooden panels... -- Sandro Ramishvili and Irakli Eristavi [images]- Curbed

Strategic Property Partners Unveils Plan for Tampa Towers: ...Kohn Pedersen Fox to design 815 Water St., a dual-tower building that will be one of the first new condo projects in Tampa within the last 10 years: ...the first residences and mixed-use building for the \$3 billion Water Street Tampa, a 9 million-square-foot mega-development -- KPF; Cecconi Simone; Raymond Jungles [images]- Multi-Housing News

YAP-ee: Meet the finalists for the 2018 MoMA PS1 Young Architects Program: ...initial group of 30 is culled down to five firms... -- BairBalliet (Kristy Balliet; Kelly Bair/Central Standard Office of Design); FreelandBuck (David Freeland; Brennan Buck); Jennifer Newsom & Tom Carruthers/Dream The Combine; Jesse LeCavalier/LeCavalier R+D - The Architect's Newspaper

New documentary spotlights Helmut Jahn's threatened Thompson Center: "Starship Chicago: A Building on the Brink" by Nathan Eddy...the first vocal step in beginning the conversation about saving the Thompson Center..."I wanted to make the first comedic architecture documentary"; one-week showing on the MAS Context website runs through November 12- The Architect's Newspaper

Stephen Bayley: 20 designs that defined the modern world: Great design is about more than good-looking products. It has the power to shape how we experience life: ...the very best designs change things forever. But what is it? Design may be important, but is also muddled...Through familiarity, mis-use and abuse the word has been attenuated to a condition of near meaninglessness...It is about making ordinary things more practical, but more beautiful too...[it] makes us feel good about ourselves and our world.- CNN

ANN feature: Jason A. Silva: From the Treetops #2: Sacramento Riverfront Development Brings New Life to an Overlooked Part of River City: There is a laundry-list of possibilities for creating those oh-so important physical and the more elusive perceived connections to our urban waterfront. Critical to the success of riverfront development: access, activation, and awareness.- ArchNewsNow.com

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## Today's News - Wednesday, November 8, 2017

It's a Louvre Abu Dhabi kind of day (it opens Saturday!):

- [Wainwright](#) offers cheers: Nouvel's "spectacular palace of culture shimmers in the desert. There is an air of sheikh chic to it all" - and jeers: "there's no whitewashing the appalling treatment of the laborers who built its light-filled halls."
- [Pes says](#) the Louvre Abu Dhabi "puts a \$1 billion spotlight on globalization," but "the stress on equality across eras and cultures sits oddly with the blind eye it turns to the long history of human inequality and exploitation" (then there's the "elephant in the room - when, or indeed whether, the other planned museums would be built").
- [Mannes-Abbott](#) ponders the Louvre Abu Dhabi: is it a "universal museum or memorial to forced labor? Nouvel claims to have checked" working conditions "and saw 'nothing' of concern"; he "refers to evidence of modern-day slavery as an 'old question'" (he "has always been a doughty self-publicist" - ouch!).
- [Suri's Q&A](#) with Nouvel: he "pulls back the curtain on the import, challenges, and even politics of his most highly anticipated project": it is "is one of the best works I have been fortunate to achieve" (no mention of labor conditions).

In other news:

- [Hume on](#) how Google's "Sidewalk Labs' admiration for Toronto's 'openness to new things' could start to wear thin" when it faces "the parochial realities of city hall" - but "who knows? - things might just work out."
- [Australia's](#) coal capital "is reinventing itself as a beachier Boston and, in the process, bringing its young people back," but Newcastle still has issues to overcome.
- [Jiao, Miró](#) & McGrath weigh in on "what public transit can learn from Uber and Lyft": "Uberization" has already begun with some cities already "teaming up with ride-hailing companies to provide on-demand public transit" (some appalling rush-hour traffic congestion/commute time stats!).
- [Meanwhile,](#) "the latest fake town built for self-driving cars has opened in South Korea that will simulate downtown areas, city outskirts, and 35 different driving conditions"; it joins "a growing village of faux communities built" for such purpose.
- [Lutz, former](#) vice chairman and head of product development at GM, explains why "we are approaching the end of the line for the automobile - in 15 to 20 years human-driven vehicles will be legislated off the highways" ("probably everybody sees it coming, but no one wants to talk about it").
- [FXFOWLE's](#) redesign of Hudson Yards' 3 Hudson Boulevard includes larger floor plates, but a lower height (no more "supertall" status?), and "like the last bridesmaid to get engaged, there's still no ring on the finger - or anchor tenant inked on a dotted line."
- [Cuozzo reports](#) that Rockefeller Plaza in front of the former McGraw-Hill tower on 6th Avenue will undergo "the most sweeping transformation" since it opened in 1969 by replacing "the space-wasting sunken plaza with a new, public-friendly plaza at sidewalk level" and a large circular cutout to bring natural light to retail below.

- [Your eye-candy](#) fix for the day: MVRDV's new futuristic Tianjin Binhai Public Library in China "is unlike any we've seen before" with "a distinctive sci-fi feel" (that's putting it mildly!).
- [There are](#) some issues with changes to Philip Johnson's former Four Seasons (landmarked) interior: "The large, inelegant reception desk belongs in an airport," and "the mezzanine looks as if it had been moved on a trailer from some other building and attached with thumbtacks" (double-ouch!).
- [Krakoff](#) is crafting a fresh image at Tiffany's Fifth Avenue digs, beginning with the home and accessories floor where an "injection of levity is not an unwelcome twist" - and the new Everyday Objects collection has "set the internet a-dither."
- [What's set](#) the internet a-dither (and just in time for Christmas!): for the architect who has everything, Tiffany's Everyday Objects collection includes a ruler, protractor, and triangle, \$400 to \$500 range, a \$350 drinking straw, and, last but not least, an \$8,900 ball of yarn (good grief!).

## Natural disasters and us:

- [Russell](#) reports on Marvel, Meyer, Bolstad & Roig's "ambitious nonprofit" Resilient Power Puerto Rico that is installing permanent solar arrays targeting community facilities.
- [Adriaenssens](#) & Strauss report on their Form Finding Lab at Princeton University that is "pursuing infrastructural solutions that are flexible, adaptable, and economical" for coastal defense using "inflatable seawalls."
- [Orff's speculative](#) "oyster-tecture" designs have moved from MoMA's 2010 "Rising Currents" exhibition to reality: Hurricane Sandy "opened new funding avenues for coastal resilience projects" that are "part ecosystem, part infrastructure" (includes the amazing history of oysters and NYC!).
- [Texas is](#) looking for \$61 billion for its post-Hurricane Harvey plan that includes an "Ike Dike," elevating buildings, and buyouts: it "will be a tough sell" considering Puerto Rico, Florida, and California "are also in line for billions more in federal disaster funding."
- [An architect](#) working with the AIA Firestorm Recovery Committee may have a solution to rebuilding a California town after the devastating wildfires: "Donoho wants to rebuild neighborhoods like you would a big development, and she wants to do it fast" (she's already has half of the \$500 million cost lined up).



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[Oliver Wainwright: Louvre Abu Dhabi: Jean Nouvel's spectacular palace of culture shimmers in the desert:](#) With its cosmic dome and starry latticework, the water-lapped Gulf outpost shuns the petrodollar glitz of its neighbours. But there's no whitewashing the appalling treatment of the labourers who built its light-filled halls: Architects are fond of talking of painting with light, but here it rings true. The combined effect is mesmerising...There is an air of sheikh chic to it all... [images]- Guardian (UK)

[Javier Pes: The Louvre Abu Dhabi Puts a \\$1 Billion Spotlight on Globalization - But Makes Some Glaring Historical Omissions:](#) Jean Nouvel says Frank Gehry's Guggenheim Abu Dhabi and Foster + Partners' Zayed National Museum "need to be built" too on Saadiyat Island: The elephant in the room was when, or indeed whether, the other planned museums would be built...The massive, shallow dome both dominates and enlivens the space below...the stress on equality across eras and cultures sits oddly with the blind eye it turns to the long history of human inequality and exploitation. [images]- artnet News

[Guy Mannes-Abbott: Louvre Abu Dhabi: Universal museum or memorial to forced labour? ...had an opportunity to mark a bold cultural shift in built form but](#)



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chose to memorialise forced labour instead: No doubt it is an architectural and engineering achievement, but can or should a cultural institution of this kind, in particular, be built under conditions of forced labour in 2017? Jean Nouvel has always been a doughty self-publicist...[He] claims to have checked conditions that south Asian men live and work under and saw "nothing" of concern. He now refers to evidence of modern-day slavery as an "old question." - Middle East Eye

Charu Suri: Jean Nouvel Reveals His Singular Vision Behind the Louvre Abu Dhabi: On the eve of the museum's opening, [he] pulls back the curtain on the import, challenges, and even politics of his most highly anticipated project: "[It] is one of the best works I have been fortunate to achieve." [Images]- Architectural Digest

Christopher Hume: How cracks could appear in the Sidewalk dream: Just wait until the Google offshoot has to face the parochial realities of city hall. That's when Sidewalk Labs' admiration for Toronto's "openness to new things" could start to wear thin: When was the last time the millionaire president of a large development corporation deigned to appear before a neighbourhood he was about to change forever? ...who knows? - things might just work out. -- Will Fleissig/Waterfront Toronto; Dan Doctoroff- Toronto Star

Australia's Coal Capital Is Vying to Become the World's Most Surfable Smart City: How a blue-collar city is reinventing itself as a beachier Boston and, in the process, bringing its young people back: More than half a billion dollars in public investment is going to help Newcastle...the public cash flow has set off a run of private investment...Honeysuckle...one of the biggest urban renewal successes in Australia...a renewed focus on ensuring the city remains affordable and inclusive...There are still issues to overcome. - Next City (formerly Next American City)

Junfeng Jiao, Juan Miró & Nicole McGrath: What public transit can learn from Uber and Lyft: "Uberizing" public transit services...can transform our approach to transportation issues...cities have to get creative...teaming up with ride-hailing companies to provide on-demand public transit, as well as so-called first- and last-mile connections to transit services...By connecting ride-hailing apps with public buses and rail, cities can help residents seamlessly move from one form of transportation to another.- The Conversation

The latest fake town built for self-driving cars has opened in South Korea: [79-acre] K-City...will simulate downtown areas, city outskirts, and communal environments. It will present 35 different driving conditions, including toll gates, pedestrian- and train-track crossings, and even potholes and construction sites...Alphabet's self-driving car project Waymo has revealed its own 91-acre fake town, named Castle...in Attwater, California...a growing village of faux communities built to test self-driving cars: The University of Michigan's 32-acre MCity...and Uber's 42-acre Almono in Pittsburgh... - Quartz

Bob Lutz: Kiss the good times goodbye: Everyone will have 5 years to get their car off the road or sell it for scrap: ...we are approaching the end of the line for the automobile...The end state will be the fully autonomous module...in 15 to 20 years - at the latest - human-driven vehicles will be legislated off the highways...The era of the human-driven automobile, its repair facilities, its dealerships, the media surrounding it - all will be gone in 20 years...probably everybody sees it coming, but no one wants to talk about it.- Automotive News

3 Hudson Boulevard is getting a major upgrade: FXFOWLE [has] redesigned the building to better align with today's office tenants - incorporating larger floor plates...boosts the tower to 2 million square-feet on 53 floors while lowering its height to 940 feet...But like the last bridesmaid to get engaged...there's still no ring on the finger - or anchor tenant inked on a dotted line.- New York Post

Steve Cuozzo: Rockefeller Plaza set to undergo sweeping transformation: ...1221 Sixth Ave. is poised to undergo the most sweeping transformation since the former McGraw-Hill tower...opened in 1969....will replace the space-wasting sunken plaza with a new, public-friendly plaza at sidewalk level. A large circular cutout in the center will allow natural light to reach 35,000 square feet of newly created store space on two below-grade levels. -- Citterio-Viel & Partners [image]- New York Post

China's new futuristic library is unlike any we've seen before: MVRDV just completed the Tianjin Binhai Public Library, a spectacular cultural center: ...features floor-to-ceiling bookcases that cascade in curves around a luminous spherical auditorium. The undulating bookshelves and layered ceiling gives the cavernous library a distinctive sci-fi feel accentuated by the giant illusion of an eye visible from the outside. -- TUPDI [images]- Inhabitat

The Pool Strives to Deal With Its Famous Dining Room: Changes to the landmark interior of the former Four Seasons create challenges: ...took its cues from Philip Johnson...Much of this restaurant's appeal, as well as some of its problems, come from its architecture...you don't need to be an architectural historian...The large, inelegant reception desk belongs in an airport...the mezzanine looks as if it had been moved on a trailer from some other building and attached with thumbtacks...Landmarks Preservation Commission is waiting for a response from the landlord before ruling on the new fixtures. [images]- New York Times

At Tiffany, the Fifth Avenue Face-Lift Starts at Home: ...Reed Krakoff has undertaken to freshen the image of the 180-year-old jewelry company. His first major footprint is [the] home and accessories floor...where the sacred and the profane are now commingling cheerfully...the Tiffany Tin Can (actually sterling silver and vermeil, \$1,000), whose humble shape and unhumble price tag set the internet a-dither...injection of levity is not an unwelcome twist on the usual gilded or silvered theme. [images]- New York Times

Tiffany & Co releases £945 tin can as part of Everyday Objects collection: The shapes of common or oft-discarded objects have been cast in precious metals, expensive wood and fine porcelain...for the desk, there is a silver, walnut and enamel-accented ruler (£425), protractor (£400), and triangle (£375)...The most expensive item in the collection is the £6,840 "ball of yarn"... [images]- Dezeen

James S. Russell: Architects Bring Solar to Hurricane-Battered Puerto Rico:  
...an ambitious nonprofit called Resilient Power Puerto Rico that aims to rapidly restore electrical service by installing permanent solar arrays...launched only a week after the hurricane...targeting community facilities... -- Jonathan Marvel/Marvel Architects; Walter Meyer,/Jennifer Bolstad/Local Office Landscape and Urban Design; Christina Roig- Architectural Record

Sigrid Adriaenssens and Steven Strauss: Blow-Up Bulwark: ...traditional responses to the risk of coastal flooding in dense cities all carry enormous - even prohibitive - financial, social, and environmental costs. At the Form Finding Lab at Princeton University, we are pursuing infrastructural solutions...that are flexible, adaptable, and economical...coastal defense strategies that use lightweight forms..."inflatable seawalls"...are more economical compared to hard coastal structures.- Urban Omnibus

Oyster-tecture: Architects and engineers are considering all kinds of different ways that cities can redesign their infrastructure to prepare for climate change...When Orff debuted her "oyster-tecture" designs in 2010 [part of MoMA's "Rising Currents"], they were speculative designs...But Hurricane Sandy...opened new funding avenues for coastal resilience projects...hopes to have a robust reef system...creating something totally new - part ecosystem, part infrastructure. -- Kate Orff/Gina Wirth/SCAPE; Living Breakwaters; Rebuild by Design; Billion Oyster Project [images]- 99% Invisible

Texas-size \$61 billion Harvey plan includes 'Ike Dike,' new reservoirs, buyouts: About 60%...would go to "future proof" flood-prone areas and 33% would pay for buy-outs and elevating buildings in low-lying regions...The initial reaction from Washington officials to the request: Surprise at its size and scope...will be a tough sell with...at a time when hurricane damages to Puerto Rico and Florida, and losses in California to wildfires, are also in line for billions more in federal disaster funding.- Construction Dive

Santa Rosa Wildfire Victims Consider Collective Rebuilding Of Their Homes: "It's just really overwhelming, it's like where do you start?"...Which is why Julia Donoho and the AIA Firestorm Recovery Committee have floated a possible solution. She wants to rebuild neighborhoods...like you would a big development, and she wants to do it fast...working with the Northern California Builders' Alliance to create a large-scale, neighborhood-wide development project...would cost \$500 million. She's already got half of that lined up...- KPIX 5 / CBS SF Bay Area (California)

ANN feature: Jason A. Silva: From the Treetops #2: Sacramento Riverfront Development Brings New Life to an Overlooked Part of River City: There is a laundry-list of possibilities for creating those oh-so important physical and the more elusive perceived connections to our urban waterfront. Critical to the success of riverfront development: access, activation, and awareness.- ArchNewsNow.com

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## Today's News - Thursday, November 9, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days, We'll be back Tuesday, November 14 (and just a heads-up that next week might be only a 2-newsletter week - we'll keep you posted).

- [ANN Feature](#): Stormy Weather: Landscape Design Responses for a Changing Climate: Experts from Sherwood Design Engineers explain that, as designers and engineers move forward to adapt communities to changing weather patterns, providing flood protection while integrating social and ecological benefits will generate value and multi-functional infrastructure.
- [Blander's](#) Q&A with GSD's Keenan, co-editor of "Blue Dunes: Climate Change By Design," re: "the future of climate science in light of our current political situation": "Until local governments take and bear the burden of more responsible land use planning, there's not much that we can do" (how depressing).
- [Kamin considers](#) the corner of a veil of secrecy surrounding the Obama Library in Chicago that has finally been lifted - at least a bit: no new renderings, but new details offer "hints about where things have gone since we saw the initial plans" for what is "shaping up to be a precedent-shattering presidential center."
- [Wainwright](#) introduces us to Williams and Agrawal, a duo of architects-turned-planners "determined to lure architects back into working for the greater good" by "encouraging the best young designers to go into the public sector."
- [McKnight](#) walks us through Yale's 50th Jim Vlock First Year Building Project - a prefabricated two-apartment home for the homeless (lots of pix!).
- [Schuetz](#), on a less cheerful note, parses a new study offering "more evidence that housing affordability is getting worse. If you aren't rich, don't move to California. Or maybe Florida either."
- [A debate](#) among architects about whether Queenstown, New Zealand has "an architectural character": it may be "missing 'local flavor,'" but it has "diversity" vs. "No amount of stone is going to make a crap design nice."
- [Davidson](#) explains that, while "we can't crazy-proof everything," the horrific truck attack on NYC's Hudson River Greenway was "eminently preventable" - there's a fairly simple solution, "yet that simple intervention somehow never seems urgent" (except in Las Vegas).
- [The American](#) Planning Association offers a suite of Autonomous Vehicle Resources "to assist communities in addressing the questions and challenges posed by this new technology."
- [The National](#) Trust for Historic Preservation has the U.S. Army's support to find a new use for the Mountain View Officers' Club in Arizona, "one of only two WWII-era African-American officers' clubs in the country."

### Deadlines:

- [Call for](#) Entries (deadline extended!): International Making Cities Livable Design Awards Competition.
- [Call for](#) Papers (deadline extended!): Proposals for the 55th International Making Cities Livable Conference next May.

- [Call for Entries: 2018 North American Copper in Architecture Awards.](#)
- [Call for Entries: 2018 Coverings Installation & Design/CID Awards.](#)

### Weekend diversions:

- [A good reason](#) to head to Berlin next week: World Architecture Festival 2017, the 10th "annual dose of architectural excellence to celebrate, learn, exchange, and be inspired."
- [A few days](#) remain to catch - free online - Eddy's documentary "Starship Chicago: A Building on the Brink" that makes the case for saving the Thompson Center, Jahn's "polarizing postmodern icon" in Chicago.
- [Minutillo](#) offers her take on the 2017 Chicago Architecture Biennial: it is "a telling sign that the new generation is not afraid to look to the past. Based purely on the strength of the Biennial, the future of architecture is bright" ("dead architect du jour" included).
- "[We Believe](#)" is a "spectacular" light installation that will link two iconic Arne Jacobsen masterpieces in London and Denmark - controlled by the public.
- [Lots to see](#) in NYC: "SuperDesign" is a chance to "rediscover the controversial creations of Italy's most radical movement": "We had a thirst for rebellion. It's time to rediscover this attitude. Young people need to believe that the world can change," says Audrito (fab photos!).
- [Mendelsohn](#) delves deep into Matta-Clark as he takes center stage in "Gordon Matta-Clark: Anarchitect" at the Bronx Museum of the Arts: he "was less interested in reimagining the city's buildings than exploring its gritty underbelly and engaging the people and places that modernism had failed" (great read; fab photos!).
- "[Obdurate](#) Space: Architecture of Donald Judd" at the Center for Architecture "brings both his built and never-realized works to the forefront - the first show to focus solely on his architecture."
- [Lubell & Goldin](#) parse "10 places that define New York City, reimagined" - see lots more at "Never Built New York" or just "roam the city, with these visions in the back of your mind."

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**ANN Feature: Stormy Weather: Landscape Design Responses for a Changing Climate:** As designers and engineers move forward to adapt communities to changing weather patterns, providing flood protection while integrating social and ecological benefits will generate value and multi-functional infrastructure. By Steve Albert, PE, CFM, Josiah Cain, ASLA, Prentiss Darden, MLA, and Jim Remlin, PE, LEED AP/Sherwood Design Engineers- ArchNewsNow.com

**Akiva Blander: The Bold Plan to Help Save the Mid-Atlantic Coast from Storm Surges:** [Q&A with] Harvard GSD Professor Jesse M. Keenan on "Blue Dunes: Climate Change By Design"...co-edited with Claire Weisz of WXY Architecture: ...talks about the future of climate science in light of our current political situation...."Until local governments take and bear the burden of more responsible land use planning, there's not much that we can do." - Metropolis Magazine

**Blair Kamin: After months of secrecy, a glimpse of Obama Center's evolving design:** ...a crack finally opened...no new renderings...Yet there were details that offered hints about where things have gone since we saw the initial plans...None of this sounds like a traditional presidential library...The Obamas have a very different vision - a thriving civic hub that is part of both local and global networks...It probably will take...until December or even early next year before we learn the final shape of what is quietly (and too secretly) shaping up to be a precedent-shattering presidential center. -- Frederick Law Olmsted; Calvert



Vaux; Tod Williams Billie Tsien - Chicago Tribune

Oliver Wainwright: Spectacular buildings for everyone: how to stop ugly housing and fix urban planning for good: Meet the duo determined to lure architects back into working for the greater good: ...architects-turned-planners Finn Williams and Pooja Agrawal have set up Public Practice, a social enterprise backed by the Mayor of London, aimed at encouraging the best young designers to go into the public sector - and forge a bold new generation of proactive planners embedded in local government. - Guardian (UK)

Jenna McKnight: Yale architecture students create dwelling in Connecticut for the homeless: ...a prefabricated building in New Haven...designed by students in the Jim Vlock First Year Building Project...This year's house marks the 50th project completed...prefabricated elements...were made in a warehouse on Yale's West Campus. [images] - Dezeen

Jenny Schuetz: Yet more evidence that housing affordability is getting worse: ...an analysis by Freddie Mac...Affordability is worst for the poor, but middle-income families are also getting squeezed...If you aren't rich, don't move to California. Or maybe Florida either. - Brookings Institution

Does Queenstown have an architectural character? ...architect Michael Wyatt...acknowledged the resort was missing "local flavour" but said it also had diversity...Architect Jackie Gillies...says the resort's style is linked to its goldmining heritage. "Queenstown is never going to be a pretty little village in the mountains..."No amount of stone is going to make a crap design nice but you do hope for quality architecture"..."What people hate now is what they like in 25 years." - Stuff (New Zealand)

Justin Davidson: How New York City Could Have Protected Those Cyclists and Pedestrians: We can't crazy-proof everything, but the city could do a far more thorough job of safeguarding against vehicle attacks: The horror on the Hudson River Greenway was...eminently preventable...The solution is a thin steel bollard, strategically placed and quickly unscrewed if necessary...the roll call of mass murder by vehicle keeps getting longer, yet that simple intervention somehow never seems urgent. - New York Magazine

APA Releases Suite of Autonomous Vehicle (AV) Resources: As technology and automotive companies continue to explore how to bring autonomous and connected vehicles into our daily lives, the planning profession is researching how the technology will impact communities from a land use, transportation



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planning, social equity and economic standpoint...materials to assist communities in addressing the questions and challenges posed by this new technology.- American Planning Association (APA)

U.S. Army Supports Reuse Plan! New Public-Private Coalition gets Conditional Approval of Revitalization Option for the Mountain View Officers' Club: U.S. Army Garrison Fort Huachuca and the National Trust for Historic Preservation announced a breakthrough partnership to find a new use for the MVOC [in Arizona] - one of only two WWII-era African-American officers' clubs in the country. [images]- National Trust for Historic Preservation/NTHP

Call for Entries - DEADLINE EXTENDED: International Making Cities Livable Design Awards Competition: Designing Healthy 10-Minute Neighborhoods: projects that emphasize Community, Health, Sustainability, and Equity; deadline: November 30- International Making Cities Livable (IMCL)

Call for entries - DEADLINE EXTENDED: Call for papers: International Making Cities Livable: proposals for the 55th IMCL Conference on Healthy, 10-Minute Neighborhoods, Ottawa, Canada, May 14-18, 2018; deadline: November 30- International Making Cities Livable (IMCL)

Call for Entries: 2018 North American Copper in Architecture Awards for outstanding application of architectural copper alloys; projects must be located in the U.S. or Canada; deadline: January 31, 2018- Copper Development Association/Canadian Copper & Brass Development Association

Call for entries: 2018 Coverings Installation & Design/CID Awards (international): ...for design and/or installation excellence in residential and commercial projects, giving special recognition to stunning stone & tile; cash prizes; deadline: January 15, 2018- Coverings

World Architecture Festival 2017, Berlin, November 15-17: Your annual dose of architectural excellence to celebrate, learn, exchange, and be inspired.- World Architecture Festival (WAF) / INSIDE World Festival of Interiors

New documentary makes the case for saving Chicago's threatened Thompson Center: After appearances at several film festivals, "Starship Chicago: A Building on the Brink" is now available to view online [thru November 12]: A polarizing postmodern icon [it] has been embroiled in controversy ever since opening 1985...Nathan Eddy explores the importance of the block-sized civic structure via interviews with building designer Helmut Jahn...Stanley Tigerman...Blair Kamin...Lynn Becker, and former Illinois Governor James "Big Jim" Thompson.- Curbed Chicago

Josephine Minutillo: The 2017 Chicago Architecture Biennial in Review: ...spotlights the next generation of architects by looking back: "Make New History"...is a telling sign that the new generation...is not afraid to look to the past...the exhibition is not just meant to remind us of the architecture that has come before us and to anticipate what's next; it is also meant to entertain, inspire, and provoke...Based purely on the strength of the Biennial, the future of architecture is bright. thru January 7, 2018 -- Sharon Johnston/Mark Lee/Johnston Marklee [images]- Architectural Record

Spectacular light installation to link two architectural masterpieces in London and Denmark to celebrate European Capital of Culture 2017: ...one of Denmark's leading female artists, Tine Bech, will connect two iconic Arne Jacobsen buildings, The Embassy of Denmark in London and Aarhus City Hall Tower in Denmark..."We Believe"...the public will be able to activate the controls which will illuminate the architecture of the two buildings; November 10-19- European Capital of Culture, Aarhus 2017

How to Start a Design Revolution: Rediscover the controversial creations of Italy's most radical movement: New York's R & Co. gallery will unveil "SuperDesign," the first major U.S. survey...since MoMA's landmark 1972 exhibition "Italy: The New Domestic Landscape"... "We had a thirst for rebellion," says Franco Audrito..."It's time to rediscover this attitude. Young people need to believe that the world can change." thru January 4, 2018 [images]- Architectural Digest

Meredith Mendelsohn: How Gordon Matta-Clark Turned the Ruins of 1970s New York into Art: ...he was less interested in reimagining the city's buildings than exploring its gritty underbelly and engaging the people and places that modernism had failed...known as a maverick of '70s New York, not only for his inventive, hands-on engagement with the city, but for the diversity of his work..."Gordon Matta-Clark: Anarchitect" at the Bronx Museum of the Arts...the most significant showcase of the artist's work in New York since his Whitney retrospective 10 years ago; thru April 8, 2018 [images]- Artsy magazine

Donald Judd's built and unrealized architectural works star in new exhibit: Opening Tuesday, November 14 at the Center for Architecture, "Obdurate Space: Architecture of Donald Judd" brings both [his] built and never-realized works...to the forefront...As this is the first show to focus solely on Judd's architecture, curators hope that the exhibition will bring wider public recognition to his lesser-known body of work; thru March 5, 2018. -- Claude Armstrong; Donna Cohen [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Sam Lubell & Greg Goldin: 10 Places That Define New York City, Reimagined: ...many of its must-see places each came shockingly close to becoming something completely different, some for better, some for worse...see dozens of unbuilt plans at the new Queens Museum exhibition, and in the book "Never Built New York"...Or roam the city, with these visions in the back of your mind. [images]- New York Times

ANN feature: Jason A. Silva: From the Treetops #2: Sacramento Riverfront Development Brings New Life to an Overlooked Part of River City: There is a laundry-list of possibilities for creating those oh-so important physical and the more elusive perceived connections to our urban waterfront. Critical to the success of riverfront development: access, activation, and awareness. - ArchNewsNow.com

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## Today's News - Tuesday, November 14, 2017

- [Lambert](#) pens a most eloquent tribute to Dan Hanganu: "In contrast to the weak, mealy-mouthed or too-clever-by-half developer projects, his buildings accomplish something all too rare: they heighten the quality of the surrounding buildings and spaces."
- [Weder's](#) also eloquent words re: the "rule-breaking" Hanganu: "Few architects have enriched the country with such distinctive exuberance - he sought a counterpoint to what he saw as the formulaic rigidity of conventional modern architecture."
- [Bless the](#) Freedom of Information Act! Records show Trump's Texas border wall "would tear through three wildlife areas and put more homes and other structures in jeopardy than previously known - battles over the wall could be even more contentious."
- [Kimmelman](#) finds lessons from Hurricane Harvey "is America's tale. The hard truth is that climate change will increasingly require moving - not just rebuilding - entire neighborhoods, reshaping cities, even abandoning coastlines."
- [Houston](#) unveils its post-Harvey downtown master plan that "has tried to shift away from car-dominated urban planning."
- [Davidson](#) casts "a skeptical eye" on Snøhetta's plan for Johnson's AT&T Building: "Now it's the Norma Desmond of skyscrapers, built for another era but hoping for a glorious third act. Maybe architecture's Norma Desmond needs to age with extravagance."
- [Hawthorne](#) tackled the "misguided" plan for the AT&T Building last week; this time he tackles Jahn's 1985 Thompson Center in Chicago: "It can be tough to take threats to these buildings seriously in large part because [they] never seemed to take themselves seriously. Their energy was cheeky and adolescent - sometimes brilliantly so."
- [O'Sullivan](#) considers the V&A turning "a chunk" of the Robin Hood Gardens into an exhibit: "Given the estate's name and the profile of London museum-goers, it's hard not to notice the irony: The building is being taken from the poor and given to the rich" (it "isn't historic preservation. It's taxidermy").
- [Critical](#) responses to the V&A's acquisition of Robin Hood Gardens, though the Smithsons' son "said he was touched by the museum's acquisition."
- [The original](#) architect of San Francisco's Harvey Milk Plaza "responds to criticism of his work and concerns over new plaza. Not everyone is thrilled with the upcoming redesign."
- [Roux turns](#) the news day a bit brighter with her take on touring the Louvre Abu Dhabi with Nouvel: "it's hard not to be thrilled by what Nouvel has achieved - a town of its own making, with something of the air of a rediscovered village" (Nouvel has "never been one to shy away from a bit of bling").
- [Your must-see](#) of the day: EarthCam's time-lapse video of the Louvre Abu Dhabi - 70,000 hours of footage of "the entire construction process from start to finish in less than 3 minutes" (watch full-screen - breathtaking!).
- [de Lange](#) parses Heatherwick's Zeitz MOCAA and "how branding and architecture reinforce culture" - the design "is as poetic as its purpose and message," and "an important case study in support of the dialogue between graphic design and architecture."

- [King parses](#) San Francisco's Salesforce Tower: it won't open for months, but "the building's impact on the city's physical and social landscape already is profound" (fab images and infographics!).
- [Clarke tours](#) Foster's Bloomberg HQ in London: it is "a thing of beauty and a feat of sustainability - flashy it is not - touring this building is an education in considerate, cutting-edge construction."
- [Bill Gates](#) buys 25,000 acres in Arizona to build to build a "smart city."
- [Remember](#) "seasteading" and lofty plans for building floating cities that faded away? Well, it's back: French Polynesia agreed to let the Seasteading Institute begin building a floating city in its waters.



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Phyllis Lambert: Dan Hanganu: An Appreciation: [His architecture] has a strong and authentic presence. In contrast to the weak, mealy-mouthed or too-clever-by-half developer projects, or the business-as-usual institutional structures, his buildings enhance the City of Montreal...accomplish something all too rare: they heighten the quality of the surrounding buildings and spaces...The understanding of architecture as a cultural phenomenon is implicit in [his] work at all levels. [images]- Canadian Architect

Obituary by Adele Weder: Dan Hanganu, 78, was a rule-breaking creator of Quebec landmarks: Few architects have enriched the country with such distinctive exuberance...Deeply influenced by his early life and training in Romania, [he] sought a counterpoint to what he saw as the formulaic rigidity of conventional modern architecture.- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Records Show Where Trump Plans to Build Texas Border Wall: ...would tear through three wildlife areas...and put more homes and other structures in jeopardy than previously known...a rating system...to rank the difficulty of building each segment, based on the topography and the legal difficulty of taking over the land...battles over the border wall could be even more contentious as the Trump administration targets an increasing number of landowners and protected wildlife habitats.- Texas Observer

Michael Kimmelman: Lessons From Hurricane Harvey: Houston's Struggle Is America's Tale: America has bent the land to its will...Unfortunately, nature always gets the last word...Sprawl is only part of the story...Harvey has led even some pro-development enthusiasts to rethink the city and its surroundings...The hard truth...is that climate change will increasingly require moving - not just rebuilding - entire neighborhoods, reshaping cities, even abandoning coastlines.- New York Times

Houston unveils post-Harvey downtown master plan: ...a spiritual successor to Houston's 2012 Downtown Living Initiative...planners, designers and city officials have also turned their focus towards disaster mitigation. Besides increasing the amount of green space in the district, the proposal has set aside land for detention areas and has tried to shift away from car-dominated urban planning. - - Sasaki; Asakura Robinson; HKS Architects; Harris Kornberg Architects [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Justin Davidson: Casting a Skeptical Eye on the AT&T Building Remake: Ripping off a lot of the granite skin is not the answer to the problems afflicting 550 Madison Avenue: Widely mocked and grudgingly admired, the emblematic tower...declared that a corporate high-rise could be outlandish, even



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divalike...Now it's the Norma Desmond of skyscrapers, built for another era but hoping for a glorious third act...Craig Dykers's strategy for injecting amiability...is a mixture of fine and potentially tragic...I am provisionally unpersuaded...Maybe architecture's Norma Desmond needs to age with extravagance. -- Philip Johnson; Ada Louise Huxtable; Paul Goldberger; Gwathmey Siegel & Associates; Snøhetta - New York Magazine

Christopher Hawthorne: Postmodern architecture at risk, Part 2: The saga shifts to Chicago: Last week I tried to raise some alarm bells about a misguided new plan from Snøhetta to remake Philip Johnson and John Burgee's 1984 AT&T Building in New York...Helmut Jahn's 1985 Thompson Center faces an even bigger threat...It can be tough to take threats to these buildings seriously in large part because the buildings never seemed to take themselves seriously...They were trying to topple architecture's conventional wisdom...Their energy was cheeky and adolescent - sometimes brilliantly so...Jahn's design...uses exuberance and playfulness in service of high ideals.- Los Angeles Times

Fergus O'Sullivan: A Duplex of London's Public Housing Will Become a Museum Exhibit: The Victoria and Albert Museum will conserve a chunk of the Robin Hood Gardens estate...will be presented for aesthetic enjoyment after having been safely gilded of its social purpose. Given the estate's name and the general social profile of London museum-goers, it's hard not to notice the irony: The building is being taken from the poor and given to the rich...Conserving a building's skin while destroying its heart isn't historic preservation. It's taxidermy. -- Alison and Peter Smithson (1972)- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Critics round on V&A's acquisition of Robin Hood Gardens section: ...saying that the V&A should have intervened earlier and backed a 2008 Building Design (BD) magazine-led campaign to list the estate...Simon Smithson...son of the estate's architects...said he was touched by the museum's acquisition...Croft still praised the institute for preserving a piece of the estate. -- Alison and Peter Smithson; Liza Fior/muf; Amanda Baillieu/Archiboo; Catherine Croft/The Twentieth Century Society- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Architect of original Harvey Milk Plaza responds to criticism of his work and concerns over new plaza: Not everyone is thrilled with the upcoming redesign: ...Howard Grant...replied to our critique about the old plaza, as well as offering his concerns over the new design. [He] graciously allowed us to publish his thoughts. -- Perkins Eastman [images]- Curbed San Francisco

Caroline Roux: Inside the Louvre Abu Dhabi with architect Jean Nouvel: It cost millions, glitters in the sunlight and has its own island. Roux...sees the world in a new light: ...it's hard not to be thrilled by what Nouvel has achieved...a town of its own making, with something of the air of a rediscovered village...Nouvel [has] never been one to shy away from a bit of bling... - Telegraph (UK)

EarthCam's New Time-Lapse for Louvre Abu Dhabi: Watch the 97,000 square

meter museum area come to life...from November 2009 to November 2017...70,000 hours of archived footage...curating the imagery of the entire construction process from start to finish in less than 3 minutes. -- Jean Nouvel [video]- EarthCam

Shane de Lange: Zeitz MOCAA - how branding & architecture reinforce culture: Africa is commonly misconceived as poverty-stricken and filled with strife, void of any coherent cultural sphere...the Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa challenges this somewhat bigoted perspective...debunks such misconceptions...the approach to design in this building is as poetic as its purpose and message...an important case study in support of the dialogue between graphic design and architecture... -- Heatherwick Studio; M&C Saatchi Abel [images by Iwan Baan]- MarkLives.com (South Africa)

John King: Symbol of a New San Francisco: Soaring Salesforce Tower reflects a changing city: It is the nature of some buildings...to loom even larger as symbols than they do in real life...[it] won't open for months...the building's impact on [the city's] physical and social landscape already is profound...eye-popping novelties and numbers aren't nearly as important as the long-term question of how the tower will settle into the landscape, once the shock of the new fades away. -- Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

Laura Clarke: Is Lord Foster's new creation the ultimate office building? ...new building in London for Bloomberg is a thing of beauty and a feat of sustainability: ...flashy it is not...it is remarkably unassuming...But touring this building is an education in considerate, cutting-edge construction...BREEAM...awarded it a 98.5 % sustainability score, the highest of any major office development in the world...savings were achieved through exceptional innovation...a template for the future...More than anything, this is a building for people and for productivity. - Michael Jones/Kate Murphy/Chris Tott/Foster + Partners [images]- BBC  
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Bill Gates buys big chunk of land in Arizona to build 'smart city': ...about 45 minutes west of downtown Phoenix...proposed community, made up of close to 25,000 acres of land, is called Belmont...3,800 acres will go towards office, commercial and retail space...470 acres will be used for public schools. Plus, there's room for 80,000 residential units...there's no word on when construction will start. - KPNX-TV (Phoenix, Arizona)

Floating Cities, No Longer Science Fiction: There are now companies, academics, architects and a government working together on a prototype by 2020: ...so-called "seasteading" has in recent years matured from pure fantasy into something approaching reality...can seem not just practical, but downright appealing...French Polynesia agreed to let the Seasteading Institute begin testing in its waters...the first floating buildings - the nucleus of a city - might be inhabitable in just a few years. -- Joe Quirk/Patri Friedman/Seasteading Institute; Blue Frontiers- New York Times

ANN Feature: Stormy Weather: Landscape Design Responses for a Changing Climate: As designers and engineers move forward to adapt communities to changing weather patterns, providing flood protection while integrating social and ecological benefits will generate value and multi-functional infrastructure. By Steve Albert, PE, CFM, Josiah Cain, ASLA, Prentiss Darden, MLA, and Jim

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## Today's News - Wednesday, November 15, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: An early-morning engagement means we may, or may not, be able to post tomorrow. Either way, there will be an atypical posting on Friday (much news to catch up with!).

- [In the wake](#) of vehicular terrorism, architects and urban designers "are considering how to make pedestrians safer without destroying their way of life. But such melding of safety and design is not easy."
- [Architects](#) "brainstorm better ways to rebuild" after the California wildfires: a "useful approach would be to create widely applicable prototypes"; density would be good, but "a tough sell."
- [Puerto Rico's](#) Architecture Schools post-Hurricane Maria, Part 1: Q&A with the University of Puerto Rico's Interim Dean Mayra Jiménez-Montano: "Resiliency has always been present one way or another in our curriculum but has never been so relevant as today."
- [Puerto Rico's](#) Architecture Schools post-Hurricane Maria, Part 2: Q&A with Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico's Dean Luis V. Badillo-Lozano: "This crisis cannot be wasted - we all have to learn from this."
- [KUOW Public](#) Radio's Adolph ponders "how Seattle fell out of love with Amazon - we're going to have to admit that it's really time to wean ourselves off our Amazon addiction" (one former Amazon exec is "profoundly irritated by the less-than-grateful attitude among the locals").
- [Lamster](#) says Dallas Arboretum's new pavilion "tops the list" of "the most beautiful places" in the city, where "exceptional works of modern public architecture are relatively few and far between."
- [Weeks' Q&A](#) with Lamster re: the North Texas landscape and projects like Toyota's HQ: "It's not so much about whether I like it or dislike it - it's important to think about what it means to build a corporate campus in a location like Plano and how it's done."
- [Kamin parses](#) Chicago's new Wilson station that "doesn't, thank goodness, resemble a sleek monorail at Disney World," and is "proof positive that transit infrastructure need not be synonymous with dull design."
- [King parses](#) a plan to replace SF's Art Nouveau-style commodes and kiosks with new, modern ones, creating a "toilet tempest," especially for San Francisco Beautiful: "The designs are hideous. They show zero imagination" (he supports the updates).

### Your must-reads for the day:

- [Rennix & Robinson](#) offer a lengthy take-down of contemporary architecture: along with the "heebie-jeebies, if it doesn't make you feel desperately, crushingly alone, it's probably not a piece of prize-winning contemporary architecture - made for people who do not poop" (the retelling of Eisenman/Alexander 1982 debate is amusingly painful - or is painfully amusing).
- [Brussat](#), of course, couldn't agree more: "the writing is elegant and delightfully unaffected," and "almost qualifies as a point-by-point summary of my own long list of themes in the discourse against modern architecture."
- [D'Aprile](#), meanwhile, couldn't disagree more: Rennix and Robinson's "Why You Hate Contemporary

Architecture" is "so laden with irony - the poorest of substitutes for analysis - that it is difficult to discern a core argument - the real culprit: the absolute necessity for everything produced under capitalism to turn a profit."

• [Brussat](#), of course, calls D'Aprile's take a "lame modernist rebuttal" (from "her modernist cocoon") to Rennix and Robinson's "massive, and massively effective, assault" on contemporary architecture.

### Winners and finalists (and lots of 'em)!

• [Winners](#) of the Morrisons Island International Design Competitions, HH+ and Francis Keane Architects, outline their plans: "Cork must decide whether it wants a barrier or a threshold between it and its waterways"; an official "Walls" plan "would cause social and economic stagnation for generations" (+2nd & 3rd Place winners).

• [Bisset Adams](#) wins the competition to design the Southmere Village Library, "modeled on a swan's nest," at London's Brutalist Thamesmead estate ("made infamous" in "A Clockwork Orange").

• [13 projects](#) win the Urban ULI 2017-2018 Global Awards for Excellence; among them, SOM's University Center-The New School wins the ULI 2017-2018 Global Awards for Excellence (great presentations).

• [David M.](#) Schwarz Architects' Sundance Square in Fort Worth, Texas, nabs the International Making Cities Livable 2017 IMCL Honor Award.

• [Four student](#) teams are finalists in the AECOM/Van Alen Institute Urban SOS 2017 competition.

• [Eyefuls](#) of the AIA Design for Aging Review Awards, 14th Edition, for the best in senior living design.

• [10 projects](#) win 2017 AIA International Region Design Awards.

• [Welton parses](#) the shortlist in the 2017 Fentress Global Challenge student competition for airport design: "Aviation and architecture: Could there be a more futuristic, visionary collaboration?"

• [Finch cheers](#) that, "in a world of mesmeric multiple images," architectural hand drawing "still plays an essential role in design" - with link to inaugural Architecture Drawing Prize winners' fab drawings!

• [Eyefuls](#) of the "stunning final entries" in the Arcaid Architectural Photography Awards 2017 (stunning is an understatement!).

• [Two take](#) home the Graham Foundation's 2017 Carter Manny Awards for architectural scholarship.

• [The Nka](#) Foundation names winners of 5th Earth Architecture Competition: All About Designing and Building an Arts Village for Senegal.



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[How Will the Threat of Vehicular Terrorism Change Our Cities?](#) ...urban designers are considering how to make pedestrians safer without destroying their way of life: Architecture has, sadly, often had to respond to terrorism...But such melding of safety and design is not easy...Wall Street bollards' noninvasiveness is the result of careful design...Blair Kamin contrasted them to those in Washington D.C....that he characterized as a "lifeless void." -- Rogers Partners Architects+Urban Designers; Matt Chaban/Center for an Urban Future; Cary Tamarkin [images]- Architectural Digest

[J.K. Dineen: Architects brainstorm better ways to rebuild after Wine Country fires:](#) ...will require an army of building- department bureaucrats, not to mention thousands of carpenters, electricians and plumbers. But what role will architects play in the mad rush to rebuild the 8,889 structures lost...useful approach would be to create widely applicable prototypes...Density...will be a tough sell... -- Brandon Jorgensen; Anne Fougeron; Stanley Saitowitz; Craig Steely; [Architecture of Resilience](#)- San Francisco Chronicle



After the Storm: Puerto Rico's Architecture Schools in the Wake of Hurricane Maria; Part 1 - University of Puerto Rico, San Juan:... classes resumed on Monday, October 30. The photos show how faculty and staff tried to find spots with a breeze since power had not yet been restored...Q&A with Interim Dean Mayra Jiménez-Montano: "Resiliency has always been present one way or another in our curriculum but has never been so relevant as today." [images]- Archinect

After the Storm: Puerto Rico's Architecture Schools in the Wake of Hurricane Maria; Part 2 - Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico, Ponce: Q&A with Dean Luis V. Badillo-Lozano: "None of us were prepared for this kind of a situation and there is a lot to learn from it...This crisis cannot be wasted - we all have to learn from this." [images]- Archinect

Carolyn Adolph/KUOW Public Radio: How Seattle Fell Out of Love With Amazon: We're still working on our relationship: ...now we know that, despite the millions that have flowed to local governments...from Amazon, that money isn't believed to be enough to pay for all the problems the company's growth caused...we're going to have to admit that it's really time to wean ourselves off our Amazon addiction. Was there ever anything we could have done to save the relationship and remain HQ1 and Only? Amazon finds itself blamed for all the city's problems.- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Mark Lamster: What's the most beautiful place in Dallas? The Dallas Arboretum's new pavilion tops the list: ...exceptional works of modern public architecture are relatively few and far between in this city...The gardens...are the raison d'être for this grand ensemble...admirable simplicity is a reminder...that sometimes, and even usually, a simple box is the most efficient, effective and aesthetically appealing solution to a design problem. -- Russell Buchanan/Buchanan Architecture; SWA [images]- Dallas Morning News

Jerome Weeks: Architecture Takes On The North Texas Landscape: We North Texans continue to fill our landscape with construction projects - like Toyota's new headquarters in Plano. Mark Lamster says we need to consider what such developments mean to transit systems and to the environment..."it's not so much about whether I like it or dislike it...it's important to think about what it means to build a corporate campus in a location like Plano and how it's done." - Art&Seek / KERA, North Texas Public Broadcasting

Blair Kamin: New Wilson station shows CTA's Red-Purple Line modernization is on track: ...adeptly combines engineering with urban planning. The architecture isn't perfect, but the overall result creates a good template...The results are worth the wait...It doesn't, thank goodness, resemble a sleek monorail at Disney World...It already can be judged a handsome, useful addition to the cityscape - proof positive that transit infrastructure need not be synonymous with dull design. -- HNTB; Cecil Balmond [images]- Chicago Tribune



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John King: Toilet tempest: SF eyes replacing Paris-style commodes, kiosks: Those Parisian-flavored public toilets and advertising kiosks that arrived here 20 years ago are likely to be replaced by new "street furnishings" with a straightforward, modern feel... "The days of trying to be Paris are gone"...These 21st century aspects are what has San Francisco Beautiful on alert..."They show zero imagination - just popping a drab rectangle on the streets"...On the whole, I support the proposed updates... -- Roma Design Group [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

Brianna Rennix & Nathan J. Robinson: Why You Hate Contemporary Architecture: And if you don't, why you should: ...[it] gives most regular humans the heebie-jeebies...You may think the ensuing blob-structure looks like a tentacled turd...but that's because you don't have an architect's trained eye...If it doesn't make you feel desperately, crushingly alone, it's probably not a piece of prize-winning contemporary architecture...We are not meant to live in modern buildings; they are made for people who do not poop. - Current Affairs magazine

David Brussat: Left vs. modern architecture! "Why You Hate Contemporary Architecture," by Nathan J. Robinson and Brianna Rennix...almost qualifies as a point-by-point summary of my own long list of themes in the discourse against modern architecture...the writing is elegant and delightfully unaffected...they err toward the end in assuming that skyscrapers are bad because they are tall... [they] are bad less because they are tall than because, these days, they are modernist, or contemporary, to use the essay's word of choice. - Architecture Here and There

Marianela D'Aprile: The Politics of Architecture Are Not a Matter of Taste: Why economics always supersede aesthetics: Rennix and Robinson's "Why You Hate Contemporary Architecture"...is so laden with irony - the poorest of substitutes for analysis - that it is difficult to discern a core argument....for all their efforts at making an argument rooted in left theory...[they]...entirely miss the mark...the real culprit: the absolute necessity for everything produced under capitalism to turn a profit. -- Zaha Hadid; Frank Gehry; Peter Eisenman; The Architecture Lobby- Common Edge

David Brussat: Lame modernist rebuttal: ... "Why You Hate Contemporary Architecture," a massive, and massively effective, assault by...Brianna Rennix and Nathan Robinson, on modern architecture...It apparently hit a nerve...a rebuttal ...called "The Politics of Architecture Are Not a Matter of Taste" by Marianela D'Aprile...in her modernist cocoon...what irks these modernists is how calling a building by its most basic descriptor so clearly reveals the virtually unbridgeable gulf between traditional and modern architecture. - Architecture Here and There

Cork flood defences: Pulling together for design of Cork's quays: Morrisons Island International Design Competitions winners HH+ and Francis Keane Architects outline their plans: Cork must decide whether it wants a barrier or a threshold between it and its waterways...Principally among our ambitions is to create an exciting new waterfront + Jury comments + 2nd & 3rd Place winners -- Save Cork City; A2 Architects; GKMP Architects [images]- Irish Examiner

Winning design revealed for new library at London's brutalist Thamesmead estate: Bisset Adams will build the Southmere Village Library on the south bank

of Southmere Lake, right beside the sprawling concrete housing estate that was made infamous [in] Anthony Burgess' "A Clockwork Orange"...winning proposal is for a library modelled on a swan's nest...constructed from cross-laminated timber [CLT]...part of wider plans to build 20,000 new homes in the area. -- Proctor and Matthews Architects; Mecanoo; Turkington Martin [images]- Dezeen

13 Projects in North America, Europe and Asia Are Selected as Winners of the Urban Land Institute's 2017-2018 Global Awards for Excellence. University Center-The New School, ULI 2017-2018 Global Awards for Excellence Winner -- Philippe Starck; SWA Group/Page; Ross Barney Architects/Sasaki/Alfred Benesch & Company/Jacobs/Ryan Associates; Sink Combs Dethlefs Architects (now Perkins+Will)/Elkus - Manfredi Architects/etc al.; Nexus Partners/DSK Architects/Mark Seiberlich Concordia/Steven Bingler/MKThink/Steve Kelley; Herman Coliver Locus Architecture; ZGF/Nikken Sekkei/Jun Mitsui & Associates Architects/Studio on Site; Perkins+Will; KenKay Associates/Mary Miss/Engberg Anderson Architects/etc al.; WOHA; Lake Flato Architects/Roman and Williams/Don McDonald Architects/Sprinkle & Co. Architects/Ford Powell & Carson Architects/Jim Kissling Architecture/Dado Group/Clayton & Little Architecture; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); etc. [images]- Urban Land Institute (ULI)

International Making Cities Livable 2017 IMCL Honor Award, Built Project for Excellence in Creating Public Places for Community, Democratic Dialogue, Health & Equity: Sundance Square, Fort Worth, Texas: ...surrounded by museums, galleries, restaurants...furnished with a forest of 216 fountain jets, a wave wall fountain...thoroughly programmed for concerts, theater, art festivals, and movies. -- David M. Schwarz Architects [images]- International Making Cities Livable (IMCL)

AECOM and Van Alen Institute announce four Urban SOS 2017 finalists with bold ideas for creating more equitable cities: Multidisciplinary student teams were challenged to redefine the traditional "hOUR City"...providing broader access to opportunity -- Lisa Anne Garner/Universität Der Künste; Lauren Garner, RMIT/University; Vincent Clement Agoe, Derek Lazo, Serena Lousich, Mark Wessels, Sarah Skenazy, University of California, Berkeley; Sean Cullen, Chris Millar, Queen's University Belfast; Wilaiwan Prathumwong, Perada Plitponkarnpim, Patcharida Sricome, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi [images]- AECOM / Van Alen Institute / 100 Resilient Cities/Rockefeller Foundation

Design for Aging Review Awards, 14th Edition: Presenting the best in senior living design. -- C.C. Hodgson Architectural Group; Hord Coplan Macht; Shoesmith Cox Architects; RLPS Architects/MGA Architects; SFCS Architects; Perkins Eastman/NAC Architecture; BKV Group; Amenta Emma Architects; Duncan Wisniewski Architecture; Gensler; Wienczek + Associates Architects + Planners [images]- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

10 Projects Chosen as Winners of 2017 AIA International Region Design Awards: ...honoring exemplary projects undertaken by architect members of the AIA-IR, encompassing six of the seven chapters located outside of the United States. -- M Moser Associates; Index Architecture; Moore Ruble Yudell; Andrew Bromberg; Louis Becker; John McAslan + Partners; RAW-NYC Architects; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Paul Murdoch [images]- ArchDaily

J. Michael Welton: Architects for Future Airports: Curt Fentress...is looking for the talent of the future. And what better way to find it than to hold a worldwide student competition for airport design?

2017 Fentress Global Challenge...narrowed the field down to a short list of 20...For young architects interested in air travel and all its implications, these are exciting times...Aviation and architecture: Could there be a more futuristic, visionary collaboration? [images]- Huffington Post

Paul Finch: Drawings are the spiritual heart of architecture: With the winner of the inaugural Architecture Drawing Prize announced, he looks at how hand-drawn images still play an essential role in design: ...a reminder that in a world of mesmeric multiple images, the architectural drawing still has a powerful resonance...hand drawing is clearly still something taken seriously... [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

See the stunning final entries in the Arcaid Architectural Photography Awards 2017: The 20 shortlisted photographs will be exhibited at the World Architecture Festival (WAF) in Berlin from 15 - 17 November, where visitors will be able to cast their vote for the overall winner... [images]- Lonely Planet

The Graham Foundation announces 2017 Carter Manny Awards for architectural scholarship: ...[to] promising doctoral students engaged in advanced scholarship in architecture... -- James Graham/"The Psychotechnical Architect: Perception, Vocation, and the Laboratory Cultures of Modernism, 1914–1945"; Razieh Ghorbani/"The Space of Sanctions: Architecture and Construction in Contemporary Iran" - The Architect's Newspaper

Nka Foundation Announces the Winners of 5th Earth Architecture Competition: All About Designing and Building an Arts Village for Senegal. -- Vitor Breder/Nayanne Guerra/Mário Soares/Yuka Perdigão Ogawa (Brazil); Jérôme Gruwé (France); Brittany Hill/Caitlin McDonnell (Australia)- Nka Foundation

ANN Feature: Stormy Weather: Landscape Design Responses for a Changing Climate: As designers and engineers move forward to adapt communities to changing weather patterns, providing flood protection while integrating social and ecological benefits will generate value and multi-functional infrastructure. By Steve Albert, PE, CFM, Josiah Cain, ASLA, Prentiss Darden, MLA, and Jim Remlin, PE, LEED AP/Sherwood Design Engineers- ArchNewsNow.com

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## Today's News - Thursday, November 16, 2017

- [We lose](#) Ledner, an FLW apprentice "who went on to design modernist marvels including the National Maritime Union HQ in NYC: "the implicit humor of this unorthodox trio (of buildings) transgressed mightily against the dead-serious modernism of the period," wrote Christopher Gray.
- [Schneider](#) ponders whether Jahn's "red, white, and blue elephant" (a.k.a. Thompson Center) is worth saving: the "boundary-breaking structure captured Chicago's imagination, if not its heart. Will ordinary citizens fight for a quirky civic space?"
- [Dickinson](#) considers Stern and Saarinen at Yale, and "what the old 'modern' and the new traditional' dormitories say about style, architecture and the zeitgeist."
- [Kolson Hurley](#) considers "the weird, wooden future of skyscrapers," and Lever Architecture's towering ambitions on Portland, Oregon, that will be "the country's tallest human-occupied all-wooden structure."
- [A proposed](#) wooden skyscraper for Chicago, the result of a collaboration between Perkins+Will, Thornton Tomasetti, and the University of Cambridge, is a "magnificent design - long live the wooden revolution."
- [Scheeren's](#) 88-story "Sky Forest" will bring "leisure and landscape design to the skies" of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.
- [SOM's 56-story](#) tapering skyscraper in London will be subjected "to wind tunnel testing and 'extensive analysis' of how it will interact with sunlight so as not to overshadow other buildings - or produce a dangerous solar glare" (no melting Porches here).
- [Litt x 2:](#) he cheers "a brilliant lakefront project" in Euclid, Ohio, that "offers a snapshot of an attractive, working-class Cleveland suburb addressing its future proactively. Kudos all around."
- [He also](#) cheers the Cleveland Museum of Art's Doan Brook project that "blends art and environment," and is "a gesture of outreach to the surrounding city."
- [TVS Design](#) is leading the team for the \$1.4 billion expansion and renovation of the Las Vegas Convention Center that will make it the second-largest in North America.
- [Two Cornell](#) alumni help renovate Upson Hall.
- [Nine projects](#) show "the diversity and architectural possibilities that come from repurposing things like old factories, wharfs, and power plants in new ways" (alas, not all architects are credited).
- [Wainwright](#) reviews Seoul's first (now ended) architecture biennale that used "giant blobs and floating parks to look to the future - and atone for the costly sins of the past.'
- [Weder weighs](#) in on MoMA's (now closed) Frank Lloyd Wright extravaganza "Unpacking the Archive": "He was wrong about a lot of things. But both his triumphs and his mistakes have taught us much - and for that we might be grateful."
- [Five quirky](#) solutions to open office woes (we'll take the nap nook, please!).
- [Eyeful](#)s of the four 2017 Curbed Groundbreakers winners.
- [Maria Nicanor](#) named Executive Director of the Rice Design Alliance, after stints at the Norman Foster

Foundation, the Guggenheim, and the V&A.

- [A wonderful](#) round-up "weird and wonderful" Soviet sanatoriums that "challenge the standard notion that architecture under communism was unsightly and drab."
- [One we couldn't resist](#): "14 impossibly chic cat houses designed for a fundraiser for Architects for Animals and FixNation.



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Obituary: Albert C. Ledner, who peppered New Orleans with modernist marvels, 93: ...an apprentice to Frank Lloyd Wright who went on to design modernist marvels...designed...a series of futuristic meeting halls around the country for the National Maritime Union...his trio of buildings for the union's headquarters in Manhattan catapulted him onto the national stage, raising eyebrows and earning him accolades..."Even in the permissive '60s, the implicit humor of this unorthodox trio (of buildings) transgressed mightily against the dead-serious modernism of the period," wrote Christopher Gray. - The Times-Picayune (New Orleans)

Benjamin Schneider: Is This Red, White, and Blue Elephant Worth Saving? Illinois politicians agree that Chicago's Thompson Center should be replaced. Architects and preservationists beg to differ, and a new documentary presents their case.: ...boundary-breaking structure...captured Chicago's imagination, if not its heart...could be repurposed for a new use, the critics and designers in the film say...Will ordinary citizens fight for a quirky civic space...? -- Helmut Jahn (1985); Nathan Eddy/"Starship Chicago: A Building on the Brink" [images, video]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Duo Dickinson: Stern and Saarinen at Yale: What Architectural "Style" Reveals: What the old "modern" and the new "traditional" dormitories say about style, architecture and the zeitgeistFor Saarinen, the 1962 Morse and Stiles Colleges followed the "new-new-new" mid-century...[Stern's] 2017 Franklin and Murray Colleges manifest an intentional manipulation of sentimentality and memory...Side by side these efforts have clashing...in the end, beauty is found in both surprise and memory, not in any "style." -- James Gamble Rogers; Eero Saarinen (1962); Robert A.M. Stern Architects- Common Edge

Amanda Kolson Hurley: The Weird, Wooden Future of Skyscrapers: A change to the urban skyline that could make a big dent in carbon emissions: ...Albina Yard...only four stories, but it's the prelude to a more ambitious project: Framework, a 12-story mixed-use tower...When it's finished...it will be the country's tallest human-occupied all-wooden structure. -- Thomas Robinson/Lever Architecture; Michael Green Architecture [images]- The Atlantic

Perkins+Will's proposed wooden skyscraper is exploring timber's potential: With proposals for timber skyscrapers becoming more prevalent around the world, [P+W] join forces with Thornton Tomasetti and the University of Cambridge to develop plans for The River Beech Tower, Chicago...magnificent design from three significant collaborators certainly poses an exciting question for the future of timber structures - long live the wooden revolution. [images]- DesignCurial (UK)

Ole Scheeren reveals design for vast 'Sky Forest' towers open to the public: ...bringing leisure and landscape design to the skies of Ho Chi Minh City,



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Vietnam, with an ambitious new development formed of three high-rise towers...Empire City...main structure called Empire 88 Tower in reference to the number of floors...to be topped by a large public observation deck, called 'Cloud Space'...a large scale terraced public space with restaurants and commercial facilities will form a "mountain-shaped, garden-like podium"... -- Büro Ole Scheeren [images]- CLAD (Community of Leisure Architects & Designers)

SOM designs tapering skyscraper that would dwarf neighbouring Cheesegrater: ...56-storey skyscraper in London...keen to learn from the mistakes made in the designs of the area's existing skyscrapers...subjecting their new tower to wind tunnel testing and "extensive analysis" of how it will interact with sunlight so as not to overshadow other buildings - or produce a dangerous solar glare. -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill [images]- Dezeen

Steven Litt: Euclid, Ohio, close to building lakefront trail that could set a precedent in Great Lakes: ...a brilliant lakefront project...Kudos all around..."This has the opportunity to be a proof-of-concept for other communities"...offers a snapshot of an attractive, working-class Cleveland suburb addressing its future proactively at a time in which it is becoming a majority black community challenged by higher levels of poverty. -- SmithGroupJJR [images, video]- Cleveland Plain Dealer

Steven Litt: Cleveland Museum of Art, sewer district launching \$5M Doan Brook project that blends art, environment: ...to reduce flooding and erosion, and to improve natural habitat...museum envisions creating a sculpture park and an event space...a gesture of outreach to the surrounding city...project is closely related to the \$15 million Nord Family Greenway, a 15-acre rectangle of grass, trees and walkways... -- Sasaki Associates [images]- Cleveland Plain Dealer

LVCVA OKs design team for convention center expansion: ...\$1.4 billion expansion and renovation of the Las Vegas Convention Center... includes the development of a 600,000-square-foot exhibition hall within 1.4 million square feet of new space...will make the convention center the second-largest in North America... -- TVS Design; TSK Architects; Simpson Coulter Studio; Carpenter Sellers Del Gatto Architects; KME Architects- Las Vegas Review-Journal

Two Cornell alumni help transform Upson Hall with \$74.5M renovation: ...design changes to the engineering building include maximizing interior space...The changes to the building help "bring engineering from enclosed spaces to the more public realm"... -- Rob Goodwin/Perkins+Will; David Lewis/LTL Architects- Ithaca Journal

9 projects that reimagine old buildings, from factories to firehouses: What's old is new again: ...this list shows the diversity and architectural possibilities that come from repurposing things like old factories, wharfs, and power plants in new ways. -- McIntosh Poris Associates/Simeone Deary Design Group/Foundation Hotel, Detroit; Lake/Flato/Shepley Bulfinch; James Mituzas; (fer) studio; Richard

Haag [images]- Curbed

Oliver Wainwright: Giant blobs and floating parks: Seoul's first architecture biennale shakes up the city: From Zaha Hadid's bulbous plaza to a 'library' of flora planted across a skygarden, the South Korean capital is using its architecture festival to look to the future - and atone for the costly sins of the past: The true power of what the Seoul biennale might be is found less in the content of these exhibitions than in the wider role it can perform for the city. -- Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism; Kim Swoo-geun; Chang Yong-soon; Hyungmin Pai; We Made That; Alejandro Zaera-Polo; Kim Young-Joon [images]- Guardian (UK)

Adele Weder: Frank Revelations: How Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin Archives carry new meaning for our era: "Unpacking the Archive" suggests that while Wright may have offered few enduring solutions, he tackled important questions, including those that still resonate today...He was wrong about a lot of things...But both his triumphs and his mistakes have taught us much about the way homes, traffic, cities and human beings operate as part of larger systems, and for that we might be grateful. -- Barry Bergdoll; Jennifer Grey [images]- Canadian Architect

Five quirky solutions to open office woes: From Plexiglas bubbles to little nooks for naps, we consider design solutions that help make an open office space feel more enclosed. -- Christian Pottgiesser; Ralph Meury/Meury Architektur; Verda Alexander/Studio O&A; Bart Lens/Lens Ass Architects; Samu Hällfors/Vesa-Matti Marjamäki/Framery [images]- BBC

Introducing: 2017 Curbed Groundbreakers: Four architecture firms snagged this year's awards: Abruzzo Bodziak Architects has an eye for detail and a heart for the city; Bionic forges lush landscapes and public spaces in the dense Bay Area; SCAPE, the architects designing urban landscapes to stand the test of time; LA-Más is building a more equitable Los Angeles. - Curbed

Rice Architecture appoints Maria Nicanor as Executive Director of the Rice Design Alliance: Until recently, Nicanor served as the Director of the Norman Foster Foundation in Madrid and was previously an architecture and design curator at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York and the Victoria & Albert Museum in London. - Rice Design Alliance

Holidays in Soviet Sanatoriums: The weird and wonderful wellness palaces of the USSR: ...among the most innovative, and sometimes most ornamental, buildings of their time - from Kyrgyzstan's Aurora, designed in the shape of a ship, to Druzhba, a Constructivist masterpiece...that sparked rumours that a flying saucer had landed. Such buildings challenge the standard notion that architecture under communism was unsightly and drab...they survive in varying states of decay, with relatively few still in operation. [images]- The Calvert Journal (UK)

14 Impossibly Chic Cat Houses: Architects take on an industry that believes the pinnacle of design is wrapped in leopard print and topped with a pink feather: Architects for Animals...enlisted architecture firms...to design a series of outdoor dwellings for cats. -- Abramson Teiger Architects; d3architecture; DSH Architecture; Formation Association/Terremoto Landscape/Arktura; HOK; Lehrer

Architects; NAC Architecture; Perkins+Will; Pfeiffer Partners Architects; RNL (now Stantec); CallisonRTKL; Space International; Standard Architecture | Design; Wolcott Architecture | Interiors; HKS; HLW; Knowhow Shop; Kollin Altomare Architects; ES-EN-EM [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

ANN Feature: Stormy Weather: Landscape Design Responses for a Changing Climate: As designers and engineers move forward to adapt communities to changing weather patterns, providing flood protection while integrating social and ecological benefits will generate value and multi-functional infrastructure. By Steve Albert, PE, CFM, Josiah Cain, ASLA, Prentiss Darden, MLA, and Jim Remlin, PE, LEED AP/Sherwood Design Engineers- ArchNewsNow.com

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## Today's News - Friday, November 17, 2017

- [Campbell-Dollaghan](#) delves into a new study that "shows people don't understand how to use high-performance buildings. The stories themselves are remarkable. Many are not only tributes to advanced architectural technology - but also the ingenuity of occupants who 'hack' it" (a Drinking Bird bopping to keep motion-sensor lights on!).
- [An industry](#) initiative "aims to unlock new sources of energy efficiency for older buildings."
- [The story](#) behind Breathe Architecture's "new model of apartment living" that is "environmentally sustainable, financially viable, and socially responsible" is beginning to catch on!
- [Bailey takes](#) on the opposite end of the spectrum with a Q&A with the \$25 billion, data-driven Hudson Yards' developer Ross: "It's beyond ambitious in its scale, and has tremendous potential to set a standard for cities of the future. But if it flops, the consequences are unfathomable" (so far, so good, but architects can leave their egos at the door).
- [Kennicott](#) visits the \$500 million Museum of the Bible, opening in Washington, DC, this weekend: it "offers a one-stop-shopping cultural experience, with history, art, architecture, theater and music conveniently packaged under one roof. And it could change the museum business."
- [The New](#) York Public Library unveils \$317 million Mecanoo/Beyer Blinder Belle-designed plan for its 5th Avenue flagship, "bringing the long-running, contentious saga closer to an end."
- [Kamin parses](#) the "aspirational yet star-crossed back story" of Jahn's Thompson Center, the "shortsighted plan" to sell and most likely tear it down, and urges anyone on the pro-demolition side to watch Eddy's "Starship Chicago" that "illustrates the essential role the center plays in the life of downtown Chicago."
- [Schneider](#) ponders whether Jahn's "red, white, and blue elephant" is worth saving: the "boundary-breaking structure captured Chicago's imagination, if not its heart. Will ordinary citizens fight for a quirky civic space?" ("Starship Chicago" might convince them).
- [On a brighter](#) (very bright!) note, Gaudí's "meticulously restored" Casa Vicens in Barcelona is ready for its close-up as a "dazzling" museum (with pix to prove it it's a real wow!).

### Weekend diversions (and lots of em!):

- ["AA](#) XX 100: AA Women in Architecture 1917-2017" at London's Architectural Association "is at once a history of women's presence within a very particular educational institution, a history of women's presence within the architectural profession, and a part of the history of 20th-century architecture."
- ["Thinking](#) Machines: Art and Design in the Computer Age, 1959-1989" at MoMA "examines how computer-aided design became permanently entangled with art, industrial design, and space planning."
- [Brownell](#) visits "Designing Material Innovation" at the California College of the Arts that is (mostly) successful in exploring how the "messy and nonlinear process" of material experimentation "can go well and go wrong."
- [Speaking](#) of materials, you have a few more days to catch "mies missing materiality" at Mies's Barcelona Pavilion with its marble walls covered in white panels, making it "more minimal than ever before - it appears more

like a full-scale model than a building."

- [Cook considers](#) "the endless influence of the Bauhaus" that "broke down the barrier between fine art and applied arts. The results were extraordinary - the true measure of its immense influence is how familiar it has become"; much of it on view in "Bauhaus in Motion" at the Bauhaus Archiv in Berlin.
- [Bernstein](#) x 2: he parses the Global Grad Show at Dubai Design Week showcasing "submissions from 92 design schools that aim to change the world for the better" - it closes tomorrow - but all 200 projects can be seen online (some amazing stuff!).
- [He parses](#) "Gordon Matta-Clark, Anarchitect" at the Bronx Museum of Art, and his "indelible influence on architecture": "There is no telling what he would have achieved" if he hadn't died so young, but "we get a certain hint of what his buildings might have looked like" in the work of DS+R, Holl, Koolhaas, et al.
- [Hill hails](#) Belogolovsky's book and exhibition on Harry Seidler: The book presents the show "as an important subject in its own right," informing "readers about the architect's life and work very well - anyone in and around NYC is "urged to head to City College before the show closes" (next week!).
- ["Obdurate](#) Space: Architecture of Donald Judd" at NYC's Center for Architecture is the first dedicated solely to his architectural designs that "ranged in scale from interior residential renovations to an urban plan."

#### Page turners:

- [Mortice's](#) great Q&A with Cary re: his book "Design for Good: A New Era of Architecture for Everyone," and "what the public interest design movement doesn't need any more of."
- [Brussat](#) cheers Millais's "Le Corbusier, the Dishonest Architect": "It is a brave book and a necessary book" that "stacks up the flaws in the maestro's work - it speaks truth to power" (with link to Dalrymple's review that is "even angrier than my review").
- [Brandes](#) Gratz considers "the Greenwich Village apartments created by Jane Jacobs" that are now under threat, and offers an excerpt from her book, "The Living City: Thinking Small in a Big Way," "with occasional bracketed current comments."
- ["Sirius"](#) by Dunn, Peake & Piscopo celebrates Sydney's "embattled Brutalist icon," released shortly after the announcement that the social housing complex "had yet again been denied a heritage listing."



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Kelsey Campbell-Dollaghan: Architecture's UX Problem: Research shows people don't understand how to use high-performance buildings. Does architecture need a UX breakthrough? In a new study.. Julia K. Day and William O'Brien...focused on the occupants of different high-performance buildings...The stories themselves are remarkable. Many are not only tributes to advanced architectural technology - but also the ingenuity of occupants who "hack" it...miserable occupants can lead to less efficient buildings when people disable systems designed to make their buildings better...as architecture comes alive with new technology, it needs its own UX breakthrough... - Fast Company / Co.Design

Industry initiative aims to unlock new sources of energy efficiency for older buildings: A coalition...has released...Opportunity Knocks: Accelerating energy efficiency for mid-tier buildings looks at non-A Grade or non-Premium Grade buildings, and how to help better manage our increasing demand for energy by upgrading these inefficient structures...constructed between 1960 and 2000 with outdated and inefficient technologies... - Architecture & Design (Australia)

Designing for people, not profit: The story behind a multi-residential housing



model changing the way we live: When Breathe Architecture took out the Best of the Best category at the 2014 Sustainability Awards for...The Commons,..We certainly did not expect the practice to launch a new model of apartment living that is changing the way Australians view city dwellings...a “triple bottom-line development”, meaning it is environmentally sustainable, financially viable, and socially responsible...made a bold statement that could not be ignored...the Nightingale Model was born. -- Andrew Maynard Architects; James Davidson Architect; EHDO Architecture [images]- Architecture & Design (Australia)

Spencer Bailey: Stephen M. Ross to Architects: Drop Your Egos: The Related Companies founder and chairman discusses building sustainable cities and his massive ambitions for Hudson Yards: It's beyond ambitious in its scale, and has tremendous potential to set a standard for cities of the future...But if it flops, the consequences...are unfathomable. Luckily...nearly all signs thus far point to success. -- Thomas Heatherwick; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Rockwell Group; Robert A.M. Stern; Foster + Partners; OMA; Zaha Hadid Architects; Yabu Pushelberg; Kara Mann; Meyer Davis; SOM; Charles Gwathmey; Kohn Pedersen Fox/KPF; Kevin Roche [images]- Surface magazine

Philip Kennicott: The new Museum of the Bible tells a clear, powerful story. And it could change the museum business: ...will set a new standard for how this country's museums fuse entertainment and education...offers a one-stop-shopping cultural experience, with history, art, architecture, theater and music conveniently packaged under one roof. -- SmithGroupJJR- Washington Post

New York Public Library Unveils \$317 Million Plan for Its Fifth Avenue Flagship: The plan improves circulation and opens up underused spaces, while also announcing a study on the hotly contested issue of the library's stacks: ...bringing the long-running, contentious saga of that Beaux-Arts landmark's renovation for the 21st century closer to an end. -- Carrère & Hastings (1911); Norman Foster/Foster + Partners; Mecanoo; Beyer Blinder Belle [images]- New York Times

Blair Kamin: Fighting to save the Thompson Center with a movie camera: If you're one of the many people who...supports...shortsighted plan to sell it to a developer who will tear it down...Watch a 16-minute documentary that makes a strong case for saving this imperfect but inspired work of postmodern architecture....“Starship Chicago”...The real star is Nathan Eddy's camera and the way he uses it to illustrate the essential role the center plays in the life of downtown Chicago...to see Helmut Jahn...intended it to be...We also get the center's aspirational yet star-crossed back story.- Chicago Tribune

Benjamin Schneider: Is This Red, White, and Blue Elephant Worth Saving? Illinois politicians agree that Chicago's Thompson Center should be replaced. Architects and preservationists beg to differ, and a new documentary presents



Architecture Magazine Library  
Masters Gallery  
Podcast

their case.: ...boundary-breaking structure...captured Chicago's imagination, if not its heart...could be repurposed for a new use, the critics and designers in the film say...Will ordinary citizens fight for a quirky civic space...? -- Helmut Jahn (1985); Nathan Eddy/"Starship Chicago: A Building on the Brink" [images, video]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Born again: Gaudí's meticulously restored Casa Vicens reopens in Barcelona: ...has long been an off-radar landmark...the biggest challenge was converting the home into a 'house-museum'...The decorative detail in the home's original living areas...is dazzling. -- Daw Office; Martínez Lapeña Torres Arquitectes [images]- Wallpaper\*

"AA XX 100: AA Women in Architecture 1917-2017": The story of women at the Architectural Association is at once a history of women's presence within a very particular educational institution, a history of women's presence within the architectural profession, and a part of the history of 20th-century architecture in both Britain and the wider world; Architectural Association, London, thru December 9- Architectural Association School of Architecture/AA (UK)

New MoMA show plots the impact of computers on architecture and design: "Thinking Machines: Art and Design in the Computer Age, 1959–1989"...captures the postwar period of reconciliation between traditional techniques and the advent of the computer age...examines how computer-aided design became permanently entangled with art, industrial design, and space planning; thru April 8, 2018. -- Sean Anderson; Giampaolo Bianconi- The Architect's Newspaper

Blaine Brownell: How Material Experimentation Can Go Well and Go Wrong: "Designing Material Innovation" at the California College of the Arts explores just that: ...five full-scale installations...showcase a variety of intriguing departures from conventional building blocks, construction methods, and programmatic uses...innovation...emerges unpredictably out of a messy and nonlinear process...The fact that [the show] includes several works that appear to exemplify such a process - what we might call the crude underbelly of material development - is its greatest strength, whether intended or not; thru December 22 [images]- Architect Magazine

"mies missing materiality": Mies van der Rohe's Barcelona Pavilion loses its marble walls: Spanish architects Anna and Eugeni Bach are making the Barcelona Pavilion more minimal than ever before - by covering all of its walls with white panels...Their aim is to completely transform the steel, glass and marble structure, so that it appears more like a full-scale model than a building; thru November 27 [images]- Dezeen

William Cook: The endless influence of the Bauhaus: ...the word Bauhaus was much more than an architectural style - it was a new way of thinking...its ideas still set the pattern for the way we live today...broke down the barrier between fine art and applied arts...The results were extraordinary...The true measure of its immense influence is how familiar it has become...Ironically, it was this persecution of the Bauhaus which ensured its survival. -- Walter Gropius; Hannes Meyer; Mies van der Rohe; Josef Albers; Herbert Bayer; Walter Peterhaus; Laszlo Moholy-Nagy [images]- BBC Designed

Fred A. Bernstein: This Mega-Exhibition in Dubai Pushes the Boundaries of Innovation: The Global Grad Show at Dubai Design Week showcases submissions from 92 design schools that aim to change the world for the better.  
-- Brendan McGetrick; Aric Chen/M+ museum; Edwin Heathcoate [images]-  
Architectural Digest

Fred A. Bernstein: Gordon Matta-Clark's Indelible Influence on Architecture: The late artist...inspired many architects: he died of cancer at 35. There is no telling what he would have achieved as an artist if he had lived...We get a certain hint of what his buildings might have looked like, though, in the work of Diller Scofidio + Renfro, Steven Holl, Rem Koolhaas, and other contemporary masters; "Gordon Matta-Clark, Anarchitect," Bronx Museum of Art thru April 18, 2018 [images]- Architectural Digest

John Hill: "Harry Seidler: The Exhibition: Organizing, Curating, Designing, and Producing a World Tour" [book], and "Harry Seidler: Painting Toward Architecture" [exhibition]: ...overarching theme: that his architecture was most heavily influenced and indebted to art rather than architecture...In Vladimir Belogolovsky's hands, the influence of colorful, abstract art is most overt in the design of the traveling exhibition and the book documenting it...[The book] presents [the show] as an important subject in its own right...informs readers about the architect's life and work very well...those in and around New York City are urged to head to City College before [the show] closes on November 22nd.- A Daily Dose of Architecture/Archidose

Donald Judd, Architect? "Obdurate Space: Architecture of Donald Judd" [at New York's Center for Architecture] is the first show dedicated solely to his architectural designs, both rendered and realized. Curated by two architects with a personal working knowledge of the artist himself - Claude Armstrong and Donna Cohen...designs ranged in scale from interior residential renovations to an urban plan; thru March 5, 2018 [images]- Architectural Digest

Zach Mortice: Design for Dignity: John Cary's book "Design for Good: A New Era of Architecture for Everyone" details a now familiar formulation for do-good design in the developing world...The building types he examines are familiar...and totally singular to their contexts...a "little cell of joy and peace in a harried world...Q&A re: what the public interest design movement doesn't need any more of, and the role of landscape design in the fight for more equitable cities. [images]- Landscape Architecture Magazine

David Brussat: Millais vs. Le Corbusier: Malcolm Millais, the author of "Exploding the Myths of Modern Architecture," has written "Le Corbusier, the Dishonest Architect"...It is a brave book and a necessary book, a vital step toward truth in architecture today....stacks up the flaws in the maestro's work and impugns the direction Corbu believed his profession must take, and did take...[the book] is important because it speaks truth to power...has helped to pull the world, and maybe even the world of architecture, back toward a path of sanity about architecture's reigning icon. [also links to a Theodore Dalrymple review that is "even angrier than my review"]- Architecture Here and There

Roberta Brandes Gratz: The Greenwich Village Apartments Created by Jane Jacobs Are Threatened With Demolition: The story of how a Jacobs-led community group overcome official opposition to create an alternative to urban

renewal: ...an excerpt from my first book, "The Living City: Thinking Small in a Big Way," with occasional bracketed current comments. - Common Edge

Sydney book launch celebrates Sirius, the city's embattled Brutalist icon: "Sirius" by John Dunn, Ben Peake and Amiera Piscopo documents the Tao Gofers-designed social housing complex...authors are all members of the Save Our Sirius Foundation...In an unplanned turn of events, the book's release followed the announcement...that Sirius had yet again been denied a heritage listing. - Architecture & Design (Australia)

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## Today's News - Monday, November 20, 2017

- [Betsky makes](#) the case for preserving Johnson Burgee's AT&T Building: "It will not be torn down, but it will be emasculated - reborn as another home for 1%ers"; there is a "logic, both socially and aesthetically" to Snøhetta's design. "So why does it seem to be so wrong?" (he also finds some similarities in the firm's SFMOMA makeover).
- [King, meanwhile,](#) parses the Oakland A's pick to design its new ballpark that includes HOK and Snøhetta: the "initial emphasis will be on a more abstract question of how a ballpark can be a good neighbor" and "an integral part of the surrounding urban landscapes."
- [Hawthorne](#) says, "Yes, please" to "boring architecture - work that is spare, solid and unhurried. It's unruffled. The only thing it tries hard to do is not to try hard" (he names his faves).
- [Middleton](#) calls for "collective action" to make sure architects "get a proper salary - we don't charge enough to be financially successful and socially responsible to our staff" (putting "lipstick on the gorilla" included).
- [Ridley](#), AIA Atlanta president, considers the multiple problems being raised re: design copyright, and who owns what when it comes to "computing coding used in the software to create drawings" in the age of BIM.
- [Saffron](#) ponders whether Philly really needs a law mandating affordable housing - developers of all stripes are concerned, and "inclusionary housing programs" in other cities "haven't proved all that effective."
- [Gehry tapped](#) to transform a 1960s bank building into a new home for the New Youth Orchestra Los Angeles Center (no pix - yet).
- [A look at](#) how "design elements inside and outside of schools have changed," post-Sandy Hook - "the communal approach to design has changed the most by including school safety personnel, local law enforcement and first responders to inform the design process."
- [DS+R and](#) Jenkins-Peer tapped to "update, modernize and re-envision" Charlotte, NC's Discovery Place Science Museum (a 2010 renovation left things "confusing, with multiple elevators and lobbies that don't connect").
- [Foster's](#) gigantic, supposedly uber-green new airport in Mexico, built on a sinking lake bed, may be repeating "age-old mistakes - the much-heralded environmental protection effort is still so devoid of detail, critics say, that it raises questions of credibility and actually obscures the risk of flooding."
- [On a more](#) sparkly note: eyefuls of "giant, glittering structures of Hainan's architectural 'arms race'": it may be called "the Hawaii of China," but it isn't natural beauty that's catching the eye of visitors."
- [Some very](#) cool news! The Cooper Hewitt's massive archive is now online - "200,000 objects in one place = endless design inspiration."
- [More very](#) cool news! Cards Against Humanity creators "purchase U.S. land to make it as time-consuming and expensive as possible" for Trump's border wall to get built (ya gotta watch the video!).

The diversity-in-design dilemma/debate:

- [Fairs x](#) 2: he crunches the numbers using public data on 100 of the largest international practices for a survey that "reveals 'quite shocking' lack of gender diversity at senior levels."

- [He talks](#) to five prominent female British architects for "their views on what's gone wrong and how it can be changed" (a mix of disappointment and optimism).
- [A look at](#) diversity programs that some Georgia architects are undertaking to initiate change: "Architecture has always been a white male profession" - "It's the elephant in the room."
- [Massachusetts](#) launches a statewide campaign that "encourages women to join construction industry," for too long "overwhelmingly dominated by men."

## Winners all!

- [Winners](#) of the major categories in the 2017 World Architecture Festival Awards, with links to miles of all the winners.
- [CPG Consultants'](#) hospital in Singapore wins first ever Stephen Kellert Biophilic Design Award from the Living Future Institute.
- [A stellar](#) team wins the British Council for Offices/BCO NextGen award for their vision for "the office of 2035" in "a typical Victorian terrace in London for an energy company" (a meditation garden included).



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Aaron Betsky: Save the AT&T Building: Fight the power by preserving its icons: One of the strangest and strongest skyscrapers in New York is under threat. It will not be torn down, but it will be emasculated...reborn as another home for one-percenters...The result looks dreadful in the renderings - but...does have a logic to it, both socially and aesthetically...So why does it seem to be so wrong? ...we should leave the AT&T Building...a reminder that good architecture can and sometimes should do the wrong things. -- Philip Johnson; Snøhetta- Architect Magazine

John King: Oakland A's pick design team for proposed new ballpark: ... initial emphasis will be on a more abstract question of how a ballpark can be a good neighbor on a site that jostles several distinct communities...new ballpark would be an integral part of the surrounding urban landscapes... -- HOK; Snøhetta; Sasaki; Studio T Square- San Francisco Chronicle

Christopher Hawthorne: Boring architecture? Yes, please: ...the most important emerging strain in contemporary architecture...an approach that rejects the hyperactive form-making...in favor of work that is spare, solid and unhurried...As a result, it sometimes looks ancient or even primordial. It never looks futuristic...Its overriding characteristic is a sort of stillness...it probably sounds boring...architects should embrace the boring charge...It's unruffled. The only thing it tries hard to do is not to try hard. -- Mauricio Pezo/Sofía von Ellrichshausen/Pezo von Ellrichshausen; Aires Mateus; Christ & Gantenbein; Office Kersten Geers David Van Severen; Sharon Johnston/Mark Lee,/Johnston Marklee; Productora; Go Hasegawa; MOS; SO-IL- Los Angeles Times

Mark Middleton/Grimshaw: What does it take for architects to get a proper salary? Lawyers, doctors and train drivers are paid more than architects. Collective action is needed to redress the balance: I am perturbed that pay debates...focused upon part 1 salaries and not the profession as a whole...but there's a bigger problem...we don't charge enough...We give away our creativity for free, manage change badly and we don't think twice about cutting each other's throats to get a commission...current fee levels make it increasingly



difficult to be financially successful and socially responsible to our staff. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Theresa Ridley: Who owns what? An emerging challenge for owners, designers: Many developers and property owners assume that they own the drawings and plans for their projects. They would be mistaken...More and more often owners, especially public owners, are now demanding that the architect sign over the copyright of the design as a contractual condition of getting the project...A broad interpretation could also be applied to the computing coding used in the software to create these drawings. This causes multiple problems. - Atlanta Business Chronicle

Inga Saffron: Does Philadelphia need a law mandating affordable housing? ...pitch to Amazon made affordability one of the city's selling points. If Philadelphia is such a bargain, why would the city need to mandate inclusionary housing? ...just because [the city] is a bargain in comparison with its peer cities...doesn't mean housing is cheap for people who live here...developers specializing in affordable housing...voiced concerns...biggest concern is that the bill will backfire and actually reduce the amount of affordable housing being produced...inclusionary housing programs haven't proved all that effective. - Philadelphia Inquirer

Frank Gehry to Design a New Youth Orchestra Los Angeles Center for Los Angeles Philharmonic: ...will be [YOLA] program's first commissioned building dedicated to its purpose alone...will transform a 17,000-square-foot building...originally built in the 1960s as a bank - into an administration hub...with teaching spaces for 500 students... - Architectural Record

New SCASD [State College Area School District] schools are designed to protect against gun violence: Design elements inside and outside of schools have changed...but the communal approach to design...has changed the most.



Prior to Sandy Hook, architects would mainly integrate with administrators...now [they] are including...school safety personnel, local law enforcement and first responders...The engagement with non-school officials coupled with design elements that focus on protection...inform the design process. -- Jeff Straub/Crabtree, Rohrbaugh and Associates; Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design/CPTED- Centre Daily Times (State College, Pennsylvania)

This \$700,000 plan will try to sort out a Charlotte museum's future: ...to update, modernize and re-envision the Discovery Place Science Museum: ...[museum] wrapped up a \$31.6 million renovation in 2010...[But] the buildings are still confusing, with multiple elevators and lobbies that don't connect. -- Jenkins-Peer Architects; Diller Scofidio + Renfro- Charlotte Observer (North Carolina)

As Mexico Builds Green Airport of the Future, Age-Old Mistakes Loom: An enormous new airport...will be a "global reference" for sustainability, the government vows. Others worry environmental errors of the past are being repeated: ...soon after construction started...government appeared to turn its back on part of that promise, ceding land designated on project maps for conservation to local officials for development...the much-heralded environmental protection effort is still so devoid of detail, critics say, that it raises questions of credibility and actually obscures the risk of flooding. -- Norman Foster/Foster + Partners- New York Times

The giant, glittering structures of Hainan's architectural 'arms race': It's the island paradise in southern China referred to by people across the country as "the Hawaii of China." But it isn't Hainan's natural beauty that's catching the eye of visitors to the island's major cities of Sanya and Haikou in recent years. Spectacular new hotels and entertainment complexes are springing up everywhere..."The market has been an arms race to develop the next most interesting or extreme project." -- Scott Myklebust/M CO Design; Ma Yansong/MAD architects; Chris Bosse/LAVA Architecture; Mike Stewart/YWS Design & Architecture; Diller Scofidio + Renfro [images]- CNN

Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum's Massive Archive Is Now Online: 200,000 objects in one place = endless design inspiration: ...objects chronicling more than 30 centuries of design history have made the jump from 91st Street onto the internet...90% of its extensive collection has been digitized and uploaded for easy online browsing...Now there's no excuse not to brush up on your design history. - Architectural Digest

Cards Against Humanity Creators Purchase U.S. Land to Hinder Borderwall Construction: The company behind the irreverent game promises to "to make it as time-consuming and expensive as possible for the wall to get built": ...launched a holiday promotional campaign to "save America." - Architect Magazine

Marcus Fairs: Survey of top architecture firms reveals "quite shocking" lack of gender diversity at senior levels: ...women occupy just 10% of the highest-ranking jobs at the world's leading architecture firms, while 16 firms have no women at all in senior positions. Percentage of women decreases steadily at each ascending tier of management..Across all senior and middle management tiers in all 100 companies, women hold 18% of positions.- Dezeen

Marcus Fairs: Female architects respond to gender survey: "It's getting better but far too slowly": ...five prominent female architects from the UK gave us their views on what's gone wrong and how it can be changed...all agreed that firms that do not strive to improve their gender balance will increasingly be viewed as out of touch and will lose out commercially. -- Sadie Morgan/dRMM; Angela Brady/Brady Mallalieu Architects; Dara Huang/Design Haus Liberty; Amanda Levete/AL\_A - Dezeen

Georgia architects initiate change with diversity programs: Architecture has always been a white male profession..."It's the elephant in the room...we've got to talk about it more"...If women have a difficult time advancing in architecture, it's particularly difficult for minorities...Organizations like NOMA and Equity in Architecture have made getting members into schools...a critical part of increasing the flow of minority students into programs. -- Theresa Ridley Architecture; Sophia Tarkhan/Cooper Carry; Equity by Design; Ann Rogers/Perkins+Will; Anne-Michael Sustman/Nicole Seekely/Smith Dalia Architects; Marc Johnson/HOK Atlanta; National Organization of Minority Architects/NOMA Project Pipeline- Atlanta Business Chronicle

Statewide [Massachusetts] campaign encourages women to join construction industry: Launched by the Northeast Center for Tradeswomen's Equity, the "Build a Life That Works" campaign seeks to address an issue that has long plagued an industry overwhelmingly dominated by men. The goal is to increase the number of women in the building trades to 20% by 2020.- Boston Globe

Guangming Post-Earthquake Reconstruction Project Wins World Architecture Festival World Building of the Year 2017: Winners of the year's Future Project, Landscape, Small Project, Iran Special Prize and Best Use of Colour awards were also announced. -- Chinese University of Hong Kong/Kunming University of Science and Technology; Marc Koehler Architects; Allen Jack+Cottier Architects/NH Architecture; Eriksson Furunes + Leandro V. Locsin Partners + Jago Boase; Turenscape; New Wave Architecture; Iredale Pedersen Hook Architects; etc. [images]- ArchDaily

Living Future Institute Announces Biophilic Design Award at Greenbuild 2017: ...Khoo Teck Puat Hospital in Singapore...winner of first ever Stephen Kellert Biophilic Design award...features rainforest-like landscaping both inside and outside the building...also announced [a] biophilic design map...an open source database including projects from around the world that incorporate the tenets of biophilia. -- Ong Chin-Po/CPG Consultants; Design Alliance Architects; Gensler; COOKFOX - Architectural Record

British Council for Offices/BCO NextGen reveals winning vision for 'the office of 2035': ...88mph's concept - 'The Dynamo' - reimagines a typical Victorian terrace in London as the headquarters for a major energy company...preserves the existing façades...reconfigurable interior space and a rooftop garden...a performance space and a meditation garden. -- Annabel Koeck/Grimshaw; Jennifer Barnes/Futurecity; Laura Hannigan/AKTI; Amelia Maxwell/Lendlease [link to images]- Malcolm Reading Consultants / British Council for Offices

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## Today's News - Tuesday, November 21, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: We're taking a bit of a long-ish break for the Thanksgiving Day holiday, and will return Tuesday, November 28 (giving you extra time to pursue this rather long-ish news day). Happy Turkey Day to our U.S. friends and family!

- [Giovannini](#) remembers our dear friend Kirsten Kiser and "the entrepreneurial and trailblazing career of the woman, architect, architectural curator, gallerist, bon vivant, and founder of ArcSpace.com - who understood early on the power of the internet to mediate and broadcast architecture" (fab photo of her with Corbu!).
- [Dietsch](#) gives two thumbs-ups to SmithGroupJJR's new Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC: the "architecture soars in subtle and magnificent ways" by "injecting doses of modernism into the neoclassical warehouse to signal its new life as a museum" ("even skeptics wary of the founders" will be won over).
- [Speaking](#) of D.C., a most impressive design team is creating "a new hospitality brand aimed at progressive millennials," combining a hotel and co-working space, aspiring "to be a press club, a sanctuary for intelligent thought, and a canvas for rising neighborhood talent" ("detox food" included).
- [Singh Bartlett](#) walks "Beirut's wartime demarcation line," once "an overgrown wasteland of shredded buildings and shattered dreams, now a cultural pathway where a string of museums is erasing old boundaries, knitting the city together."
- [Wainwright](#) parses four very different cities, from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia and San Francisco, to Calais and Jerusalem, that "reveal a shared experience: of human ingenuity against the odds" (with amazing photos from David Levene's new book "City").
- [Brownstein](#) looks at how Seattle is moving "aggressively to confront the challenges of growth. It hasn't necessarily found all the right answers," but at least it's "asking the right questions."
- [Simon delves](#) into social impact investment, "a trillion-dollar trend most people have never heard of - to prevent climate-related disasters, we need to invest differently - and it's "become increasingly accessible."
- [MAD Architects'](#) Huangshan Mountain Village "looks like a UNESCO World Heritage Site" (with lots of flowery all-about-nature words - it hardly looks "unobtrusive" - looks a lot like MAD's Paris project - just sayin').
- [Who hasn't](#) weighed in on the Architectural Association's layoffs, putting the beloved AA Files and exhibitions program at risk: Dyckhoff: "gruesome" and "madness" + McGuirk, Hatherley, Woodman, et al.

### Everything old is new again - or gone:

- [Schneider](#) takes a deep dive into how, "from the ruins of a retail meltdown, post-industrial playgrounds emerge" as a number of defunct 1920s Sears warehouses "have been resurrected in the image of the contemporary city - it pays to consider how the leftovers of a past economy can shape the next one."
- [Historic England](#) calls out "exemplars" of disused textile mill projects that are "shining a light' on successful regeneration projects that could inspire others."
- [On a less](#) upbeat note, "time is running out" for the U.K.'s Alton Estate as Studio Egret West's redevelopment

master plan calls for the demolition of "one of world's most important" housing estates.

### Deadlines loom!

- [Call for Entries](#): Folly/Function 2018: Seats for Socrates Sculpture Park in NYC (always one of our faves!).
- [Call for entries](#) (deadline looms!): Submissions for "SENCity": installations for the 13th Festival des Architectures Vives, Montpellier, France.
- [Call for entries](#) (deadline looms!): European Centre for Architecture, Art, Design and Urban Studies/Chicago Athenaeum International Architecture Awards.

### Weekend diversions (and lots of 'em!):

- [Cramer parses](#) whether the new "Blade Runner 2049" stands up to the 1982 "sci-fi masterpiece": "There are moments of great beauty, but the film feels soulless, like a replicant, desperately searching for an identity of its own in the long shadow of its progenitor" (but "go see it anyway").
- [Abbott's](#) take on "Blade Runner 2049": it is a "skillful blend of two distinct images of L.A. - as noir jungle and harbinger of the future - when 'La La Land' seems to be the new iconic L.A. film, the ambiance of 'Blade Runner' may seem a bit shopworn. Perhaps '2049' will change that."
- [Sisson talks](#) to "Blade Runner 2049" production designer Gassner, who "explains how he visualized an update on one of film's most famous urban landscapes," and his "thought process behind updating a sci-fi touchstone (Brutalist architecture, the Barbican, Budapest's "colorful Secessionist architecture" included).
- [The Asia Society Hong Kong Center](#) hosts M+ Matters' 3-day "REORIENT: Conversations on South and Southeast Asia."
- [Madsen cheers](#) the National Building Museum's "Making Room: Housing for a Changing America" that offers "insight into flexible living arrangements - now more common than the nuclear family" (1,000-square-foot demonstration home constructed within the NBM included).
- [In Burlington](#), Vermont, "Imagining Home" presents ideal spaces as imagined by seven current or former homeless citizens, and rendered by architects: "Every single one of them started out saying, 'I want my design to be one that will help a lot of people - to provide housing for more than just me.'"

### Page-turners:

- [Dittmar](#) considers Jane Jacobs' "Vital Little Plans": "perhaps her radical notions can help address issues like the restructuring of work, the collapse of the globalist ideal, and the commodification of city land for investment."
- [Carl Anthony](#), "one of the first African Americans to get a Columbia architecture degree," offers an excerpt from his "The Earth, The City, and the Hidden Narrative of Race": it took a trip to Africa "to learn what I had not been taught in the nine years it had taken me to earn my professional degree."
- [Kolson Hurley's](#) great Q&A with Ian Volner re: his "Michael Graves: Design for Life" that "tells of his arc from small-town obscurity to stardom, and how to reconcile the various sides of his architecture and character."
- [An excerpt](#) from Volner's "Michael Graves: Design for Life" that highlights "how Graves became Graves."
- [Jansen hails](#) Franklin and Howard's "Post-Modern Buildings in Britain": "sumptuous photographs and detailed texts reveal not only the lost language of post-modernism but also the richness of its ideas. Perhaps it's time for a comeback."
- [Budds picks](#) "7 wild, wonderful icons" from "Post-Modern Buildings in Britain" that prove "Pomo's wackiness was an antidote for modernism's asceticism - decades after its heyday, it's finally getting its due."
- [With "Zaha](#) Hadid Architects: Redefining Architecture and Design" (and "despite some notable omissions"), "the company she founded is hoping to further honor her legacy."

- Smith's "Designing Detroit: Wirt Rowland and the Rise of Modern American Architecture" is "as formidable as Rowland's architectural work," and "is particularly refreshing in light of the numerous architectural porn books on Detroit's crumbling infrastructure."

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Joseph Giovannini: Remembering Kirsten Kiser: He recalls the entrepreneurial and trailblazing career of the woman who founded Arcspace: ...architect, architectural curator, gallerist, bon vivant, and founder of Arcspace, one of architecture's first webzines...understood early on the power of the internet to mediate and broadcast architecture.- *Architect Magazine*

Deborah K. Dietsch: Museum of the Bible architecture soars in subtle and magnificent ways: ...transforms a 1920s warehouse into a compelling, multimedia showplace for interpreting the world's most read book...celebrates this industrial landmark - an anomaly within a federal precinct - by restoring original architectural elements lost over time...The results are strong yet simple, injecting doses of modernism into the neoclassical warehouse to signal its new life as a museum. -- David Greenbaum/SmithGroupJJR [images]- *Washington Business Journal*

The opposite of Trump: New hospitality brand aimed at progressive millennials to launch in D.C.: ...will combine a hotel, co-working space and "cultural programming supporting the intersection of arts, consciousness and impact...Eaton D.C. will serve as a hub for journalists, pioneers and changemakers...aspires to be a press club, a sanctuary for intelligent thought, and a canvas for rising neighborhood talent." -- Sagmeister & Walsh; Project Projects; Gachot Studios; Parts and Labor Design; Avroko; Leong Leong; Kengo Kuma [images]- *Washington Business Journal*

Warren Singh Bartlett: Walk the Line: Beirut's wartime demarcation line is now a cultural pathway: ...was an overgrown wasteland of shredded buildings and shattered dreams. Now the line...has become a place of encounter and exchange, where a string of museums is erasing old boundaries, knitting the city together. -- Renzo Piano; Youssef Haidar Architects; Dagher Hanna & Partners; Hala Wardé/HW Architecture; Antoine Nahas and Pierre Leprince Ringuet (1937)/Jean-Michel Wilmotte [images]- *Wallpaper\**

Oliver Wainwright: The haves and have-nots: four cities in crisis: On the surface, Ulaanbaatar [capital of Mongolia], San Francisco, Calais and Jerusalem could not be more different - but for the people squeezed out by political upheaval or prohibitive rents, the urban 21st century looks disturbingly uniform: David Levene's photographs [from his new book "City"] reveal a shared experience: of human ingenuity against the odds. [images]- *Guardian (UK)*

Ronald Brownstein: Can Seattle Handle Its Own Growth? The city is confronting multiple challenges that come with economic success: ...exemplifies the powerful current of economic vitality that is transforming many of the nation's largest cities...also confronting a homelessness crisis, grinding traffic congestion, and a housing-affordability squeeze...Few cities have moved as aggressively...to confront the challenges of growth...It hasn't necessarily found all the right answers, but it is ahead of most places in asking the right questions. - *The Atlantic*

Morgan Simon: To prevent climate-related disasters, invest differently: Social investing is a trillion-dollar trend most people have never heard of: As Hurricane Maria - as well as recent disasters in Houston, Florida and northern California - have reminded us, nature is a very fickle, but also dependable force...we need to fundamentally change the economy, starting with the way that we invest...the practice of impact investment - investing dollars in a way that's aligned with the social and environmental future we'd like to see - has become increasingly accessible. - Salon

MAD Architects' Newest Residences Look Like a UNESCO World Heritage Site: Huangshan Mountain Village is a series of buildings meant to house tourists while seamlessly blending into its natural environment: ...a design which was meant to mimic the natural shapes of the environment...the undulating formation of Ma Yansong's structures mean that no two apartments are the same...outdoor balconies to look as if they are a series of tea fields... [images]- Architectural Digest

Architectural Association accused of "destroying its own cultural mission" over redundancy plans: Staff cuts could put the publishing [AA Files] and exhibitions operations at the AA school at risk, prompting outrage from leading architects and writers...Not everyone was surprised by the news: Tom Dyckhoff: "gruesome" and "madness"; Circa Press: "mindless cultural vandalism"; Justin McGuirk; Liam Young; Owen Hatherley: "should be strenuously resisted by anyone interested in architecture"; Ellis Woodman; Irénée Scalbert; Charles Holland: seems spectacularly short-sighted"; Phineas Harper - Dezeen

Benjamin Schneider: From the Ruins of a Retail Meltdown, Post-Industrial Playgrounds Emerge: ...Sears's massive 1920s warehouses represent a triumph of post-industrial urbanism: ...six of the seven remaining plants have been resurrected in the image of the contemporary city...more recent plant rehabilitations place a greater emphasis on mixed-use development and placemaking strategies that integrate them into their neighborhoods...it pays to consider how the leftovers of a past economy can shape the next one. [images]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Historic England calls for new era of industrial regeneration: Heritage adviser flags textile mill projects by FSP FSP Architects, KPP Architects and Beckwith Design as exemplars: ...disused mills in the West Riding of Yorkshire alone could be converted to deliver up to 27,000 homes, or employment space capable of supporting 150,000 jobs...“shining a light” on successful regeneration projects could inspire others... [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Historians warn of ‘grave effect’ of Alton Estate redevelopment: Demolition threat at ‘one of world’s most important’ estates: Time is running out...because a masterplan drawn up by Studio Egret West is in the final stages of public consultation before heading in for planning...Barnabas Calder, a trustee of the Twentieth Century Society...said the scale of proposed destruction was “completely inappropriate.” -- Levitt Bernstein [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Call for Entries: Folly/Function 2018: Seats: design and fabricate public seating for the Socrates Sculpture Park - movable single or double outdoor seating for at least 25 people; \$6,000 production grant; deadline: January 8, 2018- Architectural League of New York / Socrates Sculpture Park

Call for entries: Submissions for "SENCity": 13th Festival des Architectures Vives, Montpellier, France, June 12-17, 2018: seeking 10 installations that reveal an intimate relationship between contemporary architecture, installation, and patrimonial site; deadline: December 1 [in English & French]- Festival des Architectures Vives (FAV)

Call for entries (deadline reminder - deadline looms!): International Architecture Awards: to honor the best, significant new buildings, landscape architecture, and planning projects designed and/or built around the world; deadline: December 1- Chicago Athenaeum / European Centre for Architecture, Art, Design and Urban Studies / Metropolitan Arts Press

Ned Cramer: The Replicant City of "Blade Runner 2049": Ridley Scott's 1982 sci-fi masterpiece...set the bar in film for cities of the future. Does the speculative urbanism of Denis Villeneuve's sequel stand up? ...to maintain continuity, [he] brought back Harrison Ford, screenwriter Hampton Fancher, and concept artist Syd Mead. What he left behind was the original's richness of detail, verisimilitude, and conceptual rigor...There are moments of great beauty, but the film feels soulless, like a replicant, desperately searching for an identity of its own in the long shadow of its progenitor.- Architect Magazine

Carl Abbott: "Blade Runner 2049" and the Dystopic Los Angeles: The film's impact comes from its skillful blend of two distinct images of L.A. - as noir jungle and harbinger of the future: ...opens 35 years after the original version...It helped fuel two decades of critical and dystopian depictions of L.A...The upbeat Southern California narrative was ripe for reversal...when "La La Land" seems to be the new iconic L.A. film, the ambiance of "Blade Runner" may seem a bit shopworn. Perhaps "2049" will change that. [trailers]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Patrick Sisson: Blade Runner 2049: Sci-fi's neo-noir cityscape gets an update: Dennis Gassner explains how he visualized an update on one of film's most famous urban landscapes: ...a Hollywood veteran responsible for the look of The Truman Show, Skyfall, and O Brother, Where Art Thou?...[his] thought process behind updating a sci-fi touchstone...He used the forms, shapes, and facades of Brutalist architecture, such as the Barbican in London...also drew inspiration from the streetscape of Budapest...Russian-built factories, as well as the Hungarian city's colorful Secessionist architecture.- Curbed

M+, West Kowloon Cultural District: "REORIENT: Conversations on South and Southeast Asia": part of the M+ Matters series of public talks and discussions; Asia Society Hong Kong Center, November 30 - December 2 -- Anupama Kundoo/Anupama Kundoo Architects; Aric Chen; Eko Prawoto/Eko Prawoto Architecture Workshop; Shirley Surya; etc.- e-flux

Deane Madsen: Living Large in Small Spaces by 'Making Room': "Making Room: Housing for a Changing America" examines possibilities for better housing...Through analysis...case studies, and a centerpiece 1,000-square-foot demonstration home constructed within the NBM...visitors will gain insight into flexible living arrangements...now more common than the nuclear family...illustrates means of integrating adaptability through smarter construction and reconfigurable layouts... -- National Building Museum, Washington, D.C., thru September 16, 2018 [images]- Architectural Record

"Imagining Home" Asks Participants And Architects To Design Ideal Spaces To Address Homelessness: Alison Cannon knew people experiencing homelessness were building these structures but she wanted to know why...seven people who were or had been homeless for their vision of an ideal home...enlisted local architects to draw up renderings..."Every single one of them started out saying, 'I want my design to be one that will help a lot of people - to provide housing for more than just me.'" Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, Vermont, thru December 31 [images]- Vermont Public Radio

Hank Dittmar: Is urban planning squeezing the life out of our cities? Jane Jacobs argued against one size fits all solutions: "Vital Little Plans" made me think about her work in the context of the dramatic reshaping of our cities by global financial capitalism and property investment...reveals that her seemingly separate propositions about neighbourhood life, city economies, national wealth and ethics were really a connected effort...perhaps [her] radical notions can help address issues like the restructuring of work, the collapse of the globalist ideal, and the commodification of city land for investment.- BD/Building Design (UK)

Carl Anthony: I studied architecture at Columbia. But I didn't truly understand it till I visited West Africa: One of the first African Americans to get a Columbia architecture degree found his architectural identity in Mali: I wanted to arrive at a deeper understanding of the relationship between my chosen profession and the African and African American communities that I aspired to serve...to begin again and to learn what I had not been taught in the nine years it had taken me to earn my professional degree. [excerpt from "The Earth, The City, and the Hidden Narrative of Race"]- Salon

Amanda Kolson Hurley: The Many Sides of Michael Graves: A new biography...tells of his rise from small-town Indiana to partnerships with Disney and Target, and how disability shaped his outlook: "Michael Graves: Design for Life" by Ian Volner...Q&A re: Graves's arc from small-town obscurity to stardom, and how to reconcile the various sides of his architecture and character. [images]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Ian Volner: How Graves Became Graves: Excerpts from a new biography on postmodernist..."Michael Graves: Design for Life"...three pivotal moments, excerpted below, that show the influences that shaped Graves' career and singular style. [images]- Architect Magazine

Charlotte Jansen: Rebel revival: a new tome revisits British post-modernist architecture: ...the style's hybrid vocabulary was hard to define, but shaped a legacy that, though often overlooked or diminished, has been profound...Through sumptuous photographs and detailed texts..."Post-Modern Buildings in Britain" by Geraint Franklin and Elain Howard reveals not only the lost language of post-modernism but also the richness of its ideas. Perhaps it's time for a comeback. [images]- Wallpaper\*

Diana Budds: 7 Wild, Wonderful Icons Of Postmodern Architecture: Pomo's wackiness was an antidote for modernism's asceticism. And decades after its heyday, it's finally getting its due.  
The results were often mind-boggling, as "Post-Modern Buildings In Britain" by Elain Harwood & Geraint Franklin shows...aims to raise awareness about these architectural treasures by introducing readers to their inventiveness.- Fast

Zaha Hadid: How the 'Queen of the Curve' redefined our cities: ...while Hadid lives on through her neo-futuristic buildings, the company she founded is hoping to further honor her legacy with... ""Zaha Hadid Architects: Redefining Architecture and Design" ...Despite some notable omissions...offers insight into the Iraqi-British architect's unique take on form, function and geometry...presents a heavy bias towards the later, more polished stages of her career...also profiles 12 new projects which will be completed posthumously... -- Patrik Schumacher [images]- CNN Style

The forgotten genius: Michael G. Smith writes a book about Detroit architectural legend: "Designing Detroit: Wirt Rowland and the Rise of Modern American Architecture" ...is as formidable as Rowland's architectural work...examines in detail, the life and prodigious career of Detroit's premier, but virtually unknown, architect...book is particularly refreshing in light of the numerous architectural porn books which were published in the last five years on Detroit's crumbling infrastructure.- Lansing City Pulse (Michigan)

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## Today's News - Tuesday, November 28, 2017

- [Kamin pays](#) tribute to Ed Uhlir, gone much too soon: "the low-key architect who played an essential, behind-the-scenes role in bringing to life the high-wattage visual spectacle of Chicago's Millennium Park" (his "wry sense of humor" made our hard-hat tour of the park one of our faves).
- [Museum woes:](#) Buffalo's Albright-Knox "may scrap original expansion plan to radically alter a beloved building by Gordon Bunshaft" (no images of new concept - yet).
- [The controversial](#) SANAA/Architectus expansion plans for the Sydney Modern gallery "is likely to spark furious debate about loss of open space" - despite a positive EIS, "a number of prominent architects are marshalling against it."
- [Also from](#) Down Under, the Australian Institute of Architects "has refused to endorse the first stage of the competition to design the Adelaide Contemporary art gallery because entrants were identified."
- [Sayer parses](#) the V&A's plan for a fragment of the Smithson's Robin Hood Gardens: "do we really want to experience failed architecture in a museum?" (Hatherley calls the move "salvaging from tragedy to create a working-class theme park").
- [Brussat](#) uses Hawthorne and Saffron's reviews of RAMSA's Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia as a jumping-off point for a (not-unexpected) rebuttal to their "twisting the meaning of the American Revolution to fit the modernist narrative."
- [A round-up](#) of "5 must-read reviews" of SmithGroupJJR's Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC ("Some moments border on cheesy; others are strikingly sober," says Artnet's Wecker).
- [A National](#) League of Cities' report "cautions" that "cities must focus on equity when innovating" - or face "a growing social and economic divide that could de-stabilize cities."
- [Tiwari targets](#) "urban disconnect": "A city that forgets about human connections has lost its way - there's one simple rule: connect people to places, people to transport and people to people (San Francisco's King Street is "a case study in connectivity").
- [Hosey ponders](#) San Diego's "identity crisis. Where's the 'there' here?" (it "demands ingenuity from architects to respect the city fabric while reaching intelligently and elegantly for the sky").
- [Sussman](#) & Ward track "three unexpected findings" in their "game-changing eye-tracking studies that reveal how we actually see architecture" (are those traditionalists we hear applauding?).
- [Mortice](#) considers Apple's new Foster-designed Chicago store: it "has plenty of civic ambitions, but doesn't quite live up to them. The reality is less than convincing."
- [A fascinating](#) look at how tech giants "are competing for Israeli talent and their "brash can-do-it-all attitude and chutzpah" by revolutionizing how office buildings are designed and built in Israel ("greener and more user-friendly").

Of parklands and cityscapes scrutinized, altered, dreamt of - and just plain fun!

- [Sweet reports](#) that the Feds are reviewing the impact of the Obama Presidential Center on Chicago's Jackson

Park that "will strengthen the hand of local and national organizations wanting to manage the changes."

• [Columbus](#), Ohio, may see "backlash" from other cities that didn't win Smart City Challenge grants after it cut four projects and added a new one: "the altered proposal is not quite what the city originally submitted to win the \$40 million grant."

• [Charlottesville](#) withdraws its original RFP to redesign its recently renamed parks, and will issue a new one: "Expert designers are careful not to presume a vision for the parks. The key, they insist, is the process."

• [Will it](#) or won't it: could the WWI Memorial be moved from Pershing Park to the National Mall? (either way, it all still sounds very iffy).

• [On a brighter](#) note: Melbourne is getting a new 17-kilometre linear park underneath a new elevated rail line (dogs welcome).

• [Ohio State](#) University invites some big guns to help re-imagine the connection between the university and the city's center (only at the "dreaming stage" - for now).

• [A look at](#) Noguchi's playful playscapes, many unbuilt, that are still inspiring major public spaces today.



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Obituary by Blair Kamin: Ed Uhlir, architect who was key to Chicago's Millennium Park, 73: ...the low-key architect who played an essential, behind-the-scenes role in bringing to life the high-wattage visual spectacle of Millennium Park...Uhlir was tall and quiet, and had a measured voice and a wry sense of humor that helped him put up with - and navigate his way around - bureaucratic hurdles. -- Anish Kapoor; Jaume Plensa; Frank Gehry - Chicago Tribune

Albright-Knox may scrap original expansion plan, build elsewhere on site: After facing pressure from preservationists over plans to radically alter a beloved building by Gordon Bunshaft...alternative concept "much less invasive" than the one that raised the ire...[museum] declined to share any images of the second concept. -- Preservation Studios; PBDW Architects - Buffalo News

NSW Art Gallery reveals plans for controversial expansion in bid for more visitors: Plan to move [Sydney Modern] gallery north towards the harbour is likely to spark furious debate about loss of open space: The environmental impact statement (EIS)...argues the new plans, by SANAA and Architectus, will qualitatively improve public space...achieved by building within a disused navy fuel bunker...[and] building over the Cahill expressway...a number of prominent architects and citizens are marshalling against it...They argue the government has failed to consider other options... - Guardian (UK)

Adelaide Contemporary design comp fails Architects Institute test: The Australian Institute of Architects has refused to endorse the first stage of the competition to design the Adelaide Contemporary art gallery: ...because entrants were identified...prevented designs from being assessed exclusively on merit...appeared that the Government was looking for a "big-name architect" and that the process could not be called a true "design competition" if entrants were identified. - InDaily (Australia)

Jason Sayer: Publicity Stunt? "Working-Class Theme Park?" Questions Loom for the V&A's Three-Story Robin Hood Gardens Fragment: ...preserving a three-story chunk of the Peter and Alison Smithson-designed housing project: ...do we really want to experience failed architecture in a museum? What will one gain...For Owen Hatherley..."this sounds like people salvaging from tragedy to



create a working-class theme park"...But the real tragedy is the estate's displaced residents. [images]- Metropolis Magazine

David Brussat: Museum of National Identity: Christopher Hawthorne [review of] Philadelphia's Museum of the American Revolution, by Robert A.M. Stern Architects...cries out for rebuttal...Twisting the meaning of the American Revolution to fit the modernist narrative fits into a long tradition among modernists...Tradition is as important as change...Tension between them is natural. Modern architecture is part of a deconstructivist program to deny that reality...by introducing new meanings to words...and enforcing new mandates in the language of architecture. -- Inga Saffron - Architecture Here and There

5 must-read reviews of the Museum of the Bible: ...see what critics had to say about Washington, D.C.'s newest, most religious museum by SmithGroupJJR: "Some moments border on cheesy; others are strikingly sober" - Menachem Wecker/Artnet; "When it comes to the literal truth of the Bible, things can get slippery" - Philip Kennicott/Washington Post; "the way [the] founders have routinely disregarded basic principles of academic inquiry should make would-be visitors very, very cautious" - Tara Isabella Burton/Vox; Elizabeth Flock/PBS NewsHour; Candida Moss/Joel S. Baden/Politico- Curbed DC (Washington, DC)

Report: Cities must focus on equity when innovating: The report from the National League of Cities..."The Future of Equity in Cities" cautions that widening gaps between the rich and the poor, and among races, is creating a growing social and economic divide that could de-stabilize cities...addresses the topics of economic development, infrastructure and public safety to identify upcoming equity challenges and opportunities for cities. - Smart Cities Dive

Reena Tiwari: A city that forgets about human connections has lost its way:

When it comes to planning better cities for the future there's one simple rule: connect people to places, people to transport and people to people...many of us are living in a state of "urban disconnect"...we suffer the consequences; How to diagnose connectivity; A case study in connectivity: King Street, San Francisco [images]- The Fifth Estate (Australia)

Lance Hosey: Time to retool San Diego's skyline? San Diego has an identity crisis. On the one hand, real estate is booming...On the other hand, new development generally is exacerbating a problem....Apartment buildings and condos...architectural cookie cutters...the urban equivalent of the McMansion. Even our best buildings aren't much better...Where's the "there" here? It wasn't always this way...[The city's] roughly square urban grid demands ingenuity from architects to respect the city fabric while reaching intelligently and elegantly for the sky. The benefits are clear. - San Diego Union-Tribune

Ann Sussman & Janice M. Ward: Game-Changing Eye-Tracking Studies Reveal How We Actually See Architecture: What happens when you apply a biometric measure like eye-tracking to architecture? More than we expected...after running four pilot-studies...we think these technologies stand to revolutionize our understanding of how architecture impacts people and, in a first, allow us to predict human responses...three unexpected findings: [images]- Common Edge

Zach Mortice: Does Apple's New Chicago Store Have Something to Say About the Future of Cities? ...new flagship has plenty of civic ambitions, but doesn't quite live up to them: The reality is less than convincing...has an intensely unresolved relationship with the public realm. It capitalizes on its singular urban setting, but then blocks views of it with a giant TV screen. It adds quality public space, but also hews a bit too close to urban-scale product placement with its laptop roof. -- Foster + Partners [images]- Metropolis Magazine

As buildings evolve in Startup Nation, architects create space for work and play: Offices designed for Israel's tech industry are growing greener and more user-friendly: [Tech giants]...are competing for Israeli talent...the brash Israeli can-do-it-all attitude and chutzpah, but they also infuse the local tech ecosystem with...a new approach...starting to revolutionize how office buildings are being built and designed. -- Avner Yashar/Yashar Architects; Mendi Rotbard/Moshe Tzur Architects & Town Planners; Spencer de Grey/Foster + Partners; Setter Architects [images]- Times of Israel

Lynn Sweet: Feds launch review of Obama Presidential Center impact on Jackson Park: ...new phase...will strengthen the hand of local and national organizations wanting to manage the changes...to study potential impacts on the historic park - and most important - what to do to minimize and mitigate any adverse impact. -- Charles Birnbaum/The Cultural Landscape Foundation/TCLF; Frederick Law Olmsted/Calvert Vaux (1871)- Chicago Sun-Times

Columbus, Ohio, alters plans for Smart City Challenge grant money: ...four projects have now been cut from the grant...added a new project to the \$40 million grant, which is aimed to increase transportation help for prenatal doctor visits...for pregnant women on Medicaid with a goal of decreasing the city's infant mortality rate...the altered proposal is not quite what the city originally submitted to win the grant money - which may result in backlash from one of the other 77 cities that submitted proposals- Smart Cities Dive

Park design experts start from the ground up: ...following their decision to remove statues of Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson from park grounds, Charlottesville...issued a Request for Proposals to redesign the recently renamed Emancipation and Justice parks. That RFP was withdrawn...to issue a new RFP under a two-phased approach...Expert designers...are careful not to presume a vision for the parks. The key, they insist, is the process. -- VMDO Architects; Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects; Elizabeth Meyer; Bushman Dreyfus Architects- C-Ville (Charlottesville, VA)

Is D.C.'s WWI Memorial moving to the National Mall? ...the World War I Centennial Commission hosted a symbolic groundbreaking for the WWI Memorial in Pershing Park...As of now, the memorial is in the early stages of design development, and it hasn't gotten final approvals...Nor have any building permits been issued...Whatever site is selected, [it] still faces a stringent and lengthy approvals process moving forward. -- M. Paul Friedberg; GWWD Architects/Sabin Howard/Joseph Weishaar [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Linear park to fill in space under new Melbourne 'sky rail': ...a 17-kilometre walking and cycling path occupying the space underneath a new elevated rail line...will involve the planting of more than 30,000 new trees and shrubs...dog parks, a basketball court, picnic areas, nature play areas and "parkour areas"...proposal signified a change in the prominence given to design in the delivery of the controversial level crossing removal project. -- Cox Architecture; Aspect Studios [images]- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Beaches, bikes and bridges: Ohio State engages expert teams to re-imagine Olentangy River Corridor: Design charrette concludes with visionary look at the connection from the university to city's center: .None of the projects is ready to go beyond the dreaming stages. The charrette was the kind of thought experiment... -- NBBJ; TLS Landscape Architecture/MKSK; West 8/REALM [link to images]- Ohio State University Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture

Isamu Noguchi's Playful Designs Dot The California Landscape: Most of Isamu Noguchi's playscapes remained undeveloped in his lifetime. But today, major public spaces are taking their cue from the iconic designer: ...his decades-long career defied classification...his parks and playscapes are meant to be touched, and are designed for inventive interaction. -- Richard Dattner; M. Paul Friedberg; Egon Möller-Nielsen; Fletcher Studio; James Corner Field Operations [images]- KCET.org (California)

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## Today's News - Wednesday, November 29, 2017

- [Volner at](#) his best describing his "mind-warping" visit to Trump's border wall prototypes: "nothing can quite measure up to the experience of seeing them for oneself. As no other architectural initiative before it, the prototype exhibition bodies forth an imminence of absolute doom" (with a "touch of evil" thrown in - your must-read of the day!).
- [Hosey has](#) issues with "what critics of contemporary architecture [like D'Aprile, Rennix & Robinson] are missing" by assuming "architecture and capitalism don't mix - it's that architects fail to grasp the relationships between those things. It's at once aesthetic, cultural and economic."
- [Day parses](#) adjusting to life in Jakarta, with its towers "that look like leftovers from other hyper-expansive cities" washed up "like gargantuan discarded water bottles - one finds as much sunshine as noir, perhaps the truest realization of a post-colonial cosmopolis."
- [Shaw ruminates](#) on the just-ended first biannual "Exhibit Columbus" that "could be read as another 'biennial,' or 'Design Week,' but proved to be something different. It is positioned to be a unique voice among many voices in the cultural events sector."
- [Brady tackles](#) the "promise and the pitfalls" of online architectural education: it "will eliminate many self-defeating aspects of today's studio culture," but could also "acquire its own bad habits. Architectural educators should take it upon themselves to drive this change, lest it drive them instead."
- [Johnson's](#) AT&T Building took its "first formal step" in the landmarking process - "a promising sign."
- [Chakrabarti's](#) PAU gets a green light from the NYC Landmarks Commission for the Domino Sugar Refinery redesign: it "won the praise of the commissioners" (except one, still not convinced: "I can't bring myself to approve destroying a building to essentially save it").
- [Hume hails](#) Toronto's King Street streetcar pilot project (even if too short): "For the first time in living memory, the city has taken a step that prioritizes public transit over the private vehicle. It offers a glimpse of a different, smarter, more humane city."
- [Chandigarh's](#) architect department, on the other hand, is falling short: "In a city that is known for its architecture and planning excellence around the globe, the department has failed to save it from going astray from the path set by Le Corbusier."
- [Then there's](#) Chandigarh's "affordable housing conundrum": "The style pioneered during initial years of the city's development still holds valuable lessons for achieving the goal of housing for all," but they "have largely been overlooked by planners."
- [Meanwhile](#) in Mumbai, Anupama Kundoo is determined to make a difference for some of the millions of slum-dwellers in India with her low-cost, sustainable, DIY Full Fill Home.
- [The 14-member](#) non-profit Architects for Society, made up of architects from eight countries, has designed the 500-square-foot "Hex House" - a "rapidly deployable and easy-to-build dwelling for refugees and others in desperate need of shelter."
- [Budds ponders](#) Leo A Daly's Intelligence Community Campus in Bethesda, Maryland, and the "new paradigm for intelligence architecture" that "allowed this governmental architecture to shed its militaristic shell and take on

the guise of a nice office building," but it is also "a wolf in sheep's clothing - just because it doesn't look like a bunker doesn't mean we should let our guard down."

- [For Tabanlioglu Architects](#), "preservation and restoration were top priorities" in modernizing the Ataturk Cultural Center in Istanbul.
- [Shipping](#) containers are the material of choice for a new 2022 World Cup stadium in Doha, Qatar, "allowing it to be quickly assembled, disassembled and then reassembled in a new location" (and oh so green!).
- ["Mass](#) timber is having its Maison Dom-Ino moment": AN's Timber issue has something for everyone.

#### Head-turners for page-turners:

- [Saffron](#) cheers the "transformation" of four Free Libraries that "marks the beginning of a sea change for Philadelphia, from the library as a storehouse of books to the library as a community gathering place - the early numbers are encouraging."
- [P+W's very](#) colorful Albion Library in Toronto's Rexdale neighborhood of "predominantly immigrants, minorities, and low-income residents" includes "community areas for new Canadians" and "a wide range of services that go beyond traditional book lending."
- [MVRDV's](#) futuristic Tianjin Binhai Library: "more fiction than books - if you read between the lines you'll find something is missing" (like books - another quirk: irregular stairs "have proven hazardous for selfie-snappers").



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Ian Volner: Prototypes of Trump's border wall offer chilling lesson in the power of architecture: ...the most powerful government on earth is currently staging the most extraordinary architecture exhibition in human history...nothing can quite measure up to the experience of seeing them for oneself...a mind-warping, possibly unprecedented instance of architectural representation collapsing instantaneously into messy reality...As no other architectural initiative before it, the prototype exhibition bodies forth an imminence of absolute doom... [images]- Curbed

Lance Hosey: What Critics of Contemporary Architecture Are Missing: The Value of Design: If there is a "crisis" in contemporary architecture...it is not merely that too many buildings are "ugly" or that architecture and capitalism don't mix - it's that architects fail to grasp the relationships between those things...Fully unpacking the social, economic, and environmental value of aesthetics could revolutionize our profession, if we're willing to rethink the purpose and practice of design. -- Marianela D'Aprile; Brianna Rennix; Nathan J. Robinson- Common Edge

Joe Day: Spires and Gyres: Contemporary architecture in Jakarta can be charted in the utopian terms of the Five Pancasila, the founding principles of modern Indonesia: Tower designs that look like leftovers from other hyper-expansive cities seem to wash up here...like gargantuan discarded water bottles. In its glaring Global South disparities...one finds as much sunshine as noir...perhaps the truest realization of a post-colonial cosmopolis. -- Deegan-Day Design [images]- Places Journal

Matt Shaw: Athens of the Prairie: Columbus, Indiana ... Don't call it a comeback: ...the first biannual "Exhibit Columbus" proved to be something different...continuing and re-aestheticizing the design culture of the place by connecting the residents...This might prove to be the best lesson...How to



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engage with the heritage of a place while pushing forward cutting-edge design...has much to offer as a living, urban laboratory...It is positioned to be a unique voice among many voices in the cultural events sector. [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Ross Brady: Is Online Learning Really the Future of Architectural Education? The promise and the pitfalls of this inevitable shift: ...will eliminate many self-defeating aspects of today's studio culture, but there's also potential pitfalls that need to be addressed, before an online version of that culture acquires its own bad habits...now is the time to shape the social dynamics of tomorrow's architecture schools in a way that could make the whole profession stronger. Architectural educators should take it upon themselves to drive this change, lest it drive them instead.- Common Edge

PoMo's Golden Boy: Philip Johnson's AT&T Building clears first hurdle in landmarking process: ...first formal step in the designation process, is a promising sign...landmarking initiative was given a jumpstart this month after Snøhetta unveiled plans...reaction was swift, with architects and critics from around the world weighing in both for and against the redevelopment...If landmarked, [550 Madison Avenue], completed in 1984, would beat out the former Citicorp Building at 601 Lexington Avenue to become the youngest landmarked building in the city.- The Architect's Newspaper

Domino Sugar Refinery redesign approved by Landmarks Commission: Vishan Chakrabarti's PAU will bring its glass barrel vault concept to the historic refinery building: The second time's a charm for Practice for Architecture and Urbanism...won the praise of the commissioners, who by midway through the presentation seemed all but won over by the proposal. [images]- Curbed New York

Christopher Hume: King streetcar pilot represents a monumental shift for Toronto: For the first time in living memory, the city has taken a step that prioritizes public transit over the private vehicle: ...in a city that never lets reason get in the way of transit planning, these tweaks matter enormously...represents a huge change, a paradigm shift...a reminder of what transit could be. It offers a

glimpse of a different, smarter, more humane city..- Toronto Star

Chandigarh's architect department has little say over city's architecture: After the UT administration decided to construct an underpass connecting Rose Garden with Sector 17 to facilitate pedestrian movement...it is learnt the UT architect department raised an objection: In a city that is known for its architecture and planning excellence around the globe, the department has failed to save it from going astray from the path set by Le Corbusier.- Hindustan Times (India)

An answer to affordable housing conundrum in Chandigarh: The style pioneered during initial years of Chandigarh's development still holds valuable lessons for achieving goal of housing for all: Brick jallis, standardised facades, row housing with common walls...among common architectural elements that are not only aesthetically admirable, but also tell a story of how low cost mass housing was achieved...Lessons from Chandigarh...have largely been overlooked by planners. -- Pierre Jeanneret; Jane B Drew; Maxwell Fry; Le Corbusier; Sangeet Sharma/SD Sharma & Associates [images]- Hindustan Times (India)

Liza Foreman: Could DIY homes transform India? Could self-build, modular homes be a solution for some of the millions of slum-dwellers in India? ...meet the architect who is determined to make a difference: Anupama Kundoo grew up in Mumbai, close to one of the ubiquitous makeshift slums that house an estimated 65 million people...prompted her to develop the Full Fill Home, possibly the first designer home for some of India's most underprivileged citizens...to cost around £4,000 (\$5,277) each, her low-cost, sustainable houses [are] DIY, modular and affordable. [images]- BBC Designed

Architects create a tiny house for a big problem: Architects for Society has an unusual design concept for emergency housing: a small hexagon-shaped, rapidly deployable and easy-to-build dwelling for refugees and others in desperate need of shelter...The 14-member nonprofit, made up of architects from eight countries, is bringing that vision to life in the form of its 500-square-foot "Hex House"...low-cost, mobile, and easy to put up for people who aren't professional builders. -- Amro Sallam; Altaf Engineer [images]- Finance & Commerce (Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota)

Diana Budds: The Architecture Of 21st-Century Intelligence: The modern intelligence agency hides in plain sight: ...ICC/Intelligence Community Campus...it's as familiar as it is novel...a new paradigm for intelligence architecture...allowed this governmental architecture to shed its militaristic shell...The campus's "niceness" is certainly a boon for employees' quality of life...However, the project is also a wolf in sheep's clothing...The architecture of intelligence is evolving, but just because it doesn't look like a bunker doesn't mean we should let our guard down. -- Leo A Daly [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

The Ataturk Cultural Center: The New Cultural Icon For Istanbul: Murat Tabanlioglu is modernizing the cultural center his father, Dr. Hayati Tabanlioglu, once designed in the 1960s, and again in the 1970s after his first design burnt down...Preservation and restoration were top priorities...will be a bridge between generations and cultures...intends to unite the urban fabric and Turkish people. - Tabanlioglu Architects [images]- ArchDaily

A Modular, Demountable Stadium Built From Shipping Containers Will Be Erected for Qatar 2022 World Cup: ...allowing it to be quickly assembled, disassembled and then reassembled in a new location...modular design will require fewer materials, create less waste and reduce the overall carbon footprint...aiming to achieve a four-star Global Sustainability Assessment System (GSAS) certification. -- Fenwick Iribarren Architects (FI-A) [images]- ArchDaily

Timber Issue: Mass timber is having its Maison Dom-Ino moment: The lumber industry looks to respond to the rise of mass timber; Is mass timber really sustainable?; Cross-laminated timber (CLT) could lead a mid-rise revolution; How mass timber could transform our cities (really); Congress gears up for a fight over mass timber legislation; Arbora housing complex in Montreal points to the future of timber construction [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Inga Saffron: Renovated Free Library branches aim to get more people in the door: The transformation marks the beginning of a sea change for Philadelphia, from the library as a storehouse of books to the library as a community gathering place...Can brighter rooms and cafe counters really attract people who perceive libraries as musty throwbacks, while keeping those who still like to physically scour the stacks for information? ...the early numbers are encouraging. -- James R. Keller [images]- Philadelphia Inquirer

Colourful strips surround Toronto's Albion Library by Perkins+Will: ...features community areas for new Canadians...located in the Rexdale neighbourhood...where the population is predominantly immigrants, minorities, and low-income residents...."houses a wide range of services that go beyond traditional book lending to include cultural orientation, social integration, employment skills, and access to technology and knowledge" [images]- Dezeen

China's futuristic library: More fiction than books: Tianjin Binhai Library has wowed book lovers around the world...but if you read between the lines you'll find something is missing...rows of book spines are mostly images printed on the aluminium plates...original concept was for the upper bookshelves to be accessible...but a fast-tracked construction schedule forced them to drop the idea...decision was made "locally and against the MVRDV's wishes"...library's deputy director, blamed the design for putting them in a bind...There's another quirk: The irregular white stairs have proven hazardous for selfie-snappers. [images]- AFP / Agence France-Presse:

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## Today's News - Thursday, November 30, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days - we'll be back Tuesday, December 5 (December already??!?).

- [ANN feature](#): "rise in the city" Update #2: Online Benefit Auction Continues! Just in time for the holidays, a cornucopia of creativity - there's something for everyone (including that difficult-to-shop-for friend, colleague, and relative - or yourself!).
- [Morris Dixon](#) remembers Albert C. Ledner: "In the unfolding of any design movement, there are outliers who are seen as too far from the mainstream, too quirky to be celebrated by peers and historians. He was one of those."
- [Aslet minces](#) no words ripping RIBA, its 2017 House of the Year, and member architects who "would prefer to design a one-off bespoke project rather than dirty their hands with the less glamorous business of providing homes for ordinary people."
- [On that](#) cheery (not!) note, we thought you'd like to see the House of the Year (will it really "influence UK housing for many years to come"?") - and the runners-ups - you decide.
- [Betsky ponders](#) when the architecture industry will be "Weinsteined - will it alter how we see the perpetrators' work?" ("Too many male architects see the world as a supine figure waiting for their brilliant erection to bring it to life" - edifice complex, perhaps?).
- [An all-male](#) taskforce, made up of some of Australia's most prominent architects, is tackling gender inequity in Australian architecture, and just released its first report: "Architecture was among the most unequal professions in this country."
- [A bushel](#) of big-name architects send a letter to the Architectural Association warning that its "planned redundancy drive could prove fatal to the institution" (AA's interim director says otherwise).
- [Meanwhile](#), AA President Porter sends a letter to the AJ, saying its coverage is "clearly unfounded" and "unworthy of the AJ."
- [Eyefuls](#) of SHoP and SCAPE's three-story skybridge, 300 feet in the air, connecting the two American Copper Buildings - a 75-foot-long lap pool, juice bar, and climbing wall included (what - no doggie park?).
- [Bose walks](#) us through Rogers' freshly made-over 1960s Wimbledon House, now a research and event space for Harvard GSD, "defined by a conscious sense of its own transparency - a characteristic that was and still is unusual" (photos by Baan).
- [The air](#) traffic control tower, "all that remains of the long-gone Stapleton International Airport in Denver, has been transformed into an 'eatertainment' venue by OZ Architecture: "elements hark back to the golden age of jet setting in the 1920s and '30s."

### Weekend diversions:

- [Hawthorne](#) plans an L.A. architecture tour for his mother-in-law's 80th birthday, choosing "one piece of

architecture from each decade that she has been alive."

• [Ray cheers](#) Furman's "vibrant ceramics" of Rome's architectural wonders in "Roman Singularity" at London's Sir John Soane's Museum: he "seems to celebrate his source material with absolute sincerity, albeit with humor - a refreshing antidote to the aloofness that creates space for dark political agendas to thrive" (closes December 10).

• [As you consider](#) "The Landscape Architecture Legacy of Dan Kiley" at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, here a "9 things you might not know about Kiley's enduring Milwaukee legacies."

#### Page-turners:

• [Wainwright](#) takes us on a wonderful romp through "cheeky, cartoonish" PoMo, "the mischievous movement that made its name from injecting youthful wit and fun into architecture is finally coming of age" - cheers to "Postmodern Buildings in Britain" by Harwood and Franklin, and "Revisiting Postmodernism" by Farrell and Furman.

• [Tucker says](#) that, with Harwood and Franklin's "Post-Modern Buildings in Britain," PoMo "might finally be overcoming its reputation, and finding new relevance."

• [Bernheimer](#) explains "how architecture shapes our cities - and our lives" in "The Shaping of Us: How Everyday Spaces Structure our Lives, Behavior, and Well-being."

• [Kamin rounds](#) up new architecture books "with Chicago ties that are food for the eye and mind."

• [King's picks](#) for his 2017 holiday books gift guide.

• [Lange wonders](#) "why vintage design books are now so radical - and radically expensive."

• [A new box](#) set of three playfully designed architectural walking guides to the rich architectural history of Sydney, "from convict architects to radical modernists."



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ANN feature: "rise in the city" UPDATE #2: Online Benefit Auction Continues! Just in time for the holidays (and only until December 15!), a cornucopia of creativity - there's something for everyone (including that difficult-to-shop-for friend, colleague, and relative - or yourself!). [images] - ArchNewsNow.com

John Morris Dixon: Remembering Albert C. Ledner, pioneering New Orleans modernist: In the unfolding of any design movement, there are outliers who are seen as too far from the mainstream, too quirky to be celebrated by peers and historians...Ledner was one of those. But he recently had the good fortune of winning widespread admiration in the months before his death...[his] relatively unfettered design approach led him to construct spaces of unconventional configuration and detail. [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Clive Aslet: It's time architects designed homes people really want: The Riba...has given its house of the year award to a place where no sane person would think of living...Caring Wood...Part of the problem is that [RIBA]...is still in the grip of Modernists, who are deaf to public opinion. Their obsession with peddling their own aesthetic agenda...has been disastrous...members would prefer to design a one-off bespoke project...rather than dirty their hands with the less glamorous business of providing homes for ordinary people. -- James Macdonald Wright/Macdonald Wright Architects; Niall Maxwell/Rural Office for Architecture; Create Streets - The Times (UK)



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"Built for multiple generations": 2017 RIBA House of the Year winner: Caring Wood in Kent - a collaborative project by James Macdonald Wright and Niall Maxwell...1,500m<sup>2</sup> country home...inspired by traditional oast houses in the south-eastern county, and features a sculpted roof [and] carbon-neutral building..."I've no doubt many of the ideas displayed...will influence UK housing for many years to come." -- Macdonald Wright Architects; Rural Office for Architecture; Coffey Architects; Tonkin Liu; Birds Portchmouth Russum; MawsonKerr Architects; Ann Nisbet Studio; Ström Architects [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Aaron Betsky: Waiting to Be Weinsteined: When Will Accusations of Sexual Harassment Arise in Architecture? Betsky re-examines one of his architectural heroes [Louis Kahn] and wonders when the industry's comeuppance will arrive: How soon until some women start coming forward to describe what they had to go through as they were making their careers in architecture? And when that happens, will it alter how we see the perpetrators' work? Too many male architects see the world as a supine figure waiting for their brilliant erection to bring it to life.- Architect Magazine

"Architecture was among the most unequal professions in this country," Institute report reveals: An all-male taskforce tackling gender inequity in Australian architecture has released its first progress report: ..."Male Champions of Change," composed of the senior architects from some of Australia's most prominent architecture practices...conducted a series of "listening and learning" workshops... -- Parlour: Women, Equity, Architecture [link to report]- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Exclusive: Rogers and Koolhaas warn AA cost-cutting could prove fatal: Leading architects including Rem Koolhaas, Richard Rogers, Phyllis Lambert, Toyo Ito and Kengo Kuma have signed a letter saying the Architectural Association's planned redundancy drive could prove fatal to the institution: AA's interim director Samantha Hardingham...insisted that the AA Files and other parts of the AA perceived to be under threat would be retained. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

AA president responds to AJ news coverage: David Porter, president of the Architectural Association: The implication...that while there is no permanent director in place, Council...has taken the opportunity to engage in a bit of 'mindless cultural vandalism', to close the AA Files and axe the publications and exhibitions departments. These remarks are not true, clearly unfounded, and are unworthy of the AJ. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

A First Look Inside New York City's First Skybridge in 80 Years: AD tours the three-story amenities skybridge at the new residential American Copper Buildings by SHoP Architects and SCAPE Landscape Architecture: Suspended 300 feet in the air, the three-story connector...houses a full suite of amenities, from fitness to children's play, as well as unites mechanical systems across the east and west residential towers.- Architectural Digest

Shumi Bose: Richard Rogers' Wimbledon House Gets a New Lease on Life: 22 Parkside, the experimental London home [he] designed for his parents in the late 1960s, has been converted to a research and event space...for the Harvard University Graduate School of Design (GSD)...[it] is emblematic of the currents in material innovation and production then sweeping architecture...defined by a conscious sense of its own transparency - a characteristic that...was and still is unusual. -- Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners (RSHP); Gumuchdjian Architects; Todd Longstaffe-Gowan [images by Iwan Baan]- Metropolis Magazine

Denver airport tower converted to restaurant: ...a neglected air traffic control tower...all that remains of the long-gone Stapleton International airport, has been transformed into an "eatertainment" venue for...Punch Bowl Social....combines diner-style food, bowling, karaoke and stunning views of Denver below...elements hark back to the golden age of jet setting in the 1920s and '30s. -- OZ Architecture [images]- CNN Travel

Christopher Hawthorne: I told my mother-in-law I'd plan an L.A. architecture tour for her 80th birthday. But what buildings to choose? My own backyard. No excuses for any uninspired choices...I decided to choose one piece of architecture from each decade that [she] has been alive... -- John C. Austin/F.M. Ashley (1935); Charles and Ray Eames (1949); Paul R. Williams (1952); Millard Sheets (1961 - redesigned by wHY, 2017); Cesar Pelli/Victor Gruen Associates (1975); Eric Owen Moss (1986-present); Frank O. Gehry (1978/1991); Thom Mayne/Morphosis Architects (2004); Barbara Bestor/Bestor Architecture, Echo Park (2015) [images]- Los Angeles Times

Debika Ray: Adam Nathaniel Furman Condenses Rome's Architectural Wonders into Vibrant Ceramics: The designs are being hosted at the Sir John Soane's Museum: The "Roman Singularity"...Furman seems to celebrate his source material with absolute sincerity, albeit with humor...a more intuitive, inclusive, experiential, and enjoyable architecture is a refreshing antidote to the aloofness that creates space for dark political agendas to thrive...[show] acknowledges that culture has always changed, evolved, and absorbed new influences, and will continue to do so, inviting you to fearlessly look history in the eye; thru December 10 [images]- Metropolis Magazine

9 Things You Might Not Know About Landscape Architect Dan Kiley's Enduring Milwaukee Legacies: ...one of the most prolific and influential landscape architects of the 20th century...Kiley's public spaces continue to resonate, even as societal trends and the landscape architecture profession evolves. Here's why. "The Landscape Architecture Legacy of Dan Kiley," University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, thru January 12, 2018 -- The Cultural Landscape Foundation/TCLF- Milwaukee Magazine

Oliver Wainwright: Cheeky, cartoonish ... and under threat: why our postmodern buildings must be saved: PoMo architecture, often derided as gaudy and

excessive, is having a revival - just in time to save some of its greatest treasures: ...the mischievous movement that made its name from injecting youthful wit and fun into architecture is finally coming of age. "Postmodern Buildings in Britain" by Elain Harwood and Geraint Franklin; "Revisiting Postmodernism" by Terry Farrell and Adam Nathaniel Furman- [Guardian \(UK\)](#)

Emma Tucker: Rebel architecture: in praise of Britain's Postmodern oddities: Is it time to reassess the maligned movement? For decades it's divided public opinion, but with many PoMo buildings at risk of demolition, the architectural style might finally be overcoming its reputation, and finding new relevance..."Post-Modern Buildings in Britain," by Geraint Franklin and Elain Harwood, is re-assessing PoMo's merits, tracing its history and celebrating some of its best examples. [\[images\]](#)- [The Spaces \(UK\)](#)

Lily Bernheimer: How architecture shapes our cities - and our lives: Communities which design their own buildings are more likely to be happy and healthy: ...you need to give people the tools to co-create their own homes, streets and workspaces...[they] feel a greater sense of agency, community and pride - a quality known as "collective efficacy". And when communities have high rates of collective efficacy, they also tend to have less litter, vandalism and violent crime. "The Shaping of Us: How Everyday Spaces Structure our Lives, Behaviour, and Well-being"- [Guardian \(UK\)](#)

Blair Kamin: New architecture books with Chicago ties are food for the eye and mind: "How to Build a Skyscraper" by John Hill; "Krueck + Sexton: From There to Here," introduction by John Morris Dixon; "John Vinci: Life and Landmarks" by Robert Sharoff, new photography by William Zbaren- [Chicago Tribune](#)

John King: 2017 holiday books gift guide: "Architecture Matters" by Aaron Betsky; "Black: Architecture in Monochrome"; "Design for Good: A New Era of Architecture for Everyone" by John Cary; "Motel California: A Pictorial History of the Motel in the Golden State" by Heather M. David; "100 Buildings: 1900-2000" by the Now Institute; "The Strip: Las Vegas and the Architecture of the American Dream" by Stefan Al; "What Is a Museum Now? Snøhetta and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art"; "What's So Great About the Eiffel Tower? 70 Questions That Will Change the Way You Think About Architecture" by Jonathan Glancey- [San Francisco Chronicle](#)

Alexandra Lange: Judging a book by its cover: Why vintage design books are now so radical - and radically expensive: When you buy an old book you buy not just the content but the total package: the cover facade, the furniture layout, and the conversations to be had...- [Curbed](#)

From convict architects to radical modernists: Footpath Guides' architectural history of Sydney: ...a new box set of architectural walking guides reveals a city with a rich history and a diverse built environment...comprises three playfully designed books: "Sydney The Rocks," "Sydney Inter-War," and "Sydney Modern" by Jacques Sheard...highlights the importance of protecting architectural heritage. [\[images\]](#)- [ArchitectureAU \(Australia\)](#)

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