

Today's News - Wednesday, December 6, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Apologies for not posting yesterday - the internet gods had other ideas (maybe they like making editors cry).

- [Stern pens](#) a most heartfelt tribute to Vincent Scully, who "taught generations of students to see the world through the lens of human tradition and experience," but he was "more than a teacher. Never harsh in his judgments, but not mealy-mouthed either."
- [Flamer is](#) just as heartfelt re: Scully: "Groundbreakings are common in architecture. Groundbreakers are rare." He "taught with such passion, it rose to Yale drama school-level performance art."
- [Budds parses](#) a new study that explores ways to tackle climate change in the age of Trump: "Fix housing."
- [It seems](#) tackling climate change is up to us since the Gang of Trump has disbanded "one of the last federal bodies that openly talked about climate change in public."
- [Filarski](#) offers one way: he's part of a group of Rhode Island architects training for rapid response to disasters.
- [The New](#) London Plan has architects seeing the "beginning of a renaissance" with its "new emphasis on design review and analysis" + RIBA responds.
- [Moore has](#) more to say re: the New London Plan that might give the suburbs "a starring role" - making them "denser could make them better. It depends completely on how it's done."
- [Doig parses](#) Vancouver's new "doozy" of a housing plan "(trigger warning, NIMBYs)."
- [Framlab](#) has a doozy of an idea to house the homeless: create "vertical land" by building clusters of honeycomb-like pods on the blank sides of buildings.
- [Brussat](#) cheers Sussman and Ward's "thrilling new report on how biometric technologies assess human taste in architecture. Most people have a more sophisticated ability to judge architecture than the experts."
- [Armstrong](#) calls for opening "our sealed-off lives to semi-permeable architecture" by using organic construction materials (mycelium, microalgae, and bioreactors included).
- [Budds delves](#) into LMN's "collaboration" with algorithms that "played an essential, irreplaceable role" in creating in the University of Iowa's new Voxman School of Music - "move over starchitects, algorithmic architecture is officially mainstream."
- [CLT takes](#) center stage in a design collaboration that brings "America's first large-scale, mass timber interactive learning project" to the University of Arkansas with a "cabin the woods" concept for new residence halls.
- [2018 outlook](#): "Economists point to slowdown, AEC professionals say 'no way.'"

[Let there be culture!](#)

- [Hall Kaplan](#) continues to mince no words about what he thinks of Zumthor's LACMA "design disaster": if the "willful ways of civil serpents" are allowed, it will be "a landmark to be mocked for the ages, a bad L.A. joke" (public comment open until December 15).
- [Betsky sees](#) Beijing's 798 Factory as "one of the greatest accidental public spaces to emerge since the turn of the millennium. Why don't we have this in our country?"
- [Alter cheers](#) Zeitz MOCAA, Heatherwick's "totally tubular, totally mind-blowing repurposing of grain silos" in Capetown that "demonstrates how they be tuned into architectural wonders. I have often had trouble with his work, but after this, all is forgiven."
- [ICA Miami's](#) new home by Aranguren + Gallegos Arquitectos "has all the right angles - a building where contemporary art meets modern architecture."

Winners all!

- [Calgary's](#) 2017 Mayor's Urban Design Awards honor "urban fragments, housing innovation, and civic design" (and pop-ups!).
- [Eyefuls](#) of the winners of The Architect's Newspaper's 2017 AN Best of Design Awards in "a whopping 42 categories."
- [The Amber](#) Road Trekking Cabin competition for a rest cabin along the Latvian Baltic coast picks winners.
- [Winners](#) of the Pape Bird Observation Tower competition have "the capacity to become an important architectural landmark and observational tool" for a Latvian nature park.
- [Stand-out](#) students win the 2017 Fentress Global Challenge to envision an airport of the future.
- [The Royal](#) Society of Arts' RSA Royal Designers for Industry 2017 revealed.



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[Robert A.M. Stern: How Vincent Scully Changed Architecture: The Yale scholar taught generations of students to see the world through the lens of human tradition and experience: But \[he\] was more than a teacher...\[He\] made the battle for the soul of modern architecture seem like a conversation among reasonable people...encouraged many young architects to become preservation activists...Never harsh in his judgments, but not mealy-mouthed either... - New York Times](#)

[Obituary by Keith Flamer: Yale Architecture Icon Vincent Scully, 97: Groundbreakings are common in architecture. Groundbreakers are rare...taught 60-plus years at Yale and is revered as the most "influential architecture teacher ever," as once described by Philip Johnson....\[he\] taught...with such passion, it rose to Yale drama school-level performance art...explored architecture's human effect on culture, as a force behind New Urbanism...also a champion of the historic preservation movement... - Forbes](#)

[Diana Budds: To Tackle Climate Change In The Trump Era, Fix Housing: A new study suggests that changing how and where we build housing could reduce carbon emissions: a new study from the University of Pennsylvania and MIT suggests three strategies focused on our homes and cities to make up for all the laws Trump is cutting: change urban development patterns, make housing more energy efficient, and make cars more environmentally friendly. - Fast Company / Co.Design](#)

[U.S. Disbands Group That Prepared Cities for Climate Shocks: Community](#)



Resilience Panel for Buildings and Infrastructure Systems..."was one of the last federal bodies that openly talked about climate change in public"...the latest in a series of federal climate-related bodies to be altered or terminated since President Donald Trump took office...[He] has called climate change a "hoax"..."This was the federal government's primary external engagement for resilience in the built environment" - Bloomberg News

Kenneth J. Filarski: Preparing for devastation: The value of disaster scenario exercises: Thanks to a training exercise called Vigilant Guard, a group of Rhode Island architects is ready for rapid response: ...found out firsthand that a training exercise is the best way to prepare...we encourage the disaster response community to keep an eye out for disaster scenario exercises taking place in your own community or state - and participate in them. -- FILARSKI/Architecture+Planning+Research; Rhode Island Architects and Engineers Emergency Response Task Force 7 (RI AEER TF-7) - AIArchitect / American Institute of Architects

Architects hail London Plan as 'beginning of a renaissance': Emphasis on retaining architects and design review applauded: The new emphasis on design review and analysis...shows the mayor has embraced the ambition of improving design quality...the problem with the current plan was not that its policies were wrong but that they were hard to enforce. + RIBA's response. -- Russell Curtis/RCKa; Phil Coffey/Coffey Architects; Barbara Weiss/Skyline Campaign; Charlie Whitaker/3DReid; Alireza Sagharchi/Stanhope Gate Architecture; Ian Blake/Morse Webb Architects; Julie Hirigoyen/UK Green Building Council (UKGBC); Ben Derbyshire - BD/Building Design (UK)

Rowan Moore: Finally, the suburbs might have a starring role: The mayor of London's plan to solve the housing crisis could benefit everyone: Suburbia...is the most pervasive urban invention of modern times...new London Plan...will guide the planning decisions of the city's boroughs...hopes to encourage smaller-scale developers and lower-cost housing...this might mean building on gardens or building at four storeys instead of two...making suburbs denser could make them better...It depends completely on how it's done... - Observer (UK)

Will Doig: Vancouver's "Radical" Housing Plan Makes Waves: As policy initiatives go, it's a doozy: There are 248 pages of provocative proposals...involves densifying areas that are currently stocked with single-family homes, restricting property ownership by nonpermanent residents and

creating zones of rental-only housing...The 10-year strategy calls for (trigger warning, NIMBYs) the “transformation of low-density neighborhoods.” - Next City (formerly Next American City)

'Homed' project could house New York's homeless in clustered, honeycomb-like pods: ...a new project aims to capitalise on the city's surplus of "vertical land," by building clusters of...3D printed hexagonal housing modules, to be built on the side of existing buildings using a scaffolding framework...clusters can also be disassembled and relocated...Nobody's using this wall, why not make it into a home? -- Andreas Tjeldflaat/Framlab [images]- Mashable

David Brussat: Our eyes poke back at mods: A thrilling new report on how biometric technologies assess human taste in architecture...by architect and researcher Ann Sussman [and] Janice M. Ward...Most people have a more sophisticated ability to judge architecture than the experts. This is why adults feel a greater comfort and joy in traditional rather than modernist architecture...architects often argue that people just don't “understand” why modern architecture is superior to traditional architecture. They simply need to be re-educated. Well, good luck with that!- Architecture Here and There

Rachel Armstrong: Let's open our sealed-off lives to semi-permeable architecture: How might our lives improve if we allow buildings to interact more with the surrounding environment? ...engineers have developed organic construction materials that have various degrees of permeability...The real impact of living architecture will be to introduce a new palette of structural and functional systems that change how we think about sustainability and resource management within the built environment. -- David Benjamin/The Living- Aeon Magazine (UK)

Diana Budds: This Building Is A Collaboration Between Architects And Algorithms: While algorithms have been used by architects to create mind-boggling facades...the application of generative design to acoustics is a compelling example of how algorithms can help produce more functional (and often less expensive) architecture...[They] played an essential, irreplaceable role in both the design and construction of the University of Iowa's new Voxman School of Music...Move over starchitects, algorithmic architecture is officially mainstream. -- Stephen Van Dyck/LMN Architects; Neumann Monson Architects [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

Design collaboration brings mass timber residence halls to the University of Arkansas: ...America's first large-scale, mass timber interactive learning project...Working off of a “cabin the woods” concept, 708-bed Stadium Drive Residence Halls...are a pair of snaking buildings joined in a central plaza... -- Leers Weinzapfel Associates; Modus Studio; Mackey Mitchell Architects; OLIN [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

2018 outlook: Economists point to slowdown, AEC professionals say ‘no way’: Multifamily housing and senior living developments head the list of the hottest sectors heading into 2018, according a survey of 356 AEC professionals: ...if the early prognostications are any indication, 2018 is shaping up to be a little less rosy for the nonresidential and multifamily construction markets. - Building Design + Construction (BD+C)

Sam Hall Kaplan: LACMA Design Disaster Stirs an "Outrage": The present LACMA might be fractured and flawed...But it can and does work for viewing art, which, really, is what a museum is about...This protracted public problem also most likely will be after the glad-handing perpetrators of this colossal boondoggle are gone on to new hustles and fraudulent fame...if allowed to be built, [it] is going to be a social, environmental and architectural disaster, a landmark to be mocked for the ages, a bad L.A. joke...The public has until December 15 to comment... -- Peter Zumthor - City Observed

Aaron Betsky: Art is Making a City Work in China, so Why Can't it do so in the United States? 798 Factory in Beijing is one of the greatest accidental public spaces to emerge since the turn of the millennium...Why don't we have this in our country? ...has already been widely copied in Chinese cities...a series of workshops crammed together around remaining gas tanks and leftover equipment...places where production has become art...798 Factory is as good a model as I know. - Architect Magazine

Lloyd Alter: Thomas Heatherwick does totally tubular, totally mind-blowing repurposing of grain silos: ...in Capetown, South Africa, [he] has not just raised the bar for silo conversions, he has changed it forever...Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa, or Zeitz MOCAA..."the world's tubiest building"...So many cities have silos, and many are under threat. The wonder of this project is that it demonstrates how they [be] tuned into architectural wonders...I have often had trouble with Heatherwick's work, but after this, all is forgiven. -- HeatherwickStudio [images] - TreeHugger

ICA Miami's new home has all the right angles: Institute of Contemporary Art Miami...just unveiled its new home...in the heart of the Miami Design District...The light and airy building is a constellation of metal triangles and glass panels...a building where contemporary art meets modern architecture. -- Aranguren + Gallegos Arquitectos [images by Iwan Baan] - Wallpaper*

Calgary's urban fragments, housing innovation and civic design winners revealed: Music halls, public plazas, pedestrian pathways and retail pop-ups among 2017 Mayor's Urban Design Awards. -- the marc boutin architectural collaborative; Nyhoff Architecture; Arriola & Fiol Arquitectes; PFS Studio; Scatcliff + Miller + Murray; 5468796 Architecture; Marshall Tittmore Architects; MacLennan Jaunkalns Miller Architects; Snøhetta; DIALOG Design; Hindle Architects; Allied Works Architecture; Kasian Architecture [images] - CBC news (Canada)

Here are the winners of the 2017 AN Best of Design Awards: ...a whopping 42 categories. -- Studio Gang; Weiss/Manfredi; Carrier Johnson + CULTURE; Bruner/Cott Architects; Steven Holl Architects; Ennead Architects; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; ichael Graves Architecture & Design; Lewis.Tsurumaki.Lewis Architects; Oza / Sabbeth Architecture; SO-IL/Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; Marpillero Pollak Architects; Undisclosable; LEVER Architecture; The Living; BNIM; Bates Masi + Architects; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); REX; mcdowellespinosa architects; MARC FORNES / THEVERYMANY - The Architect's Newspaper

Winners announced: Amber Road Trekking Cabin competition for a rest cabin along the Latvian Baltic coast. -- Scott Grbavac/Andreea Cutieru;/Santiago

[Carlos Peña Fiorda \(Denmark\); Lukasz Palczynski/Jan Szeliga/Antoni Prokop \(Poland\); Lukasz Palczynski/Jan Szeliga/Antoni Prokop \(Poland\); Robert Brown/Carly Martin/Jincheng Jiang \(Australia\); Roman Leonidov/Pavel Sorokovov/Fiantseva Svetlana \(Russia\) \[images\]](#)- Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert)

Winners announced: Pape Bird Observation Tower competition: Each has the capacity to become an important architectural landmark and observational tool for the Pape Nature Park, Latvia: -- [Berta Risueño Muzás/Manuel Pareja Abascal \(Spain\); Jeffrey Clancy \(U.S.\); Simon Barret/Hugo Ramos-Guerrero/Tom Mestiri/Chloé Meyer \(France\); Reza Aliabadi/Arman Ghafouri - Azar \(Canada\) \[images\]](#)- Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert) / Pasuales Dabas Fonds / World Wide Fund for Nature

2017 Fentress Global Challenge winners: ...competition challenged students to envision an airport in the year 2075. -- [Thomas Smith \(UK\)/University College London; John Cyril Isaac \(Philippines\)/University of Santo Tomas; Jia Hua Yapp \(Malaysia\)/Welsh School of Architecture, Cardiff University; Claudio Nieto Rojas \(Mexico\)/School: Architectural Association, London \[images\]](#)- Fentress Architects

RSA/Royal Society of Arts' Royal Designers for Industry 2017 revealed: Designer [Morag Myerscough](#), architect [Alison Brooks](#) and urban planner [Mike Rawlinson/City ID](#) have been given the award this year, while structural engineer [Tristram Carfrae/Arup](#) has been named as the master of the charity's RDI faculty for 2017. - Design Week (UK)

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

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Yesterday's News

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Today's News - Thursday, December 7, 2017

- [Goldberger](#) reflects oh-so-eloquently on Vincent Scully's legacy: "His subject was not buildings so much as it was the role buildings played in the making and the preservation of community. He had heroes, and villains."
- [Betsky](#), no less eloquently, remembers Scully: "He talked about architecture in a manner that made me believe it was the most beautiful and important human act. He changed my world not just by what he said, but how he said it."
- [Goldhagen](#) is enraptured by Heatherwick's "stunning" Zeitz MoCAA in Cape Town: "This is one of the most important new public buildings anywhere - it tugs on your emotions, inspires a sense of delight."
- [Wainwright](#) considers the V&A's new venture in Shenzhen by Maki: it's "an oasis of calm in a jumble of kitsch," but also "so straightforward it verges on dull - giving more the feeling of a mall than a museum."
- [Bernstein](#) reports from Design Miami 2017, with "furniture by architects, design by artists," and Aranguren + Gallegos "might well have fumbled" the new ICA Miami - but didn't.
- [KoningEizenberg](#), Snohetta, and TEN Arquitectos vie for the El Paso Children's Museum - now it's time for the public to weigh in.
- [At night](#), Laurendeau's Cogeco Amphitheatre in Trois-Rivières, Quebec, "looks as if a glamorous premiere is underway - both a landmark and a symbol of the city's transformation," the "open-air venue celebrates all things theatrical."
- [Lubrano](#) Ciavarra's retro TWA Lounge on the 86th floor of 1WTC is "a stunning, red-hued dream space - a fantastic flashback to the 1960s world of aviation" (we were there - it is, indeed!).
- [Hawthorne](#) talks to Meier re: the Getty Center's 20th anniversary: "Anything you were unhappy with when it was finished? Anything you would do differently?" "If there was, I've forgotten about it."
- [Meanwhile](#), Meier designed the Getty Center "to protect its treasures from flames" (as wildfires loom!).
- [A look at](#) Michael Graves's Clos Pegase Winery on its 30th birthday: the PoMo project "still holds a fascination. The marriage of pop culture and commerce is rarely so considered."
- [Allies and](#) Morrison win the competition to revive Surrey's Clandon Park and the 18th-century Palladian mansion gutted by fire in 2015 - with images from its glory days and its ruins today (wow!).
- [A new mixed-use](#) development is proposed for a parking lot adjacent to Denver's Coors Field that "has been a major gap in the urban fabric separating the vitality of the historic district from the stadium."
- [Predock](#) donates his home/studio and archives to the University of New Mexico for the Predock Center for Design and Research (funds needed for "improvements to make it available for regular activities").
- [Berg and](#) Cetra offer "end-of-year giving tips for architecture firms" to reduce their tax burden - though "not all giving has to be tax related."
- [Alter reports](#) on the National Civic Art Society's new Rebuild Penn Station campaign with "glorious new renderings - when you think that a little reconstructed and restored Leonardo da Vinci painting just sold for \$430 million, then \$3.5 billion to reconstruct Penn Station sounds positively cheap" (no mention of SOM's \$1.6 billion redevelopment currently underway).

- [A round-up](#) of "the 12 best architecture controversies of 2017" ("whoops" included).
- [The Twentieth](#) Century Society declares London's Commonwealth Institute building was destroyed in its conversion to the Design Museum, but "it is not the fault of the museum or their architects."
- [The Restaurant](#) and Bar Design Awards is under fire (on social media, of course) for its "stale, male, pale" jury - and the organizer hits back, "accusing a female designer of highlighting the issue out of spite for not being shortlisted" (41 men and 4 women?!?!? We're with her!).
- [One we couldn't](#) resist: the "Uncomfortable is a mind-bending, humorous project that redesigns everyday objects to make them more difficult to use" (chain-handled fork, anyone?).

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[Paul Goldberger Reflects on Vincent Scully's Legacy](#): ...[he] did not see teaching as a burden to be fit in between media appearances. It was the heart and soul of what he did...His subject was not buildings so much as it was the role buildings played in the making and the preservation of community...He had heroes, and villains...Not the least of his gifts as a teacher was his ability to admit...that he might not have been right...Ultimately he would come to think of urbanism as equally important to form-making... - Architectural Record

[Aaron Betsky: The Man Who Taught Architecture: A Memory of Vincent Scully](#): Betsky explains how he has been trying, for most of his life, to live up to the challenge issued by our greatest of architecture teachers: ...he talked about architecture in a manner that made me believe it was the most beautiful and important human act. He changed my world not just by what he said, but how he said it...For Scully, architecture was a way to experience our dreams and our fears, both individually and as a society. [images & videos]- Architect Magazine

[Sarah Williams Goldhagen: Zeitz MoCAA by Heatherwick Studio, Cape Town, South Africa](#): Inside, outside, Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa is stunning. Beauty is its own reward, but there's more. This is one of the most important new public buildings anywhere...design for the main interiors embodies theatricality in the best sense of the word: it tugs on your emotions, inspires a sense of delight. -- Arup; Van der Merwe Miszewski Architects; Rick Brown Associates; Jacobs Parker [images]- Architectural Record

[Oliver Wainwright: The V&A's new Chinese outpost: an oasis of calm in a jumble of kitsch](#): Wedged between a landlocked cruise liner and gothic apartment blocks, the V&A's first international foothold in Shenzhen...is more luxury mall than magical museum: ...so straightforward it verges on dull...provides a blank foil to the mad Las Vegas jumble of Sea World next door...It is a strange hybrid institution...giving more the feeling of a mall than a museum...there is a danger that the mall could ultimately swallow the museum. -- Fumihiko Maki; Sam Jacob [images]- Guardian (UK)

[Fred A. Bernstein: Design Miami 2017: Furniture by Architects, Design by Artists, and an Early Look at the ICA Miami](#): ...contemporary art in brand new buildings can seem flimsy. That was the challenge facing the architects, and they might well have fumbled...Luckily, [they] created three floors of really good galleries... -- Aranguren + Gallegos [images]- Architectural Record

[El Pasoans to vote on design for El Paso Children's Museum](#): ...narrowed down



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to three, and the public could decide which one will be selected...until midnight Dec. 15, the public is encouraged to vote for their favorite design... -- KoningEizenberg; Snohetta; TEN Arquitectos [images]- KFOX El Paso (Texas)

Atelier Paul Laurendeau's Cogeco Amphitheatre is a Trois-Rivières, Quebec, Waterfront Landmark

The best view [is] from across the St. Lawrence River...At night it looks as if a glamorous premiere is underway...Like many post-industrial cities, Trois-Rivières has put its faith in culture and entertainment to revive its waterfront...both a landmark and a symbol of the city's transformation...The open-air venue celebrates all things theatrical. -- Bureau Principal; Peter Soland/Civiliti [images]- Azure magazine (Canada)

Step back to the 1960s in New York's retro TWA Lounge: New York's JFK International Airport is restoring its celebrated TWA center...into a cool retro hotel...won't open its doors until 2019 - but in the meantime, the TWA Lounge, on the 86th floor of One World Trade Center, offers a sneak preview of what's to come...a stunning, red-hued dream space - a fantastic flashback to the 1960s world of aviation. -- Eero Saarinen (1962); Lubrano Ciavarra Architects [images]- CNN Travel

Christopher Hawthorne: Richard Meier on the Getty Center as it turns 20: Anything you were unhappy with when it was finished? Anything you would do differently? "If there was, I've forgotten about it." - Los Angeles Times

LA's Getty Center built to protect its treasures from flames: ...like those just across a freeway Wednesday, from its landscaping to a space for helicopters to land...fire protection was designed into the facility by architect Richard Meier... (AP) [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

Pomo erectus: a perfectly aged temple to wine and architecture: Napa Valley's Clos Pegase Winery celebrates its 30th birthday this year, just as a new biography of its architect, the late American postmodernist Michael Graves, is released...[It] still holds a fascination...the stylistic and academic nuances of the era have been blurred by distance and skewed by knowledge of Graves' commercial acumen and sense of fun...The marriage of pop culture and commerce is rarely so considered. [images]- Wallpaper*

Allies and Morrison win competition to revive 18th century mansion gutted by fire: ...will reimagine and rebuild Surrey's Clandon Park, a historic Palladian mansion gutted by a fire in 2015...in an unusual move, one of the other shortlisted practices, Purcell, has joined the winning ticket as conservation architect. -- Malcolm Reading Consultants; National Trust; Giacomo Leoni (18th c.) [images]- CLAD (Community of Leisure Architects & Designers)

Colorado Rockies Mixed-Use: A major new mixed-use development has been proposed...for the full-block surface parking lot adjacent to Coors Field in Lower Downtown Denver...could include hotel, office, residential, retail, and restaurant uses...a significant public space...and a Colorado Rockies Hall of

Fame...block...has been a major gap in the urban fabric separating the vitality of the historic district from the stadium. This project will close that gap and significantly energize the connection between Coors Field and LoDo. -- Stantec (formerly RNL) [images]- DenverInfill.com

Antoine Predock donates property, archives to University of New Mexico: ...longtime Albuquerque dweller recently donated the Downtown property where he once lived and practiced...The UNM will turn [his] former home and studio into the Predock Center for Design and Research...fundraising has begun to cover the building improvements needed to make it available for regular activities. - Albuquerque Journal (New Mexico)

Nate Berg: End-of-Year Giving Tips for Architecture Firms: Plus, John Cetra of CetraRuddy weighs in on ways to give back other than just donating money: While year-end giving can be a gesture of goodwill, it can also be a crucial part of reducing the tax burden associated with running a business. Here are some considerations for design practitioners to best direct their charitable intentions...Not all giving has to be tax related. - Architect Magazine

Lloyd Alter: New campaign launched to rebuild Penn Station: New building technologies might make it cheaper and faster, too: National Civic Art Society...doing a major push with [Rebuild Penn Station], and have released glorious new renderings by Jeff Stikeman...when you think that a little reconstructed and restored Leonardo da Vinci painting just sold for \$430 million, then \$3.5 billion to reconstruct and restore the entire Penn Station sounds positively cheap. -- McKim Mead & White [images]- TreeHugger

The 12 best architecture controversies of 2017: As 2017 fades away, we look back at some of the controversies and debates that stirred up the waters. Here are our most memorable, outrageous topics of the year. -- Thomas Heatherwick/Heatherwick Studio; Kate Wagner/McMansion Hell; Paul J. Newman/Cohesion Studios; Trump's border wall; tax plan guts Historic Tax Credit; Handel Architects; Santiago Calatrava; Manica Architecture; Peter Zumthor; Zaha Hadid Architects; Philip Johnson & John Burgee; Snøhetta [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Commonwealth Institute building destroyed in Design Museum conversion, says heritage body: The transformation...into a new home for the Design Museum has resulted in the loss of a "magnificent post-war masterpiece", according to the Twentieth Century Society...to its growing Lost Modern list, a "hall of shame"...pointed the finger at the local council and at Historic England..."This is not the fault of the Design Museum or their architects"... -- OMA; John Pawson; Allies and Morrison - Dezeen

Restaurant and Bar Design Awards organiser defends "stale, male, pale" jury: ...has hit out at critics of its overwhelmingly male jury, accusing a female designer of highlighting the issue out of spite for not being shortlisted... [defended] the organisation's choice to employ 41 men and just four women on its jury...not the only industry event to come under fire for its representation of women. - Dezeen

9 Examples of Great Design Gone Wrong: The Uncomfortable is a mind-bending, humorous project that redesigns everyday objects to make them more

difficult to use: The pieces, which range from a concrete umbrella to a chain-handled fork, offer an inventive and often humorous take on objects whose utility we've come to take for granted. -- Katerina Kamprani [images]- Architectural Digest

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

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Today's News - Friday, December 8, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Because we missed posting on Tuesday, this is an unusual Friday news day. Monday will be a no-newsletter day - we'll be back Tuesday, December 12.

- [ANN feature](#): Belogolovsky's Q&A with Zhang Hua re: why architecture needs theory, fractal geometry, and how seeing a Gaudí for the first time made him cry.
- [An all-women](#) team wins the Cambridge to Oxford Connection Ideas Competition with "VeloCity," chosen for its "person-centered scale."
- [Menking](#) marvels at the new ICA Miami by Aranguren + Gallegos Arquitectos, "an exemplary building" and "a triumph, inside and out."
- [Meanwhile](#), Miami Beach's Bass Museum renovation by Gauld, Isozaki, and Caplan gives it 50% more space without having to build a new wing: "Out with the old and in with the new-ish."
- [Curry considers](#) the remaking of a one-time Nazi island resort: "Will the redevelopment whitewash its dark origins?" (critics say the developers are "ignoring or suppressing efforts to remember its dark past in order to sell apartments - Stuke sees it differently").
- [In honor](#) of "Learning from Las Vegas," a round-up of "the best architectural ducks of 2017 - projects that take the idea of the duck a few steps further."

Deadlines:

- [Call for](#) entries: Harvard GSD Wheelwright Prize for early-career architects to win \$100,000 traveling fellowships.
- [Call for](#) presentations: 2018 ASLA Annual Meeting & Expo in Philly next October.
- [Call for](#) entries: ETAR Museum Hotel Architectural Competition, part of the Open Air Ethnographic Museum in Gabrovo, Bulgaria.
- [Call fore](#) entries: Inaugural Bushman Dreyfus Architects/BDA Prize: Charlottesville: Identity & Design ideas competition.
- [Call for](#) entries: Antalis Interior Design Award international competition to spotlight a new generation of design talent.

Weekend diversions:

- [A stellar](#) lineup for "In Our Time: A Year of Architecture in a Day" symposium at NYC's Met Museum tomorrow - it will be live streamed (H/T to Marwa Al-Sabouni!).
- ["Big Time"](#) is an "elegant documentary" and "gorgeous film" that presents Ingels' "gift for storytelling with marker drawings and funny analogies" ("charm and intelligence" and "7 knots of westerly breeze" included).

- [A rather](#) different "Big Time" take on the profile of "wunderkind" Ingels: "Neither scholarly enough to fully satisfy architecture buffs nor distinctive enough as a biographical portrait, it falls somewhere in the bland middle," though it does "boast a stylishness befitting its subject."
- [At London's](#) Design Museum, "Support" features five young designers-in-residence who have been working on ways to make life better (robots, rainbows, and a chant included).
- [Eyefuls](#) of "Totem," totemic sculptures by London designers for International Peace Day that will be auctioned off for Amnesty International (very cool).

Page-turners:

- [Q&A](#) with Ruggles re: "what surprised him, and how his findings might help other architects - and us" after writing "Beauty, Neuroscience & Architecture: Timeless Patterns & Their Impact on Our Well-Being."
- [Q&A](#) with Berger & Kotkin re: "Infinite Suburbia" and the future of the suburbs - the analyses and provocations upend our notions of what the suburbs are and what they will become."
- [Kotkin & Berger](#) pen a hefty piece re: "Infinite Suburbia" and why "the urban revival is an urban myth, and the suburbs are surging" (don't buy into the "the supposed ascendancy of dense urban cores" portrayed in "a gusher of books" - take that, Glaeser and Gallagher).
- [Evans meanders](#) Miami Beach in a (sort of) "holiday mind," taking in "Citizen Jane: Battle for the City" and Bevan's "The Destruction of Memory: Architecture at War" - a "fascinating" if "uncomfortable" read.
- [Q&A](#) with Sinclair re: "The Last London: True Fictions from an Unreal City": nothing escapes his "sharp wit" in his "final pilgrimage through the city" and its "strange, ambivalent soul" with "elements of darkness and light."
- [Brussat](#) cheers Adam's "Classic Columns": "Without the flapping of arms and gnashing of teeth," this "subtle and fecund thinker describes the most essential differences between modern architecture and traditional architecture."

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[Vladimir Belogolovsky: One-on-One: "I Don't Have Any Competitors Because My Projects Are Unique": Interview with Zhang Hua: The Tianjin, China-based architect talks about why architecture needs theory, fractal geometry, teaching, and how seeing a Gaudí for the first time made him cry. \[images\]- ArchNewsNow.com](#)

[All-women team wins The Cambridge to Oxford Connection: Ideas Competition: "VeloCity"...chosen for its 'person-centred scale' promising to retain the existing character of the area while delivering generously-sized common land at the heart of each development, integrated public transport connections with expanded pedestrian and cycle routes... -- Jennifer Ross/Tibbalds Planning and Urban Design; Sarah Featherstone/Featherstone Young; Kay Hughes/Khaa; Petra Marko/Marko and Placemakers; Annalie Riches/Mikhail Riches; Judith Sykes/Expedition Engineering; shortlist: Barton Willmore; Fletcher Priest Architects; Mae \[images\]- The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[William Menking: New ICA Miami opens a welcoming public space in the Design District: Institute of Contemporary Art Miami: ...handsome details to the two facades...is not what makes this project stand out in an a shopping district of bravura luxury brand commercial facades...ICA's openness to the street and the community that makes it such an exemplary building...a triumph, inside and out... -- Aranguren + Gallegos Arquitectos; Jonathan Caplan/Project-Space; Fernando Wong Outdoor Living Design \[images\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)



The Story Behind the Bass Museum's Renovation: Miami Beach's contemporary art museum has increased space by 50% - without a new wing: Out with the old and in with the new-ish.: ...a case of smart redesign rather than a ground-up project...This historic landmark building is most definitely facing the future. -- David Gauld Architect; Arata Isozaki; Jonathan Caplan/Project-Space [images]- Architectural Digest

Andrew Curry: Remaking a Onetime Nazi Resort: Will the complex's redevelopment [on the island of Rügen] whitewash its dark origins? Critics have argued that developers are using Prora's historic status...as a tax dodge, and ignoring or suppressing efforts to remember its dark past in order to sell apartments...Stuke sees it differently..."Here we have a chance to make something good out of bad ideology" ...the complex's Bauhaus inspirations are a key selling point for the renovated apartments..."inspired by the vision of Le Corbusier" -- Clemens Klotz (1936); Ulrich Stuke/Stuke Architekten; Drebing Ehmke Architekten [images]- Architect Magazine

Quacking Around: Here are the best architectural ducks of 2017: It has been 40 years since "Learning from Las Vegas" introduced the world to the idea of the architectural duck...Every year, a number of projects take the idea of the duck a few steps further. -- BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Foster + Partners; Atelier Van Lieshout; Studio Gang Architects [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Call for entries: Harvard GSD Wheelwright Prize: International competition for early-career architects to win \$100,000 traveling fellowships; deadline January 14, 2018- Harvard University Graduate School of Design (GSD) / Wheelwright Prize

Call for entries: Call for Presentations: 2018 ASLA Annual Meeting & EXPO, October 19–22, 2018, Philadelphia, deadline: January 31, 2018- American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Call for entries: ETAR Museum Hotel Architectural Competition for Reconstruction of the Strannopriemnitsa Hotel, part of Open Air Ethnographic Museum "Etar", Gabrovo, Bulgaria; cash prizes; deadline: January 15, 2018- Urbanistas / Municipality of Gabrovo / Bulgarian Chamber of Architects / Union of Architects, Bulgaria

Call fore entries: Inaugural Bushman Dreyfus Architects/BDA Prize: Charlottesville: Identity & Design ideas competition for the west end of Charlottesville's downtown pedestrian mall, designed by Lawrence Halprin in

1976; cash prizes; deadline: February 1, 2018 - Bushman Dreyfus Architects

Call for entries: Antalis Interior Design Award international competition: to shine a light on multi-disciplinary portfolios and a new generation of burgeoning design talent; cash prizes; deadline: December 31 - Wallpaper* / Antalis Group

Symposium: In Our Time: A Year of Architecture in a Day, December 9: ...devoted to the most exciting and critical spatial projects of 2017...international architects, artists, curators, theorists, and filmmakers...to present one new project...event will be live streamed on The Met's Facebook page. -- Wang Shu; David Adjaye/Adjaye Associates; Shih-Fu Peng/Heneghan Peng Architects; Mark Lee/Johnston Marklee; Beatrice Galilee; Marwa Al-Sabouni ; etc. - Metropolitan Museum of Art (NYC)

The Dazzling Doc "Big Time" Finds an Architect Trying to Build Great Things in New York Today: ...elegant documentary...Ingels has a gift for storytelling, breaking down architectural concepts with marker drawings and funny analogies. Director Kaspar Astrup Schröder's gorgeous film is informed by that same charm and intelligence the way a sailboat is informed by 7 knots of westerly breeze. -- BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group - Village Voice (NYC)

"Big Time": Kaspar Astrup Schroder's documentary profiles...wunderkind Bjarke Ingels...occasionally gets bogged down in the sort of minutiae that would have been better left on the cutting room floor, but it also provides an insightful depiction of the personal and professional travails that inevitably accompany career success...Neither scholarly enough to fully satisfy architecture buffs nor distinctive enough as a biographical portrait, it falls somewhere in the bland middle...[it] does, however, boast a stylishness befitting its subject... -- BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group - Hollywood Reporter

In London, Designers Play With the Future: Robots, creating rainbows and sacred chants in pidgin are among the products of a residence program at the Design Museum: ...five young designers in residence have worked for the past seven months on ways to make life better...robots, rainbows, a chant and possibly even a new postal system..."Support"; thru March 31, 2018 -- Soomi Park; Chris Hildrey; Studio Ayaskan; Yinka Danmole/Studio Danmole - New York Times

"Totem": London designers create totemic sculptures for International Peace Day: ...commissioned to create a totemic sculpture for International Peace Day, which will then be auctioned off for Amnesty International...visual representations of the work that the charity supports...curated by...They Made This. at Amnesty International offices, Shoreditch thru December 12; Londnewcastle Gallery 46, Whitechapel, December 14 - 20 [images]- Dezeen

Your Brain on (Good) Design: "Beauty, Neuroscience & Architecture: Timeless Patterns & Their Impact On Our Well-Being" by Denver architect Don Ruggles explores the scientific reasons why our brains are drawn to certain timeless patterns in design: Q&A re: his research in advance of the book's release to learn more about what surprised him, and how his findings might help other architects - and us. -- Ruggles Mabe Studio - 5280 magazine (Denver)

What if everything you know about the suburbs is wrong? With 52 essays from

74 authors, "Infinite Suburbia" comprehensively analyze the suburbs...Q&A with editors, Alan M. Berger and Joel Kotkin, about the future of the suburbs. Many of their analyses and provocations upend our notions of what the suburbs are and what they will become. - The Architect's Newspaper

Joel Kotkin & Alan M. Berger: The Urban Revival Is an Urban Myth, and the Suburbs Are Surging: Despite the disdain of many planners, pundits and politicians, most people live in the suburbs - and most of the jobs are there, too: ...as we show in "Infinite Suburbia"...The challenge today remains making great suburbs to fulfill the potential of full urban life. The suburbs...deserve not the disdain of planners and politicians and pundits, but their full respect and attention. -- Edward Glaeser; Leigh Gallagher - The Daily Beast

Martyn Evans: When regeneration becomes annihilation: Despots intent on cultural genocide know the importance of destroying buildings. That should tell developers and planners everything they need to know...Robert Bevan's "The Destruction of Memory: Architecture at War" [and] "Citizen Jane: Battle for the City" about Jane Jacobs...Bevan's fascinating book has been uncomfortable reading...When places are in decline, an understanding of how their architecture helped create them in the first place shows us that the past has so much more to offer us than just nostalgia. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Iain Sinclair: Walking Is A Democracy: The author and filmmaker on his new book, London's changing culture, and why walking is a political act..."The Last London: True Fictions from an Unreal City"...his final pilgrimage through the city...The cultural significance of every detail does not escape Sinclair's sharp wit...How would you describe the city's soul? "I think it is a strange, ambivalent soul with has elements of darkness and light..." - Guernica Magazine

David Brussat: "Classic Columns" by Robert Adam...is the recent book that I would place highest on my list of books to give...[he] reveals himself as the most subtle and fecund thinker about tradition, as the proper basis for architecture, in our era...describes the most essential differences between modern architecture and traditional architecture. Without the flapping of arms and gnashing of teeth...describes the crossroads that humanity has reached in the style wars, which modernists try to ignore... -- ADAM Architecture - Architecture Here and There

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

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Yesterday's News

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Today's News - Tuesday, December 12, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: We are starting to transition to a new mail server. The newsletter will be mailed from Newsletter@ArchNewsnow-Newsletter.com instead of Newsletter@ArchNewsnow.com. Since this is a new site, Today's News may be flagged as spam. If you do not get your newsletter, please check your spam folder.

- [Hostile](#) architecture: an interesting debate between architect Furzer, "whose designs try to combat hostile architecture," and Harvey, co-founder of "a company that produces many of the offending benches."
- [Capps, at](#) the opposite end of the spectrum, talks to Kéré re: "how architects can design 'coherent and peaceful cities.' Design can't change politics, but it can shift perception."
- [A fascinating](#) look at "the beginning of the end of China's 'weird architecture.' Whoever wants to design the next big projects will have to adjust to taking on business parks and suburban housing rather than cities' trophy buildings."
- [Hume cheers](#) the ROM's "new (old) entrance" and the Toronto museum's "most unabashedly extravagant room" (Libeskind's Crystal "has never quite fulfilled its promise").
- [MVRDV and](#) BIG have pixilated plans for a new neighborhood in Abu Dhabi's Makers District.
- [Chicago](#) could be getting its own Hudson Yards-scale waterfront neighborhood (with some stellar names attached) on one of the city's last undeveloped pieces of land.
- [Morgan cheers](#) Leers Weinzapfel's new, "exemplary" Design Building at UMass Amherst, one of the largest timber frame structures on the East Coast, where the use of glulam and CLT "on such a scale allowed for a near revolutionary accomplishment."
- [Sighs of](#) relief as London's Architectural Association says it "does not plan to close its exhibitions and publications departments (AA Files are safe - for now).

"Tis the season for 2017 Best of Everything lists:

- [Feast your](#) eyes on some astounding (and we mean astounding!) shots shortlisted for the 2017 Art of Building photography awards, run by the U.K.'s Chartered Institute of Building.
- [Eyefuls](#) of some luminous and luscious pieces in Lyon's festival of lights (a "unicorn" of sorts included!).
- [Moore's](#) pick of the best architecture of 2017: Postmodernism back, "it's hard to look past the charred stump" of Grenfell Tower, "vast wealth can produce splendiferous buildings," and "two victories for good sense" + 5 best buildings.
- [Birnbaum](#) rounds up 2017's notable developments in landscape architecture, some "of great finesse, depth, and complexity" - though it seems "a creeping homogenization is taking hold - are we becoming lazy - or just willing to accept a little mediocrity?" (shout-outs for books, journalists(!), and Scully, too).
- [Mairs profiles](#) Top 10 skyscrapers of 2017, "from the unapologetically tall to the peculiarly shaped" (but mostly meh?).

- [Morby marvels](#) at the top 10 designs of 2017 that aim to create a better future.
- [Budds takes](#) a different tack, and picks the "10 design trends of 2017 that need to die" (do better next year, please).

Winners all!

- [Polshek](#) is named 2018 AIA Gold Medalist, and Minneapolis-based Snow Kreilich Architects takes home the 2018 AIA Architecture Firm Award.
- ["Seven exemplary projects"](#) take top honors in the 50th Canadian Architect Awards.
- [From Down](#) Under, eye-fuls of the 2017 Victorian Premier's Design Awards (great presentations).
- [Fast Co.'s](#) Innovation By Design Awards 2017 include "projects that improve the urban fabric."
- A ["technically superb"](#) rest area on Lake Kolima in Finland named 2017 Finnish Wood Award winner.
- [Winners](#) of the 8th ISArch Award for Architecture Students announced.

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The debate: Is hostile architecture designing people out of cities? Spiked or sloped benches...examples of hostile architecture - a controversial type of urban design aimed at preventing people from using public spaces in undesirable ways...architect James Furzer, whose designs try to combat hostile architecture [debates the] issue with Dean Harvey, co-founder of the Factory Furniture: a company that produces many of the offending benches. [images]- CNN Style

Kriston Capps: How Architects Can Design 'Coherent and Peaceful Cities': In Burkina Faso and elsewhere, Diébédo Francis Kéré approaches design as a medium for easing tensions around political issues like migration: [He] designed the next National Assembly building to reflect the reality of life in Ouagadougou...grassroots architecture....Design can't change politics, but it can shift perception. [images]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

The beginning of the end of China's "weird architecture": ...flamboyant and outlandish buildings are on the way out: Far from being an aesthetic whim... Xi Jinping seeks to change the direction of urban development...it is clear that a change has occurred. Though still large in scale...the work is more modest...Whoever wants to design the next big projects in China will have to adjust to taking on business parks and suburban housing rather than cities' trophy buildings. -- Paul Andreu; Zaha Hadid Architects; Carlo Ott; Ma Yansong/MAD Architects; Steven Holl Architects [images]- The Economist (UK)

Christopher Hume: How the ROM's new (old) entrance opens the museum to the city: Inside the Royal Ontario Museum's reopened Queen's Park entrance, visitors will find the building's most extravagant room, the Rotunda: ...the Crystal...Bloor entrance...has always been underwhelming...it has never quite fulfilled its promise. -- Daniel Libeskind (2007)- Toronto Star

MVRDV and BIG to create new neighbourhood in Abu Dhabi's Makers District: ...featuring pixelated corners that will frame a public square...hence the project name, Pixel... comprises seven mid-rise towers, containing 480 apartments...shops, offices and co-working spaces...district is located opposite Saadiyat Island cultural district... -- BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Dewan Architects



+ Engineers [images]- Dezeen

Will Chicago's South Loop get its own Hudson Yards-scale development? ...an entirely new waterfront neighborhood...a \$1.2 billion public-private research partnership that will establish the Discovery Partners Institute, a scientific research center...would hold up to 1,800 students, and feature residential, commercial, recreational and cultural space...At 62 acres, The 78 will be built on...one of the city's last undeveloped pieces of land. -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill/SOM; 3XN; Hollwich Kushner/HWKN; AS+GG/Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

William Morgan: In Design Building at University of Massachusetts Amherst, students learn by example: ...one of the largest timber frame structures on the East Coast..."an experiment celebrating a shared commitment to sustainability"...what is exemplary about this project is that it is the cooperative venture of three departments - landscape architecture, architecture, and building technology..."We not only show off our research, but we live in it" -- Leers Weinzapfel Associates; Stephen Stimson Associates [images]- Design New England

Architectural Association promises to maintain cultural offering as members protest redundancies: Interim director at the AA Samantha Hardingham...re-asserting that the world-leading architecture school does not plan to close its exhibitions and publications departments. - Dezeen

The walls have eyes: the best urban photography: A sun-baked Niemeyer treasure, a decaying Montana schoolhouse and a scary manmade cave are just some of the striking pieces shortlisted for the 2017 Art of Building photography awards, run by the Chartered Institute of Building. [images]- Guardian (UK)

Lyon's festival of lights: Fête des Lumières is the world's largest visual arts festival. [images]- Guardian (UK)

Rowan Moore's best architecture of 2017: Postmodernism returned in style, Liverpool's Welsh Streets were saved, but Grenfell Tower defined the year: ...it's hard to look past the charred stump...we found out once again that vast wealth can produce splendid buildings...Lastly, two victories for good sense. In London the Garden Bridge sank under the weight of its own contradictions and deceptions. + 5 best buildings. -- Foster + Partners; FAT; dRMM; Amanda Levete/AL_A; Dow Jones; UNStudio- Observer (UK)

Charles A. Birnbaum: "Splash Pad Urbanism" and 2017's other notable developments in landscape architecture: ...projects of great finesse, depth, and complexity...In contrast...there were signs that a creeping homogenization is taking hold...are we becoming lazy? - or just willing to accept a little mediocrity... -- The Cultural Landscape Foundation/TCLF; Kate Orff/SCAPE; West 8/Beyer Blinder Belle/Fluidity Design Consultants; Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects; Ten Eyck Landscape Architects/Weddle Gilmore Black Rock Studio; Reed Hilderbrand; James Corner Field Operations; Sasaki Associates with Ross Barney Architects; Alexandra Lange; Audrey Wachs; Vincent Scully [images]- Huffington Post

Jessica Mairs: Dezeen's top 10 skyscrapers of 2017: ...made their mark this year, from the unapologetically tall to the peculiarly shaped. -- MAD Architects; Ingenhoven Architects/A61/Gustafson Porter + Bowman; Skidmore Owings & Merrill/SOM; Kohn Pedersen Fox/KPF; SHoP Architects; Richard Meier & Partners; Goettsch Partners; Herzog & de Meuron; Foster + Partners/Heatherwick Studio; Renzo Piano Building Workshop [images]- Dezeen

Alice Morby: Dezeen's top 10 designs of 2017 that aim to create a better future: In a year filled with turbulent politics, humanitarian crises and environmental issues, designers have responded with imaginative concepts and solutions. -- Stefano Boeri; Pentatonic; Airbnb; Boyan Slat; Jayna Zweiman/Krista Suh; Pavegen; Daan Roosegaarde; Graviky Labs; IKEA; Lahti University of Applied Sciences [images]- Dezeen

Diana Budds: The 10 Design Trends Of 2017 That Need To Die: Do better in 2018: Midcentury Modern Design...the style has been bastardized for contemporary consumption so many times over that the era's true principles...have been lost..Architecture As Propaganda...thanks to Trump's proposed border wall...Retailers Appropriating The Language Of Urban Design...Gendered Design; etc. - Fast Company

2018 AIA Gold Medal goes to James Stewart Polshek: And the Architecture Firm Award honors Snow Kreilich Architects. -- Ennead Architects- Curbed

Winners announced for 50th Canadian Architect Awards: Recognizing the country's top designers - both emerging and well-established...seven exemplary projects... -- Alastair Bird/Dalhousie University; MJMA Architects; Modern Office of Design (MoDA); Saucier + Perrotte/Zas Architects; Leckie Studio; marc boutin architectural collaborative (MBAC); Lemay [images]- Canadian Architect magazine

2017 Victorian Premier's Design Awards: Unique exercise equipment that

[makes child's play out of a serious gym workout has taken out the top prize; Tanderrum Bridge - a footbridge that links Melbourne's CBD to the sports precinct... -- Bayly Group/McCann/YMCA; John Wardle Architects/NADAAA/Oculus/GHD/Büro North; My Architect \[images\]](#)- Good Design Australia

[Innovation By Design Awards 2017: ...13 categories,,,Spaces, Places, and Cities...Projects that improve the urban fabric, including urban planning, architecture, and interactive products such as kiosks or apps. -- Clover House/MAD Architects; New Lab/Marvel Architects; etc. \[images\]](#)- Fast Company

[2017 Finnish Wood Award goes to Rest Area Niemenharju by Studio Puisto Architects: ..."represents extremely high-quality and distinctive Finnish wood architecture that does not need any stylistic loans. Use of wood on the site is technically superb"...honorary mention goes to Allas Sea Pool by Pekka Pakkanen/Huttunen-Lipasti-Pakkanen Architects. \[links to images, info\]](#)- Puuinfo / The Finnish Timber Council

[Winners of the 8th Edition of ISArch Award for Architecture Students -- Sofoklis Kontakis; Eleni Vagianou; Eleni Papantoniou/Maria Koinidou \[images\]](#)- ISARCH

[Vladimir Belogolovsky: One-on-One: "I Don't Have Any Competitors Because My Projects Are Unique": Interview with Zhang Hua: The Tianjin, China-based architect talks about why architecture needs theory, fractal geometry, teaching, and how seeing a Gaudí for the first time made him cry. \[images\]](#)- ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Wednesday, December 13, 2017

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- [Glancey](#) explores "the awe-inspiring buildings" created for the "gods of science, speed and industry. What makes a number of 21st-Century temples to tech seem different from their predecessors is the idea that these are meant to be somehow light-hearted, youthful and fun, fun, fun."
- [Meanwhile](#), Apple's Ives hits back at the "utterly bizarre" criticisms of the new Cupertino HQ: "It wasn't made for you! I know how we work and you don't!"
- [Holder delves](#) deep into how Atlanta could lose its front-runner bid for Amazon HQ2 because of Georgia's efforts to pass a Religious Freedom Restoration Act "that would restrict LGBTQ freedoms. Some other Amazon contender cities could also now confront this issue."
- [Financial](#) woes have halted construction on Calatrava's Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church at Ground Zero, already "hampered by setbacks and controversies since the destruction of the original 1916 church on 9/11."
- [Kamin has](#) high hopes - and some reservations - about Lohan's plan to transform the burned-out shell of Chicago's Pilgrim Baptist Church (by Adler & Sullivan, no less) into a National Museum of Gospel Music.
- [Kolson Hurley](#) parses the hurdles facing post-Harvey Houston and Harris County with new, incredibly "stringent" flood-related development restrictions: "How high is high enough? Who has to pay for it? And at what point does it no longer make sense to build in a place at all?"
- [First photos](#) of KieranTimberlake's American Embassy in London, "conceived as a crystalline cube" (some stunning details; review will be forthcoming).
- [Taylor-Hochberg](#) offers a fascinating profile of Frank Pick, who "worked to make the London Underground not just efficient but also aspirational" - bringing "dignity and delight to the daily commute - his legacy can be seen in the public art programs that are commonplace for transit agencies around the world."
- [An interesting](#) conversation with Piero Lissoni, known for his architecture, interiors, landscape, and furniture - which is closest to his heart? "You have to be a little schizophrenic to be able to do all of this and that is the trick."
- [Abrahamson](#) pens a fitting tribute to Gunnar Birkerts: "Because of his individualism, he was perfectly suited to the Detroit area, with its history of tinkerers, innovators, and entrepreneurs. We can still learn much from his example."
- [Iovine makes](#) her pick of the best architecture of 2017: they are "buildings of quiet ambition. Not every year delivers major architectural stunners, but sometimes there's something even better - buildings that contribute to a more promising future."
- [Eyefuls](#) of the very long shortlist of 62(!) projects vying to take home the RIBA International Prize 2018 as the world's best new building.

- [The 2017](#) epic architecture quiz: How well do you know your I.M. Pei from your Frank Lloyd Wright?

Deadlines:

- [The Van](#) Alen Institute will be launching the "Keeping Current: A Sea-Level Rise Challenge for Greater Miami," an \$850,000 initiative backed by the best - the call for entries coming in early 2018.
- [Call for](#) entries: Sydney Affordable Housing Challenge International Architecture Competition.
- [Call for](#) entries: Applications for the Payette Sho-Ping Chin Memorial Academic Scholarship: \$10,000 to women pursuing a professional degree in architecture.
- [Call for](#) entries: Contract magazine's Inspirations Awards for commitments to social responsibility in commercial interior architecture and design (international).
- [Call for](#) entries: International VELUX Award for Students in Architecture: "Light of Tomorrow."
- [Call for](#) entries: 2018 Young Talent Architecture Award (YTAA) supporting the talent of recently graduated Architects, Urban Planners and Landscape Architects (EU and Creative Europe participants).
- [Call for](#) entries: Black Balsam Laboratories competition (international): designs for a series of small-scale "laboratories" to help bartenders and cocktail makers invent the next big drink.

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Jonathan Glancey: The awe-inspiring buildings created as temples of tech: The gods of science, speed and industry have always had their followers. Glancey explores their impressive, imperious places of worship: What makes a number of 21st-Century temples to tech seem different from their predecessors...is the idea that these are meant to be somehow light-hearted, youthful and fun, fun, fun. -- Abraham Stott (1865); James Miller; Owen Williams (1939); Foster + Partners; Mies van der Rohe; Frank Gehry; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Thomas Heatherwick; OMA; Grimshaw Architects; Gunter Henn [images]- BBC Designed

"We didn't make Apple Park for other people" says Jonathan Ive: ...has hit back at the "utterly bizarre" criticisms...jumped to the defence of its new ring-shaped campus in Cupertino..."it wasn't made for you! And I know how we work and you don't!"...the project has been marred by controversy, after a scathing review by Wired magazine and reports that some Apple employees were threatening to quit over their dislike of the workspace layouts. -- Foster + Partners [images]- Dezeen

Sarah Holder: How A Bid for Amazon HQ2 Got Tangled Up in a Fight for LGBTQ Rights: Georgia's Religious Freedom Restoration Act has been stalled for four years amid fears it will deter economic investment. Will Amazon finally kill it? It's been big business, time and time again, that has deterred Georgia from passing legislation that would restrict LGBTQ freedoms. But never before has the business been this big...Some other Amazon contender cities could also now confront this issue. - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Santiago Calatrava-designed World Trade Center church halts construction over nonpayment: Construction on the Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine...has been hampered by setbacks and controversies since the destruction of the original 1916 church on 9/11. - The Architect's Newspaper

Blair Kamin: Plan to Revive Pilgrim Baptist Church Shows Promise but Faces



Hurdles: ...calls for turning the ruin-like walls into the outer shell of a National Museum of Gospel Music...A new steel structure - essentially a building within a building - would simultaneously brace...surviving outer walls...Though promising, the design needs further definition and refinement...Nevertheless, the project presents Chicago a rare opportunity to reuse the remains of a building by Adler & Sullivan...So here's hoping that this latest chance to save Pilgrim Baptist...isn't just a mirage. -- Dirk Lohan/Wight & Company [image]- Chicago Tribune

Amanda Kolson Hurley: The House of the Future Is Elevated: We can build homes to sit above flood waters so people can ride out the Harveys of the future, but it won't be easy or cheap: Three months after Hurricane Harvey churned through Texas...Harris County's new rules are the most stringent flood-related development restrictions anywhere in the U.S....raises tricky questions: How high is high enough? Who has to pay for it? And at what point does it no longer make sense to build in a place at all? - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

KieranTimberlake's American Embassy in London: First Photos Released: ...conceived as a crystalline cube surrounded by landscaped public spaces. [images]- Architectural Record

Amelia Taylor-Hochberg: The Art of Public Service: A century ago Frank Pick worked to make the London Underground not just efficient but also aspirational - an environment that would add dignity and delight to the daily commute: ...established a new model for the integration of public works with innovative design...Pick's legacy can be seen in the public art programs that are commonplace for transit agencies around the world. -- Charles Holden [images]- Places Journal

Creativity is the buzzword for Italian architect Piero Lissoni: You have specialised in architecture, interiors, landscape, furniture. Which has been closest to your heart? "It is impossible to pick one...You have to be a little schizophrenic to be able to do all of this and that is the trick"...What are the latest design trends that India needs to catch up on? "I don't believe in trends.

However, India needs to discover and trust a new generation of designers." - The Telegraph (India)

Michael Abrahamson: Remembering modernist architect Gunnar Birkerts: His work was characterized by an experimental attitude toward materials, an intuitive approach to space planning, and an uncommon keenness for innovation in the use of daylight...Because of his individualism, he was perfectly suited to the Detroit area, with its history of tinkerers, innovators, and entrepreneurs...Instead of codifying rules, Birkerts continued modernism's intuitive tradition of individual expression. We can still learn much from his example. - The Architect's Newspaper

Julie Iovine: The Best Architecture of 2017: Buildings of Quiet Ambition: New technology and an aim to create a better world make these projects stand out: ...notable for focusing on concrete needs, not dazzling form. Long-term planning and a smart use of innovation served a purpose...Not every year delivers major architectural stunners, but sometimes there's something even better - buildings that contribute to a more promising future. -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill/SOM; Kengo Kuma; Leers Weinzapfel Associates [images] - Wall Street Journal

RIBA reveals 62 projects vying to be named world's best new building: ...shortlisted for the second edition of the RIBA International Prize...Covering everything from small housing projects, to major new museums and office buildings, the list includes projects from 28 countries... [images] - Dezeen

The 2017 epic architecture quiz: How well do you know your I.M. Pei from your Frank Lloyd Wright? It's been another epic year for architecture, but were you paying attention? Test your knowledge of the newest designs and most exciting architectural feats of 2017. - CNN

Van Alen Institute Launches Keeping Current: A Sea-Level Rise Challenge for Greater Miami : ...three design challenges...to propose implementable and replicable solutions...that also address regional issues of economy, ecology and equity. The \$850,000 initiative has support from The Rockefeller Foundation, The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, The Kresge Foundation, and The Miami Foundation...Look back in early 2018 for the announcement of our first competition. [Call for Entries coming in early 2018] - Van Alen Institute

Call for entries: Sydney Affordable Housing Challenge International Architecture Competition: cash prizes; registration deadline: February 9, 2018 (submissions due February 14, 2018) - Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert) / Sydney Build Expo 2018

Call for entries: Applications for the Payette Sho-Ping Chin Memorial Academic Scholarship: \$10,000 scholarship to women pursuing a professional degree in architecture in an accredited architecture program; open to U.S. citizens; deadline: January 17, 2018 - Architects Foundation / Payette

Call for entries: Contract magazine's Inspirations Awards to recognize a commitment to social responsibility in commercial interior architecture and design (international); cash prizes; deadline: March 30, 2018 - Contract magazine

Call for entries: International VELUX Award for Students in Architecture: "Light

of Tomorrow": to encourage and challenge students to explore the theme of daylight; cash prizes; registration deadline: April 1, 2018 (submissions due June 15, 2018)- VELUX

Call for entries: 2018 Young Talent Architecture Award (YTAA) supporting the talent of recently graduated Architects, Urban Planners and Landscape Architects; open to Schools in European Union Member States, countries participating in Creative Europe, etc.; cash prizes; school submission deadline: February 22, 2018; student submission deadline: March 27, 2018- Mies van der Rohe Foundation / Fundació Mies van der Rohe / Creative Europe

Call for entries: Black Balsam Laboratories competition (international): designs for a series of small-scale "laboratories" to help bartenders and cocktail makers invent the next big drink; cash prizes; earlybird registration deadline (save money!): January 5, 2018; final registration: April 20, 2018 (submissions due May 24, 2018)- Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert) / Riga Black Balsam

Vladimir Belogolovsky: One-on-One: "I Don't Have Any Competitors Because My Projects Are Unique": Interview with Zhang Hua: The Tianjin, China-based architect talks about why architecture needs theory, fractal geometry, teaching, and how seeing a Gaudí for the first time made him cry. [images]- ArchNewsNow.com

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

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Today's News - Thursday, December 14, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE #1: Today is a first: two (2!) ANN features! Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days - we'll be back Tuesday, December 19 (and a heads-up: next week will be final news week of year!).

EDITOR'S NOTE #2: We are starting to transition to a new mail server. The newsletter will be mailed from Newsletter@ArchNewsnow-Newsletter.com instead of Newsletter@ArchNewsnow.com. Since this is a new site, Today's News may be flagged as spam. If you do not get your newsletter, please check your spam folder.

- [ANN feature](#): Weinstein is jazzed about "The Jazz Age: American Style in the 1920s," a monumental catalogue of a great exhibition, now at The Cleveland Museum of Art, that architects need more than they may know.
- [ANN feature](#): Bernstein parses Arthur Cotton Moore's new book, "Our Nation's Capital: Pro Bono Publico Ideas": Some of the ideas seem impractical, some ruinously expensive, while others ought to be considered, or at least admired for their audacity.
- [Kotkin & Gattis](#) explain what the pundits pontificating about Houston get wrong, and why the city "has the right approach to urban development - finger-wagging about zoning does not address the real issue: boosting resilience."
- [Rybczynski](#) offers a post-occupancy report three years after KieranTimberlake's experiment in its own studio without air conditioning: "their cooling experiment had failed"; now, with air-conditioning, the studio is "a happier place."
- [A stroll](#) through the Louvre Abu Dhabi with Nouvel, who shows his "undisguised glee" that the four struts supporting the gigantic dome are largely invisible. "Can you find them?"
- [Betsky takes](#) on the Miami Design District, where façadism is "taken to a new level" with "eye-catching architecture" by numerous notable names: "There is little in the way of expensive building materials or structural derring-do, but there is a lot to dazzle the eye."
- [Bernstein's](#) second installment re: Design Miami 2017, H&deM's Jade Signature: it has "flourishes, but it's still a very big condo building on the beach"; Isozaki and Gauld's Bass Museum that is now "more useful, and more beautiful"; and "Richard Meier and Frank Stella: Space and Form" at the Meier Gallery.
- [Bozikovic](#) welcomes back the ROM's revamped 1933 entrance: the entry sequence through Libeskind's Crystal "is mazy and unfriendly - he proved himself a clumsy choreographer"; the fix is what the museum calls the Welcome Project.
- [Great presentations](#) of Arch Record's Design Vanguard 2017: "each has a personal, crafted, and nuanced approach to architecture that has come to define their generation."
- [Call for](#) entries: Arch Record's 2018 Design Vanguard: looking for the best emerging architecture firms from around the world (and no fee!).
- [A very impressive](#) shortlist in the Adelaide Contemporary International Design Competition.

Weekend diversions:

- [A good reason](#) to head to Shenzhen, China: the 7th Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture: "Cities, Grow in Difference."
- [Six big flops](#) from more than 100 "epic fails" at the "Museum of Failure" pop-up, now at L.A.'s A+D Museum, along with a "failure confession booth" (Trump, the Game "failed because it's a lousy game").
- [Anderton](#) visits the Museum of Failure: "We love a good success story, but we love an epic fail even more," and talks to Syd Mead and Craig Hodgetts about their new book and creating a "plausible reality."
- [A fab\(!\)](#) 360 video that explores Lubell and Goldin's "Never Built New York" at the Queens Museum.
- ["Aesthetics of Change: 150 Years of the University of Applied Arts Vienna"](#) at the MAK "delves into the cosmos of an Austrian cultural university that is at once one of the richest in tradition and among the most visionary."

Page-turners:

- ["New Architecture New York,"](#) with an introduction by Lange and beautiful photography by Bendov, shows the city as "a playground for architects who wish to innovate."
- [Wallace](#) 's "Greater Gotham: A History of New York City from 1898 to 1919" will make you exclaim, "Nothing's changed!": "Though beautifully organized, and written with grace and humor, the author does not build stories so much as compile compendious chronologies."
- [Moore's](#) best architecture books of 2017 include tomes by Martin, Rykwert, de Graaf, and Kolbitz that are "weepingly funny"; "wry and engaging"; "not always encouraging"; and "just lovely stuff."
- [Green's](#) Best Books of 2017 is a selection of the best on the environment, cities, and landscape.
- [Hodges picks](#) "books no Detroit enthusiast should be without."
- [Stephens'](#) 2017 architecture monograph roundup proves the genre lives on.
- [The Frankfurt](#) Book Fair folks pick the 10 best architecture books of 2017 to receive the DAM Architectural Book Award.

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ANN feature: Norman Weinstein: Time for Jazzing Up Architectural Imagination? A monumental catalogue of a great exhibition architects need more than they may know - hurry to Cleveland if you missed it in Manhattan. Explore "The Jazz Age: American Style in the 1920s." - ArchNewsNow.com

ANN feature: Fred A. Bernstein: Arthur Cotton Moore: Bold Citizen-Architect: Some of the ideas seem impractical. Others would be ruinously expensive. Still others are sensible and ought to be considered, or at least admired for their audacity. A sampling from Moore's new book, "Our Nation's Capital: Pro Bono Publico Ideas." [images] - ArchNewsNow.com

Joel Kotkin & Tory Gattis: Doing Houston Wrong: Contrary to the sneers of elitist planners, Houston has the right approach to urban development: Higher density and zoning don't guarantee a resilient infrastructure...Hysteria about climate change and finger-wagging about zoning do not address the real issue: boosting resilience...Much of what critics think they know about Houston is simply untrue...Nor is the city the paved-over disaster so often evoked in the media...the most important issue is not zoning but flood control, which requires resilient systems. -- Michael Kimmelman - City Journal/The Manhattan Institute



Witold Rybczynski: KieranTimberlake's Cool Experiment: This Philadelphia-based firm designed its studio without air conditioning. Three years later, here's how it's worked: ...office is in a renovated mid-20th-century industrial building...Measuring temperature and humidity is only half of the thermal comfort equation; the other half is finding out how people actually feel...their cooling experiment had failed. The solution was obvious...Air-conditioning commenced in July 2016...the studio was a happier place...“We tried, we failed, and we learned.” [images]- Architect Magazine

Louvre Abu Dhabi's architect on what inspired its revolutionary design: Jean Nouvel created the 'universal' museum's unique perforated dome and 21st century take on Arabic architecture. He explains how he sought to 'translate and define the local culture': He is especially pleased that the four struts supporting the 180-metre-diameter, 7,500-tonne dome are largely invisible. “Can you find them?” he asks with undisguised glee as we walked along one of the narrow paths between the art buildings leading onto a vast plaza. [images]- South China Morning Post

Aaron Betsky: All the Pretty Faces: Miami Design District shows façadism taken to a new level: What has saved the Design District from being banal...is eye-catching architecture...The easy criticism is that this is all façadism, but that seems to be the point...There is little in the way of expensive building materials or structural derring-do, but there is a lot of pattern and image to dazzle the eye...So how long will this last? -- Craig Robins; Duany Plater-Zyberk; Aranda/Lasch; Javier Carvajal; and Johanna Grawunder; Charlap Hyman & Herrero; Daniel Toole Works; Johnston Marklee; Tolila + Gilliland; Aranguren + Gallegos; Jürgen Mayer H. [images]- Architect Magazine

Fred A. Bernstein: Design Miami 2017: Art Meets Architecture at the Jade Signature, the Bass Museum, and "Space and Form": ...a glimpse at the new Herzog & de Meuron project, David Gauld's renovation and expansion of an Arata Isozaki museum, and a show highlighting the friendship of Richard Meier and Frank Stella: There are many [H&deM] flourishes...but it's still a very big condo building on the beach...the Bass Museum returned to Isozaki and his protégé...David Gauld, to plan a second renovation. The results...have made the museum more useful, and more beautiful... - Architectural Record

Alex Bozikovic: Welcome back to the Royal Ontario Museum: The building's 1933 entrance has been revamped and reopened in a modest but symbolic architectural move: A decade after the museum tried to turn itself into a icon...by Daniel Libeskind...It's tempting to read this as a cautionary tale...the entry sequence through the Crystal is mazy and unfriendly...[he] talked about his role as "a choreographer of experiences...In this case, he proved himself a clumsy choreographer. The museum now aims to fix this...what the ROM calls the

Welcome Project... -- Chapman and Oxley (1933); Darling and Pearson (1914); Hariri Pontarini Architects [images]- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Design Vanguard 2017: ...promising practitioners who have led their own firms for 10 years or less...each has a personal, crafted, and nuanced approach to architecture that has come to define their generation. -- Ambrosi Etchegaray; LEVER Architecture; David Kohn Architects; LAND Arquitectos; stpmj Architecture; Uufie; FreelandBuck; Max Núñez Arquitectos; Bruther; Alan Tse Design [images]- Architectural Record

Call for entries: 2018 Design Vanguard: looking for the best emerging architecture firms from around the world; no fee; deadline: February 15, 2018- Architectural Record

Adelaide Contemporary International Design Competition Shortlist Announced: ...will combine a contemporary art gallery with a public sculpture park and meeting place. -- Adjaye Associates/BVN; BIG – Bjarke Ingels Group/JPE Design Studio; David Chipperfield Architects/SJB Architects; Diller Scofidio + Renfro/Woods Bagot; HASSELL/SO-IL; Khai Liew/Office of Ryue Nishizawa/Durbach Block Jaggars- Malcolm Reading Consultants / Government of South Australia

Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture: "Cities, Grow in Difference" in Shenzhen, China: 7th edition of UABB...to explore issues of urbanization and architectural development within China and around the world; December 15, 2017 - March 17, 2018- Shenzhen Biennale

Coca-Cola BlaK? Apple's Newton? Six big flops at the "Museum of Failure" pop-up, now in L.A.: ...a traveling pop-culture show presenting commercial products and services that rank as epic fails - beef lasagna frozen dinner from toothpaste maker Colgate, anyone? - has opened at [the] A+D Architecture and Design Museum...Trump, the Game "failed because it's a lousy game." thru February 4, 2018 [images]- Los Angeles Times

DnA/Frances Anderton: Wedding cake, Museum of Failure, Syd Mead: We love a good success story, but we love an epic fail even more. DnA visits the Museum of Failure. We also talk to "visual futurist" Syd Mead and Craig Hodgetts/Hodgetts + Fung about creating a "plausible reality." And we hear about the art of cake-making from a West Hollywood baker. -- 'The Movie Art of Syd Mead: Visual Futurist' - KCRW

See the New York City That Never Was: Visit the New York City that could have been in this 360 video and explore the exhibition at the Queens Museum called "Never Built New York," showcasing hundreds of projects that could have dramatically changed the look of the city. -- Sam Lubell; Greg Goldin- New York Times

"Aesthetics of Change: 150 Years of the University of Applied Arts Vienna": On the 150th anniversary of the University, this major exhibition delves into the cosmos of an Austrian cultural university that is at once one of the richest in tradition and among the most visionary; at MAK, Vienna, thru April 15, 2018- MAK (Vienna)

The 21st century buildings that transformed New York's skyline: The best of these are compiled in "New Architecture New York" ...printed homage to the new buildings in the city, architecture fans will find a list of soon-to-be architectural symbols...accompanied with beautiful photography of more than 50 projects...Today, New York is experimenting with scale, form and texture...that reflect a desire to push engineering abilities, but a playground for architects who wish to innovate...introduction by Alexandra Lange; Pavel Bendov, photographer - CNN Style

Anna Shapiro: "Greater Gotham: A History of New York City from 1898 to 1919" by Mike Wallace: This book, about the radical transformation of New York in the early 20th century, makes you exclaim of the result, "Nothing's changed!"...a sequel to the Pulitzer Prize-winning "Gotham: A History of New York City to 1898"...Though beautifully organized, and written with grace and humor, the author does not build stories so much as compile compendious chronologies. - Architectural Record

Rowan Moore's best architecture books of 2017: This year's picks take in absurdist humour, a deeply humane memoir and some stunning Italian hallways: "Epic Space" by Ian Martin...As well as being weepingly funny, it has a moral core... "Remembering Places" by Joseph Rykwert...wry and engaging; "Four Walls and a Roof" by Reinier de Graaf/OMA...sharp, revealing, funny, drily passionate and not always encouraging... "Entryways of Milan" by Karl Kolbitz...just lovely stuff. - Observer (UK)

Jared Green: Best Books of 2017: our picks for the best on the environment, cities, and landscape: "Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming" by Paul Hawken; "Be Seated" by Laurie Olin; "Extreme Cities: The Peril and Promise of Urban Life in the Age of Climate Change" by Ashley Dawson; "Handbook of Biophilic City Planning & Design" by Tim Beatley; "Movement and Meaning: The Landscapes of Hoerr Schaudt"; "Paradoxes of Green: Landscapes of a City-State" by Gareth Doherty; etc. - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Michael H. Hodges: Books no Detroit enthusiast should be without: "Designing Detroit: Wirt Rowland and the Rise of Modern American Architecture" by Michael G. Smith...handsome, exhaustively researched; "Yamasaki in Detroit: A Search for Serenity" by John Gallagher; "Belle Isle to 8 Mile: An Insider's Guide to Detroit" by Andy, Emily and Rob Linn...if you just want to have a rip-roaring good time "Things People Say About Detroit, A Collection of Quotes As Told to the Nain Roug" by Dave Krieger...Dan Austin's handsome "Greetings From Detroit: Historic Postcards From the Motor City" - Detroit News

Suzanne Stephens: 2017 Architecture Monograph Roundup: Some of us think architectural monographs are vestiges of days gone by: now potential clients - perhaps the most important readers - along with students and colleagues, can just go to a website. Yet the monograph lives on...a glimpse of selected monographs that arrived during the banner year of 2017. - Architectural Record

10 best architecture books of 2017 revealed at Frankfurt Book Fair: The books...were given the Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM) were given the DAM Architectural Book Award: "What's so great about the Eiffel Tower? 70 questions that will change the way you think about architecture" by Jonathan

Glancey; "The City between Freedom and Security. Contested Public Spaces in the 21st Century" by Deane Simpson, Vibeke Jensen and Anders Rubing;
"Hybrid Modernism. Movie Theatres in South India" by Haubitz + Zoche, Rohan Shivkumar & S V Srinivas; "Fifty English Steeples. The Finest Medieval Parish Church Towers and Spires in England" by Julian Honer and Julian Flannery;
etc. - Dezeen

Vladimir Belogolovsky: One-on-One: "I Don't Have Any Competitors Because My Projects Are Unique": Interview with Zhang Hua: The Tianjin, China-based architect talks about why architecture needs theory, fractal geometry, teaching, and how seeing a Gaudí for the first time made him cry. [images]-
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Today's News - Tuesday, December 19, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: We are starting to transition to a new mail server. The newsletter will be mailed from Newsletter@ArchNewsnow-Newsletter.com instead of Newsletter@ArchNewsnow.com. Since this is a new site, Today's News may be flagged as spam. If you do not get your newsletter, please check your spam folder.

- [ANN feature](#): Bjone parses "three books that defy expectations. These choices are well off the beaten path but enjoyable in the views of the road least taken."
- [Russell](#) tackles the new U.S. tax plan and what it says to cities: "Drop dead. We've seen this movie before. Equity, of course, is not what this basket of tax deplorable is about" (a must-read!).
- [Waite, on](#) a (slightly) brighter note asks British architects what their 2018 predictions are: "Will the profession continue to be marginalized? Is business going to get worse before it gets better? Will the housing conundrum finally be cracked?"
- [Bliss delves](#) into a new CTBUH study that "challenges some widely held assumptions about urban and suburban development from a few unexpected angles," and finds that density doesn't always mean greener.
- [Wainwright](#) x 2: he minces no words re: KieranTimberlake's new U.S. Embassy in London: "the glass citadel aims to be a benign fortress - a 12-storey glass castle" in a "frilly wrapping" that isn't doing its job. "There are some nice moments - but it mostly feels like an unremarkable office block" (ouch!).
- [On the other](#) hand, he finds Holl's new Maggie's Centre "hides its battle scars well - a hazy apparition that manages to feel rugged, warm and welcoming at once" (with a few flaws).
- [Kafka also](#) hails Holl's Maggie's Cancer Center that is "as much an emotional embrace as it is an intellectual exercise"; its architecture is "serious yet soft - perhaps we can read a vision not just for a better architecture, but a better quality of healthcare facility for all."
- [Litt takes](#) a look at the now-approved \$140 million renovation of Cleveland's Quicken Loans Arena by SHoP and others: It "looks good, but with a caveat": The question is: will the new glass façades "look chilly and unwelcoming," or, "as the architects promise - will they be truly transparent and inviting."
- [Giles offers](#) an interesting round-up of some ultra-rich patrons who give up-and-coming architects funding to realize their dreams, and give the public spaces to learn about architecture: "None of these patrons are likely to fund a flashy skyscraper bearing their name, but they're all working in their own way to support architects."
- [Wachs ponders](#) "plazas in peril: Why are we wrecking our best modernist landscapes? Maybe because they are underappreciated," they "are threatened by market forces and dumb human decisions."
- [There's](#) a lovely little church in Alma, Michigan, designed by an FLW associate, that may face demolition because of needed and costly repairs and no money (maybe an angel will come along and rescue and reuse as something else!).
- [On brighter](#) notes: Roanoke, Virginia, has become what many cities like it want to be: "It started by bringing housing to a deserted downtown," and is now a model of "how small industrial cities can reinvent themselves."
- [In Sydney](#), the once-derelict Griffiths Tea building that "has been the source of intrigue among Sydneysiders

for more than 30 years" has been transformed and is ready for residents to move in.

● [Meanwhile](#) in China's mountainous Yangshuo County, a disused sugar mill is now a (stunning!) a resort hotel (with pix to prove it!).

● [And German](#) architect Bengs "has emerged as a leading voice in the effort to save Japan's traditional homes and depopulated mountain villages from extinction."

● [The Beverly](#) Willis Architecture Foundation launches the website "Pioneering Women of American Architecture" that gives 50 women "their due credit. So why has time forgotten these women? 'Because men write the history books,' says Cynthia Phifer Kracauer."

● [Stephens'](#) Q&A with Christiaan Dinkeloo re: the future of his father's firm. "I had been working with the office since the seventh grade. This was my architectural home."

● [The U.S.](#) Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations' final (impressive!) list of architects for worldwide embassies includes "some surprises, with a healthy mix of larger and smaller studios."

● [The National](#) Endowment for the Humanities announces \$12.8 million in grants to projects that include a database to study FLW floor plans and an investigation into the history of Chicago neighborhoods.

● [One we couldn't](#) resist: Eyefuls of "Gingerbread City" at the Museum of Architecture in London, a marvelous miniature metropolis made of - guess what, designed by some very notable names (hurry - it closes this Friday!).

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[Christian Bjone: Drama in Architecture: Three Books that Defy Expectations: These choices are all well off the beaten path but enjoyable in the views of the road least taken. -- "World Film Locations"; "The Drama of Space: Spatial Sequences and Compositions in Architecture" by Holger Kleine; "The House that PINTEREST Built" by Diane Keaton - ArchNewsNow.com](#)

[James S. Russell: Tax Plan to Cities: Drop Dead: We've seen this movie before...The nation's housing mess is a key reason working people feel the system is rigged. It will get worse under this tax "reform": The job of average wage earners would be to pay the taxes the rich are avoiding. To add insult to injury, tax credits that help cities thrive and help people afford to live in them, are on the chopping block...bill also cuts tax incentives for restoring historic buildings...essential for the revitalization of cities that still struggle...Equity, of course, is not what this basket of tax deplorable is about. - JamesSRussell.net](#)

[Richard Waite: 2018 predictions: Will the profession continue to be marginalised? + Is business going to get worse before it gets better? + Will the housing conundrum finally be cracked? Waite asked leading figures about their hopes and expectations for 2018. - The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Laura Bliss: When Density Isn't Greener: A new study challenges some widely held assumptions about urban and suburban development: ...a new report by the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat challenges one of the central tenets of urbanism from a few unexpected angles...To date, most research...has not examined household data in such granular detail...High-rise residents actually consumed about 27% more energy than suburbanites...this pilot study offers quantified evidence that demographics count when it comes to environmental efficiency. -- Antony Wood; Peng Du - CityLab \(formerly The Atlantic Cities\)](#)

[Oliver Wainwright: U.S. embassy proves a catalyst for £15bn Nine Elms](#)



regeneration project: ...the glass citadel aims to be a benign fortress...an entire city in a 12-storey glass castle...frilly wrapping isn't really doing the job it was supposed to...It is held up with a bulky steel frame, clumsily bolted on to the facade, so its main role seems to be blocking the view. There are some nice moments...but the building mostly feels like an unremarkable office block...The feeling of a clunky, contractor-led project jars with the elegance of the current US embassy on Grosvenor Square, a handsome building designed by Eero Saarinen. -- KieranTimberlake [images]- Guardian (UK)

Oliver Wainwright: A glowing lantern with a bamboo cocoon ... new Maggie's centre hides its battle scars well: It caused outrage - with cries of 'monstrous carbuncle'...As Steven Holl's translucent box is unveiled...is it time Maggie's stopped hiring starchitects? It is a subtle addition to the sober neoclassical stone quadrangle...a hazy apparition that's barely noticeable from the square, making it hard to believe the design provoked such outrage that it almost didn't happen...Thankfully the battle scars don't show...it is a place that manages to feel rugged, warm and welcoming at once. [images]- Guardian (UK)

George Kafka: Steven Holl's New Maggie's Cancer Center is a Pearl of Optimism in Uncertain Political Times: The new St. Bartholomew's Hospital support facility is a sensitive new neighbor in a historic context: ...misted curtain wall makes it appear as a ghostly shadow..."a thing within a thing"...as much an emotional embrace as it is an intellectual exercise...The architecture is serious yet soft, clearly fitting for the center's clients...perhaps we can read a vision not just for a better architecture, but a better quality of healthcare facility for all. [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Steven Litt: Q renovation approved by city planning commission looks good, but with a caveat: ...\$140 million project to renovate Quicken Loans Arena...it's worth asking whether the design will justify the investment...looks like it will be a big plus for the Q and downtown. But there's an element of risk and uncertainty about how the final product will look...The big question here is whether the new glass facades will look chilly and unwelcoming, or whether - as the architects

promise - they'll be truly transparent and inviting. -- SHoP Architects; Rossetti; Robert P. Madison International; Gensler [images]- Cleveland Plain Dealer

Oliver Giles: Architects realise their dreams thanks to ultra rich in Hong Kong and China who serve as patrons: ...non-profit organisation Culture For Tomorrow to give up-and-coming architects funding and support to realise their more experimental ideas...Sifang Parkland...a space for the Chinese public to learn about art and architecture...None of these patrons are likely to fund a flashy skyscraper bearing their name, but they're all working in their own way to support architects. -- Stanley Siu; Steven Holl; David Adjaye; Wang Shu; Ai Weiwei; Ettore Sottsass; Rem Koolhaas/OMA; MVRDV; FAT Architecture/Grayson Perry [images]- South China Morning Post

Audrey Wachs: Plazas in Peril: Why are we wrecking our best modernist landscapes? ...even successful landscapes...are treated like scenery for architecture...the least appreciated and least understood outdoor spaces...Despite their significance...Maybe because they are underappreciated, many postwar urban parks and plazas are threatened by market forces and dumb human decisions. -- Laurie Olin/Ricardo Legorreta/Barbara McCarren; Dan Kiley; Henry Cobb; Charles Birnbaum/The Cultural Landscape Foundation/TCLF; Lawrence Halprin; M. Paul Friedberg; Sasaki Associates/Hugh Stubbins [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Costly repairs, lower attendance put St. Mary's Church in Alma at crossroads, may face demolition: ...designed by William Wesley Peters, a Frank Lloyd Wright associate...And, it's not even 60 years old...extensive and costly repairs, neglected in the past, are needed now. And with a dwindling number of parishioners and little money, the parish is at a crossroads. The church may have to be torn down..."estimated that it will cost at least \$689,200...However, this is scratching the surface." [image]- Morning Sun News (Alma, Michigan)

The Small Appalachian City That's Thriving: Roanoke, Virginia, has become what many cities of its size, geography, and history want to be. It started by bringing housing to a deserted downtown: As small cities struggle to retain young people, Roanoke is attracting them...an unorthodox, rapidly growing downtown neighborhood that didn't even exist 20 years ago...Perhaps the next step is finding replicable ways to preserve the special character of its neighborhoods. - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Residents ready to move in after PopovBass architects transform once-derelict Griffiths Tea building: ...has been the source of intrigue among Sydneysiders for more than 30 years..."It is a glorious building, with its unique shape...The best thing you can do to an old building is to leave it alone. You cannot design heritage"...the architects mimicked the concept of old-fashioned tea boxes to create the new elements they were introducing to the century-old building... [images]- Domain (Australia)

Vector Architects converts sugar mill into Alila Yangshuo hotel: ...in China's mountainous Yangshuo County...a resort hotel...involved retaining and repurposing the existing structures and introducing new accommodation buildings that complement their industrial aesthetic. -- Ju Bin of Horizontal Space Design [images]- Dezeen

Karl Bengs: Keeping Memories Alive: German Building Designer Breathes New Life into Traditional "Kominka": ...has emerged as a leading voice in the effort to save Japan's traditional homes and depopulated mountain villages from extinction...To date, Bengs has revived eight old houses in the Taketokoro district, many of which he undertook even before owners had been found...Today, hordes of visitors hoping to get a glimpse of the renovated kominka descend on Taketokoro regularly. [images]- Nippon.com / Nippon Communications Foundation

Rediscover the Pioneering Women of Architecture That History Forgot: From Florence Knoll to Ada Louise Huxtable, a new research website by the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation gives 50 women in architecture their due credit: "Pioneering Women of American Architecture"...So why has time forgotten these women? "Because men write the history books," says Cynthia Phifer Kracauer. - Mary McLeod; Victoria Rosner [images]- Architectural Digest

Suzanne Stephens: Interview with Christiaan Dinkeloo: John Dinkeloo's son discusses the future of his father's firm: You joined the firm right after your father's death. It must have been daunting to arrive at this time. "I had been working with the office since the seventh grade. This was my architectural home." - Architectural Record

U.S. State Department releases final list of designers for worldwide embassies: ...OBO/Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations' final selection contains some surprises, with a healthy mix of larger and smaller studios... -- Mark Cavagnero Associates; SHoP Architects; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Krueck & Sexton Architects; Ennead Architects; Richard + Bauer Architecture; Morphosis Architects; Robert A.M. Stern Architects; Kieran Timberlake; Marlon Blackwell Architects; 1100 Architect; Allied Works Architecture; Ann Beha Architects; Studio Ma; The Miller Hull Partnership; Machado and Silvetti Associates - The Architect's Newspaper

National Endowment for the Humanities Announces \$12.8 million in Grants to 253 Projects: Winning projects include a database to study architectural floor plans of Frank Lloyd Wright buildings and an investigation into the history of Chicago neighborhoods: ...will supplement private and public funding of initiatives that range from...the study of Ghana's first planned city, to the renovation of a local museum. The future of the government agency still hangs in the balance... - Architect Magazine

Top architects join forces to build elaborate Gingerbread City: Recently opened at the Museum of Architecture in London, the miniature metropolis is brimming with contemporary - and almost entirely edible - buildings...landmark buildings, housing, landscape sites or bridges. Zaha Hadid Architects and Foster + Partners have each taken an entire miniature island in the city's Eco Town. [only until December 22!] -- Tibbalds Planning and Urban Design; Studio Egret West; Burwell Deakins; Periscope; Michaelis Boyd Associates; Matthew Lloyd Architects; Bell Phillips Architects; EPR Architects; Architecture for London; PLP Architecture [images]- CNN Style

ANN feature: Norman Weinstein: Time for Jazzing Up Architectural Imagination? A monumental catalogue of a great exhibition architects need more than they may know - hurry to Cleveland if you missed it in Manhattan. Explore "The Jazz

[Age: American Style in the 1920s.](#)" - ArchNewsNow.com

ANN feature: Fred A. Bernstein: Arthur Cotton Moore: Bold Citizen-Architect: Some of the ideas seem impractical. Others would be ruinously expensive. Still others are sensible and ought to be considered, or at least admired for their audacity. A sampling from Moore's new book, "Our Nation's Capital: Pro Bono Publico Ideas." [images] - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Wednesday, December 20, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: We are starting to transition to a new mail server. The newsletter will be mailed from Newsletter@ArchNewsnow-Newsletter.com instead of Newsletter@ArchNewsnow.com. Since this is a new site, Today's News may be flagged as spam. If you do not get your newsletter, please check your spam folder.

- [Kamin x 2](#): he ponders "where to draw the line between coverage of aesthetics and politics" when it comes to architectural criticism - "should critics strive for a position of Olympian detachment," or "engage in political acts?" His answer: yes, engage. "This is what journalists do" ("civic criticism" - yes!).
- [He parses](#) what lessons the next Chicago Architecture Biennial should learn from the current edition: the "most obvious, widely criticized shortcoming - jargon-laced archi-babble" wall labels, for one," but "the answer isn't to dumb down the material."
- [Moore takes](#) on his "tweeting colleagues in the architectural press who have chosen to be particularly unkind" to London's new U.S. embassy: it may be "bland, vanilla," and "somewhat Starbucks," but it's better than everything going up around it - "faint praise, of course, but it's not damning."
- [O'Sullivan](#) also has issues with "America's passive-aggressive" embassy in London: "despite its softened edges and embellishments," it's still "a miserable barrack - the screen of fiddly sails comes across like a piece of tatty 1970s costume jewelry" (let bunkers be bunkers).
- [Hong Kong](#) architect Lim thinks the city should rethink its vertical growth: "urban planners and developers should be more creative - think more about street-level development," and find "a balance between making money and good urban planning."
- [Mathew parses](#) "the power of the Louvre Abu Dhabi" to reshape the Gulf's image: "the project's long term success has two factors in its favor": location and the "chance to choose its own distinct identity" when it loses the "Louvre" in 2037.
- [Hume hails](#) Toronto's new "beautiful" subway extension - the new stations are "a stunning visual treat - but it's not the line we should've built."
- [Bateman](#) finds some "shortcomings" in Toronto's newest subway stations, but each of them beautifully "blurs the line between public art and architecture" (with big development coming soon!).
- [Florida](#) finds hope and opportunity in the great "retail apocalypse" that is turning retail stores and malls "into more productive community spaces"; some great examples to be found in Dunham-Jones and Williamson's database of more than retail 1,500 retrofits and redevelopments.
- [Rogers looks](#) at "the airport's terminal identity crisis - not really knowing what they are anymore. My optimistic pitch for the terminal of the future is all about embracing the terminal-ness of it all."
- [FXFOWLE](#) falls for the tower it designed, now rising in Brooklyn, so it'll be decamping from Manhattan and moving in.
- [Voien takes](#) on "everything you should know" about the new Penn Station, "NYC's most despised transportation hub - there are competing schools of thought for what should be done with the current 'modernist mediocrity.'"

- [Aghajanian](#) cheers Detroit's Hamtramck Disneyland, and how a quirky art installation created by an auto-plant worker "has become a symbol for the hope and heartbreak of immigrants" for over 25 years.
- [Koolhaas](#) has big plans for the Guggenheim Museum's spiral rotunda in fall 2019: "Countryside: Future of the World" ("the California-Nevada border near Reno has been turned into 'Silicon Valley's back of house").
- [When it](#) comes to solving the cruise ship crisis in Venice, "who calls the shots? (not the city of Venice, that's for sure)."
- [Jolliffe](#) calls for stripping RIBA awards from practices that exploit unpaid internships: "Ultimately if we devalue our own qualifications in our employment practices how can we expect anyone else to value what we bring to the table?"

Deadlines:

- [Call for](#) entries: nominations for the 2018 ASLA Honors, including the ASLA Medal; Community Service Awards; Landscape Architecture Firm Award; etc. (scroll down past 2017 info for 2018 details).
- [Call for](#) entries: AIA/ALA Library Building Awards.



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Blair Kamin: The Case for Skyline Watchdogs: Architectural Criticism and Political Acts: ...where to draw the line between coverage of aesthetics and politics: ...should critics strive for a position of Olympian detachment, soaring above the fray so they can more easily observe its actions and discern its meaning? In short, should architecture criticism engage in political acts? My answer is plain...critics should engage the political fray even if they aren't in the political fray. This is what journalists do. And it's what they should do in a world where social media makes everyone a critic. - Nieman Reports

Blair Kamin: Chicago Architecture Biennial needs to relate better to local audience: ...most obvious, widely criticized shortcoming: Many non-architects have found it difficult to understand the show..."Make New History"...wall labels...often written in jargon-laced archi-babble...Going forward, the answer isn't to dumb down the material...It takes time to build great cities and great biennials. Chicago's has made an impressive start, but it can improve...- Chicago Tribune

Rowan Moore: London's new US embassy: a very diplomatic America on Thames: [It] may be just a glass cube with disguised fortifications, but it is also restrained, efficient, green ... the antithesis of Donald Trump: ...my tweeting colleagues in the architectural press have chosen to be particularly unkind...There are even aspects of the building...for which to be grateful...[It] is bland, vanilla...Its use of art and nature and decoration are somewhat Starbucks...[it] is also better than everything else that developers are putting up around it. This is faint praise, of course, but it's not damning. -- KieranTimberlake [images]- Observer (UK)

Feargus O'Sullivan: America's Passive-Aggressive New Embassy Arrives in London: Why can't we let bunkers be bunkers? ... despite its softened edges and embellishments, a miserable barrack...The screen of fiddly sails...comes across like a piece of tatty 1970s costume jewellery attached to the sleeve of a storm trooper's tunic...the result ends up being rather sinister...This begs the question of whether it is actually a good idea to try to soften the look of a



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building that is inherently defensive...It's not as if visual austerity can't be beautiful. -- KieranTimberlake [images]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

The only way is not up, says Hong Kong architect who thinks city should rethink its vertical growth: William Lim: "I think urban planners and developers should be more creative...We should think more about street-level development...developers are thinking of how to sell more flats, they should also try to strive a balance between making money and good urban planning." -- CL3; Norman Foster/Foster + Partners; I.M. Pei- South China Morning Post

Shaj Mathew: The Power of the Louvre Abu Dhabi: Can the museum tell a new story about art - and reshape the Gulf's image? New cultural institutions...are often criticized as imitations or mere outposts of Western museums...So long as Western institutions continue to dot its landscape, the country's own history will likely continue to be discounted or ignored...the project's long term success has two more factors in its favor. One is location...A second is that in 2037, [it] will lose the "Louvre" from its name, and will have a chance to choose its own distinct identity. -- Jean Nouvel [images]- The New Republic

Christopher Hume: Toronto's new subway extension is beautiful, but it's not the line we should've built: ...will make the already crowded metro more congested than ever: ...the recently opened stops are a stunning visual treat. Though some might see it as an attempt to turn a sow's ear into a silk purse, this time, perhaps, it's a case of look good, feel good...Yet here is a line that leads to a construction site decades from completion. -- Will Alsop; Foster + Partners; Grimshaw Architects- Toronto Star

Chris Bateman: The Ambitious Design and Low Density of Toronto's Newest Subway Stations: Despite its shortcomings, the scope of the 5.3-mile Spadina line addition is significant: Each of the six new stations...blurs the line between public art and architecture; a philosophical continuation of the original Spadina

line that opened in 1978...the first Toronto subway line to feature stations designed by multiple architects...site immediately surrounding the station is being developed by SmartCentres... -- Will Alsop; Foster + Partners; Aedas; Grimshaw Architects; Diamond Schmitt Architects; KPMG; Claude Cormier-CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Richard Florida: The Great Retail Retrofit: The “retail apocalypse” affords a unique opportunity to turn retail stores and malls into more productive community spaces: WeWork’s takeover of Lord & Taylor could be a good portent for urban economies. Work, not shopping, is the key to urban productivity and growth....Ellen Dunham-Jones [and] June Williamson have put together a database of more than 1,500 retrofits or redevelopments of abandoned malls, strip centers, big-box stores...As these anachronistic retail spaces begin their second lives, a few distinctive use cases have emerged.- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Adam Rogers: Checkpoints, IMAX, and Waterfalls: The Airport's Terminal Identity Crisis: The identity crisis comes from terminals and the land they sit on not really knowing what they are anymore. Agora? Mall? Concert hall? Gateway? New technologies are about to grind up the fundamental elements of airport design...My optimistic pitch for the terminal of the future is all about embracing the terminal-ness of it all. Transparency!- Wired

Architecture firm falls in love with tower it designed: FXFOWLE will be moving its offices to the new building...at One Willoughby Sq. in Brooklyn...will be housed in 40,000 square feet on the seventh through ninth floors of the 36-story project...“At first, it was...if we were occupying the space, what would we want? Then, if we were occupying it, transitioned into, this could be a great home for us.” -- Dan Kaplan- New York Post

Guelda Voien: The New Penn Station: Everything You Should Know: Replacing NYC’s most despised transportation hub - a win for both preservationists and more than 600,000 commuters a day - could be closer to happening than we thought: ...even as commuting in Gotham sinks to a new nadir...there are competing schools of thought for what should be done with the current “modernist mediocrity”... -- McKim, Mead & White (1910); Justin Shubow/Rebuild Penn Station/National Civic Art Society; Jeff Stikeman; Vishaan Chakrabarti [images]- Architectural Digest

Liana Aghajanian: The Disneyland of Detroit: How an art installation created by a Ukrainian-American auto-plant worker has become a symbol for the hope and heartbreak of immigrants: For over 25 years, Hamtramck, a small Michigan city...has been home to this unusual folk-art installation...Hamtramck Disneyland's renaissance in this political climate doesn't just stand as a testament to the city's support for its existing immigrant population; it also expresses how the city is constantly reinventing itself to accommodate new residents. -- Dmytro Szylak [images]- Pacific Standard magazine

Rem Koolhaas Plans a Countryside Exhibition at the Guggenheim: His recent research obsession will be the subject of “Countryside: Future of the World” ...for the Guggenheim Museum’s spiral rotunda in fall 2019...organized by Troy Conrad Therrien in his most ambitious project...will explore how the world’s rural landscapes have been altered by technology, migration and climate change. --

[OMA/Office for Metropolitan Architecture; AMO](#) - New York Times

[This is no way to solve the cruise ship issue in Venice: The Italian government's latest decision is in hock to the port's own interests: At a time when estimates of sea-level rise by 2100...and extreme weather events are multiplying, this demonstrates no concern for the safeguarding of one of the world's greatest treasures...Who calls the shots in the port of Venice? \(not the city of Venice, that's for sure\)](#) - The Art Newspaper (UK)

[Eleanor Jolliffe: We should strip RIBA awards from practices that exploit interns: Unpaid internships are a form of modern slavery and cannot be justified: I have heard the rather limp defence that without unpaid \(or very low-paid\) interns and students some practices are no longer profitable...the harsh truth is that any business that cannot sell its product for at least the cost of making it is likely not to be viable...Ultimately if we devalue our own qualifications in our employment practices how can we expect anyone else to value what we bring to the table?](#) - BD/Building Design (UK)

[Call for entries: Call for nominations for the 2018 ASLA Honors, including the ASLA Medal; ASLA Design Medal; Community Service Awards; Landscape Architecture Firm Award; Olmsted Medal; etc.; deadline: January 30, 2018 \[\(scroll down past 2017 info for 2018 details\)\]](#) - American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

[Call for entries: AIA/ALA Library Building Awards: open to architects licensed in the U.S.; projects may be located anywhere in the world; deadline: January 12, 2018](#) - American Institute of Architects (AIA) / American Library Association (ALA)

[ANN feature: Christian Bjone: Drama in Architecture: Three Books that Defy Expectations: These choices are all well off the beaten path but enjoyable in the views of the road least taken. -- "World Film Locations"; "The Drama of Space: Spatial Sequences and Compositions in Architecture" by Holger Kleine; "The House that PINTEREST Built" by Diane Keaton](#) - ArchNewsNow.com

[ANN feature: Norman Weinstein: Time for Jazzing Up Architectural Imagination? A monumental catalogue of a great exhibition architects need more than they may know - hurry to Cleveland if you missed it in Manhattan. Explore "The Jazz Age: American Style in the 1920s."](#) - ArchNewsNow.com

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Today's News - Thursday, December 21, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE #1: Take heart: today is the Winter Solstice - days will be getting longer (yay)! Today also marks the last ArchNewsNow newsletter of 2017 - we'll be back January 2 or 3, 2018. Our 15th year ends with a bang: two ANN feature must-reads by Crosbie and Weinstein (and a slew of other great stuff!). From our interweb house to yours, we wish everyone a Very Happy Merry Everything!

EDITOR'S NOTE #2: We are starting to transition to a new mail server. The newsletter will be mailed from Newsletter@ArchNewsnow-Newsletter.com instead of Newsletter@ArchNewsnow.com. Since this is a new site, Today's News may be flagged as spam. If you do not get your newsletter, please check your spam folder.

- [ANN feature](#): Weinstein offers one of his best Best Architecture & Design Books of the Year: "This year's best reading subverts shopworn stylistic and historic categories."
- [ANN feature](#): Crosbie walks into Hariri Pontarini's "chrysalis of crystal": "When I visited the Bahá'í Temple of South America, I was not prepared for the power of this transcendent space - a work of architecture for the ages" (with his own fab photos to prove it!).
- [Hawthorne](#) warns that "we're on the doorstep of an era when dramatic disasters threaten to become routine," and "urban-planning chickens are coming home to roost in service of Disaster, the new patron saint of our increasingly vulnerable metropolitan regions."
- [Kimmelman](#) & Haner visit Jakarta that "is sinking so fast, it could end up underwater" very soon because of a "tsunami of human-made troubles. Hydrologists say the city has only a decade to halt its sinking" + How climate change is challenging Mexico City, China; Rotterdam, and Houston.
- [Pearman](#) parses (more positively than others) KieranTimberlake's new U.S. Embassy in London: it "will be the only architecturally sober building [in Nine Elms], surrounded by a crowd of demonstrative drunks."
- [An engaging](#) profile of Cézanne Charles, curator of America's first "City of Design" - Detroit: "she is working to prove that design can drive inclusive growth."
- [Cook takes](#) an in-depth look at Charles and Ray Eames, "who shaped the way we live. She sprinkled stardust on his designs. Without her playful input, his creations would have seemed austere."
- [Rhodes looks](#) at the relationship between race and architecture in American film, from "Gone with the Wind" to "To Kill a Mockingbird," an essay adapted from his book "Spectacle of Property: The House in American Film."
- [Stratigakos](#) takes a deep dive into why "moviemakers love architects - as long as they are white men. There are fewer women playing architects today than in the 1990s. This matters if we care about the broader invisibility of women architects in popular culture" ("archimoms" included).
- [One we couldn't](#) resist to end the year on a giggle-inducing note: The 2017 comedy wildlife photography awards (the laughing dormouse stole our hearts!).

[A Who's Who of critics and their takes on the best architecture of 2017.](#)

- [Lange & Lamster](#), "the Luke and Leia of architectural criticism," bring us 2017 in architecture: "The good, the bad, and the pink" (including the Architecture That Should Have No Architects Award, and One More Step Toward Irrelevance Award).
- [Lange ponders](#) Apple Park: "the most-hyped building of 2017" but "the one that got away," because "so far, Apple has let in journalists only to ooh and aah, not to pick or contextualize."
- [Hawthorne's](#) take on "a tough year, marked by a return to basic, even stoic architecture after a couple decades of flamboyant form-making. All the same there was no shortage of highlights" (most discouraging: Apple "continues to refuse to open to even a single architecture critic").
- [Kamin's](#) pick of the best "in a remarkable year" in Chicago includes the Apple Store, Unity Temple, and the 2nd Chicago Architecture Biennial.
- [Glancey](#) makes his pick of "the year's most brilliant new architecture" (few surprises here).
- [Hume's Project](#) of the Year goes to Google's Quayside, a 12-acre "experimental community planned 'from the Internet up.' Not often does a Toronto development project make headlines around the world," and two honorable mentions to Mississauga and Vaughan.
- [Plitt's](#) pick of NYC's best new architecture of 2017: "It's hard not to feel slightly underwhelmed. Still, there were some projects worth celebrating," including "Best reason to actually go to Penn Station," and The "oh my God, finally!" award (links at bottom to round-ups including Weirdest Proposals, 10 biggest preservation battles, and more).

Weekend diversions:

- [The Off-](#) Broadway "Bulldozer: The Ballad of Robert Moses" is "a confused new rock musical" built on "a rickety foundation": if it took Caro "more than 1,200 pages to unspool" Moses' life in "The Power Broker," and Goldberger 5,000 words writing his obituary, "it is probably ill advised to take a mere 90 minutes to tell his tale."
- ["Repositioning](#) Paolo Soleri: The City Is Nature," on view in Scottsdale, "comprehensively summarizes the breadth of his art, architecture and design"; the curator "selects her highlights and explains their significance."
- [At NYC's](#) CCNY Spitzer School of Architecture, "Five Artists + Architecture" offers "five distinct and inspired points of view that illustrate the dynamic relationship between art and architecture."

Page-turners:

- [Wills finds](#) that Farrell and Furman's "Revisiting Postmodernism" has "less to say about the current revival of the movement, but with its present-at-the-creation insight, it's a worthy primer about this enigmatic period of architecture."
- [Zohn zooms](#) in on Mayne's (et al.) "100 Buildings" and Fisher & Harby's "Robert Venturi's Rome" - two "very giftable tomes" that include some "already-beloved structures, and bring to our attention some others that, despite their excellence, are still under the radar."
- [Koush's](#) "Constructing Houston's Future: The Architecture of Arthur Evan Jones and Lloyd Morgan Jones" will give "anyone not immediately familiar with their work an 'a-ha' moment at a list of some of their most prominent buildings."
- [An excerpt](#) from Scharmen's "Space Settlements" offers a fascinating look at "NASA's bold space habitats inspired a generation of designers."

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ANN feature: Michael J. Crosbie: Chrysalis of Crystal: The award-winning Bahá'í Temple of South America, designed by Hariri Pontarini Architects, proffers a new kind of sacred space: When I visited the temple...I was not prepared for the power of this transcendent space...a work of architecture for the ages. [images]- ArchNewsNow.com

Christopher Hawthorne: For American cities, flood, fire and volatility are quickly becoming the new normal: Thanks to the combination of climate change and several decades of American overconfidence about planning and land use, we're on the doorstep of an era when dramatic disaster...threaten to become routine...urban-planning chickens coming home to roost...in service of Disaster, new patron saint of our increasingly vulnerable metropolitan regions. - Los Angeles Times

Michael Kimmelman & Josh Haner: Jakarta Is Sinking So Fast, It Could End Up Underwater: A tsunami of human-made troubles in the Indonesian capital poses an imminent threat to the city's survival. And it has to deal with mounting threats from climate change: The main cause: Jakartans are digging illegal wells... About 40% of Jakarta now lies below sea level...Hydrologists say the city has only a decade to halt its sinking. + Changing Climate, Changing Cities: How climate change is challenging Mexico City, China; Rotterdam, and Houston - New York Times

Hugh Pearman: U.S. Embassy in London by KieranTimberlake: ...the fulcrum of London's largest current regeneration area, Nine Elms...will be the only architecturally sober building here, surrounded by a crowd of demonstrative drunks. Luckily it is saved from glassy blandness by its distinctive sunshading jacket...as its new landscape matures...the project's main urbanistic achievement should become apparent: to blend maximum security with the Anglo-American tradition of mansions set in gardens. -- Gensler [images]- Architectural Record

Curating America's First "City of Design": "Deindustrializing cities [and] the people who've been there," Cézanne Charles says. "They have the way to think about policies and systems that a lot of other art and design industries don't. It's about responsibility, not just license and permission"...she is working to prove that design can drive inclusive growth...As a curator and artist, Charles works with experiences as much as two-dimensional mediums, finding art in the urban fabric of daily life and the spaces in which people engage with one another. -- Creative Many Michigan; Laavu Studios; Detroit Creative Corridor Center (DC3); Mitch Cope/Gina Reichert/Power House Productions - Next City (formerly Next American City)

William Cook: Charles and Ray Eames: The couple who shaped the way we live: ...two of the most influential designers of the 20th Century. Cook looks at how the pair worked together to create designs that still inspire today: She had a sharp eye for detail, he had a head full of big ideas. She sprinkled stardust on his designs...Without her playful input, his creations would have seemed austere...Their mantras work just as well for any area of creativity: notice the ordinary; preserve the ephemeral; don't delegate understanding; explain it to a child. "Charles & Ray Eames. The Power of Design" at the Vitra Design Museum thru February 25, 2018 [images]- BBC Designed

John David Rhodes: Prop and Property: The house in American cinema, from the plantation to Chavez Ravine: In purchasing a movie ticket we pay for the right to occupy a space in order to gaze up at a space we can never occupy. This is the story cinema has been mutely telling all along... [essay adapted from Rhodes' book "Spectacle of Property: The House in American Film"]- Places Journal

Despina Stratigakos: Hollywood Architects: Moviemakers love architects. As long as they are white men: In Hollywood, 'architect' signifies a male type who is 'sensitive but not girly'...For most of its history Hollywood depicted women and people of color as architects only when looking for misplaced or oddball characters who were waging inner battles...There are fewer women playing architects...today than in the 1990s. This matters if we care about the broader invisibility of women architects in popular culture.- Places Journal

The 2017 comedy wildlife photography awards: this year's funny winners include a laughing dormouse, a shocked seal, bears caught in the act, a fox using a golf course as his personal toilet [images]- Guardian (UK)

Mark Lamster & Alexandra Lange: 2017 in architecture: The good, the bad, and the pink: the ups and downs, triumphs, and tragedies of the year in design: Call It a Comeback Award; Fake It 'Til Ya Make It Award; Architecture That Should Have No Architects Award; One More Step Toward Irrelevance Award; etc. and Farewells. -- Jean Nouvel; SO-IL; WorkAC; Rice Design Alliance Cite Magazine; Brooks + Scarpa; MVRDV; Sidewalk Labs; Bruner Cott; OverUnder; Herzog & de Meuron; I.M. Pei; Kevin Roche; Kate Orff; Damon Rich; Rahul Mehrotra; Anne Tyng- Curbed

Alexandra Lange: The one that got away: An architecture critic reflects on Apple Park, the most-hyped building of 2017: If I were allowed to visit Apple Park, the first thing I would do is take off my shoes...But so far, Apple has let in journalists only to ooh and aah, not to pick or contextualize... the obvious critique...It is retrograde. It is anti-urban. It is greenwashed...a series of appraisals that the construction of the real object has done nothing to overturn. -- Paul Goldberger; Christopher Hawthorne; Mimi ZeigerFoster + Partners; OLIN [images]- Curbed

Christopher Hawthorne: Best architecture in 2017: In a tough year, plenty of highlights: It was marked by a return to basic, even stoic architecture after a couple decades of flamboyant form-making. It was a year - above all - in which crises like homelessness and climate change seemed...depressingly, to get a firm sense of their true scale. All the same there was no shortage of highlights. -- "Columbus"; "Make New History": The second Chicago Architecture Biennial; "City of Inmates: Conquest, Rebellion, and the Rise of Human Caging in Los Angeles, 1771-1965" by Kelly Lytle Hernandez; Herzog & de Meuron; "The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America" by Richard Rothstein; Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA; Vincent Scully; Gunnar Birkerts- Los Angeles Times

Blair Kamin: Best architecture of 2017: Apple Store, Unity Temple and the Biennial in a remarkable year: ...a gutsy slope-bottomed office tower along the Chicago River delivered a notable exception to the banality of Chicago's high-rise building boom...Can a factory be beautiful? Yes, if it's the Trumpf Smart

Factory... -- Sharon Johnston/Mark Lee/Johnston Marklee; Frank Lloyd Wright; Harboe Architects; Goettsch Partners/Magnusson Klemencic Associates; Foster + Partners; Barkow Leibinger; Stantec; KPMB Architects; Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture/Charcoalblue; Maurice Cox; Ed Uhler; Vincent Scully; etc. [images]- Chicago Tribune

Jonathan Glancey: The best buildings of 2017: From the Lego House to a spectacular public library...the year's most brilliant new architecture. -- BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Studio Ko; dRMM; 6a architects; Jean Nouvel; Zaha Hadid Architects; MVRDV; Herzog & de Meuron [images]- BBC Designed

Christopher Hume's Project of the Year: Google's Quayside: Not often does a Toronto development project make headlines around the world...the 12-acre slice of our urban future that will be built on the east waterfront...the experimental community will be planned "from the Internet up"...2017 has been an annus mirabilis in the suburbs...Mississauga and Vaughan are...two honourable mentions... -- Sidewalk Labs; CORE Architects; Diamond Schmitt Architects; Claude Cormier; Grimshaw Architects; Adamson Associates [images]- Toronto Storeys

Amy Plitt: NYC's best new architecture of 2017, from Cornell Tech to American Copper Buildings: It's hard not to feel slightly underwhelmed...Still, there were some projects worth celebrating: Fun to watch rise award; Busiest starchitect award; Best reason to actually go to Penn Station; The "oh my God, finally!" award. -- Beyer Blinder Belle; Marvel Architects; S9 Architecture; Studio V; SHoP Architects; Zaha Hadid Architects; Thomas Heatherwick; Weiss/Manfredi; Morphosis; Handel Architects; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Herzog & de Meuron; INC Architecture & Design- Curbed New York

"Bulldozer: The Ballad of Robert Moses": Musical With a Ricketty Foundation: Robert A. Caro needed more than 1,200 pages to unspool the story of Robert Moses's life and career in..."The Power Broker"...when Moses died, Paul Goldberger spent upward of 5,000 words writing his obituary...So it is probably ill advised that Peter Galperin and Daniel Scot Kadin take a mere 90 minutes to tell his tale in their confused new rock musical...Its inertness is not the fault of the five-person cast...closes January 7, 2018- New York Times

"Repositioning Paolo Soleri: The City Is Nature" at SMOCA celebrates the architect's visionary ideas and legacy: ...comprehensively summarises the breadth of Soleri's art, architecture and design - from fantastical organic bridges and visionary cities of the future, to bronze bells and posters...Curator Claire Carter selects her highlights and explains their significance. -- Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art thru January 28, 2018 [images]- Dezeen

"Five Artists + Architecture": an exhibition of five distinct and inspired points of view that illustrate the dynamic relationship between art and architecture. CCNY Spitzer School of Architecture, New York City, thru February 16, 2018 -- Daniel Hauben; Irma Ostroff; David Judelson; Alan Feigenberg; Albert Vecerka/ESTO- CCNY Spitzer School of Architecture

Eric Wills: Postmodernism: Present at the Creation: "Revisiting Postmodernism" by Terry Farrell and Adam Nathaniel Furman explores the rise (and return) of this divisive period of architecture: The book...constitutes two distinct

perspectives...has less to say about the current revival of the movement, but with its present-at-the-creation insight and ample photography, it's a worthy primer about this enigmatic period of architecture. - Architect Magazine

Patricia Zohn: Contemporary architects take the time to look back in two rewarding tomes: It's not often that well-known architects thoroughly engaged in their own contemporary practices have - or take - the time to look back at the work of their elders...these two, very giftable tomes reach out beyond the generations to some iconic, already-beloved structures, and bring to our attention some others that despite their excellence are still under the radar. "100 Buildings" by Thom Mayne, Eui-Sung Yi, and Val Warke; "Robert Venturi's Rome" by Fred Fisher & Stephen Harby - CultureZhon

The architect who made Houston modern with the Astrodome, Allen Center and Greenway Plaza: "Constructing Houston's Future: The Architecture of Arthur Evan Jones and Lloyd Morgan Jones" by Ben Koush: Anyone not immediately familiar with Jones' name or the firm's work will have an "a-ha" moment at a list of some of their most prominent buildings. -- Lloyd & Morgan [images] - Houston Chronicle

Fred Scharmen: NASA's bold space habitats inspired a generation of designers: These speculations strike a compromised balance between the displacing conditions in space...and the excitement inherent in exploring and making new worlds. The speculative contemporary architecture of the 1960s and '70s...is put to use to show that space is for you. [excerpt from Scharmen's "Space Settlements"] -- Don Davis; Rick Guidic [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

ANN feature: Christian Bjerne: Drama in Architecture: Three Books that Defy Expectations: These choices are all well off the beaten path but enjoyable in the views of the road least taken. -- "World Film Locations"; "The Drama of Space: Spatial Sequences and Compositions in Architecture" by Holger Kleine; "The House that PINTEREST Built" by Diane Keaton - ArchNewsNow.com

ANN feature: Norman Weinstein: Time for Jazzing Up Architectural Imagination? A monumental catalogue of a great exhibition architects need more than they may know - hurry to Cleveland if you missed it in Manhattan. Explore "The Jazz Age: American Style in the 1920s." - ArchNewsNow.com

ANN feature: Fred A. Bernstein: Arthur Cotton Moore: Bold Citizen-Architect: Some of the ideas seem impractical. Others would be ruinously expensive. Still others are sensible and ought to be considered, or at least admired for their audacity. A sampling from Moore's new book, "Our Nation's Capital: Pro Bono Publico Ideas." [images] - ArchNewsNow.com

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