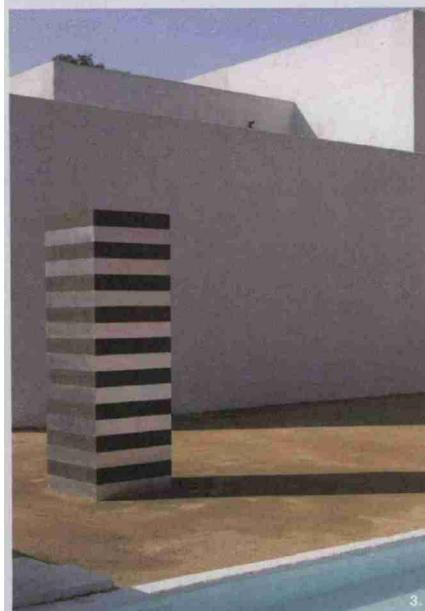
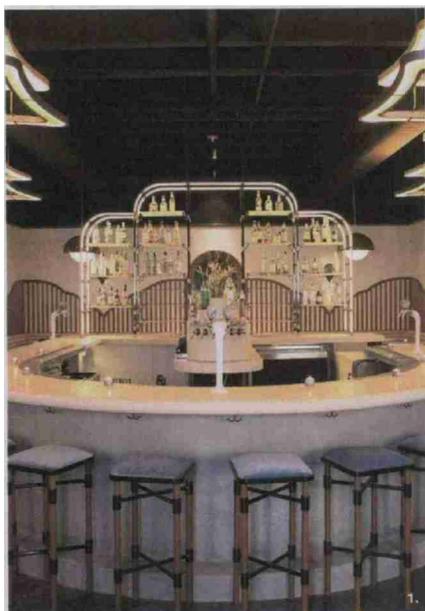




SURFACE

Date: Wednesday, August 01, 2018
Location: NEW YORK, NY
Circulation (DMA): 133,750 (N/A)
Type (Frequency): Magazine (10Y)
Page: 109,110,111,112....
Section: Main
Keyword: Fno Fnea



SURFACE Travel Awards 2018

1. BAR

Bibo Ergo SumWest Hollywood, California
Home Studios

Walking certain stretches of West Hollywood can feel like guest-starring in a scene from *Bladerunner 2049*, but one step into Bibo instantly teleports you to deco-era Vienna or Paris. Designed by Brooklyn's Home Studios, all 1,800 square feet of the rose gold-accented bar on Robertson Boulevard are custom: The banquettes were hewn from peach vinyl and taupe velvet, the sconces of steel and resin, the tables with cork. The team behind New York's Death & Co. conceived the cinema-inspired menu—order the Niemeyer's Martini, with olive oil-washed Plymouth gin, white cacao, and castelvetrano olives—served to guests perched on coquettish blue bar stools. biboergosumla.com

2. CO-WORKING SPACE

Mortimer HouseLondon
AvroKO

Ersatz co-working spaces can technically get the job done (for proof, see Steve Jobs and his garage). But in the Instagram era, aesthetically conscious ones seem to do it better. London's six-story Maslow's Mortimer House, designed by AvroKO, is about as far from the Ping-Pong-and-graffiti offerings of the world as you can get. It retains the 1930s sensibilities of the building it's housed in—original timbers, terra-cotta ceilings, mosaic tile floors—but is outfitted with velvet AvroKO-designed furniture and antique midcentury European pieces. "The concept is derived from the venue's eponym, Abraham Maslow, and his psychological theories surrounding human motivation and happiness," says principal William Harris. We call that nice work, defined. mortimerhouse.com

3. EXHIBITION

**"Sean Scully |
San Cristóbal"
at Cuadra San
Cristóbal**Mexico City
Sean Scully

In 1966, Mexico City's Egerstrom family commissioned architect Luis Barragán to design an equestrian center that would make others look shabby. The result is Cuadra San Cristóbal, an exercise in Crayola-bright geometry against sunlit sky. This year, the iconic space opened to the masses for the first time, thanks to Dublin-born artist Sean Scully, who strategically placed his paintings and sculptures within its pink walls. (Don't miss Brown Silver Tower and Boxes of Air, in which Cor-Ten steel cubes are stacked atop each other like wood palettes.) The effect is an ode to coloring outside the lines—by staying firmly within them.

4. LARGE HOTEL – DOMESTIC

PUBLIC New YorkNew York City
Ian Schrager Company

Tentative travelers might be overwhelmed by New York City's glut of hotel rooms. Thankfully, Ian Schrager has streamlined the decision-making process yet again. Ascending the Japanese copper, Donald Judd-inspired escalator at his new PUBLIC New York in Nolita, you'll promise to reward yourself for your boldness. Each of the 367 Herzog & de Meuron-designed rooms include Italian-made, wire-brushed-oak beds (inspired by Thomas Jefferson's at Monticello); halo-lit vanity mirrors; and in-room control systems that allow you to change the window treatments, lighting, or temperature via keypad—all of which is easy to navigate, even after a few drinks at the Jean-Georges restaurant downstairs. publichotels.com

5. LARGE HOTEL — INTERNATIONAL

Hoxton Paris

Paris

Ennismore, Humbert & Poyet,
Soho House

Paris has no dearth of exquisite places to lay your head. But a collaboration between three design firms—Humbert & Poyet, Soho House, and Ennismore's Creative Studio—has transfixed even the most discerning Francophiles with its modern appeal. Housed in an 18th-century *hotel particulier* once owned by a counselor to Louis XV Thomas de Rivié, the 172-room Hoxton channels the city's golden age (think oak chevron flooring, a pair of 300-year-old spiral staircases, and wallpapers that look straight out of la Belle Époque.) But it's not all nostalgia: Rooms feature open-plan showers and Jean Prouvé furnishings. theboxton.com

6. MICRO-HOTEL/HOSTEL

Freehand New York

New York City

Roman & Williams

Designed by hospitality gurus Roman and Williams, the fourth outpost of Freehand Hotels is its most captivating yet. Set in the 1928 George Washington Hotel, just two blocks from Madison Square Park, Freehand New York's 395 rooms cater to group travelers—suites with bunk beds are a great choice—with a local focus but nary a whiff of hostel frugality. Bard College students adorned the walls with murals you won't find at sedate stays uptown; custom wood furniture falls in line with the original millwork. Our one bone of contention: providing "fresh apples in lieu of a mini bar" is a treacly move, even in the Big Apple. (After all, rule number one of room-sharing states that alcohol is a must.) But that pain point is easily relieved at the Broken Shaker rooftop bar, managed by Miami's most innovative cocktail duo, Gabriel Orta and Elad Zvi. freehandhotels.com

9. RESTAURANT — LIMITED SERVICE

Compartés Chocolate Shop

Los Angeles

Kelly Wearstler

The experience of opening a Compartés chocolate bar can fill the most hardened cynic with childlike wonder: Pulling back the foil wrapper reveals chocolate studded with marshmallow cereal, birthday-cake sprinkles, or sugar crystals that glisten like glitter. So it's no surprise that the Kelly Wearstler-designed Los Angeles flagship is a jewel box of a space, paying homage to Old World European confectionaries and stirring up whimsical feels. Venetian plaster walls, copper-and-onyx paneling, and lighting inspired by Wiener Werkstätte are all here. Wearstler even collaborated on a special-edition, gold leaf-coated bar that would send Wonka sprinting through the streets of Century City. In other words, utterly delicious. compertes.com

8. FULL-SERVICE RESTAURANT — INTERNATIONAL

Leo's Supper Club

London

Dimore Studio

Members-only clubs call to mind stuffy dens with stiff drinks (and stiffer chairs). Not so at Mayfair's Leo's Supper Club, in The Arts Club on Dover Street. Designed by Dimore Studio, the subterranean nightclub of the 1863 Georgian townhouse is a saturated hideaway that gibes with the nightlife spots of midcentury Europe, offering green Guatemalan marble and pink mirror finishes, not to mention DJs spinning until 3 a.m. The firm took cues from the Riviera Clubs of the 1960s, as well as the sultry '60s throwback film *In the Mood for Love*, directed by Wong Kar-wai, rather than England's traditional gentlemen's parlors. It's not a reboot for the yesteryear British aristocracy—and that's precisely the point. theartsclub.co.uk

7. FULL-SERVICE RESTAURANT
— DOMESTIC**Forte dei Marmi**

Miami

Chad Oppenheim and Henry Timi

From the outside, the 1938 Mediterranean Revival building is pure Miami Beach, but inside Forte dei Marmi the atmosphere evokes another celebrated coastline. Named for the classic Tuscan beach resort, and with a kitchen helmed by Antonio Mellino (whose Amalfi hot spot Quattro Passi has earned two Michelin stars), the restaurant captures Italy's effortless yet refined vibe. Credit goes to the thoughtful renovation by Miami architect Chad Oppenheim, pared-back interiors by Milanese designer Henry Timi, and gardens by Enzo Enea. These all incorporate natural materials to evoke the muted palette of ivory, sand, and linen. Mellino's menu is similarly elemental, focused on local seafood and produce as well as a list of biodynamic and organic wines. fdmmiami.com

10. RETAIL SPACE

**Prada Miami
Design District**Miami
Miuccia Prada

11. INSTAGRAM — INDIVIDUAL

@myhotelcarpet

Dutch graphic artist M.C. Escher died, in 1972, but his spirit endures, alighting in the most unexpected places, among them the Prada boutique in Miami's Design District, where the art deco floor tiles recall one of his 3-D lithographs. Architect Roberto Baciocchi softened those with sherbet hues, and dotted the space with midcentury Brazilian furniture by Carlo Hauner, Jorge Zalsupin, and celebrated interior designer Joaquim Tenreiro, much of it crafted from jacaranda. prada.com

If #Ihavethisthingwithfloors is one of your obsessions, proceed directly to the Instagram account of its patron saint: Bill Young, a corporate pilot based in Texas who has zigzagged the globe snapping and tagging pictures of kitschy hotel carpets of every color and pattern. You'll see leafy vines underfoot at Hotel Nikko Narita in Japan, and blue-and-white paisley at The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin, in China. Some are chintzy, others gaudy, but collectively they share a democratic spirit that has captivated travelers—and interior design enthusiasts—everywhere. "While my daughter Jill was home from school during Thanksgiving break, she said she was going to try to 'grow my audience,'" Young says. One tweeted plea from a dutiful daughter went viral, and within days he went from having 83 followers to more than half a million. "It was a sweet story that appeared during a particularly awful news cycle," he says. "I think it resonated with a lot of people."

12. INSTAGRAM — BRAND

@sohohouse

Soho House may be a members-only club, with locations everywhere from Sunset Boulevard to London's Portobello Road, but its Instagram account is as public as a Kardashian makeup routine. The window into a world of exclusivity is a visual delight, where, on any given day, you might watch a pineapple skim across a pool surface in Miami, see animation by an artist depicting a scene from one of the houses, or get a sneak peek inside the latest opening of Brooklyn's new Dumbo House. If you find yourself at one of the Soho properties and get the urge to snap your own picture, be discreet—a strict no-photo policy is enforced to ensure the members' privacy.

13. TEMPORARY SPACE OR
INSTALLATION**The Parthenon
of Books**

Kassel, Germany

At Documenta 14, the 2017 edition of the quinquennial art exhibition in Kassel, Germany, Argentine artist Marta Minujín constructed a 1:1 scale replica of the great Athenian monument to democracy with 100,000 plastic-wrapped volumes. Built on a site where the Nazis once held anti-literary rallies, the structure contains books that were formerly or are currently banned, each donated by the public. The work is a thought-provoking commentary on free speech and the continuing threats to it, and a reminder that single-purpose architecture—in this case, the glorification of the goddess Athena—can take on new meanings and responsibilities over time. documenta14.de

14. TRANSPORTATION — LOUNGES

**Qantas First
Class Lounge at
Heathrow**London
Woods Bagot

The new Qantas First Class Lounge at Heathrow is a welcome refuge from the tedious holding pen that is the airport experience. Architecture firm Woods Bagot gives the interior the kind of beauty befitting a stylish café, all of it inspired by London itself: fluted European smoked-oak wall panelling, a steel-and-brass staircase with terrazzo steps that mimic those in the Underground, and furniture upholstered in the green and blue hues of the River Thames. Naturally, a gin bar is at the ready, proffering the best Australian and British labels—because if the relaxed setting doesn't relieve your travel stress, a proper G&T will. qantas.com

15. TRANSPORTATION
— CONVEYANCE**Train Suite
Shiki-Shima**

Ken Kiyoyuki Okuyama

Though the restorative romance of train travel dissipated around the same time cha-
peaus fell out of fashion, a few outliers continue to emulate the glory of the Orient
Express. The best example: Train Suite Shiki-Shima, a Ken Kiyoyuki Okuyama-
designed train that looks like an anime scene. Bentwood beams resembling trees
appear to grow up the walls of the lounge car; the blond-paneled dining car recalls
the belly of a Nordic whale. A handwoven carpet in the observatory car could be
mistaken for forest moss, were it not for the white-leather swiveling chairs that
sit atop it, creating an ideal place to take in Japan's ancient panoramas. jreast.co.jp

16. ADAPTIVE REUSE

Alila YangshuoGuangxi, China
Horizontal Space Design and
Vector Architects

It's one thing to convert an old warehouse into a hotel. It's another to transform an
abandoned sugar mill in the Chinese hinterland into a surreal destination for well-
ness and discovery. Working with interior designer Ju Bin of Shenzhen's Horizontal
Space Design, Dong Gong of Beijing studio Vector Architects reimagined the 1960s
industrial site as a 17-room resort that pays homage to the *karst*-dotted landscape.
Cavernous public spaces, including an underground spa, allude to the region's caves,
while a former loading dock has become a swimming pool that juxtaposes the past
and present: Gong added new perforated-concrete structures that mimic the form of
the original buildings while adding a contemporary sheen. alilahotels.com

17. CITY

Los Angeles

Considering the recent spate of adaptive development projects, it would appear
that Los Angeles has finally taken notice of its architectural bounty. The renaissance
of DTLA is evidence enough—early-20th-century buildings have been
rehabbed and recast as innovative cultural institutions, incubating a new gen-
eration of artists and designers, and architecturally ambitious projects such
as The Row DTLA, a 30-acre railroad terminus by Rios Clementi Hale Studio
that's now home to shops, restaurants, and galleries, are reimagining once-over-
looked spaces—but there's more to the story. Design-conscious hotels are sprout-
ing up all over the city, including **The Freehand LA**, Roman & Williams's boho
reskinning of downtown's Commercial Exchange Building; Jacques Garcia's
sumptuous **NoMad Hotel**, in the old Bank of Italy headquarters; the swank
La Peer, by Gulla Jonsdottir, in West Hollywood; and the **Surfrider Hotel**, whose
elevated beach house look is perfect for Malibu. Eric Owen Moss's geometric
building for the restaurant **Vespertine** competes for the spotlight with Chef Jordan
Kahn's avant-garde food. And that favorite Los Angeles pastime—shopping—
now doubles as a conceptual design tour: **Casa Perfect**, the West Coast outpost of
beloved home brand the Future Perfect, moved into Elvis's former pad in Beverly
Hills; artist Sterling Ruby took over the new **Calvin Klein** flagship; Snarkitecture
did a store for **Kith**; and local architecture firm Johnston Marklee designed a show-
room for **Knoll**. Perhaps most significantly, the city hired its first Chief Design
Officer, *Los Angeles Times* architecture critic Christopher Hawthorne.

18. CRUISE

Guntû

Is it a bamboo barge? A floating *ryokan*? A tricked-out yacht for modern-day samurai? One thing that Guntû certainly is not: a behemoth ocean liner crammed with thousands of booze-cruisers. Only 38 passengers can live aboard this Zen garden of a vessel, crafted by Japanese architect Yasushi Horibe out of cypress, walnut, and glass. The 19 cabins are envelopes of warm timber, shoji screens, and windows opening onto private terraces, most of them equipped with soaking tubs. Among the onboard facilities are a sushi counter, lounge, spa, communal bath, sauna, and *engawas*, traditional Japanese porches that provide views of the tranquil Seto Inland Sea. Calm waters, indeed. guntu.jp

19. CULTURAL INSTITUTION

Musée Yves Saint Laurent

Marrakesh, Morocco

Arguably the last of the great French couturiers, Yves Saint Laurent found his spiritual home in Marrakesh, a place dominated by the intricate patterns and vibrant colors that informed much of his work. Now the designer's legacy—thousands of garments, accessories, sketches, photographs, and other arcana—is preserved and showcased in a museum worthy of his creativity. Inspired by Saint Laurent's juxtaposition of curves and straight lines, tight tailoring with loosely flowing fabric, Karl Fournier and Olivier Marty of Paris-based Studio KO designed a structure of smooth terrazzo topped with tessellated brickwork that appropriately calls to mind a lace cape worn over a satin gown. museeyslmarakech.com

20. CULTURAL INSTITUTION

Louvre Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Jean Nouvel's design for the Louvre Abu Dhabi is a contemporary meditation on traditional Arabic motifs, an engineering marvel that's also an architectural coup de maître. Built to house a rotating selection of masterworks borrowed from French institutions, as well as new acquisitions, the museum is a veritable city unto itself: a medina-like cluster of 55 buildings, all covered by a vast, nearly 600-foot dome made of eight interlacing layers of aluminum and steel. A tapestry of 7,850 star-shaped apertures allow light to filter into the interior, a magical filigreed effect that significantly reduces energy consumption. Gallery ceilings are made up of 25,000 individual pieces of glass that incorporate both natural and artificial light, optimizing viewing conditions while protecting the works on display. louvreabudhabi.ae

21. PARK OR PUBLIC SPACE

CPH-Ø1

Copenhagen

Equal parts metaphor and public space, CPH-Ø1 is a 215-square-foot floating platform moored in Copenhagen's busy harbor. Made from local, sustainable wood using traditional boat-building techniques—and with nothing but a linden tree at its center—it's part of hometown architect Marshall Blecher's broader vision for a recreational "Parkipelago," designed in response to the city's increasingly industrialized waterfront and concerns about rising sea levels. Blecher has big plans for additional islands—including a sauna, mussel farms, and a sail-in café—to be accessed by boat or even strung together for special events. But even how it sits now, this tiny contemplative oasis fills the void. copenhagenslands.com



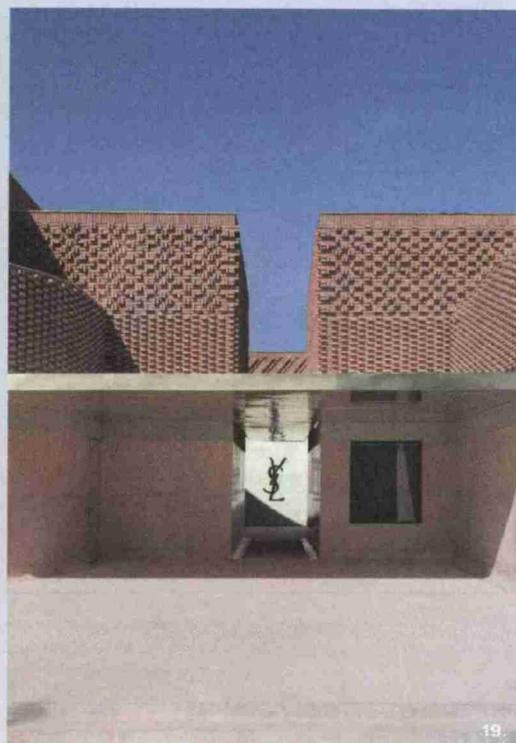
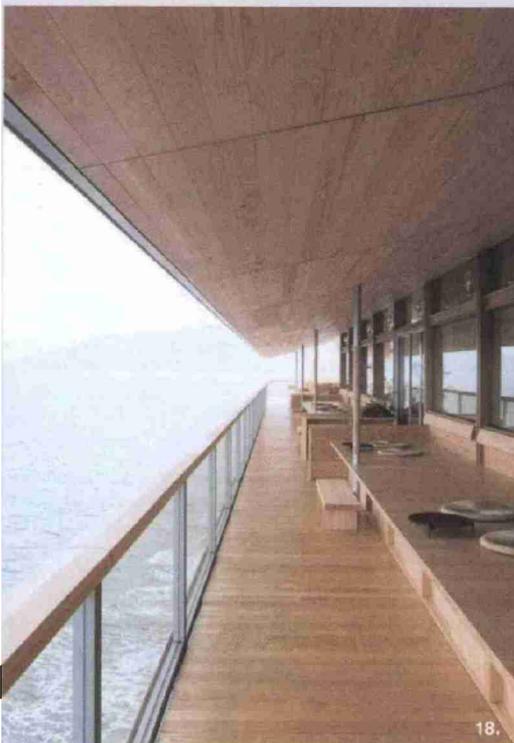
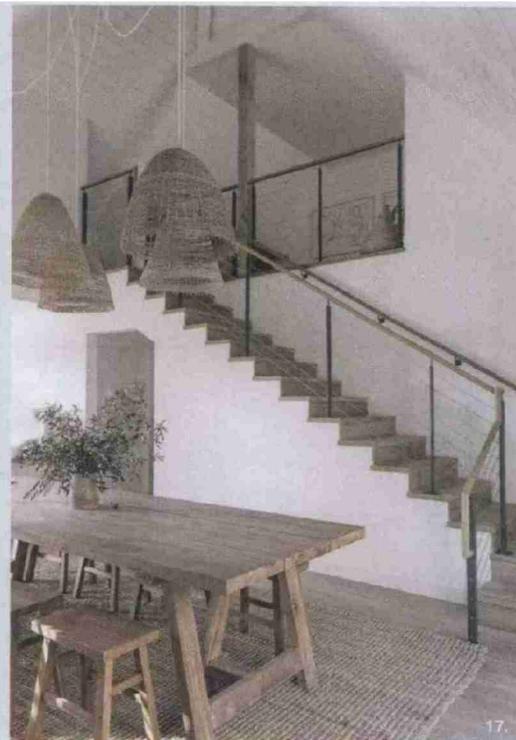
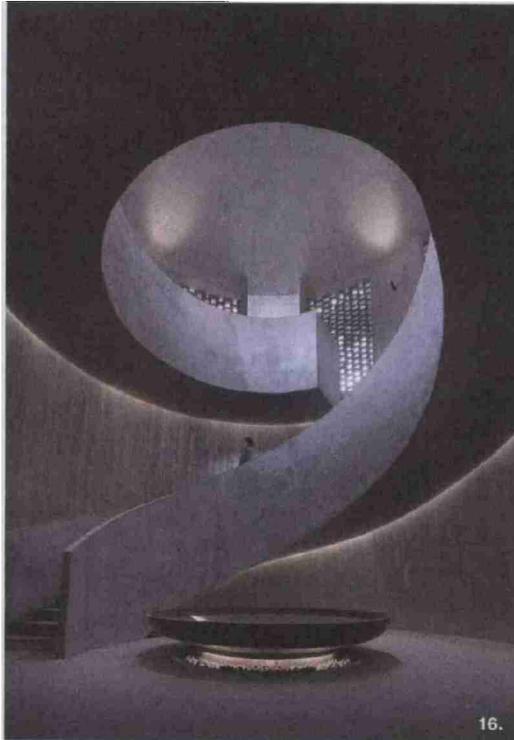
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Medienart: Korrespondentenartikel
Auflage: 1

Seite: 0
Fläche: 317'715 mm²

Auftrag: 1095521
Themen-Nr.: 558.010

Referenz: 70815723
Ausschnitt Seite: 7/11



22. SMALL HOTEL — DOMESTIC

Sound ViewGreenport, New York
Studio Tack

Fronting a quarter mile of private beach on Long Island's North Fork (the Hamptons' less flashy cousin), this revamp of a 1950s motel by New York-based Studio Tack marries twin impulses: nostalgia for the Great American Road Trip and the laid-back beach house Modernism of Cape Cod and Fire Island. The mix of elements—ship-lapped cedar paneling, midcentury lighting fixtures, seating woven from rope or rattan—conjures a summer seaside vibe while deftly avoiding kitsch. Except, perhaps, in the tavern-like bar, whose dark wood walls, round leather booths and captain's barstools have remained virtually unchanged. soundviewgreenport.com

23. SMALL HOTEL
— INTERNATIONAL**Tsingpu Retreat**Yangzhou, China
Neri & Hu

The reclaimed-brick walls of Tsingpu Retreat frame the sky as if it's an ever-changing painting. Inspired by Chinese *butong* houses, Shanghai-based firm Neri & Hu conceived the 20-room hotel, near Yangzhou, China's Slender West Lake, to meld landscape and architecture inside—where terrazzo meets white oak and brass—and out. With public spaces that include an art gallery and teahouse, not to mention a network of pathways, courtyards, and water features, the resulting experience is one of meditative solace—a place where time is at a standstill, even as clouds roll on above. tsingpu.com

24. RESORT — INTERNATIONAL

**Sacromonte
Landscape Hotel**Maldonado, Uruguay
MAPA Architects

Plenty of countryside hotels are designed to blend into the background. Sacromonte almost disappears. Spread over 250 acres in Uruguay's wild Sierra Carapé, about an hour north of Punta del Este, and designed by Montevideo-based MAPA Architects, the wine resort's structures are sheathed in one-way mirrored glass that reflects the mountains, vineyards, and skies filled with fluffy clouds that surround it. The 13 steel cabins were prefabricated, then brought to the site and erected on platforms of local stone; rear walls were assembled from stacked cut timber. Given the setting, sustainability was an important consideration (as evidenced in the low-emissivity glass, living roofs, and wastewater treatment) but the overall effect is one of beatific calm. sacromonte.com

25. LUGGAGE — HIGH-END

**Montblanc
#MY4810**

Ken Kiyoyuki Okuyama

The first comprehensive luggage collection from Montblanc taps into the brand's deep expertise in materiality, functionality, and design, and speaks to its peripatetic base. "We want our customers to continue to journey, and luggage is a very important part of that journey," says Montblanc CEO, Nicolas Baretzki. "It's really like a lifetime companion." To give the five-piece line of polycarbonate trolleys longevity, Montblanc employed a Japanese ball-bearing system for wheels, German-constructed handles, and leather details from its Florence *pelletteria*. As for its name, #MY4810 refers to the height of Mont Blanc in meters, and is styled to look like an airline number, further encouraging its users to reach new heights.

26. LUGGAGE — DISRUPTOR

Away x Gray Malin

Away, the forward-thinking luggage brand, disrupted the industry with user-friendly design (lightweight, durable, crammed with convenient features) and a game-changing business model (direct-to-consumer sales, smart collaborations, a lifestyle-centric brand image). But forget all that. This limited-edition line, created with the travel photographer Gray Malin, seduces with wanderlust-inducing looks alone. The exterior is available in coral, sky blue, or white; the interiors are lined with Malin's dreamy overhead images of beach or snow scenes—instantly transporting, even on the dreariest work trip. Awaytravel.com

27. SPA

Retreat Spa at Blue Lagoon

Grindavík, Iceland
Design Group Italia

The Blue Lagoon has become the setting for a million selfies, but a new luxury spa and hotel—designed by Iceland's Basalt Architects and Milan-based Design Group Italia—promises a much more serene experience. Built on 800-year-old lava flows and surrounded by silica-rich, geothermally heated waters, The Retreat's spare geometries draw inspiration from the environment while taking care not to detract from it. The spa dispenses treatments like underwater massages, and utilizes silica, algae, and minerals from the site, while the 62 rooms employ local wood and stone, the portrait of Scandi-mod cool. Guests also have access to a private area of the lagoon, so they can post to Instagram in peace. bluelagoon.com

28. MIXED-USE SPACE

Sala Equis

Madrid
Payser and Piantea Estudio

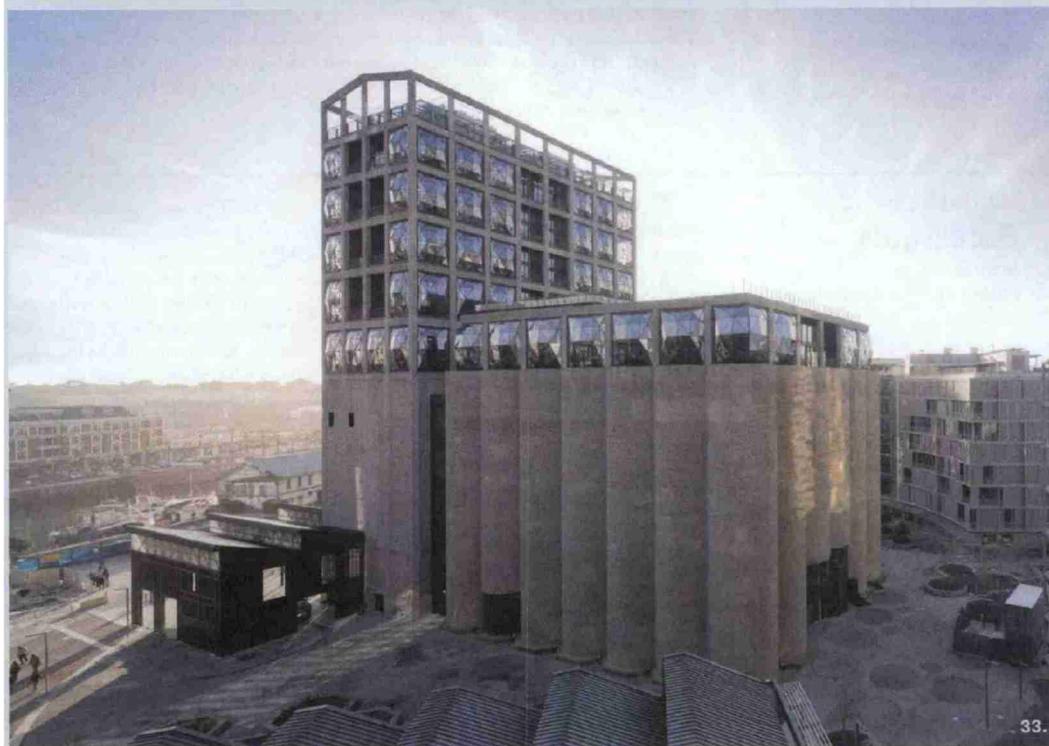
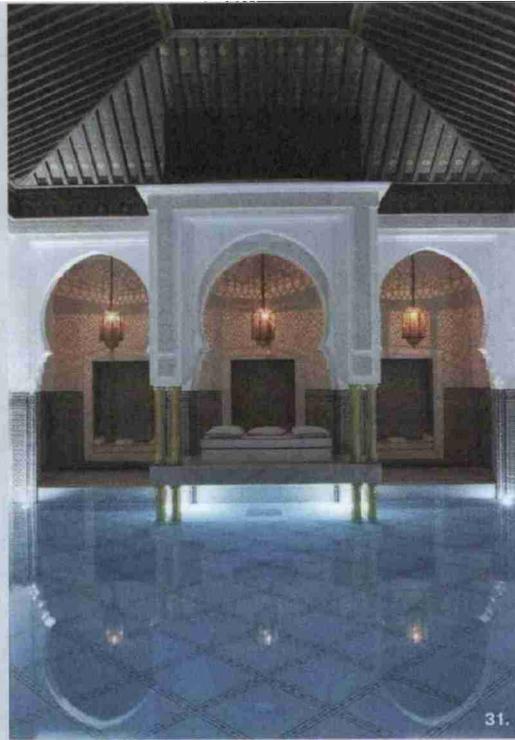
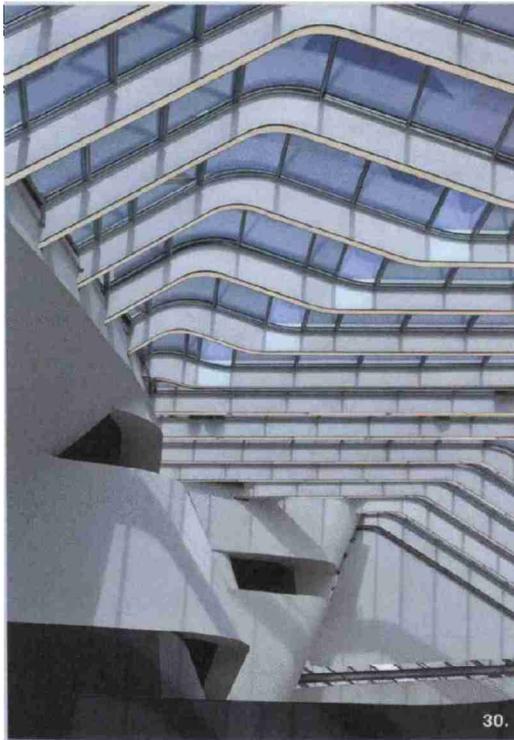
In the 1980s, before it became a hub of Madrid's flurrying social scene, the building that houses Sala Equis was a porn theater. Fitting, then, that the mixed-use space—which hosts movie screenings and exhibitions and serves *pinchos* and cocktails at the former concession stand—is now a warren of visual eye candy, albeit of the design variety. Climbing vines appear to shinny up the walls, and neon lights cast the interior in an ambient glow, while a range of seating options, from velvet banquettes to hanging swings, serve as the starting blocks for those Spanish nights that famously conclude only when the sun rises. salaquis.es

29. SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

Silver Oak Alexander Valley Winery

Healdsburg, California

Already a pioneer in the wine industry for its LEED Platinum-certified facility in Napa, Silver Oak stayed on the cutting edge of sustainable design with its new winery in Sonoma County. The goal: net-zero energy and water usage by way of an innovative filtration system, which allows each drop to be reused at least three times in the production process. The 70 acres of Cabernet Sauvignon vines are irrigated using harvested rainwater alone—a necessary miracle in this drought-prone area—and solar panels will eventually provide 105% of the estate's energy needs. All the building materials were also vetted for harmful chemicals, and include reclaimed woods (redwood from a 1930s winery; oak flooring from naturally felled trees). Architect Daniel Piechota—who helped design the Post Ranch Inn in Big Sur—didn't neglect beauty: The crisply streamlined buildings perfectly frame the Alexander Valley's stunning vistas. silveroak.com





30. TRANSPORTATION —
STATIONS AND TERMINALS

Napoli-Afragola High-Speed Train Station

Naples

A critical hub linking several high-speed railway lines across southern Italy, Napoli Afragola is destined to be remembered as one of Zaha Hadid's most beloved public works. The late architect and her team envisioned the structure as a bridge that unites the communities on either side of the tracks, while also serving as a main concourse where passengers can eat, shop, meet, and lounge before departure. A sinuous glass roof, held up by Corian-clad steel trusses, provides natural light—all the better to appreciate Hadid's signature swoops and curves, used here to stunning effect. Taken as a whole, the building expresses speed, efficiency, and elegance, just like the future-leaning network it serves.

31. HALL OF FAME — HOTEL
SWIMMING POOL

La Mamounia

During the summertime, temperatures in Marrakesh often top 95 degrees; La Mamounia, the oldest grand hotel in Morocco's grandest old imperial city, offers respite. While the grounds were recently renovated by French superstar architect Jacques Garcia, the indoor swimming area remains a bastion of traditional opulence, all soaring ceilings and Moorish tiled pillars and art deco stained glass. Spend an hour lounging on the main poolside platform (replete with kingly daybed and golden columns) and you'll understand the kaleidoscopic optimism of La Mamounia's most influential guest: Yves Saint Laurent.

32. HALL OF FAME — BAR

Grand Central Oyster Bar

What is it about Grand Central Oyster Bar that keeps us coming back? Maybe it's those wondrous ceilings, their arching elegance and the hypnotic perfection of their interlocking herringbone tiles. Maybe it's that long marble bar, unveiled at the grand opening in 1913, and how it survived a massive fire in 1997, then anchored a James Beard Icon Award win in 2017. Maybe it's the juxtaposition of it all, this stately landmark built into the West's great epicenter of transience, the inexplicable brightness of its windowless dining area, the mystique of being impervious to the passing of time in a city that can barely keep up with itself. Or maybe it's the oysters. They're pretty good, too.

33. TRAVEL DESIGNER
OF THE YEAR

Thomas Heatherwick, Heatherwick Studio

Thomas Heatherwick is pushing 50, but he still seems like a wunderkind. The London-based designer and founder of Heatherwick Studio has installed a profusion of otherworldly architectural works across the globe, like the U.K. Pavilion for the Shanghai World Expo, an ode to seeds—yes, seeds—with 60,000 hairlike acrylic rods that catch the light like dandelion. His most notable recent works: two landmark towers set along the Shanghai Bund, designed with Foster + Partners, and Cape Town's waterfront Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa, which Heatherwick Studio remade from an abandoned grain silo complex comprised of 116 vertical tubes. "The technical challenge was to find a way to carve out spaces and galleries from the ten-story high tubular honeycomb without completely destroying the authenticity of the original building," Heatherwick says. "The result was as much about inventing new forms of surveying, structural support, and sculpting as it was about normal construction techniques." Heatherwick was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 2013. But, to us, he'll always be the Commander of Cool. heatherwick.com