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The Art of Space

Green oases in the desert sands. Cool high-rise blocks and mythical gardens. Floating cities and underwater settlements. Skyscrapers and towers. Architecture in a category of its own, employing the most up-to-the-minute construction designs and traditional composition in natural spaces. From the breathtaking to the bizarre, the series **The Art of Space** shows the incredible variety of spatial experimentation being conducted today. It shines the spotlight on the risks and opportunities presented by the ever-changing face of our world.

01 The Gardener and the Princes – Enchanted Saudi Arabia

A German landscape architect has been working in Arab countries for the last 30 years, designing parks, gardens and boulevards. He grants us a rare glimpse of the otherwise very private sphere of the Saudi royal family. The gardener's work involves marrying the highly modern lifestyle of the contemporary royals with ancient traditions and natural features.

02 When Buildings Grow Wings – Architects Emulate Nature

Pneumatic constructions, lightweight varieties of steel, rope nets and membrane sails. New construction forms and materials modelled on natural phenomena – a spider's web, for example, the surface of a soap bubble, the animal skin of a wing. Spectacular buildings are being erected all over the globe, fantastically light creations on the highest technical and scientific level.

03 Très, très chic! – A Tour of Europe's Most Beautiful Designer Homes

Designers and architects spend their lives styling spaces for others. But what do their personal spaces look like? What is important to them, how do they put their own individual stamp on their personal sphere? Join us on a breathtaking trip across Europe, for an intimate glimpse of the most unusual homes and exclusively designed living

spaces that hover somewhere between dream and reality. One thing is certain – it all promises to be très, très chic!

04 The Cabriolet House – Letting the Light Flood In

Whatever your views on modern architecture might be, the chances are you are fascinated by the idea of a house with almost windowless outer walls. The challenge for architects is to afford the resident family the maximum privacy, without making them feel in any way restricted. The result: a dream home that positively basks in light, with a courtyard that can be opened up like cabriolet.

05 The Telescopic House – A Home With Good Prospects

The woman who built this home says: "Spaces have an influence not only on physical sensitivities, but also on spiritual mood." And how right she is. But there's just one problem: the building plot is long and narrow, posing an extreme challenge. The result is a design masterpiece, a unique modern burrow. A telescopic house with very special prospects.

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06 Feng Shui for a Better Life – Arranging Spaces the Chinese Way

Are you having trouble sleeping? Maybe there's a water vein under your bed. Or the energy, known in Chinese as the Qi, is not flowing properly in your home. A solution is at hand. The practice of Feng Shui balances and harmonises that energy within buildings and landscapes. It accentuates the relationship between man and nature, based on fundamental Chinese philosophical principles, for example the teachings of yin and yang. You never know, it could change your life.

07 Floating Cities – A New Home on the Water?

Rising sea levels are threatening coastal regions throughout the world. One of the countries likely to be hardest hit by climate change is The Netherlands. More than a quarter of its territory lies below sea level. The Dutch response to the experts' dire predictions is innovative and unusual. Architects there are designing buildings that float on water.

08 Nothing But Glass – A Far-Sighted Concept

Anyone building on a south-facing hillside with a stunning view should open the house up to the light and the landscape and keep it closed to the north. We visit just such a house, with a thirty-meter facade of glass overlooking a beautiful valley.

09 Boomtown Dubai – In a Financial Tight Spot

Dubai has the tallest skyscrapers, the most magnificent shopping mall, the most luxurious hotel and the largest artificial islands in the world. But Dubai's property market nearly experienced a crash, which revealed a brief but shocking glimpse at its economic vulnerability. This has increased doubts about Dubai's urban planning concept and about whether it can withstand the pressures of the international financial markets.

10 Purists at Work – An Intelligent House

The design is clear and simple. But the façade of this particular house conceals some phenomenal technology. For example, the owner may be away on holiday, but he can still communicate with people trying to visit him at home. Advanced control systems allow for energy-saving and intelligent interaction between the house and its human inhabitants.

11 Up in the Clouds – Life in Chicago's Hancock Center

The John Hancock Center is one of the world's tallest structures and draws half a million tourists every year. About 5,000 people live in this Chicago landmark and they rarely need to leave it. They have everything they need under one roof – offices, a post office, a bank, a car park, a television station, fitness center, swimming pool, and plenty of shops.

12 Old Without, New Within – A House Inside a House

Deep in the Bavarian Forest lies an old, weather-beaten farmhouse. It was small, humble, warped, cramped and totally dilapidated; its history stretches back 170 years. Then it was remodelled. The integration of concrete cubes into the existing framework created a house inside a house, a living space where new design finds its place within the original structure.

13 Under Pressure – Living and Working Under Water

The idea of colonizing the ocean floor has been mankind's dream for centuries, but could people really live or work underwater? For years now, visionary architects have been thinking up ways to make that dream a reality.

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14 Way Up High –

Skyscrapers and Towers **HD**

Tall buildings have always represented a fascinating challenge to architects. Chicago is the birthplace of the skyscraper. The tallest buildings the world had ever seen were constructed here using steel in the late 19th century, and the city skyline is still dominated by an impressive number of skyscrapers. Structures such as the Eiffel Tower in Paris or the TV tower in Berlin also attract hundreds of visitors daily hoping for a bird's eye view of the city.

15 Clay Building Is Back

Building with clay has long been out of fashion in Europe and other parts of the world. But as the concept of sustainability gains in significance, clay's qualities as a construction material are finding new favor among architects and planners. Clay is universally available, it is malleable, it stores warmth and it can even help keep the air clean indoors. Above all, construction with clay requires little energy.

16 The House as a Source of Energy

In the assessment of factors causing climate change, houses rank among the most voracious consumers of energy. Now, the world is seeing the construction of the first "energy plus houses", which produce more energy than they use.

17 Brick – Nature's Own Building Material

Fired bricks have been used as a construction material for more than 5,000 years – from ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece and Rome through to the present day. Bricks still enjoy a good reputation worldwide. They offer protection from damaging environmental factors, protect against fire, and have good heat-insulating and sound-proofing properties.

18 Energy Saving House – Old Ideas, New Technology

A wooden structure with two concrete cores – these are the features of a house recently built in southern Germany. Because the earth is soft there, the house had to be built on piles driven deep into the ground. The piles have been fitted with pipes for a geothermal heat pump. The house combines modern design and energy efficiency with traditional building techniques specific to the region.

19 Nature Is Future

Awareness of the need to save energy is growing in Arab Mediterranean nations. That, in part, is in response to climate change and rising energy prices. More and more money is now being spent on the construction of low-energy housing, rather than badly insulated concrete buildings. Prototypes are being developed in many countries.

20 Searching for the City of Tomorrow **HD**

More and more people are living in cities, and they are constantly growing and changing. Photographer Peter Bialobrzeski captures this state of flux in his images. His search for the city of tomorrow takes him to the Chinese megacities of Hong Kong and Shenzhen, as well as the South African township of Soweto.

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21 My Home is my Castle – Living in Historic Buildings

Many people dream of living in a castle. But what is it really like to live a modern life in such a historical setting, often with unheatable rooms and immense maintenance costs? Families that have lived in stately homes for generations and others that have acquired theirs more recently throw open the doors to their private quarters.

22 The Fagus Factory – Walter Gropius' Timeless Factory Building **HD**

In 1911, the German businessman Carl Benscheidt commissioned a new factory from the man who would later found the Bauhaus. With his Fagus Factory in Alfeld, Walter Gropius wrote architectural history. The innovative design broke with all tradition and created working conditions that were exemplary at the time. The factory is an important example of early modern architecture and has been included on UNESCO's list of world heritage sites.

23 Courage and Creativity – New Life on an Old Farmstead

It used to be a delapidated old farmhouse in the southern German city of Regensburg – until it was discovered and restored by a group of young people keen to create new spaces for a new way of life. They turned the farmhouse and cowshed into apartments and completed the ensemble with two new semi-detached houses.

24 Vacation-Style Living – A Sustainable Neighbourhood

Residents of the solarCity neighbourhood in the Austrian city of Linz say living there is like being on holiday. SolarCity is home to some 3,000 people and is considered to be a model example of ecological urban development. Famous architects such as Sir Norman Foster have paid particular attention to ensuring high construction standards and low energy consumption.

25 Dream Homes – Future Living Concepts

It should be cosy, luxurious or eco-friendly; made of steel, concrete or natural materials: everyone has different ideas about how their dream home should look. Today's homeowners are looking for properties that can rise to the challenges of the future. They should be adaptable to each and every stage of their owners' lives, from when they start a family right through to retirement. And of course, the buildings' energy consumption should be consistently low.

26 Singapore – City of Gardens

The city state of Singapore is just 700 square kilometers in size. Building plots are expensive. But almost 50 percent of the metropolis is actually green – Singapore has no less than 300 parks. Trees and grass are a feature on every street and around residential blocks. This is the result of a meticulous and strictly implemented urban planning concept aimed at making Singapore a city for living, working and playing.

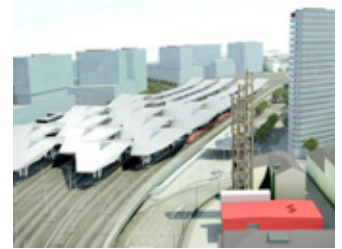
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27 Building with Light – A Masterpiece of Organic Architecture **HD**

The small German town of Löbau is home to one of the most stunning examples of Modernist architecture, Haus Schminke, a villa designed in the early 1930s by Hans Scharoun. The house, full of light and life, is a historical monument of global repute.

28 Gateway to the City – Railway Station Architecture **HD**

Railway stations are public places, symbols of mobility and a stage for displays of emotion: Farewells and reunions, homesickness and wanderlust. They provide travelers with their first impression of a city. How does railway station architecture pay heed to the building's manifold functions – both in the past and the present?

29 Bunkers for Sale – Visions for Relics of the Past

Germany wants to sell its stock of bunkers. But who is going to be interested in buying such problematic structures – windowless, difficult to heat and prohibitively expensive to demolish? Innovative architects are working on new ideas to make the bunkers a more attractive prospect.

30 Impressive Spaces – Casting Car Parks in a New Light **HD**

Parking garages used to be no-fuss, functional buildings. Now they are being given a makeover by well-known architects. Newly-designed garages aim to enhance the quality of life in city centers, and many places are now seeing the emergence of light and airy spaces reminiscent of banqueting halls or cathedrals.

31 Eurozone HQ – The New European Central Bank Building

The European Central Bank HQ is set to be yet another eye-catching feature of Frankfurt's skyline. It comprises new twin polygonal skyscrapers and a huge market hall from the 1920s that will become the main entrance and public area. The architects are Coop Himmelb(l)au of Vienna.

32 Many Concepts and One Plan – Eight Builders Under One Roof

Eight clients and two architects working on a single project: This may sound complicated, but it has its advantages. For example, it can reduce the costs for connecting the utilities. Even when there is a need for close consultation, individuality need not be sacrificed. Each client will end up with a lovely home.

33 Wild Beauty: Berlin's New Center – A Tour of the Government Quarter

Government buildings, parliamentary chambers and corporate offices have filled holes in the German capital made by World War Two, plots that remained undeveloped while Berlin was a divided city. On a tour of the new government quarter, urban planners and architects point out some of the things most of us miss.

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34 Vienna's Old Town – A Living Monument

Vienna's historic center has been a UNESCO World Heritage site since 2001. And that represents quite a challenge for all concerned: how to respect the constraints on construction in a protected historic area while addressing the needs of those living in this city of over a million people. For architects, urban planners and the conservation authorities in the Austrian capital, this means a perpetual balancing act between preservation and progress.

35 Proud Landmarks – A New Look for Parking Garages **HD**

These days in many parts of the world parking garages are much more than just bulky concrete eyesores. Renowned architects are designing imaginative buildings that exude clarity and modernity. Not far from Tokyo, for example, Japanese architect Kengo Kuma has designed a monumental building for 1,000 vehicles. The cleverly slatted facade creates a spectacular play of light and shade.

36 Treasure in the Debris – Old Doors, Beams and Roof Tiles

More and more people are upcycling and reconditioning used building materials for their homes. Old tiles, metal fittings, doors and floorboards can be full of character and often tell a story, making them an attractive addition to contemporary decor. In fact, some derelict buildings are the scene of what can only be described as full-scale treasure hunts. These days, materials such as beams and doors can fetch a high price.

37 Life on a Houseboat – Realising the Dream of a Floating Home

The two young architects Amelie Rost and Jörg Niederehe won a highly sought-after berth in the northern German city of Hamburg with a creative design for a houseboat. They put their heart and soul into the realisation of their dream of a life on the water. We filmed the entire process, from the construction of a pontoon in a Hamburg shipyard to the moment the couple move into their houseboat.

38 Diverse and Dignified – China's New Arts Venues **HD**

Nowhere in the world are as many new theaters and opera houses being built as in China. Any city there with a sense of civic pride wants to have its own grand new arts venue. Local authorities commission star architects to create stunning world-class buildings.

39 Summer Architecture – Lake Wörth Villas

Lake Wörth in southern Austria was a popular holiday resort for well-heeled guests as far back as the mid-19th century. Starting around 1850, many charming villas, mansions, bath- and boathouses were built. A distinctive Lake Wörth style emerged – a mix of regional Romanticism, art nouveau, Baroque and English country-house architecture.

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