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Off Center

For its 2021 edition, the Chicago Architecture Biennial ditches its downtown digs to invest in historically underserved communities.

There wasn't much to the pavilion: a boxy open framework of green-painted lumber infilled with gauzy white curtains that caught the sunlight and flapped in the breeze. According to the press flier, The Open Workshop, a practice run by California College of the Arts professor Neeraj Bhatia, built it to serve as a meeting space for the community. The curtains, it says, can be moved to "accommodate different styles of gathering, signifying the evolving practices and values of communing." Bhatia calls it *The Center Won't Hold*.

A big name for such a modest structure, but that's not uncommon for temporary installations at architecture biennials, which, though often thrown together on a shoestring budget, grapple with larger themes. "The center won't hold" is a slight misquote of a line from *The Second Coming*, a poem by W. B. Yeats. It is perhaps the most cribbed poem in the English language, its lines **continued on page 60**



The Changing Tide

Climate change is teaching designers to expand their horizons—or at least it should. **Read on page 31.**



COURTESY RAFI SEGAL AND SUSANNAH DRAKE

Opposites Attract

Gio Ponti's incongruously stolid Denver Art Museum undergoes a restoration and sprouts a space-age appendage. **Read on page 24.**



JAMES H. HENDRICK PHOTOGRAPHY/COURTESY THE DENVER ART MUSEUM

The Once & Future Harbor

The growth of offshore wind energy could remake the Port of New York.

In March 2021, the Biden administration announced an ambitious plan to dramatically expand the country's wind energy output to 110 gigawatts by 2050. Much of this expansion will take place on the Eastern Seaboard, and while Senator Joe Manchin's machinations may jeopardize the financial largesse of federal support, New York State, in line with its goal to achieve a carbon-free electricity system by 2040, aims to take the lead in this massive undertaking with a bid to power 2.4 million homes across the state with offshore wind energy.

The growth of the offshore wind industry also presents a singular opportunity to reimagine the working waterfront of the metropolitan region. The nascent industry is in the process of reinvigorating long-dormant stretches of New York City's once pre-eminent port, which could see a revival of maritime freight and subsequent reductions in truck-based emissions, all while providing thousands of middle-class jobs.

A vast political and commercial coalition, including the likes of longtime working waterfront champion Congressman Jerrold Nadler, has been pushing the movement forward.

"It was part of the Green New Deal before it was even hip to talk about the Green New Deal," said Nadler's district director Robert Gottheim. "We have been approaching this issue through economic development, jobs, and transportation. If the port industry becomes more efficient, they will be able to load a ship in Okinawa or Rotterdam or China, and drop off cargo in Brooklyn. And, through the redevelopment of a working waterfront, we can address asthma rates in the poorest neighborhoods of the city and provide well-paying jobs."

There are several infrastructural and geographic attributes that played an outsized role in the development of the New York City region into a global commercial center. The construction **continued on page 35**



Acting Out

Read about outdoor products and more on page 42.

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Lighting

Lighting design is a more varied thing than it's given credit for. Whether subtle or obvious, soft or bold, light operates on many different registers, particularly when applied to a public plaza (where safety is paramount) or garden (where privacy might be desired). Often when flexibility is required, or simply when a site is past a certain size, a mix of light sources must be used in coordination. Lastly, lighting needs to be durable. On these points and more, these stylish luminaires fit the bill. *By Adrian Madlener*



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