



5 secret spaces open during Milan design week



Hamlet's castle is hosting one big sleepover party



Street artist Biancoshock installs tiny rooms in Milan's manholes



Property of the week: a converted farmhouse in Stockholm



US embassy building in Grosvenor Square set to become a hotel



5 finds from across the web: Texas Chainsaw Massacre motel, a shark-infested Airbnb and more



Rental of the week: a converted schoolhouse in Belgium's Ardennes



WWII bunker in Berlin to house The Feuerle Collection



12 hotels for vinyl lovers



Arkansas cheese factory will house Crystal Bridges Museum's new art centre



Architect Dame Zaha Hadid passes away



Detroit's vast Woods Cathedral is on the cusp of resurrection as an arts hub

ARCHITECTURE | 15.04.15 | BY EMMA O'KELLY

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This year's most unusual show locations, from a Baroque palazzo to a 1930s school

Many Italian cities wear their architectural heritage like jewellery. Milan isn't one of them. It reveals its Baroque palazzi, modernist landmarks, hidden courtyards and secret gardens unhurriedly. And often only to a select few. It can take years to discover the city's real gems, but visitors to Milan design week – also known as the Salone del Mobile, the biggest design fair on the international calendar (14-19 April) – have a head start. Each year, designers flood the city with exhibitions, and the more unknown and unexpected their locations, the better. Abandoned ballrooms, antique brickyards, ex factories – even empty swimming pools – come into their own. And that's before you've even set eyes on the furniture.



Orto Botanico di Brera

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Dating back to 1774, the Botanical Gardens are a treasured green space within the bohemian area of Brera. Surrounding artistic institutions regularly use it to host creative interventions. During Salone, a series of pop up pavilions will appear alongside the glasshouses for a show entitled Garden of Wonders. Eight designers have each been assigned a long lost perfume brand from the 1960s – 1980s and invited to resurrect it in any way they want. Expect surprising results.

13 April – 24 May; Orto Botanico, Via Brera, 28; www.beopenfuture.com

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