

THE NEW NEW LIST



CONCERT HALLS ARE THE NEW MUSEUMS

Who needs Matisse when you can have Mahler? Cities around the world are playing up their international profiles by building high-design performing arts palaces. A rash of recent openings — Frank Gehry's New World Center in Miami, Olafur Eliasson's Harpa in Reykjavik, among them — will eventually share the spotlight with Herzog & de Meuron's much-delayed Elbe Philharmonic Hall in Hamburg (above) and Zaha Hadid's sculptural tour de force in Abu Dhabi.



PUERTO RICO IS THE NEW PUERTO RICO

The island is reliving its glory days this fall with two classic resorts created from properties founded by American tycoons. Ritz-Carlton will open Dorado Beach (above) — complete with José Andrés's first restaurant abroad — on the site of Laurance Rockefeller's secluded 1950s beachfront estate. And the Condado Vanderbilt in San Juan resurrects a Spanish Revival-style retreat founded by Frederick William Vanderbilt in 1919 and built by Warren & Wetmore, the architects of Grand Central Terminal.





IPADS ARE THE NEW FRONT DESKS

And concierges. And even minibars.

Tablets are letting hotels provide maximum service with minimal human interaction.

At the new Four Seasons Toronto, guests can use in-room iPads to request turndown or order a chauffeured car. The just-opened Botanique Hotel & Spa, outside São Paulo, Brazil, nixed the reception desk in favor of check-ins via tablet. And Miami's SLS Hotel South Beach just added to its devices an idiot-proof "Champagne Now" app (above). ANDREW SESSA