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## **LA+ Environment**

## Karen M'Closkey

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 $\bullet \ \, \text{The idea of "environment" is foundational to landscape architecture - as backdrop, as surround, as something to help save}$ 

The idea of "environment" is foundational to landscape architecture — as backdrop, as surround, as something to help save. But what is the environment, or an environment? First and foremost, it is a word that is so pervasive — and its meaning taken for granted — that it is easily forgotten how recently the term has proliferated, particularly as a qualifier for myriad disciplines, institutions, and activities: environmental history, environmental studies, environmental science, environmental justice, environmental art, environmental planning, environmental protection, environmentalism. In our upcoming issue, **LA+ Environment**, designers and scholars illuminate the wide range of interpretations, histories, and projects that engage with this elusive idea.

**Karen M'Closkey** is an associate professor of landscape architecture at the University of Pennsylvania's Weitzman School of Design and Editor in Chief of LA+ *Interdisciplinary Journal of Landscape Architecture*. All contributors: Christina Antiporda; Etienne Benson; Holly Jean Buck; Lino Camprubí Bueno; Dipesh; Chakrabarty; Jess Conard; Vinita Damodaran; Sonja Dümpelmann; Diana Guo; Maria Ivanova; Rami Kanafani; Laura J. Martin; Chad Montrie; Michael Oppenheimer; Marcus Owens; Melissa S. Ragain; Jessica Varner; Andrew Witt.