

# MODERN DESIGN

ARCHITECTURE & ART

MAGAZINE CREATED BY DISEÑO EARLE | NOVEMBER 2007 **FREE MAG No.5**



**Daniel Libeskind | Patricia Urquiola | French Fashions | Second Life | Hamburg Philharmonic**



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# COMPETING TO WIN

Editorial letter by Michael Earle, magazine's editor



*Michael Earle is an American architect who grew up on the Costa del Sol before moving back to his native Boston. He worked for several firms designing large projects including the 8,000-room Venetian Resort Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. He was also Professor of Architecture in the Architecture Program at Boston Architectural Center before returning to Spain in 2002. Now, his firm Diseño Earle employs over 125 multi-lingual staff taking projects from design to construction in both residential and commercial architecture and building.*

We at Modern Design Magazine are trying to create a cultural change in our readership and in the aesthetic temperament of the areas to which we distribute. This is a complicated matter but one that imbues us with a lot of passion. We believe that by building a discourse with our readers we can speed up the modern movement leading to more thought in the design and construction processes. This needs to involve you, our readers. We need your thoughts and comments.

We will begin to introduce a series of art and photography competitions to open the discourse to everyone about what we are passionate about and we would love everyone to get involved. We will publish some of the best entries in the magazine and will prepare an exhibition at some point soon. We look forward to getting everyone involved.

"A competition was something like a public referendum," said the architectural historian Barry Bergdoll, chief curator of architecture and design at New York's Museum of Modern Art. That spirit was paramount in design contests like those for the Chicago Tribune Tower in the 1920s, the Gateway Arch in St. Louis in 1947 and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in 1981.

It seems that nearly every day a new architectural competition is announced featuring an international line-up of established or emerging architects vying to design an eye-catching museum, airport, theatre, courthouse or concert hall. "It seems to have kind of metastasized," said the Los Angeles architect Thom Mayne, who recently won a competition to design a 68-storey tower at La Défense, a business district on the western edge of Paris. (He beat out heavyweights like Rem Koolhaas of the Netherlands, Jean Nouvel of France and Herzog de Meuron of Switzerland.) "In the last 30 years just about every major building you think of came through a competition."

For the client the benefits of competitions are obvious. Developers know that high-profile design contests can bring publicity and cachet to a residential or commercial project; arts institutions have found that they can translate into donor enthusiasm. But for architects the uncertainties can be a trial. Mayne of the Los Angeles firm Morphosis cites the 1999 competition organized by the General Services Administration for a new 270,000-square-foot, or 25,000 square-metre, federal courthouse in Eugene, Oregon. He beat out four other contenders but only later learned that the location they had been given had been merely hypothetical. "They change the site, you're more or less starting over," he said.

Let us all get involved in these upcoming competitions. GOOD LUCK!

If you have any questions or comments about modern design or architecture, I can be contacted at [mearle@d-earle.com](mailto:mearle@d-earle.com)

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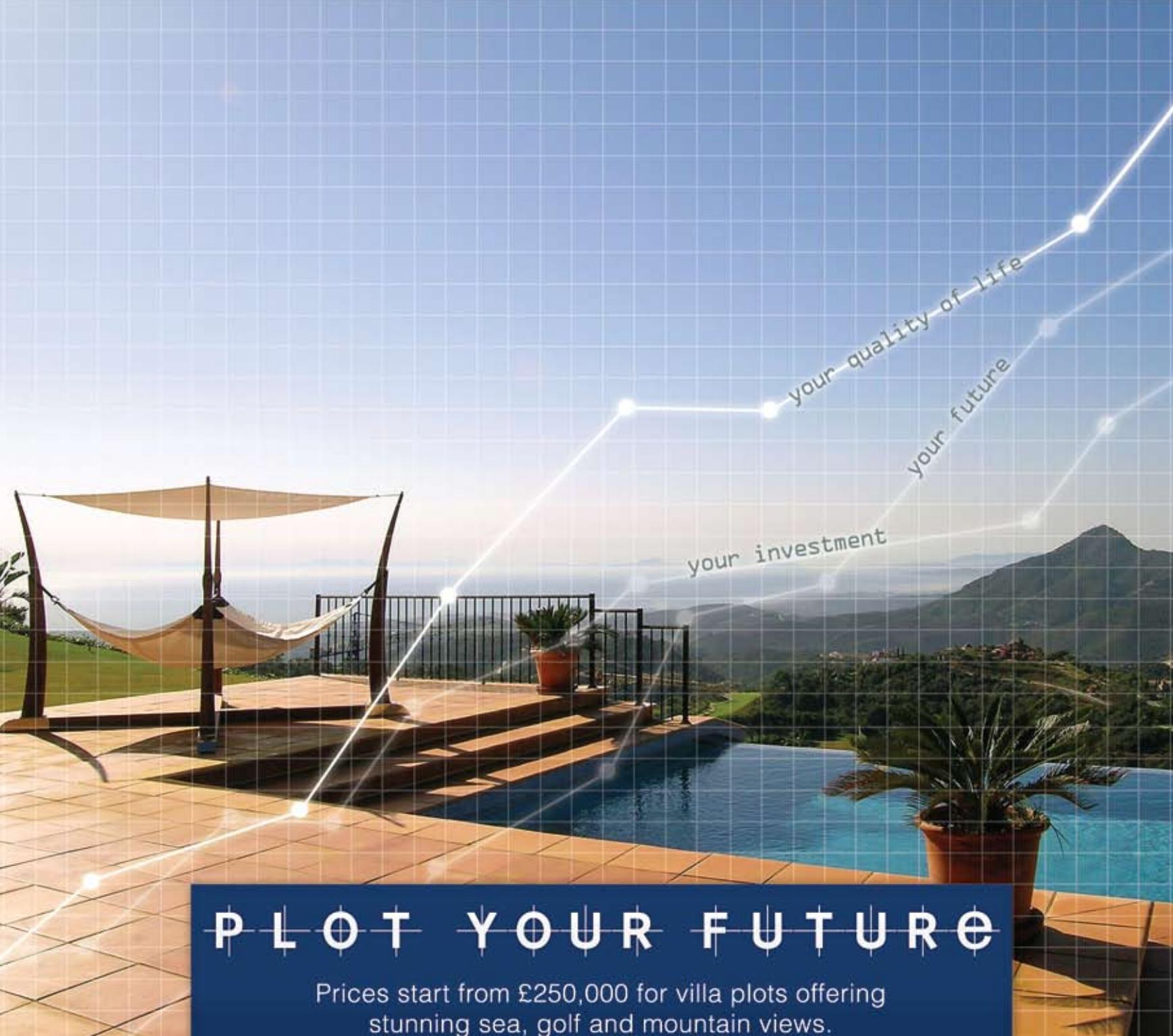
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# A BETTER WORLD

Editorial letter by Luis Gallardo, magazine's director



*Luis's multicultural background stems from his birthplace in Paris to Spanish parents. There, he studied international business and worked on diverse interesting projects around the world including the first telephone directory in Laos in South East Asia. He joined the Diseño Earle team in January 2007.*

Is architecture in crisis? Has its public popularity sunk to new depths and it no longer plays the part as representative of public needs? Modern Design's statement typifies attempts by various groups of architects and artists to redefine the role of architecture in our lives. 'Another Power' exhibition displays works by groups whose consultative initiatives, spontaneous creativity and activism is like a fresh breeze blowing through the urban planning world.

An immense diversity of projects – covering areas such as buildings, interiors, product design, art of course, engineering structures, urbanism and landscape – provides a fascinating snapshot of art-architecture's emerging generation.

This trend offers the construction industry considerable opportunities for progress. This topic can now be approached pragmatically from an operational angle in the building sector, and we are starting to see some significant initiatives and real achievements in the entire world.

Your house is your home. It is the place where you spend a lot of time (even if only for sleeping), it is a place where you meet up with friends and family to spend good quality time, a place to talk, revitalize or resource yourself, play, eat...

Everything speaks about you: your posture, your attitude, your clothes, your hair cut, your eyes of course. Your house is maybe one of the only places in the world which talks most about you. You build your own life day by day.

In this issue we are bringing you many different Modern Design contents to make you enjoy brand new ideas and many fascinating concepts of the contemporary world. How to create, build and live a Modern Style of Life. Life has the colour you want to give it.

So please, give yourself a good treat: have a nice hot chocolate drink, lie down on your cosy sofa and enjoy the latest issue of Modern Design Magazine.

MD is also available online at [www.d-earle.com](http://www.d-earle.com).

For any questions or comments about Modern Design magazine, I can be contacted at [lgallardo@d-earle.com](mailto:lgallardo@d-earle.com)

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## THE READERS' VOICE

Readers' opinions regarding our magazine and/or previous articles.

MODERN DESIGN is Architecture and Art. If you think you could be part of MODERN DESIGN or you know someone who could, please let us know. We want our magazine to be interactive. We want to progress with you. In 2016, Málaga probably will be the European City of Culture – it's not as far off as you think so let's open our minds to the world and the future. Let's make it happen!

If you have any good ideas or constructive opinions regarding MODERN DESIGN's contents, this is the place to express yourself.

Please visit our web page  
[www.d-earle.com](http://www.d-earle.com) and email us at [magazine@d-earle.com](mailto:magazine@d-earle.com)

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## LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

- "It's good to see such a modern focus in a magazine on the Costa, and there are some great photos in the current issue. I was pleased to see the piece on Eve Mosher's project in there too, and you asked for views on the piece. I think the feature seemed a little reactionary! There is such an embracing approach to extreme and exciting new architecture that it seemed inconsistent that you questioned whether what Eve was doing is art or not. It is art - perhaps the question is more whether it's effective, whether it works, whether it creates a response in the viewer, the person who experiences it etc" - **B.L., Marbella**

- "Many thanks for sending the copy of Modern Design, we were all very impressed with the lay outs and the quality of the magazine and of course the feature is great!! You definitely pulled together some interesting quotes. Zaha is in Vienna teaching and I look forward to showing her early next week." - **ZAHA HADID ARCHITECTS, London**

- "..... I am a current Architecture student in Edinburgh Scotland. I have one year remaining in my course, my Diploma Year. I recently graduated with my Bachelors degree in Architecture with Honours, and have the one year remaining to complete my course. I recently was on holiday in the Málaga area, and picked up a copy of your magazine 'Modern Design', and I loved it, and wish there was a way I could subscribe to receive it every month." - **A.J.B., Scotland**

- "I wanted to congratulate you on the strength of the content within your pages. It is about time some modern stimulation was seen on what seems to have become unaware of the effect architecture has on the real estate markets, especially the sophisticated ones. If I may, I'd like to give some constructive criticism. The design is really busy and heavy on the eye. It takes away from the beautiful images and stand alone products that you display. I know the magazine is young but really have a look at the design element." - **R.A., Costa del Sol**

- "..... whilst I was in Spain for my holiday, I picked up your magazine and read it all the way through that entire day. I was extremely interested in the articles, especially the one about China's changing face of architecture in magazine number 3. I was hoping you would be able to contact me back on the proposal of me being sent the magazine, as I am extremely interested in pursuing the career of architecture. I'm only thirteen but I am extremely interested in the magazine and architecture." - **J.B, England**

**We want to thank all our readers for your feedback. Please continue to send us your opinions, suggestions, criticisms and/or comments to: [magazine@d-earle.com](mailto:magazine@d-earle.com)**

## One long, hot taxi ride

On July 3rd, a group of intrepid explorers started an epic 15-month journey in an über-green solar-powered taxi following a route through five continents and 50 countries, clocking up around 50,000km when their mission is complete. Having already made its way through Europe, the Middle East and Dubai, the Solar Taxi took 3 years of development and some of the most cutting-edge solar technologies to build. The solar cells are provided by Q.Cells, a leading manufacturer of silicon solar cells and the high efficiency ZEBRA batteries are specifically designed for electric vehicles. The Solar Taxi's lifespan is approximately 200,000-300,000km and if mass produced would cost €10,000 (£7,000) - nearly as much as the cab fare from North to South London! Having reached India in mid October and Jakarta at the end of October, Solar Taxi's next stops include Bali in December, Perth for the New Year, through to Singapore in February, Hong Kong in March then on via China and Japan into North America, back to Europe. The team have been documenting their journey over the past few months on their online blog, <http://solartaxi.divvio.ch/>.



## New BMW Welt building opens in Munich

On October 17th, architects Coop-Himmel(b)lau inaugurated the BMW Welt in Munich at a festive ceremony headed by BMW's Chairman of the Board of Management, Coop-Himmel(b)lau's Principal Architect, Wolf D Prix and 800 invited guests. Describing BMW Welt as the "third letter" accompanying the existing BMW HQ and Museum, Prix stated: "BMW Welt is one of the first works of a new generation of dynamic communication buildings for the 21st century and a very attractive stage for receiving a new car."

The building is sustainable through innovative climatic concepts resulting in an estimated 30% energy saving, while a dramatic Double Cone visualises the soaring dynamics of the building with its continuous transition into the seemingly floating roof. The 16,000 m<sup>2</sup> roof landscape is supported by only 11 columns and unlike conventional architectural designs, the roof not only forms the space-enclosing upper limit of the building, but in conjunction with the Double Cone forms a functional, structural, independent entity. Prix went on to say: "We thank the requirements of BMW which demand from us an architecture that is more than just a shell for the delivery of cars, but reflects the elegance and dynamics that BMW represents."



## Al Gore wins Nobel Peace Prize!

Having won an Academy Award this year for his film 'An Inconvenient Truth' - a documentary on global warming - Former US Vice President turned vocal climate change campaigner Al Gore and the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change have been jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, for spreading awareness of man-made climate change while laying the foundations for counteracting it. "I am deeply honoured to receive the Nobel Peace Prize," Gore said in a statement. "We face a true planetary emergency. The climate crisis is not a political issue, it is a moral and spiritual challenge to all of humanity."



# (More) alternative energy updates



You must be fed up to the back teeth with us ramming green technologies down your throats but, hot on the heels of 100% Design, we'd be failing if we didn't highlight new thinking on the latest design philosophies, projects and conquests in the rapidly changing world of wind and sun powered energy. So enter the Quiet Revolution helical wind turbine (try saying that after you've had a few...). 40% of Europe's wind is generated in the UK (THAT EXPLAINS EVERYTHING!!!)

and wind technology is one of the most cost effective alternative energy sources there is, the problem being the huge amounts of space traditional bladed turbines take up.

Design and engineering outfit Quiet Revolution have developed a helical (a twisted shape like a screw) wind turbine which is fully scaleable to various sizes and designed specifically for urban spaces and buildings. Wind tunnel testing, advances in software control and tweaking the physical design enables the efficiency of current turbines to be greatly increased and the Quiet Revolution team hope that larger and more integrated turbines can soon be allocated and designed to provide significant power for entire buildings. Watch this space for developments.

# Ravers unite with energy shoes!

Last month we brought you the Crowd Farms concept and two students' attempts to harness people power to generate energy. Now we're going one step further and announcing energy harvesting sneakers. Yet more smart students have designed a scheme to turn regular sneakers (trainers to non-US readers) into energy generating machines using a mini-generator, a tiny micro-computer and LCD display embedded on an adapted pair of Heelys' popular rolling sneakers. Delivering random directions for a pedestrian to follow, arrows and text show up on the LCD screen every 15-20 feet telling the wearer which direction they should travel next. The students claim that the point of all this (Is there a point?... ) is that the shoes encourage the wearer to explore territory outside their typical transport routines, has an impact on urban planning decisions and encourages users to "act out and playfully brainstorm alternative modes of transport and energy." Shouldn't these smart-alec students be getting drunk in their union bar already, instead of wasting valuable time inventing "energy shoes" that will never work, I mean, walk?



# Coffeehouse comes of new age

Houses made from shipping containers aren't new but the coffee branded illy Biennale House opens up like a flower in just 90 seconds and transforms itself from a compact container into a fully furnished and functional space with a kitchen, dining room, bathroom, bedroom, living room and library. All materials used in the house are recyclable or recycled. That's innovation for you. As Andrea Illy, chairman and CEO of illycaffè says, illy was initially interested in the idea as an examination of "home as one continuous mouldable surface, a relief against which human activity would pop out." Pass the biscuits, please.





# Daniel

ARCHITECTURE'S  
MAN IN BLACK

"The only truly serious popular architect"

"Libeskind's architecture becomes part of the program, transporting – with content – messages of programmatic and cultural significance. The buildings themselves become destinations and generators of new culture."

# LIBESKIND



When your most prominent architectural works are memorials to millions of murdered innocents and your name is Daniel Libeskind, Black is an appropriately sombre shade with which to be portrayed.

Because Libeskind knows about commemorating murdered innocents. His relationship to the Jewish Museum in Berlin is both emotional and professional – cathartic perhaps; certainly artistic. A memorial to members of his Polish family who perished at the hands of the Nazis; and a creative interpretation of a hideous moment in modern history in memory of the many who never made it. Libeskind's sentiments are Modernist to the core.

### Growing up Libeskind

This diminutive doyen of design was visibly star-struck viewing New York's architectural skyline for the first time. As the suitably named SS Constitution

sailed into New York Harbour, transporting the Libeskind family to liberty as they fled communist Poland in the early 60s, this intense first impression was to have a lasting impact on the young, wide-eyed Daniel. Both for good and bad.

Studying music in Israel (on an America-Israel Cultural Foundation Scholarship) and in New York, music and the arts were Libeskind's first love as he developed into a virtuoso performer – entertaining family, friends and audiences with his favourite instrument, the accordion. Choosing architecture over art on his mother's advice ("You can put art into architecture but you can't put architecture into art"), he received his architectural degree in 1970 from New York City's Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, and a postgraduate degree in History and Theory of Architecture at the School of Comparative Studies at Essex University, England in 1972.

61 year old Libeskind's close family ties are enduring – he works on every project with the love of his life, wife Nina, of whom he despairs at what the world would be like without her.

### Trading spaces

The Masterplanner's Masterplanner, Libeskind recalls how, as schoolboys, he and his brother watched the World Trade Centre being built, reflecting on the walk to and from school as one of the highlights of their youth, seeing the twice daily spectacle of each element of the Centre taking shape. A spectacle that's come back to haunt him in his later professional life.

Even with the aid of a crystal ball though, could Libeskind have foretold of how he would become so intimate with this building and the building so intimate with him? Is there anyone alive today with a closer affinity to the WTC – and a more instinctive right to be so affiliated? "What happened on 9/11 was not something abstract, it happened to me," he explains.



Photo courtesy of Michael Klinkhamer Photography



photo: slurry wall, ground zero courtesy of Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

With Libeskind on the other side of the world attending the opening of his new Jewish Museum in Berlin, the Twin Towers were attacked. The rest, as they say, is history in the making. The poignancy, irony – call it what you will – of this American Jew toasting the memory of one persecuted race is not lost, only to be publicly upstaged hours before by another maniacal race of human persecutors, in an equally unimaginable, horrific manner. The impact on him may have been transformative, spiritual, eerie. An omen of sorts. He flew back to Manhattan on the first available flight, feeling he “had to be there.”

Libeskind’s masterplan for the revitalised Ground Zero is of “a sacred site, not just real estate.” Originally invited on the judging panel to select the winning designer of the WTC, a previously arranged, unmoveable appointment prevented Libeskind from attending the meeting. Not wanting to let his increasingly respected talents slip from this culturally significant project, the authorities suggested instead, “Hey, y’know Danny, maybe contribute some of your own designs.”

Of the three architects selected for the WTC commission, Libeskind was the only one who took the time and trouble to venture deep into the bowels of the bombed building – searching its very soul deep within its foundations, investigating future possibilities while empathising with the 3,478 fellow Americans who died in the attacks. A familiar emotion for Libeskind.

On winning the final masterplan competition, things were looking up for Studio Daniel Libeskind. TV footage shows him at an early morning Ground Zero meeting with wife Nina. It was September 11th 2006 and they were with their assistant, Terry for a site progress meeting with the Port Authority of New York project planning teams. It was one of many “progress meetings” that’s stalled the project to the extent that Libeskind’s plan has been compromised almost out of existence. All the buildings at Ground Zero have been assigned to other architects and few of Libeskind’s ideas will be visible.

As things stand now, it’s envisaged that the 16-acre GZ site will continue to feature a large area devoted to public space, as Libeskind intended. And nobody can take away his landmark creation: its 1,776 ft tower. His plan for a Wedge of Light to beam through the GZ site at 08:46 every September 11th is also well-supported.

### Jewish Museum Berlin (photos page 18)

Libeskind’s first design to be built – at his ripe young age of 55. Described as “a building of colossal scale and Berlin’s most radical architecture project to date”, Libeskind’s Jewish Museum is a memorial to the Holocaust, but not a Holocaust memorial.



**Photos above and below:** Rendering of the World Trade Centre Path Station and Terminal by Santiago Calatrava. **Courtesy of** The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.



**Assertive. Bombastic. Masterly. Just some of the words used to describe Libeskind's Denver Art Museum, Colorado.**

Shaped "like a deconstructed Jewish star", it features three different passageways, each symbolic of a different aspect of Jewish Berliners' experience. One is "the Holocaust void" – a tall empty unheated space through whose bare concrete walls you can hear the muffled sounds of the city outside. Lit up by a single high up slit that offers no view of the sky, Libeskind describes this space as "literally a dead-end" – an expression of hopelessness.

Another leads outside to the "Garden of Exile", a close-packed forest of pillars open to the sky where no surface is horizontal or vertical, creating a sense of the exile's disoriented view of the world. The third, longest route winds through the building's interior, its exhibits aiming to describe the joint histories of Berlin and its Jews showing "all sides of the story: contribution, assimilation, then termination." Libeskind says of it: "If the neo-Nazis want to blow up the Jewish Museum, they'll have to blow up their own history at the same time."

## Denver Art Museum

"Libeskind's new Denver Art Museum is an eruption of hard-edged rhomboids that suggests gargantuan quartz crystals. This is a bold building, and it is neither an inaccessible theoretical work nor a brazen piece of entertainment, but somewhere in between." Paul Goldberger, *The New Yorker* magazine.

In contrast to Libeskind's latter experiences on the WTC project, his "wildly self-indulgent" designs for the Denver Art Museum Hamilton Building in Colorado, US are highly visible. Inspired by Denver's "vitality and growth", there was palpable excitement surrounding the project's opening in October 2006 – not least from Libeskind whose face was plastered over all the promotional brochures. His extension to the museum is an expansion of the existing eccentric structure designed by Italian architect Gio Ponti, best known for designing Milan's Pirelli Tower. As well as forming the main entrance to the entire museum complex, Libeskind's extension houses the Modern and Contemporary art collection as well as the collection of Architecture and Design and Oceanic Art.

What he describes as "An innovative museum for the 21st Century", is also his first American building to be completed, using materials closely related to Ponti's existing context (local stone) as well as innovative new materials (titanium), which together form spaces that connect local Denver tradition to the 21st century. Libeskind's addition is sheathed in more than 9,000 titanium panels laid

**photos:** Extension to the Denver Art Museum, Denver, Colorado, US – "Integrating light, coloration, atmospheric effects, temperature and weather conditions for the benefit of the visitors' experience." Completed 2006. **Photos courtesy of BitterBredt.**







3

1

2

not completely flat, so light bouncing off them seems to ripple as if the building were covered with a thin film of liquid. Exterior walls are perpendicular to the ground and each surface slopes at a different angle so that at any moment, the sun strikes each of them differently.

To make this point loud and clear to Libeskind, the Museum's curators presented the architect with a 100% titanium-clad jacket on the Museum's opening night, in front an appreciative 30,000 crowd. Marking a dramatic style departure for Libeskind from his *Man in Black* image, he donned his gift: a suitably fetching material and size fitted the beaming Libeskind, who could barely contain his pleasure at being decked out in an Armani exclusive.



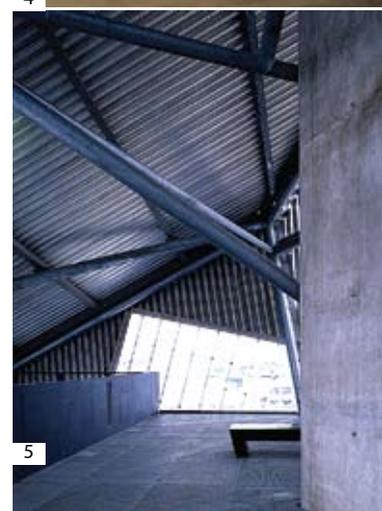
Libeskind believes that architectural boldness, spatial inventiveness and functional ingenuity can be fused together to create an unprecedented experience for the public.



When a museum's architectural design outshines the objets d'art to be presented within it, you have to wonder, which came first – the chicken or the egg? Critics have indeed pondered this, noting that an art gallery with an L-shaped floor plan, slanting walls, crystalline shards poking from every direction and a ceiling 8ft high at one end sloping sharply upwards to 34ft at the other doesn't make design sense when it comes to installing paintings. Libeskind's angular design and offbeat slopes were hardly conducive to displaying square framed works of contemporary art.

Libeskind brushed this criticism aside: in his view, blatantly ignoring conventional notions of rooms and galleries provides the perfect display case for the unorthodox large-scale works by Damien Hirst and Takashi Murakami. In one gallery, a huge striped painting by Gene Davis hangs on a wall that slopes the other way, with the canvas appearing to be dangling in space as the wall recedes behind it. At sight of this, Libeskind was beside himself with glee at this overly pretentious, unconventional positioning. Even the Museum's curators convince you that complaints about form not following function are entirely beside the point – a point made all the more given that Libeskind had already helped them achieve their objective for the Museum, which was to give Denver the "Sydney Opera House effect" – ie raise its international profile and bring hordes of new visitors to the city.

Referring to the visual drama of his new Denver Art space, Libeskind states: "The new building is not based on an idea of style or the rehashing of ready-made ideas or external shape because its architecture does not separate the inside from the outside, rather this architecture has an organic connection to the public at large and to those aspects of experience that are also intellectual, emotional, and sensual. The integration of these dimensions for the enjoyment and edification of the public is achieved in a building that respects the hand-crafted nature of architecture and its immediate communication from the hand to the eye to the mind. After all, the language of architecture beyond words themselves are the laughter of light, proportion and materiality."



**photos left: (1&2) London Metropolitan University Graduate Centre, UK** – Dedicated to the growing and diverse graduate population, not only as a facility to enhance the staff and student experience, but as a rentable community space as well. Completed 2004. **(3) The Wohl Center - Bar Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel** – The exciting form of the auditorium, lobbies, seminar rooms and public spaces are penetrated by the "labyrinth of letters" where a constellation of hierarchies is made visible. **Photos (1&3) courtesy of BitterBredt. Photo 2 courtesy of Coverite Specialist Contracting**

**photos right: Imperial War Museum, Manchester England** – The building is the interlocking of three shards representing earth, air, and water. **Photos 1,2 and 4 courtesy of BitterBredt. Photos 3 and 5 courtesy of Helen Binet.**



## Freehand style

While flying over Colorado's Rocky Mountains, Libeskind sketched his design for Denver Art Museum (left). Nothing unusual about that – we're always hearing how the world's most inspired ideas were "scribbled on the back of an envelope." Libeskind, though, is different. Outlining his design for Canada's Royal Ontario Museum on a napkin at a family wedding wasn't because he'd forgotten his Blackberry – he simply doesn't use gadgets, computers or mobile phones. A friend of his confirms: "Daniel is not a networker. He would have no idea how to send an email." Nor does he have a desk at Studio Daniel Libeskind, preferring to communicate with colleagues face-to-face, drawing freehand pencil sketches and working with models to get his ideas across.

### Speaking of Libeskind...

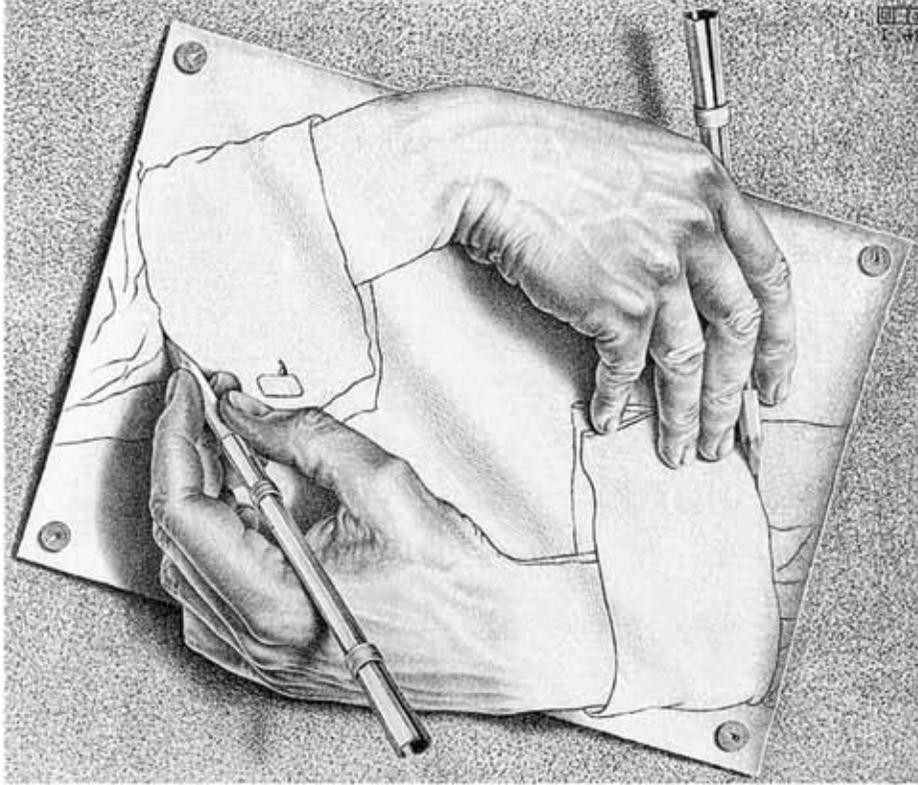
"A creative adventurer." "A buoyant, upbeat genius." "The most optimistic person I've ever met." And that's just what his friends say. Paul Goldenberg, a leading New York architecture critic sighted Libeskind as "the only person to weave together renewal and conservation" in his approach to the WTC memorial. Paul Goldenberg, however, is not to be confused with Paul Goldberger, architecture critic at The New Yorker magazine who describes Libeskind as "a celebrity architect whose work is dismissed by many of his peers as too crowd-pleasing."

Crowd pleasing is very much part of Libeskind's unwritten brief: "Architecture is not for itself, it's for people. It can project a wonder... a poetic wonder," he says. With projects under construction including a Contemporary Jewish Museum in San Francisco and a Creative Media Centre in Hong Kong, crowds of Libeskind fans will be out in force to cheer on their Man in Black when these projects are completed in 2008 and 2010 respectively.



**photos above:** Felix Nussbaum Museum, Osnabrueck, Germany – Dedicated to the work of Jewish artist, Felix Nussbaum prior to his extermination in Auschwitz. Completed 1998 with more than 4 million visitors. Photos courtesy of BitterBredt

**photos left:** Jewish Museum Berlin, Germany – Completed 10% under budget in January 1999, the design engenders a fundamental rethinking of architecture in relation to its program. (1) Photo courtesy of Guenter Schneider (2) Photo courtesy of BitterBredt



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# bruno 9li

B I G B O L D B R U S H S T R O K E S B Y

Pictures courtesy of Anno Domini Gallery

Brazilian-born Bruno 9li – yes, his real name! ('tag') – was one of 10 artists invited to create artworks on Barcelona's billboards for the 2006 International Outdoor Urban Art Exhibition. Glad to be back in Barcelona last month, the fiery fella made his solo exhibition debut with **TORMENTA**, his latest large scale ink works at the city's ROJO®artspace.

An artist of extraordinary talent working and living in Porto Alegre, the southern most metropolis in Brazil, Bruno's work is inspired by alchemical imagery, his neighbourhood Navegantes and Art Nouveau. Brazil has an important culture of graffiti art but 9li isn't your typical spaced-out graffiti artist in any way, shape or form. This guy has actual depth and meaning to his work and his life, as well as a fascination with Oriental, mystic and spiritual imagery, especially when he throws some Japanese manga influences into the mix. A believer in a philosophy where "Everything boils in the flames of now – chaos, myths, streets, frenesi, trance, death and rebirth, what is natural and supernatural."

His amazing ink on paper works are remarkably unique and incredibly vibrant even though only a handful of colours are used, 9li tending to work using a four colour palette in any given piece with the full spectrum of the rainbow seemingly out of bounds for him.

Although re-using the same colours in his latest range, this in no way limits the variety of his work as each piece is wonderfully original.

Geometric form coupled with an illustrative foundation is the springboard for this work, often described as "insanely intricate ink drawings on paper" conveying mutations, natural and supernatural beings.

Following his wildly successful US solo exhibition, "Mysterium Tremendum" earlier this year featuring huge murals of fantasy shapes and figures, Bruno's newest artworks **TORMENTA** are printed on textile exposed in a new gigantic format allowing you to buy limited edition prints in any size you want. Bruno's first monographic book, "Agora Eterno" is also now available, published by ROJO®.

Espanto: ink and marker on paper, 14" x 14"



12 Secrets: ink, marker and acrylic paint on paper, 20" x 27"



1 | **Aurora:** Ink, marker pen on archival paper, 14" x 40", framed.    2 | **Purificação (Purification):** Ink, marker pen on archival paper, 14" x 40", framed.  
3 | **Internal Astro:** Ink, marker pen on archival paper, 14" x 40", framed.



4 | Bruno 9li portrait: at Anno Domini gallery. 5 | Monkey Robe: Ink, marker pen on archival paper, 14" x 14", framed. 6 | Agora ZN: Ink, marker pen on archival paper, 14" x 14", framed. 7 | A & Z: Ink, marker pen on archival paper, 12.5" x 9", framed. 8 | Squirrel: Ink, marker pen on archival paper, 14" x 14", framed

# STIRLING TITSHN PARLIAMENT

ARCHITECTURE 126

[STIMULATING, FULL OF NEW IDEAS AND NEW APPROACHES]

Text: Chris Dove Photos: Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body

WORTHY WINNER OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTURE'S 2005 STIRLING PRIZE AND NOMINATED AGAIN FOR THE 2007 STIRLING PRIZE THIS OCTOBER, EDINBURGH HAS PROUDLY PUT ITS HEAD ABOVE THE PARAPET AS THE HANG-OUT FOR THE REGION'S POLITICIANS, PROVING A SHINING EXAMPLE OF DESIGN AS AN ENGINE FOR DEMOCRACY. NAMED AFTER SCOTS-BORN ARCHITECT SIR JAMES STIRLING, THE £20,000 (€29,000) PRIZE IS AWARDED TO ARCHITECTS MAKING THE GREATEST CONTRIBUTION TO BRITISH ARCHITECTURE IN THE PAST YEAR, WITH THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT WINNING THIS SECOND NOMINATION FOR ITS "TRUE ARCHITECTURAL EXCELLENCE." LAST MONTH'S NOMINATION COMES THREE YEARS AFTER THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT WAS OPENED BY BRITAIN'S QUEEN ELIZABETH II IN OCTOBER 2004. THIS ONGOING INTEREST IN THE BUILDING DEMONSTRATES ITS IMPACT ON THE ARCHITECTS AND DESIGNERS WHO REPEATEDLY NOMINATE IT. AS WINNER OF NUMEROUS PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS INCLUDING THE 'PREMIO DE ARQUITECTURA' AT THE VIII BIENNIAL OF SPANISH ARCHITECTURE AND FINALIST IN THE MIES VAN DER ROHE EUROPEAN UNION PRIZE FOR CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE IN 2005, THIS ONE-OFF DESIGN FOR SCOTLAND'S SEAT OF POWER DESERVES BOTH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR ITS RADICAL DEPARTURE FROM THE AUSTERE STYLE AND LIMITED IMAGINATION ASSOCIATED WITH INSTITUTIONAL BUILDINGS.



**Above:** On the west elevation of the building is a unique, projecting window seat for each office.  
**Below:** Canongate Wall recalls history through a collage of quotations from Scottish literature.



Clockwise from top left: Stone and oak panels feature throughout the building's exterior. Outstanding office window design. Office of a Member of Scottish Parliament. Cross-section of Parliament complex. Black and white in-laid carpet represents the flooring of the original parliament building in the ancient city. Window seat in an MSP office. Interior vaulted ceiling.

# WHICH POLITICAL ANIMAL WOULDN'T BE PROUD TO REPRESENT THEIR CONSTITUENTS FROM THIS AUSPICIOUS ARCHITECTURAL WONDER?

The search for a new site for the new Parliament began in September 1997 when the Scots voted 3:1 in favour of creating their own independent Parliament – the first in Scottish history for almost 300 years. The brief for the new structure stated that “The building the Scottish Parliament occupies must be of such a quality, durability and civic importance as to reflect the Parliament’s status and operational needs; it must be secure but also accessible to all, including people with special needs and it must promote modern and efficient ways of working and good environmental practice.”

The £431 million building was co-designed by Barcelona architects Enric Miralles Benedetta Tagliabue in Spain in partnership with RMJM in Edinburgh, both teams making: “A remarkable architectural statement which has an enormous impact not only on the visitors to the building but also on the users who repeatedly move through a series of extraordinary spaces and their changing effects. The proof of the extraordinary architectural ambition and vision is to be seen in every aspect and detail of the finished building.”

Prior to winning the commission to design the Parliament in July 1998, Miralles described his vision as a building

“sitting in and growing out of the land of Scotland”. He explored symbols associated with a Scottish Parliament, concepts that were fundamental to the development of the design. His overall concept for the building focused on the relationship between the Parliament and the landscape and on the integral relationship between the building and the immediate site vicinity.

National symbols were also incorporated into the fabric of the building. From the outset, Miralles captured the image of the Saint Andrew’s cross in his design with abstract interpretations of the Saltire cross moulded into the vaulted ceiling in the public foyer. Miralles’ design also retained and imaginatively integrated the 17th century Queensberry House into his modern scheme – Queensberry itself occupying an exceptional place in Scottish history.

Unfortunately Miralles was unable to see his vision for the Scottish Parliament realised. He died from a brain tumour aged just 45 in July 2000.

Constructed from a simple palette of Scottish materials comprising steel, concrete, granite, Caithness stone, oak and sycamore, the building sits at the foot of Edinburgh’s famous Royal Mile with the spectacular backdrop of historic Holyrood Park and Salisbury Crags. Miralles was inspired by the dramatic landscape, the delicate flower paintings of Charles Rennie Mackintosh and the curve of upturned boats on the seashore.

Visit [www.scottish.parliament.uk](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk) for an online tour of the Scottish Parliament building.



**Text:** Michael Earle **Architect:** Sven Rottger  
**Images:** Francisco Vazquez



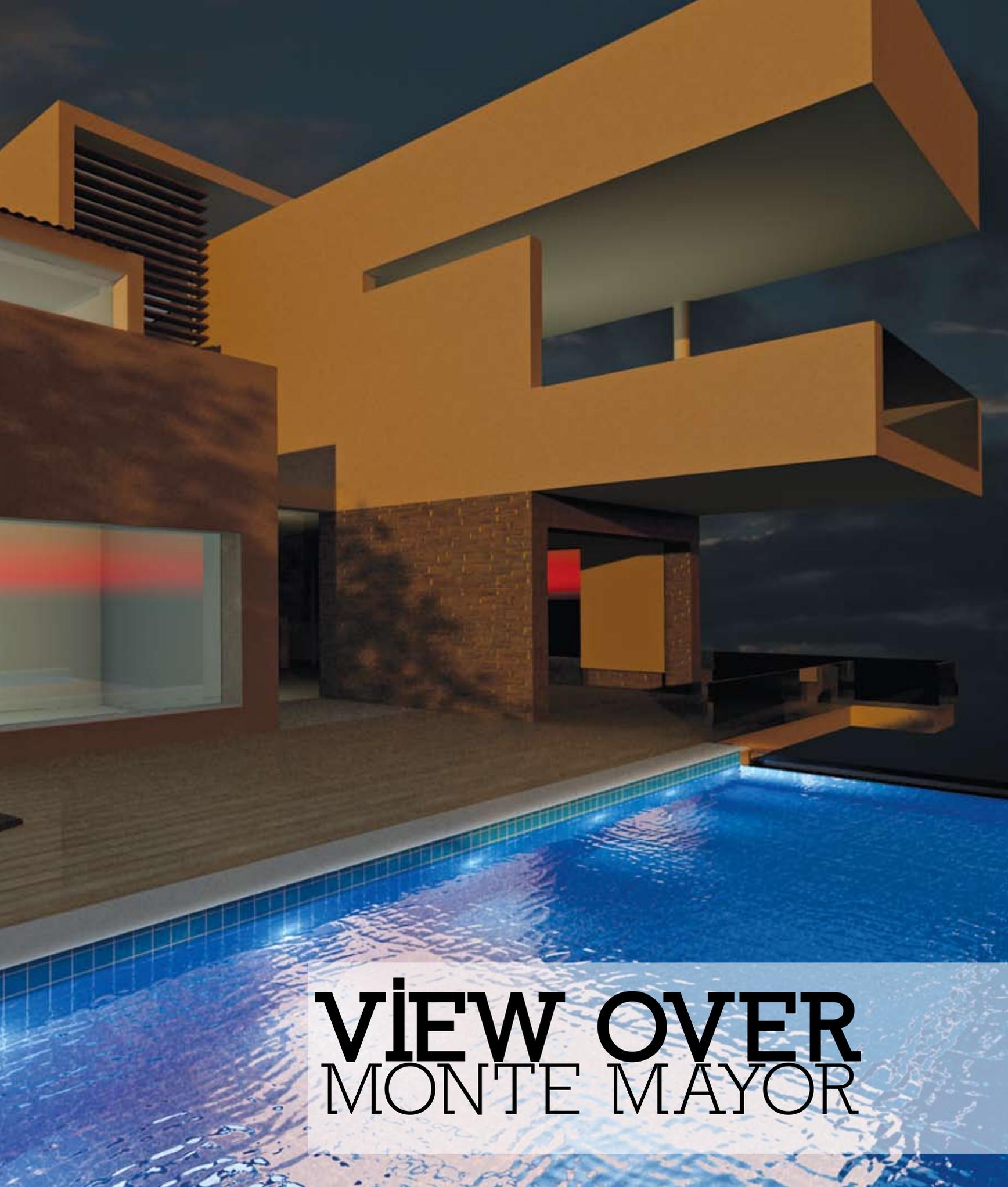
Renowned for its magnificent golf course and paradise location nestled in the Andalucían hills, Monte Mayor is "more than a place, it's a state of mind."

This villa, designed by Costa del Sol based Diseño Earle, represents an abstraction of the strict, white, cubic rationalism. Set as a sculpture in the Monte Mayor landscape, the special topography of which has exerted a strong influence on the formal design, it is uniquely placed among the trees. The orientation of the volumes, the lines of the walls and the arrangement of the window openings are all directly related to the surroundings. The elongated forms of the house are set at right angles to the contours of the slope. The narrow end faces of the distinct volumes are aligned with the mountains on the other side of the valley.

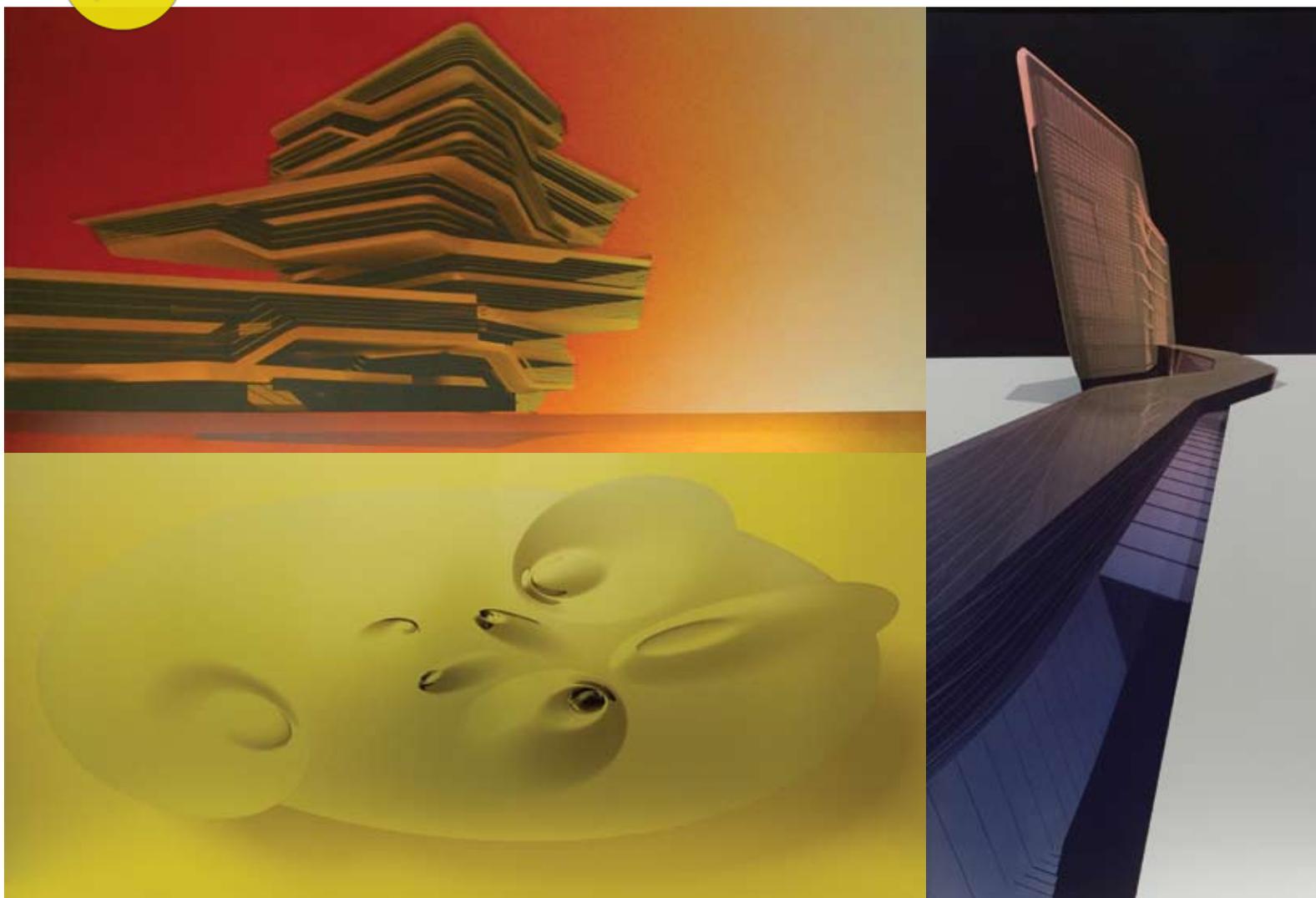
The actual links between the building and its surroundings, however, originate in the interior of the house. On the lower floor where the entrance is situated, a large vestibule provides access up the stairs to the bedroom level as well as acting as the atrium that combines the 2 lounges and kitchen on the lower level. From the living room, you are also aware of the visual links created by the windows which focus on and frame striking topographical features of the surrounding landscape.

The broad areas of glazing in the narrow end of the individual volumes on both lower and upper floors afford special framed views of the golf course directly below the villa. On both interior floors the main atrium element acts as an ordering element for the centre of the house and gives a grand scale to the whole villa. Also in the interior, the design incorporates an adaptable quality to the master suite which can be incorporated with a spa within the master bedroom itself. This is the representation of the villa designed for the way we live today.





**VIEW OVER**  
MONTE MAYOR



# SILVER PAINTINGS – ZAHA HADID'S NEW WORKS

12 sensuous new Silver Paintings by architect and designer Zaha Hadid represent the scope of her new international designs.

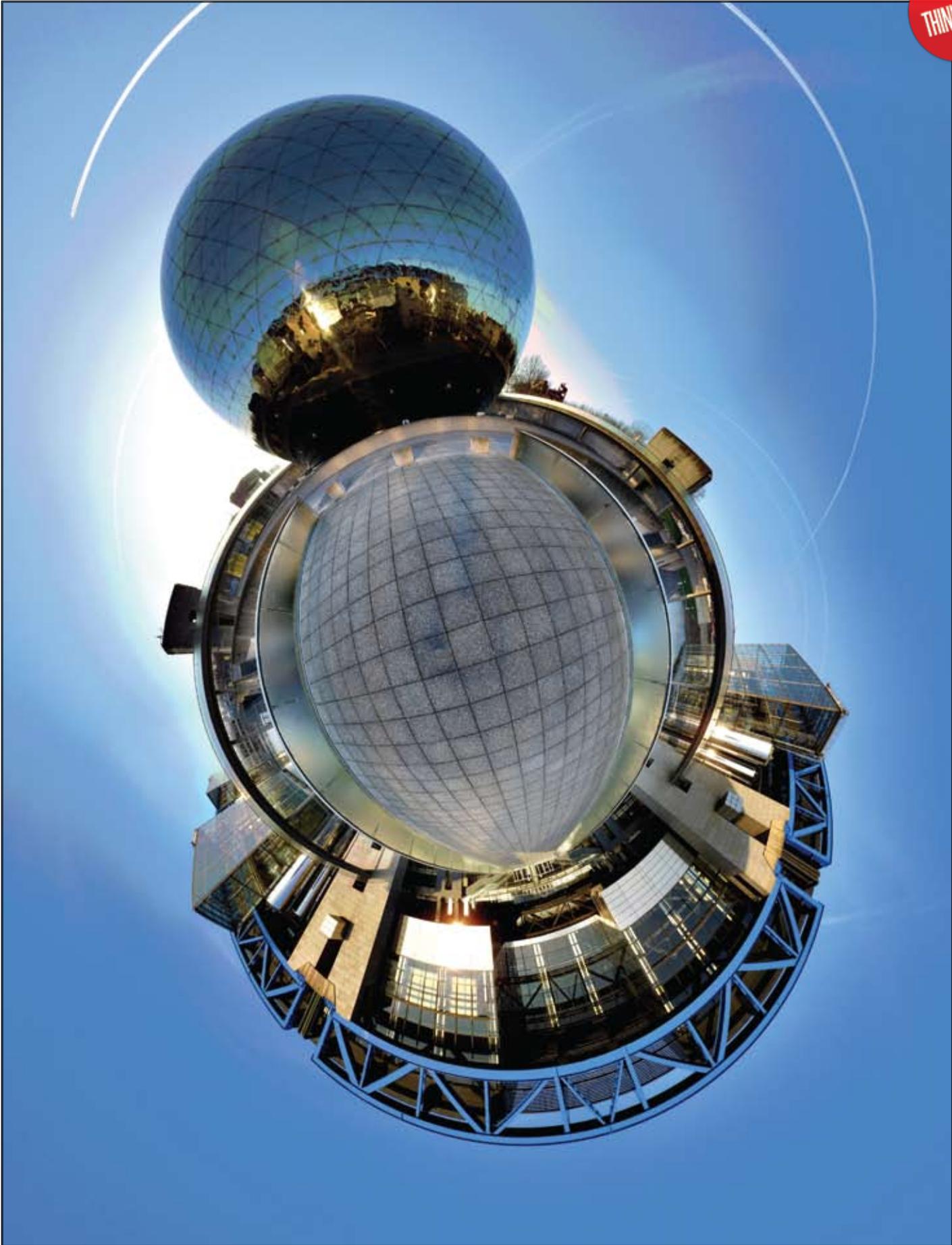
**“Hadid’s is an architectural process that explodes all unilaterally constructive and cognitive procedures in the face of the invisible and imaginary”- Germano Celant, Senior Curator of Contemporary Art, Solomon R Guggenheim Museum, New York**

Painting formed a critical part of Hadid’s early career as the design tool which allowed her intense experimentation in both form and movement, leading to her radical approach to developing a new language for architecture. Advancements in computer software have allowed her to transfer this experimentation into a digital field, yet painting has remained integral to her process.

The Silver Paintings series provide an evolving commentary on her architectural and design work. Beginning as virtual photographs, they capture historical moments within the development of each design, continually re-examining the progression of each project.

Silver Paintings are executed on a polyester skin treated with chrome and gelatine then mounted on an aluminium DI-BOND to resemble polished metal. Different media are used depending on the desired effect. Stained glass paint offers transparency while acrylic and Chinese lacquer generate opaqueness. UV-resistant ink combined with vinyl gives the highest degrees of reflectivity. These techniques combine to suggest a gradual intersection between reflectivity and opacity, from one architectural feature to the next.

On display at Berlin’s Buchmann Gallery until 3 November 2007. [www.buchmanngallery.com](http://www.buchmanngallery.com)





# Water

## = Hamburg Philharmonic =

HERZOG & DE MEURON'S WATER MUSIC IN  
HAMBURG'S MODERN PHILHARMONIC CONCERT HALL

Hamburg is renowned worldwide as a rich north German city and the country's largest port. Not content with this state of affairs though, its Elbe Philharmonic Concert Hall aims to put the city fairly and squarely on the world's cultural A-list with an extraordinary, entirely unique structural design by Pritzker Prize winning Swiss architects, Herzog & de Meuron. Best known for converting London's giant Bankside Power Station into the new home of the Tate Museum of Modern Art, and responsible for designing Beijing's National Stadium for next year's Olympic Games, Herzog & de Meuron know everything but everything about grandstanding cultural centres. Selected by Philharmonic bosses to design one of the world's finest concert halls, the architects were briefed to push the limits of design and to optimize the auditorium's acoustics. Already, its acoustics are said to put it on par with the Sydney Opera House, Frank Gehry's Walt Disney Concert Hall in LA and Tokyo's Suntory Hall in Japan. By thrusting together the worlds of modern architecture and classical music, H&deM demonstrate how the science of sound is partnered with the aesthetics of the building: it can't just look good and function as a communal space, it also has to sound right. A tricky brief indeed and a radical rethinking of the concert hall itself.



Making waves: "The architecture is symbolic. One of our traditional brick buildings will be topped by waves of glass." Hamburg Mayor, Ole von Beust.



"They refine the traditions of modernism to elemental simplicity, while transforming materials and surfaces through the exploration of new treatments and techniques." Pritzker Prize Jury on HdeM. This "elemental simplicity" is the overriding quality of their new Philharmonic design.



### Big cultural splash

Hamburg and water have always been synonymous, so naturally the River Elbe and the city's well-established port provided their own inspiration for the HdeM team. This is "not a building for the elite...the new space is designed to emphasise the public and the musicians," explained Jacques Herzog and Pierre de Meuron, reflecting the fact that the Philharmonic's renovation was funded through private investors, the city council and a direct appeal to German citizens that raised €20m in donations.

Their structure builds on the physical character of the Harbour City (HafenCity) site itself. An abandoned former cocoa bean warehouse known as Kaispeicher A, the architect's designs show a roof that crests and falls several storeys at a time and boasting a translucent all-glass façade featuring different faces, all faces coming together in one large face, rippling like water hit by the sun. Appearing almost ship-like and floating in the harbour, its exuberant form and fluid interior make the great halls of the late 19th century – from Manhattan's Carnegie to Vienna's Musikverein – seem dull and boring by comparison.

Fusing the original windowless brick warehouse building with its modern glass extension sitting masterfully on top, the €220 million structure is scheduled for completion in 2010. Commanding a combined 119,000m<sup>2</sup> of space, the Philharmonic will include two concert halls – one large Grand Hall seating 2,150 and a small hall seating 550. A 240-room luxury hotel, 45 spacious residential apartments, a gourmet restaurant, gym, state of the art conference centre, a third

auditorium for experimental music and rehearsals, a kids' music museum, specialist music shops, a wellness centre and parking for 570 vehicles complete its attractive vital statistics.

### Waltzing on water

From the harbour, people can identify the Philharmonic's bar, hotel and concert halls according to the specific designs of each area's windows. To enter the "crystalline fortress," they take a majestic ride on an extra-wide escalator from the mouth of the brick building through a golden tunnel into the new building's open-air public plaza 120 feet above the River Elbe, with breathtaking views from the roof across the Hamburg skyline.

There's no denying that music will sound sweeter after HdeM's Philharmonic makeover, so stand in line behind me as we start queuing up for tickets – on sale for the first performance season of classical, jazz, world and pop music in 2010/11, marking a significant new contribution to world culture for the enjoyment of new and younger audiences.

The aim is to stage 365 concerts annually in the Grand Hall where the North German Radio Symphony Orchestra will be in residence. Recording studios for orchestral performances, together with translation facilities, projection rooms and film screens will greatly enhance Hamburg's musical lure for international star performers.

## Shooting from the lip: A 1st hand testimony from celebrity **photographer**,



Photos courtesy of Albert Watson



# Albert Watson

Text: Chris Dove

Possibly the world's most successful fashion and commercial photographer over the last four decades, Watson's striking images have graced over 250 VOGUE covers around the world and featured in countless high profile magazines from *Rolling Stone* to *Time* to *Vibe* to *Modern Design*.

"Whoever I'm shooting, whether it's Bill Gates or Bill Clinton or a Las Vegas dominatrix or a prison convict or a young mother in Morocco, I give them the same attention, the same focus. I'm not really out there trying to capture fame or celebrity. I'm trying to capture a person's charisma. I'm looking for something special about their facial geometry. Sometimes you find someone with absolutely zero charisma, and that can be startling and interesting too, because it's actually very uncommon to find someone with zero charisma.

Interestingly, when I do find someone like that, they're often from the Midwest. You find people by keeping your eyes open, really. I was on the prowl in Las Vegas all the time. I was always scan-

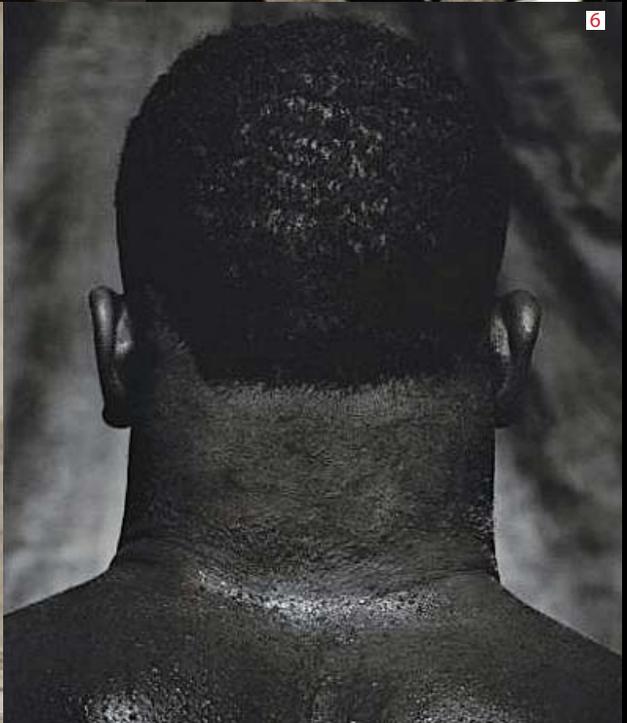
ning rooms, changing my own visual perspective, looking up, looking down, moving around, to see people from different angles. Sometimes I'd hang out in front of a ladies' room to see women come out individually, just for that change in perspective. It sounds a little strange, but it was effective. "I was shooting mostly with a 4x5 camera, and occasionally my Hasselblad. I'm a bit old school, and I believe in film for this sort of work. Working with a 4x5 and a digital back has a delay. And with portraiture you need absolute control; you need to capture the moment you want. You can't have the subject look at you with an expression that says, 'Are you ready yet?' That's deadly. "Getting the picture right has to do with much more than just where I put the lights. I'm known

for a kind of technical expertise, but I'm not really a techy person. I worked early in my career to learn as much about light as possible so that I can go into a portrait session with someone and not spend my time fussing over it. It's really about establishing a connection between me and my subject. A portrait is very emotional in this way."

For more of Watson's portraits and a gallery of his images, visit [www.albertwatson.net](http://www.albertwatson.net)

# om

Images left to right, clockwise:  
1 | Snoop Dogg, Los Angeles, 1999  
2 | Alfred Hitchcock, LA, 1973 3 | Monkey  
With Gun, New York, 1992 4 | Dogs in car,  
Las Vegas, 2000 5 | B.B. King, Connecticut  
Blues Festival, 1989 6 | Mike Tyson, Catskills,  
NY, 1986 7 | Kate Moss, Marrakech, Morocco,  
1993 8 | Leslie Weiner, Yohji Yamamoto,  
London, 1989 9 | Gabriella Reece, Paris, 1989





ARCHITECTURE

# LEONARDO GLASS CUBE

Bad Driburg, Germany – redefining the interface between 2- and 3-dimensionality

[3deluxe's characteristic, organically inspired visual idiom is an international style icon expanding the concept of space.](#)  
[Recently completed for Westphalian glass company, glaskoch, the Leonardo Glass Cube reflects a significant corporate architecture that speaks volumes about the brand's overall communicative presence.](#)

Comprising a total 1,200m<sup>2</sup>, its open floor plan integrates the company's product presentation zones, seminar and meeting rooms, and stimulating work areas. The building's glass façade represents the passage to a hyper-naturalistic world with heightened aesthetic appeal, the graphically illustrated elements displayed derived from the architecture and surrounding landscape, creating a subtle puzzle, mingling with the realistic reflections of their models. The edifice consists of two formally contrasting elements: a geometrically stringent, cube-like shell volume and a freeform positioned centrally in the interior.

The undulating, curved white wall encloses an introverted exhibition space while its other side circumscribes the extroverted hallway along the glass façade. Three white sculptural structures – so-called 'Genetics' – connect the separate zones of the building to each

other again. On the glass façade 'Genetics' appear again in a two-dimensional version. The superimposed pilaster strips continue in a network of white concrete pathways surrounding the entire building.

On both floors the wall rolls in to form niches that are used for various functions such as themed product orchestrations and meeting lounges. In the breaks in the wall, these lines predominate as a significant graphic design element that continue on the ceiling as a system of ventilation joints.

On the side facing the façade, the material nature of the white surface is visually dissolved by means of a layer of gauze suspended in front. Dynamically programmed artificial light as well as the incidence of daylight sets colour highlights in the purely white interior, creating a permanent change of atmosphere.

# LUIS GORDILLO

# XXXI



Galería de arte  
contemporáneo  
gacma

del 14 de Septiembre al 14 de Noviembre de 2007

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Medios colaboradores:



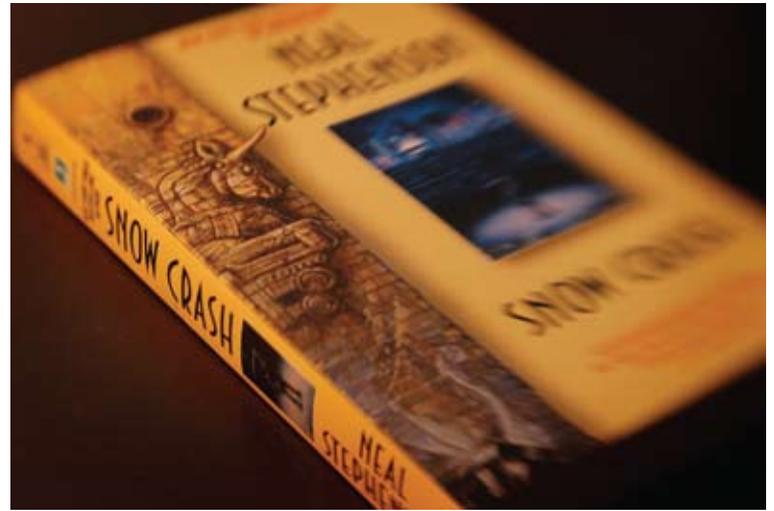
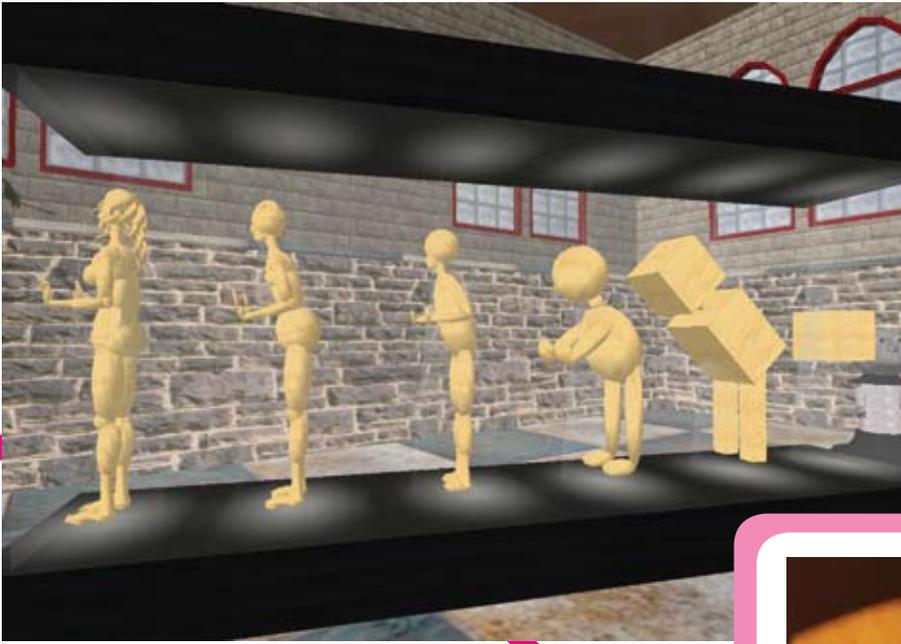
Horario: de 10.00 a 14.00 h.  
de 16.00 a 20.00 h.  
Sábados: mañana



## Breaking the rules of the game

Though Second Life is often referred to as a game, it's unlike Monopoly in not having points, scores, winners, losers, levels, an end-strategy or most other game characteristics. It fits the basic definition of a game though, given its semi-structured environment where characters undertake activities for the purpose of personal enjoyment.

While sales of Microsoft's new Xbox video game 'Halo 3' are going through the roof (selling US\$170+ million worth within 24 hours of launching on 25 September and registering 1+ million players within 20 hours of them buying), and with the game version of 'The Matrix' outselling its movie version by millions of units, it's proof that interactive computer games with highly pol-



ished 3D graphical interfaces and simulated multiplayers represented in 'alternate realities' are becoming increasingly mainstream. They have a growing stranglehold on the entertainment industry, a visible impact on our leisure time activities, and on both our real and virtual social behaviour.

## So what's the point of Second Life?

Linden Lab say they were inspired by the cyberpunk literary movement, particularly Neal Stephenson's cult novel Snow Crash in which he creates a user-defined Metaverse – a cyber world inhabited by people playing, doing business and otherwise communicating. In creating Second Life, Linden have provided the online infrastructure enabling members to open virtual doors on "Your World. Your Imagination. A vast digital continent teeming with people, entertainment, experiences and opportunity." And "fun."

After setting up a free SL account at <http://secondlife.com>, the downloadable Second Life Viewer enables users, called "Residents", to interact with each other through moving cartoon-like "avatars" – virtual representations of the member or the "personality" connected with the member's internet screen name. Residents can explore this Other World, meet other Residents, socialise, participate in



individual and group activities, create and trade items including virtual property, as well as buy and sell services in a constantly changing and growing environment. Your avatar can be anything or anyone you want. "You can be unemployed and ugly in real life but have the most beautiful, successful Second Life." No wonder it's so popular.

## Communicating and moving around in SL

Within this vibrant virtual society, finding people who share your interests is easy and once you've introduced yourself to the people you like, communicating and staying in touch becomes 'second nature'. Its text-based communication is via local chat and global instant messaging (IM). Chatting is for public conversations between two or more avatars and can be 'heard' within 20 metres; avatars can also 'shout' ('audible' within 96 metres). IM is for private conversations between two avatars or members of a group. Dozens of events abound in this wish-list world: Fancy clubbing tonight? Attending a fashion show or art gallery? Forming a Residents Group or sci-fi movie fan club? Everything's possible in SL – from the comfort of your chair.

The basic method of getting around is by foot – walking, running or jumping. To get somewhere quicker, your avatar can fly up to 170 metres above the terrain without requiring any special equipment and with virtually no limits as to how high you can fly. Magic!

Avatars can also ride vehicles – from a basic go-kart to a helicopter, submarine or hot-air balloon. Airborne vehicles can fly up to 4,000 metres high, the 'maximum' altitude allowed. Those in a big hurry can opt for instantaneous travel, teleporting directly to a specific location ie dematerialising in one place and reassembling in another, Dr Who-style.

As you'd expect in this Other World, SL has its own language, Linden Script Language, "an internal, event-driven language which allows you to control object and avatar behaviour." And of course there's SL's Education Page and Virtual Learning Environment – "a safe environment to enhance experiential learning, allowing individuals to practice skills, try new ideas and learn from their mistakes."

As well its own blog, there are SL websites supporting Residents and offering advice on SL-related matters (eg Second Life Insider). There's even an arbitration service called the e-Justice Centre, launched in August 2007 by the Portuguese Ministry of Justice to "provide mediation and arbitration services for all avatars in Second Life in the resolution of disputes."

## Forget Monopoly money

Money-minded Second Lifers are invited to "Become a part of history by purchasing land and developing your own piece of Second Life. Pricing and Fees are simple: you pay US\$9.95 a month plus a Land Use Fee proportional to the amount of land you own, allowing you to build and display your virtual property. Whether it's a modest nook for a relaxing cottage or an entire island to build your dream amusement park, land is for everyone". Linden create new land to keep up with growing demand: what began as 64 acres in 2003 is now 65,000+ acres and growing rapidly.

Real life companies including Toyota, Mercedes-Benz, Bridgestone, Coca-Cola, Calvin Klein, Warner Bros and Forbes have set up virtual presences in SL to attract 'e-crowds' using this dynamic new environment for their marketing campaigns. IBM has embraced SL as a means of collaborating with staff and customers, and Italian fashion house Armani is the latest big brand to open an SL boutique, an avatar of Giorgio Armani himself celebrating the





launch on September 27.

In addition to big business, SL is used as an educational channel by the likes of Harvard Law School; a political platform by US Democrats Hillary Clinton and John Edwards, and Spain's Izquierda Unida politician Gaspar Llamazares; as a concert venue by U2; banking services by ABN AMRO; and by cities and countries including Amsterdam and Antigua. For avatars stuck for ideas as to the type of business they should operate in SL, Linden helpfully provide an "in-world menu of business opportunities": fine artist, vacation resort owner, gunsmith, hug maker (you read that right) or architect...

### Real life applications

Terry Beaubois had a problem when he was offered a position teaching architecture at Montana State University, US. He wasn't ready to move to Montana so by creating a virtual classroom in Second Life he was able to teach the course from his home in Northern California. "It's a precursor to where much of the internet will be headed in the future," he says, describing his SL lab and four islands where he and his students create structures and interiors to teach and practice architectural design.

Taking a tour of his virtual lab from wherever you

are in the real world, it looks just like a real lab with posters, diagrams and pictures on the walls, books on shelves and rooms where students design and make furniture. Click on the cover of a book to look at drawings and read the text. With another click, Terry repaints the walls and re-upholsters the furniture, demonstrating how a client can see what a room looks like before actually ordering furniture. Giving an aerial view of the campus and zooming in on replicas of real buildings, Terry says: "Creating environments people are familiar with in real life makes the virtual environment more understandable."

### Spreading the virtual word

'The AvaStar' is the professional tabloid newspaper for SL Residents, packed with "the latest news, entertainment, style and advice... keeping its readers informed about the vast, diverse and ever-changing world of Second Life." Published by Germany's Axel Springer AG who produce Europe's biggest selling real-life tabloid, BILD, 'The AvaStar' has its HQ on AvaStar Island and its editorial team of 20 reporters and contributors use their expertise and knowledge to uncover the best stories from the virtual world.

There's also 'Second Life Herald', the weekly podcast edited by a Managing Editrix going by the unworldly name of Pixeleen Mistral and offering

regular doses of SL gossip and drama. Then there's 'The Grid Live – News on Second Life and Beyond', 'Second Love – A Healer of Second Life' and 'Teen Second Life', a version "specifically designed as a place for teens 13-17 to make friends, play, learn and create." (Would you let your kid loose in such a place, where unscrupulous adults posing as teenagers can roam freely, incognito?...)

And don't forget to stop at the Second Life shop, SLExchange, where you can "Shop Smart. Bid Smart. Trade Smart", buying and selling objects, clothes and other weird stuff used in the game. On the day I looked, the most expensive product was a "Gothic Wooden Skull: The most realistic skull you can find in Second Life. A true work of ART by Light Waves, one of Second Life's master artists. Price: L\$5,000". Or the cheapest item that day: "OMG Magazine: images of the most beautiful women in SL – interviews with successful SL business owners, product reviews of the best gadgets and gear that SL has to offer. Price: L\$700."

Reuters – the (real) world's leading provider of news, information and financial data – have, unbelievably, set up a News Centre in SL, broadcasting reports such as: "Pundits and political junkies will have their eyes on Second Life when former Speaker of the House and potential Presidential candidate Newt Gingrich rezzes (reproduces himself) in the virtual world on Thursday... The

Amsterdam is one of the busiest places in Second Life.



“Virtual worlds are the future!” according

to Big Brother

increasing visibility of Second Life on the political radar screen comes as the virtual world struggles to adapt to real-life laws on gambling, pornography and taxation.” At the time of writing this article, Reuters reported that “the amount of US Dollars spent in Second Life over the last 24 hours was \$1,300,695.” That’s well over one million dollars of real cash spent in a virtual world – small fry in the scale of global economics but still a significant figure spent every day and night. Unreal.

## Reality v Virtuality

The irony of hit “reality TV” programme Big Brother occupying the virtual world of Second Life earlier this year was not lost. 15 SL Residents from three different time zones occupied a glass house on the site for a minimum 8 hours a day for one month, completing various tasks including creating a Christmas scene and building their idea of a ‘dream’ Island’. And, just like the televised BB, each contestant was voted off by other SL Residents until the lucky winner materialised – a Madlen Flint who was over the moon to hear her prize: proud ownership of her own idyllic Second Life paradise island “worth about US\$1,675”.

## Who’s next in the SL House?

Things are getting serious when, according to Government Computer News, the US Department of Homeland Security is thinking of opening an office in Second Life. Fears that real terrorists will hijack SL to coordinate virtual bombing campaigns are obviously at the forefront of their minds but before paranoid people run away and hide, they claim they’re consid-

ering it for “first response planning and training sessions.” But what we really want to know is: where is it all leading...?

One frightening prediction of where Second Life is leading us is to a psychiatric hospital. There are already reports of SL addicts who, forced to tear themselves away from their computers to go to work, are PAYING unemployed people to take the place of their avatar while they’re at work. People with extreme personalities can become addicted to anything but considering these same people also hold down responsible jobs, it’s scary as hell to think of the psychological repercussions this will have in the very near future.

## Google’s Second Life Competitor

Never ones to be excluded from the game, Google is preparing its own virtual world based on its hugely successful Google Earth application. People are already familiar with creating 3D models using Google SketchUp which is likely to be added as a layer to Google Earth, so the company already has a foothold in this expanding market. Its own avatars and virtual economy will be added together with loads of new servers to allow avatars to roam Google Earth.

## Real life opposition to SL

Dismissed by critics as “just another over-hyped and inadequate online service that knows how to

U2 in SL virtual concert



for the Make Poverty History campaign



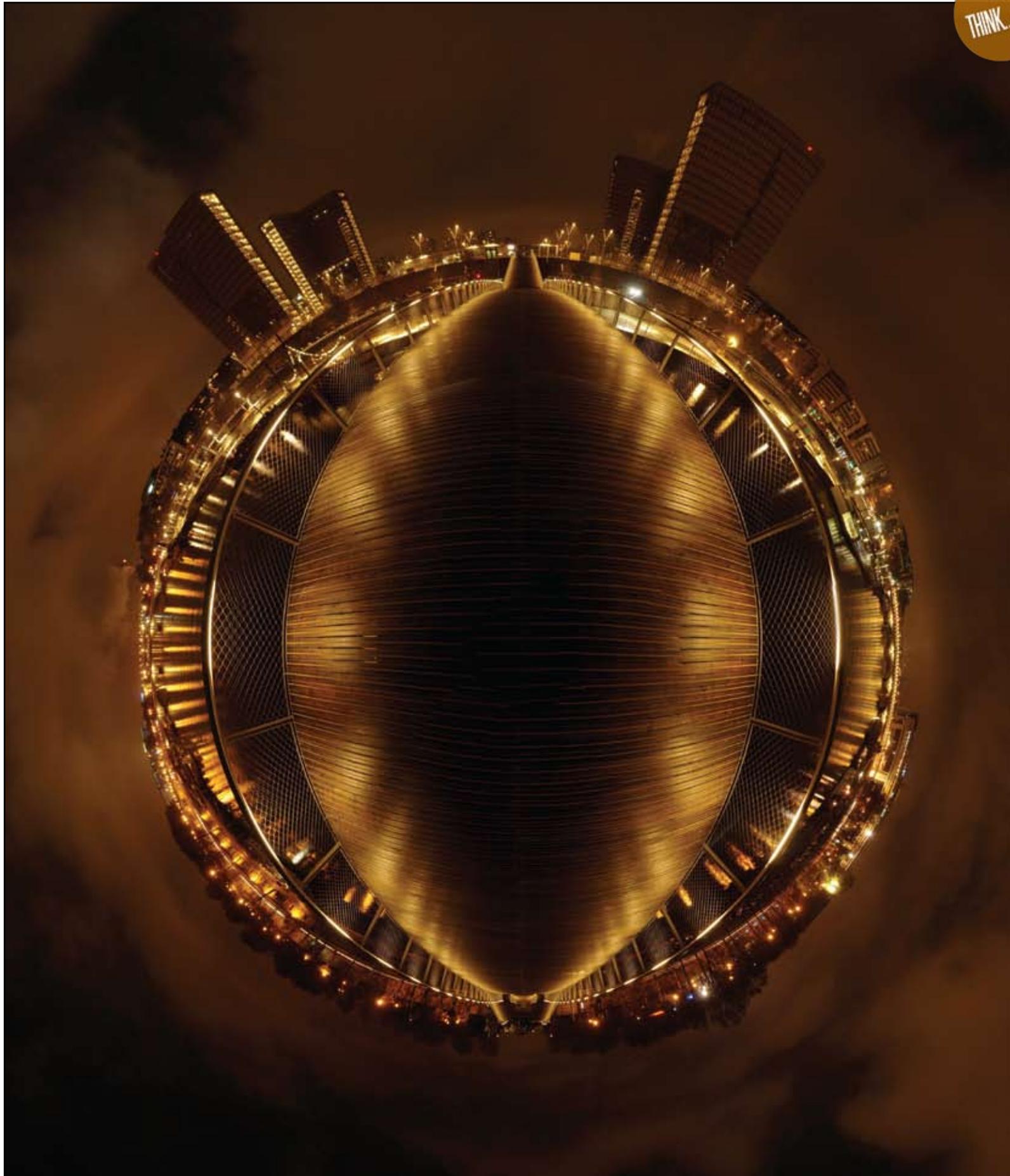
Brother Execs – and they should know.

give journalists something to write about, but is actually a distraction from the real work of building usable online environments”, SL has been slammed as “Sadville”, ridiculing those who have so little to do in their real lives that they find SL interesting and engaging. And as the addict example above indicates, people who have difficulties socially interacting in real life may become even more vulnerable in a simulated Second Life.

On the technical side, hardcore gamers claim they can’t work with the unwieldy user interface, finding the SL network crashes too often and its time lag and grid instability make even the simplest scenes stutter infuriatingly, with the network sometimes going offline altogether due to technical difficulties.

## Questions to Modern Design readers

Are you a “Lifer”? Have you or would you like to join Second Life or is it only for people with no bloody life at all? Is real life challenging enough without the added headaches of your “double” persona ie your cartoon-like avatar? Can you have a genuine connection and feel engaged with the trials and tribulations of a bunch of pixels? Have the lunatics finally taken over the asylum? Do please tell us, we’re fascinated to know! Watch this space for your conclusions...



Photos courtesy of Alexandre Duret



ARCHITECTURE

OFIS Arhitekti:  
LAKESIDE VILLA SET IN SCENIC SLOVENIA

# Villa Bled

LOCATED IN A BEAUTIFUL ALPINE RESORT AT LAKE BLEED IN NORTHWESTERN SLOVENIA, OFIS WERE CALLED IN TO DESIGN THE EXTENSION OF THIS 19TH CENTURY VILLA. AS BOTH THE OLD VILLA AND ITS LANDSCAPE ARE PROTECTED BY NATIONAL HERITAGE LAWS, OFIS' HANDS WERE TIED TO A CERTAIN EXTENT BUT THIS ONLY ADDED TO RATHER THAN HAMPERED THEIR DESIGN CHALLENGE.



Images: Villa Bled interior and exterior

#### Client brief

The client's chief request was for the new building's main living area to be twice the size of the existing villa and most of the adult and children's spaces had to face the lake. The main task was how to incorporate the new 700m<sup>2</sup> addition while respecting all the restrictions the villa and the surrounding landscape were subject to.

#### OFIS' design

Undaunted, the architects proposal placed the new spaces beneath the ground floor of the existing villa with the extension forming a rounded base around the house – a pillow covered by the landscape. Looking from the other side of the lake, the pillow blurs with the surrounding landscape and the elevation under the pillow is glazed, overlooking the lake and the floor organised in levels according to the outside landscape.

#### Interior layout

The main living spaces (kitchen, dining area, TV room, fireplace, library and work space) are placed in the new extension while everyday utilities such as wardrobes, guest bathroom, garages and storage/workshops are hidden behind the walls of the old villa cellar. The old villa becomes a private rest area with the children's space on the first floor and parent's space above. The curved stairs connect the old and new, playing the part of the main communications core in the house. All rooms and open spaces give onto the staircase and communicate with the main lobby.

#### Exterior setting

The main entrance is from the courtyard and displaced from the house's central axis; one enters the side volume of the old villa cellar of the new part. Then one crosses the

curved ramp and passes beneath the staircase. Here, a three-storey hall opens up to form the heart of the old villa, while the visual axis of the lake conducts you to the new living area.

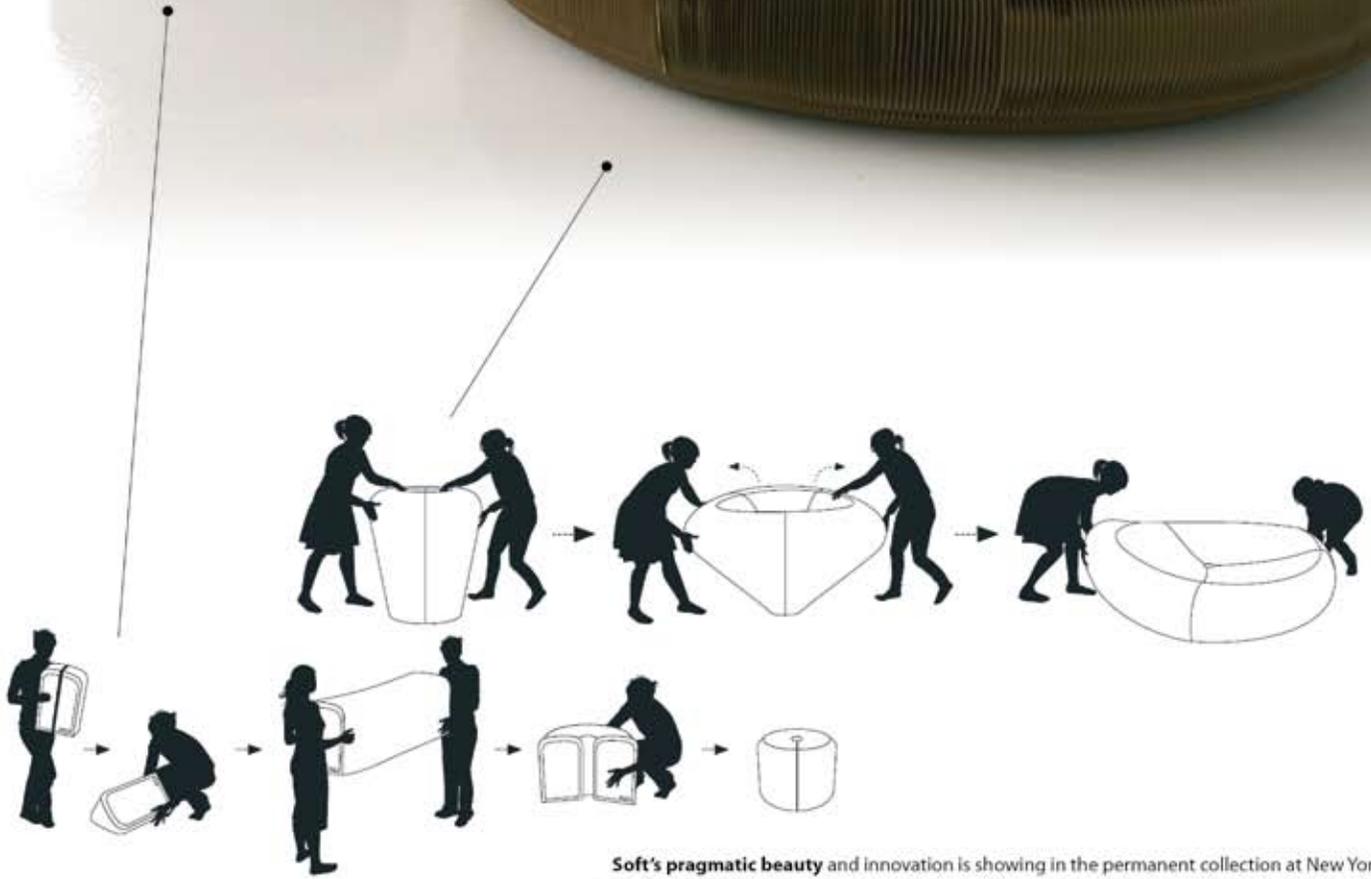
Overall, and at a cost of €2.5m, the new and existing buildings cover 1,200 m<sup>2</sup> of residential area and 150 m<sup>2</sup> of garage space across the site's 20,000 m<sup>2</sup> area.

The title "PAPER LOUNGE" is rendered in a large, bold, black sans-serif font. The word "PAPER" is positioned above "LOUNGE". The background of the title is filled with a dense, intricate pattern of light blue, hand-drawn scribbles that resemble a stylized tree or a complex web of lines.

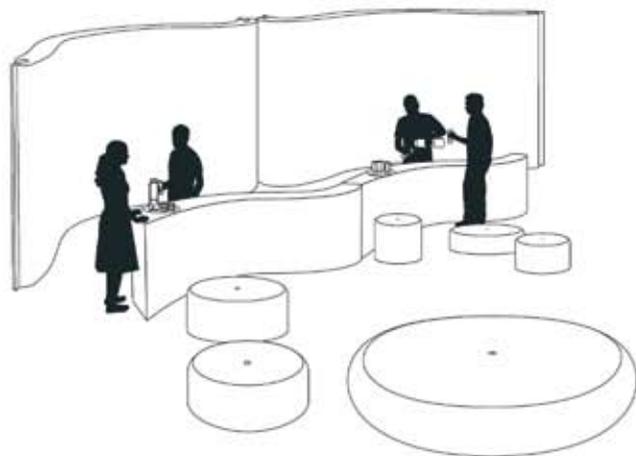
# PAPER LOUNGE

**Text:** Chris Dove **Photos:** Molo Design

Canada and its sprawling environs could be compared to the rambling Amazon Forest for the number of indigenous trees its home to. Which is why astute creative architects at molo design in Vancouver aim to ensure that paper from trees within these delicate ecosystems is put to serious use. Their elegant corrugated softblock furniture made from paper won top honours at the International Contemporary Furniture Fair in the 'Body of Work' category in recognition of their extraordinary display of cutting-edge modern furniture and for the entire body of work they explore and produce. Part of molo's innovative family of compressible furniture and space partitions called 'soft', softblocks are a modular system of expandable honeycomb building blocks that can be used to dynamically shape and define space, while softwalls create flexible freestanding partitions. Both are amazingly versatile. Like giant stretchy lego blocks they can be stacked and joined together using magnetic connectors to freely create and shape walls, partitions, display areas and imaginative surfaces for bars and tables. The delicate, paper-like feeling is exceptionally tear resistant and can be cleaned with water and a non-abrasive soap and cloth. When backlit with natural or electric light, white soft structures come to life as patterns and shadows shift with the changing textures created by the pleated surfaces. The horizontal and vertical joints create an ethereal effect of thickness, mass and lightness all at once, in much the same way as it would around blocks of snow or ice. Flexible and accommodating, molo also produce a soft black version whose walls are opaque with inky shadows that absorb light and vertical fins that catch light reminiscent of a blackened charcoal log.



Soft's pragmatic beauty and innovation is showing in the permanent collection at New York's Museum of Modern Art...and look out for molo's first design workshop opening in Milan in 2008.



The inspiration for softseating came from a desire for flexible and spontaneous space making. softseating has evolved to include various forms as well as distinct materials. made of heavy weight kraft paper, it comes in a natural warm brown as well as a deep black dyed with a bamboo charcoal ink. molo's furniture can be used for working on or is easily folded up and stored away when not in use, creating seating for an event or a big spontaneous party! More information: [www.molodesign-workshop.com](http://www.molodesign-workshop.com)



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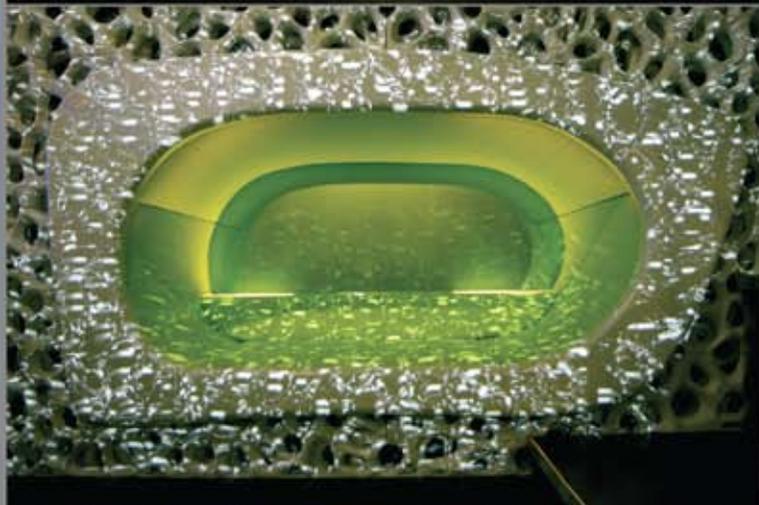
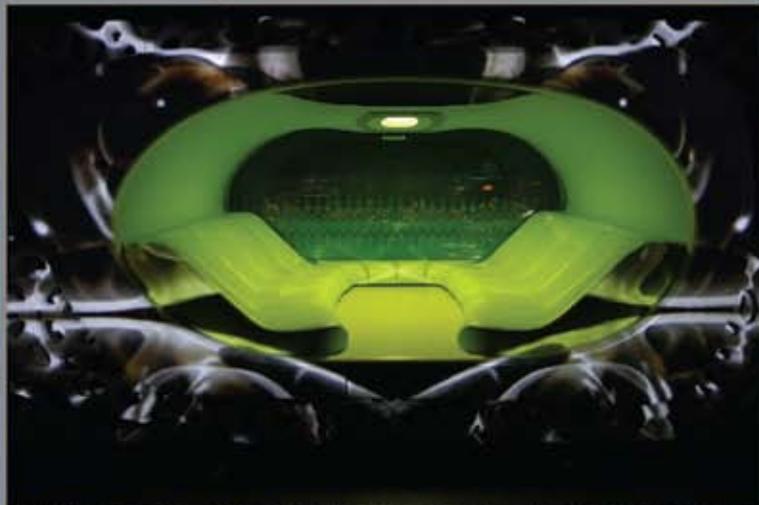
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# Contemporary clubbing at Cocoon, Frankfurt

"...metamorphosis, development, new birth, surprises..."

All photos courtesy of Emanuel Raab and The Cocoon Club

Text: Chris Dove



# THE COCOON CLUB



## That was then...

When arch-Techno German DJ, Sven Väth honoured me in a London nightclub, saying: "You sure know how to party!", little did either of us know that 10 years later – by sheer coincidence – I'd be reviewing his new CocoonClub in Frankfurt within the pages of Modern Design Magazine. Belatedly I can return his compliment: He sure knows how to DJ!



“To achieve the greatest of intellectual and sensory appreciation of a concept, the starting point of the design process is always an analysis of the principles of human perception.”

3deluxe

Germany’s first club DJ to both produce and market himself, Våth laid the foundations of the Techno movement and the “Sound of Frankfurt”, becoming official patron of the specialist Belgian Techno/Underground scenes popular from Europe to the States, Japan to Mexico, with Ibiza his natural stomping ground.

Opening his OMEN Club in Frankfurt in 1988, Våth wrote a new chapter in club history – spearheading ‘Acid’ music in his international meeting place for club culture; himself its protagonist with hard beats and energetic vibes dominating.

### This is now ...

Fast forward to 2007: the beat don’t stop and Våth is again Master of his own club, Cocoon, saying: “A fascinating metamorphosis has now been achieved”, redefining what is understood as

contemporary club culture and once again turning Frankfurt into an international playground for avant-garde electronic music.

Two years in the planning, “transdisciplinary design bureau”, 3deluxe came up with Cocoon’s holistic design concept, symbiotically combining architectural, multimedia and graphical elements. With its unconventional spatial and graphic designs, the architects have created an extraordinary dialogue between music and design philosophies, making Cocoon a unique enterprise within an increasingly demanding and highly competitive international club scene.

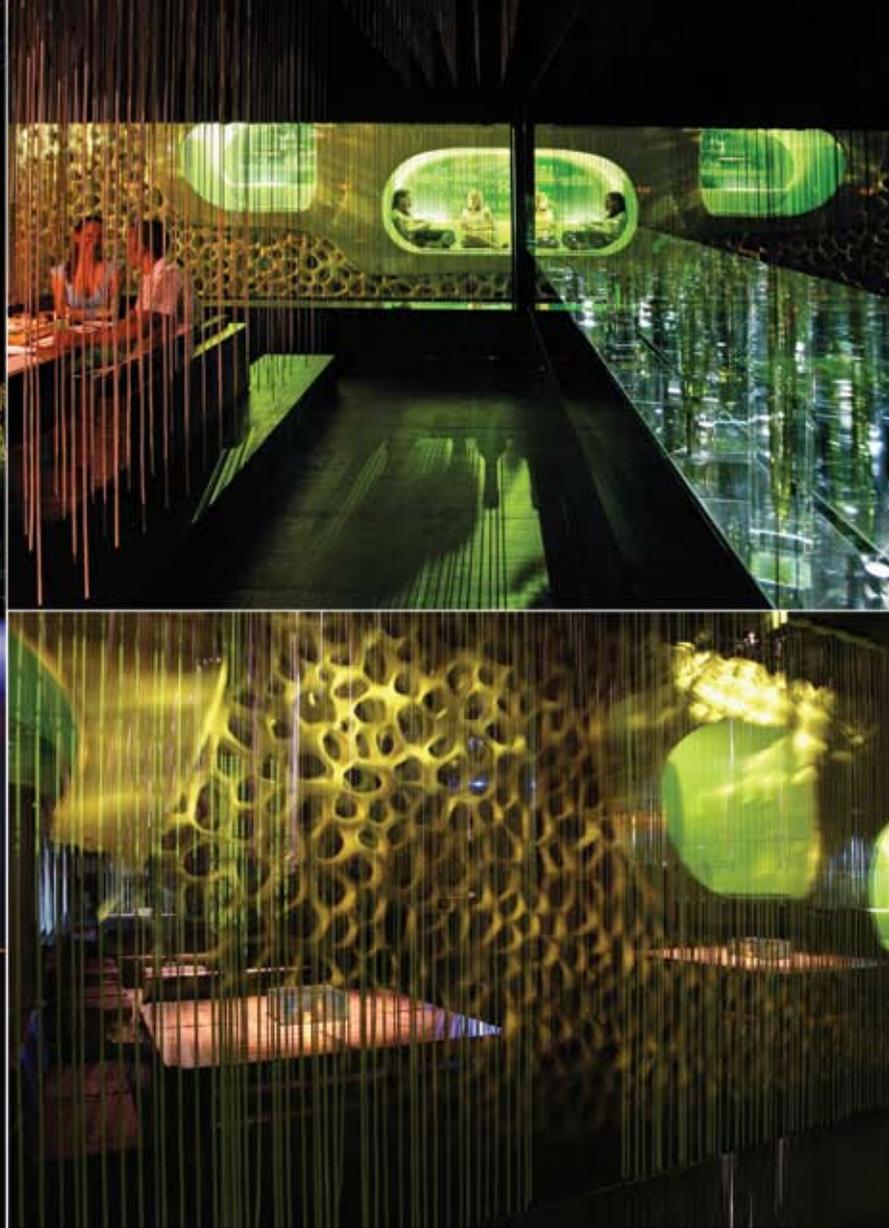
### Welcome to The Club

Cocoon was conceived as an avant-garde field of experimentation where space and perception could be transformed with an increasing sensibility

for its multimedia setting and total immersion into constantly changing environments. A forward-looking club with two restaurants, Micro and Silk, set in a constantly changing semi-virtual atmosphere.

Located on the ground floor of an architecturally outstanding loft building in Frankfurt’s ‘Ostend’ district, visitors to the CocoonClub can depart from what they perceive as reality for the duration of a night. Nothing unusual about that. Synchronized sound, light and image effects produce synaesthetic stimulations, using some or all of the senses to make a lasting impression on guests’ emotional levels. With its 3D interface, the entire space is like an instrument being played in simultaneous acoustic and visual terms by both DJ and VJ (Video Jockey).

The holistic interior architecture and medial design



increase awareness of the surroundings and entice guests to actively participate in creating the moment. It's up to dancers themselves to generate an energy-charged environment impossible to re-create elsewhere.

## Totally technical

In designing Cocoon's 'genetic architecture', 3deluxe were inspired by biological models reflected in the division of interior space and shape. The perforated walls of the triangular main section are reminiscent of a permeable cell membrane whose openings permit the flow of guests between the surrounding walk-about area and dance floor. Thanks to several layers of white flowstone modules and the deep texture of the outer surface, the so-called 'membrane wall' is one of the club's most significant architectural elements. A moving 360° projection synchronized in time to the DJ's set is projected on the wall facing the dance area. The fact that this digital layer fits exactly over the membrane wall creates an impression of liveliness, its material nature appearing to dissolve.

Located at various heights, 13 capsule-shaped, glazed micro-rooms penetrate the membrane wall enabling eye contact between the quieter outer area and the buzzing interior. These modern loges (small compartments) provide privacy for "cocooning" in the midst of a semi-public environment while three luxuriously appointed Cocoons can be reserved for an entire exclusive evening or just a few hours so VipCocoon occupants are actively involved in the action while enjoying the privacy and quiet of this extraordinary space.

The 570 m<sup>2</sup> dance floor is a landscape of dark wood platforms, illuminated edges forming an ornamental pattern on the three-dimensional floor. The platforms are at five different levels and include a stage, two columns for dance performances, a VipLounge and three bars.

Cocoon's most striking element is its imposing white DJ pulpit, whose organic form seems to grow together with the membrane wall. From their raised position, DJ and VJ conduct the multi-media staging, in full control of the momentary mood on

the dance floor. The media technology, operated using customised software and LEDs illustrate the evening's musical dramatics, providing limitless opportunities for manipulating the club's atmosphere.

## ClubRestaurants: Micro and Silk

All tastes are catered for. Be it a classic clubber seeking innovative music and out-of-the-ordinary party ideas; a discriminating gourmet on a quest for an exquisite dinner in extraordinary surroundings; or a culture vulture design devotee who values Cocoon's aesthetic interior and ambitious event agenda.

Serving modern Eurasian fusion cuisine, Micro offers a daily changing cultural and musical program, its interior architecture enabling various activities to be staged simultaneously without intruding on each other.

The straight lines of the cube-shaped furniture and the exclusive use of dark wood give the interior its



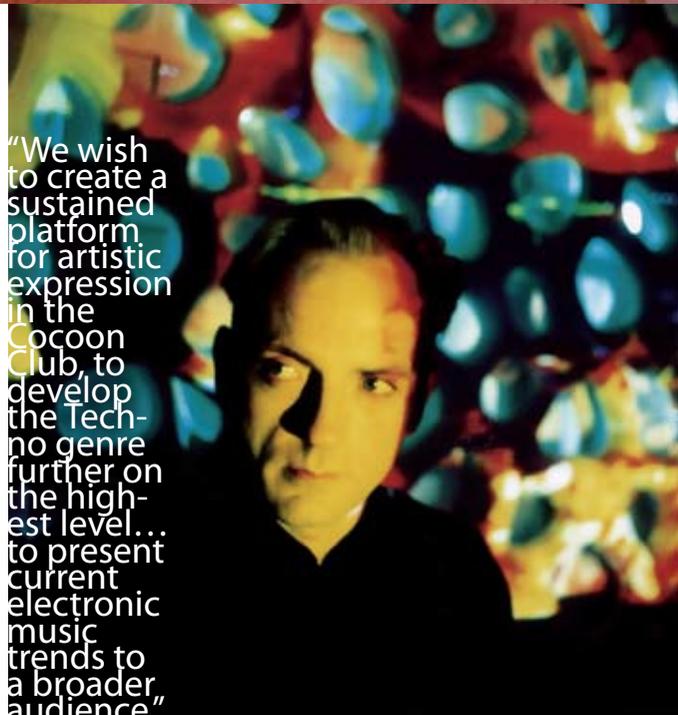
captivating qualities. The graphic grains in the bamboo surfaces, together with their relief-like structure are particularly fascinating.

Square tables with benches seating eight people are located within narrow hanging strings. While the various seating areas are separated physically they are not out of view so the open-plan character of the space is preserved. Nonetheless, each area maintains its own private atmosphere, encouraging at-table conversation with softly glowing glass objects producing atmospheric lighting.

In Silk, eating and drinking is elevated to the level of an artistic ceremony based on Asian and ancient eating habits. Guests enter an atmospheric reception room where they remove their shoes and put on textile footwear: an Asian ritual emphasizing the private atmosphere of the exclusive restaurant, and giving guests the impression that they are in for an unusual gastronomic experience.

From the entrance, visitors are led to one of eight large couch areas separated from each other by gauze curtains. On each of the upholstered elements is room for up to nine diners to either lie or sit on oversized beds. The food and drink is served on fine glass trays and can be placed in deposits in the beds' surrounding arm rests. The sound atmosphere created by the DJ is reminiscent of the Far East, creating a harmony with tasteful sensations.

CocoonClub  
Frankfurt, Germany  
[www.cocoonclub.net](http://www.cocoonclub.net)



"We wish to create a sustained platform for artistic expression in the Cocoon Club, to develop the Techno genre further on the highest level... to present current electronic music trends to a broader audience."



THEY'RE AMONG THE WORLD'S MOST EXPENSIVE NATURAL FOODS, COMMANDING €200 TO €350 PER POUND. THOUGH FEW OF US CAN AFFORD THEM, WE'RE DISHING THE DIRT ON THESE RARE AND DELICIOUS WILD MUSHROOMS.



ON THE TRAIL OF TRUFFLES – NATURE'S **Text: Chris Dove**

# BLACK DIAMONDS

Since Greek and Roman times, these fungi have been eaten in Europe as delicacies, aphrodisiacs and medicines with magical powers and virtues attributed to them ever since people started collecting them 3,600 years ago.

Nowadays, the name "truffle" is used to describe small, fancy chocolates – another delicacy – yet while real truffles are also roundish and brown, they're dirty when they come out of the ground and there the name sharing ends.

The attraction of real truffles is their tantalizing taste and aroma which, once experienced, can never be forgotten. Our minds conjure up images of the highly esteemed black truffle from Périgord in southwest France and Provence in the southeast, believed to be the absolute finest in the world and used in making pâté de foie gras. Or the renowned pungent white truffle from Alba in the Piedmont district of Italy, a tiny pinch of which can permeate an entire cathedral within hours.

## DIGGING UP DIRT

Found in Europe, Asia, North Africa and North America, only the *Tuber* and *Terfezia* species of truffles are commercially important. Their fruiting bodies are found 2-15 inches below ground, usually in a circular formation about 4-5 feet from the base of an oak tree, forming a closely woven mass around the rootlets or penetrating the cells of the root. Pines, firs, birches, beeches and eucalyptus trees are also good clues for truffle hunting.

Truffles are harvested in Europe using female pigs or truffle dogs to detect the strong smell of mature truffles under the ground surface. The female pig becomes excited when she sniffs a chemical similar to the male swine sex attractant but because pigs have a natural tendency to eat their find, dogs are trained to dig into the ground wherever they find these odours. Some truffle merchants use rakes to dig for their prizes themselves whenever they see truffle flies hovering around the base of a tree. Once discovered, truffles can be collected from the same site for years.

## TASTY TREATS

The flavour of the truffle is directly related to its aroma. The chemicals necessary for the odour to develop are created only after the spores are mature enough for release. They must be collected at the proper time which is why animals are the best means of assuring their fullest flavour. The season for truffles falls between September and May so we're giving you a head start on getting the pick of the crop: it must be warm and the soil moist as truffles are mostly found 10-14 days after heavy rain.

Though commercial truffles are more plentiful in Europe than in America, fewer are found here now than in the past. From a harvest of 2,200 tons in 1890, this has dra-

matically decreased to just 150 tons per year. Truffles have predictable life cycles so to ensure future production, appropriate tree seedlings are inoculated with truffle spores and when the sapling tree is established, it's transplanted to the proper soil. It takes about seven years before the first truffle begins to grow and a bearing tree will produce for fifteen to thirty years.

The value of commercial truffles means that there are laws controlling their collection. In Italy, truffle collectors are tested and licensed and land owners cooperatives control truffle hunting on their property – you can be arrested for collecting from these truffle beds without their permission.

## CLEANING, COOKING AND PRESERVING

Remove soil from truffles just before eating. They must be washed with water, brushed and the outside must be immaculate as they'll be used unpeeled. Once dried with a paper towel, scrape or grate truffles onto food and into sauces and soups just before eating, using a special truffle slicer if possible.

Experts recommend that veal, chicken, fish, soufflés, omelettes, pasta, and rice can be glorified with thinly sliced truffles, while cream and cheese sauces avidly take up their flavour. Insert thin wedges of truffle under the skin of a chicken and store it overnight in the refrigerator before roasting.

Expert chefs prepare a high-quality pâté de foie gras baked with a stainless steel tube running through the centre – as soon as the pâté is cooked, the tube is filled with diced uncooked truffles then the tube removed. Truffles can be frozen for two weeks in a freezer-proof glass jar or stored whole in bland oil.

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Good luck to everybody!

# L A N V I N

Nearly 120 years ago in 1889, Jeanne Lanvin founded Lanvin Shoes – the oldest Parisian fashion house which has gone on to encompass haute couture, menswear, accessories, decoration and perfumes.

This year, backed up by the long established Lanvin pedigree, the label's head womenswear designer, Alba Elbaz is walking tall on his very own doorstep after creating one of the strongest collections of the season and triumphing with a standing ovation from the assembled audience during Paris Fashion Week. Paris, of course, is home from home for the label and Elbaz didn't put a foot wrong with his Spring/Summer 08 Collection.

Short dresses featuring embroidered motifs were close to everyone's hearts as Elbaz explored the architectural possibilities of the ruffle, interspersed with long gowns in billowing satin. Bright jewelled tones of washed satin were his signature material, while trench coats in sand, flesh, grey and navy tones gave an authoritative look to the show.

Text: Chris Dove

FASHION | 60





Defying traditional pattern making, Elbaz takes raw fabric at the edge and drapes, gathers and folds it, holding it in place with exposed zips, fastenings or stitches. Though the construction is seen on the outside, it doesn't offer clues as to how the dresses are actually put together. But isn't that the sign of a true artist? Observers don't need to know the detail – we simply want to admire.

Lanvin's notoriety extends well beyond France with a label that's a lesson in luxury on a global level. In Europe and the US, Lanvin's presence never ceases to increase within celebrated department stores as they transport their heritage, savoir-faire, energy and passion into the 21st century.

The brand is a reference point across all continents in terms of perfumes as well as fashion, as witnessed through their subsidiaries in Japan, Hong Kong and Taiwan. And in the Middle East, with its menswear and perfumes in particular, Lanvin is both the watchword for quality and the leading brand among the region's well-heeled customers.



## Interview with LUCAS OSSENDRIJVER

Lucas Ossendrijver is the Dutch head menswear designer at celebrated French fashion house, Lanvin in Paris. Working closely alongside head womenswear designer, Alber Elbaz, he's refined the dandy look into a graceful yet attainable aesthetic and took time out to talk exclusively to Modern Design about his work, his colleagues and Lanvin's latest developments in menswear.

You say you're a self-confessed "geek" in your approach to your craft – has your fixation with detail ever got you in trouble? *We work in very great detail so precision for me is key and it's very tricky when we're doing a show. The background work involved doesn't come across at a show – everything's focused on the close-up. It's never got me in trouble, maybe only with the fabric manufacturers but they are also very demanding!*

You've been quoted as saying you make designs which reflect your own personal wardrobe – would you really

like to see people on the street wearing the same clothes as you? *Not in the same way, not in a total look. I like individual garments with a personal mix, mixes with different individual pieces they can find in their own wardrobe.*

You're linked to one of the top men's fashion design houses, Lanvin, yet you modestly shy away from spectacular big venues with special effects – this is unheard of in the fashion industry so what gives you such a different attitude from the mainstream? *It's about discretion, being quiet 'low key', no overt logos or branding, we're true to ourselves and to Lanvin so we have no big shows, no complicated structures and we're quiet discreet, understated and ordinary people like us for this and we're proud of this.*

You discovered your vocation for menswear very early on in your homeland Holland – can you remember which particular person or garment sparked your interest? *The first time at college I*

*was doing my final project and I saw a jacket at a flea market...it was black wool with ribbon stitching and very well tailored so I ripped up the inside and was fascinated by the hidden detail. That was my first deep interest in garments.*

You speak highly of your counterpart, Alber Elbaz, head womenswear designer at Lanvin – does your professional relationship run as smoothly as it appears? *There's no doubt about it, we're like a family – we're working in the same direction and we discuss every season's projects. We're both very opinionated and we do fight a bit as it brings us closer to establishing a rapport. It's very healthy – this is what Lanvin stands for, we're very hands-on. Your view of menswear is "It's so much about millimetres, about construction, about technical details" – did you ever consider a career in architectural design...? *I had the choice at art school to do architecture or fashion. My father had a construction background so I rebelled against it and chose fashion!**



Report from Women's Spring-Summer 2008

# PARIS FASHION WEEK

September 30 - October 7 2007

VIVIENNE WESTWOOD

SONIA RYKIEL

IVANA HELSINKI

CHARLES de CASTELBAJAC



Charles de Castelbajac

Sonia Rykiel

Text: Chris Dove

**Charles de Castelbajac** is Moda to the Max. You've gotta be a certain kinda girl to get away with this gear, so if you've got it, buy it. Singular, retro, skin-hugging sweats and knits stand way out from any crowd. Maybe too way out. Bring back the beehives, The B-52s and strut those funky socks!

**Sonia Rykiel's** collection is hedonistic heaven, like a reincarnated Charlie's Angels. Fluffy, feminine, flouncy – hair and all. A couple of thoughts though...How many times can you make a dramatic entrance wearing the same, (all white) floor-tripping outfit? And where on earth do you hang your shawl?



Vivienne Westwood

Fashion statement V political statement. **Dame Viv's** ultra-hourglass costumes and jewelled "trapeze artist" dresses. She's got bottle: stout and well-established in the same vein as Guinness. Her manifesto argues: "...art and culture are the antidote to propaganda and the secret of civilisation."

Flaky and ultimately flattering, anyone can look good in **Ivana Helsinki's** earthy patterns, floaty shapes and colours. Cool comfort for cowgirls in the sand.



Ivana Helsinki

## Big Paris fashion secrets in...Fuengirola

Fashion Week or not, the idea that looking great wearing the latest sexy styles equates with being thin is gradually losing ground. Word is getting out and designs for larger ladies are on the up. In-demand labels like Jean Marc Philippe and Giani Forté have cottoned on to this pretty obvious fact with their size 38-60 fittings hand-picked and flown from Paris to Fuengirola every season.

Boutique Madame Moda de Paris, C/ Jacinto Benavente, Edif Perla 6 (Next to the Port), Fuengirola. Tel: 952 586 911.

For stick-thin Paris fashions, head round the corner to Boutique Estrella, C/ Miguel de Cervantes 28. You too can dress like a star!



EVENTS 164

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of Mediterranean  
Cooking

26-27/11/07

CIO Centre for Leisure Industries  
La Cala, Mijas Costa, Málaga

[www.ciomijas.com](http://www.ciomijas.com)

JUAN USLÉ:  
Switch on / Switch off

Leading Spanish artist presents  
his peculiar vision of reality

CAC Málaga

Till 31/12/07

[www.cacmalaga.org](http://www.cacmalaga.org)

# NOV / DEC 07 EVENTS

BACKGROUND PICTURE: Daniel Libeskind's Wohl Centre, Ramat-Gan, Israel. The new convention centre for Bar-Ilan University in Ramat-Gan creates space to hold performances, lectures, special events and conferences.

Frontiers of Architecture  
Cecil Balmond

This pivotal figure focuses on the  
constructional and aesthetic prin-  
ciples underlying architecture,  
giving a sneak preview of the latest  
architectural visions

Louisiana Museum of Modern Art,  
Humlebaek, Denmark  
Till 11/11/07  
[www.louisiana.dk](http://www.louisiana.dk)

DEVELOPING  
GREATNESS

Origins of American Photography,  
1839-1885

Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art,  
Kansas City, US

Till 30/12/07  
[www.nelson-atkins.org](http://www.nelson-atkins.org)

Turner Prize  
Exhibition 2007

Europe's most important contemporary  
(& controversial) visual arts award.

4 shortlisted artists: Zarina Bhimji,  
Nathan Coley, Mike  
Nelson & Mark Wallinger

Winner announced 3/12/07

Exhibiting till 31/08  
Tate Liverpool, UK  
[www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk)

BATIMAT 2007

Sustainable Development  
offers the construction  
industry considerable  
opportunities for progress

Till 10/11/07  
Place de la Porte de Versailles  
Paris, France

[www.batimat.com](http://www.batimat.com)

Bill Viola "Hatsu-Yun  
(First Dream)"

A masterpiece & spiritual  
allegory equating light &  
darkness, life & death

CAC Málaga  
Till 31/12/07

[www.cacmalaga.org](http://www.cacmalaga.org)



Design's pin-up girl:

# URQUIOLA

Prolific designer Patricia Urquiola can turn her hand to just about anything. Architectural design. Interior design. Furniture design. Exhibition design. Industrial design. With Studio Urquiola in Milan the engine-house of her intense industry, she designs pleasant and comfortable products and environments that encourage positive feelings and intimacy. Hailing from her birthplace in Oviedo, northern Spain in 1961 provides a hint as to Urquiola's future career. Oviedo, capital of the Principality of Asturias, is a region rich in cultural and architectural heritage, firmly securing its place on the international stage with noted visitors from all over the globe. Urquiola studied architecture in Madrid and graduated from Milan Polytechnic, Italy in 1989, her thesis supervised by the world-famous architect and designer Achille Castiglioni. Initially working as a course assistant at Milan Polytechnic and at the ENSCI in Paris (École Nationale Supérieure de Céramique Industrielle, Superior National School of Industrial Ceramics), Patricia moved on to work for furniture company, De Padova as Head of Product Development – a suitably fitting role for someone displaying such diverse talents. Taking a plunge and co-designing her first furniture items, she opened an associated studio with two friends working on architecture, interiors, showrooms and restaurants. A former Manager of the Lissoni associate design group, Patricia opened her own studio in Milan in 2001, focusing on product design, displays and architecture. Going on to win numerous design awards, Patricia also speaks at conferences and seminars in various international universities while somehow finding the time to work on a vast range of projects for De Padova, Moroso, Agape, B&B, Alessi, Triade, Foscarini, Kartell, Flos, Molteni and Artelano. The list is endless!

**Text:** Chris Dove **Photos:** Hamburg Philharmonic courtesy



**Main image:** 'Antibodi' chaise longue or armchair seeks a new shape for a non-upholstered seating element. The design blossoms from a "cellular" genesis of petals sewn in triangular shapes, creating ample patterns. The lightly padded petals feature reversible materials – felt and wool fabric; wool fabric and leather – which create a supporting cover that is then fixed to a stainless steel metal frame. Available in black and white or a natural tone matched with a kaleidoscopic patchwork.

**Inset image:** Deep in design thought, portrait of Patricia.





1



2



**1 | The 'Caboche' ceiling lamp :** is a mosaic of refractions, a perfect fusion of various personalities within a single form, combined to create the body and lighting effect of the lamp. 189 transparent polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA) balls multiply the brightness of the central lighting source and the characteristic ring layout allows strong lighting from a halogen bulb to reflect off the ceiling directly on to the surface below. **2 | 'Smock' armchair:** With her built-in capacity to design objects with a strong connotation, this 'Smock' armchair displays solids, voids, comfort and luxury – all that distinguishes Urquiola's work. The stylised design centres around the draping of the ring-shaped armrests while the smock stitch embroidery gives a refined quality. **3 | Chairs:** 'Lazy' seating collection with high backrest in metal frame with bright chrome finish. Also available as a chair with low backrest, easy chair, armchair and stool in two different sizes. **4 | Orloff Bowls:** are each made from a single disc of drawn stainless steel plate and formed without welding. Angular and engaging, they're available in two sizes. **5 | Buckle Watch :** Designed for Alessi, this Buckle watch can be worn on the wrist or with an optional leather necklace. Stainless steel case, leather strap, mineral crystal, water resistant. **6 | T Table:** Kartell's 'T Table' was an instant hit at Milan's Furniture Fair. The table's surface is reminiscent of embroidery, making the product both functional and decorative. Manufactured in durable PMMA, available in 3 heights and 6 colours.





Above left: Antibody armchairs

Below left: Low and high-backed seating

Above: 'flo' series chairs and seating with painted steel structure covered with wicker, for driade



## factory planters Metaphys

Japan is a big nation with lots of tiny people so in a country tight on living space, these stylish, stackable white mod grass planters aim to bring the lawn and natural world indoors. In this world of excessive production, these simple, versatile individual planters represent "a discipline that explores the basic principle of all existences", and the combination of white and fresh green is both awesome and modern. Square, rectangular, circular and oval planters come in differing sizes from the Nature range.

[www.metaphys.jp](http://www.metaphys.jp)



## Infinity lamp Robby Cantarutti

Infinity is Vibia's new ambient lamp, characterised by its wave-like form moving gently up and down, changing its appearance according to the perspective from which it is viewed. Designed by Robby Cantarutti, this ceiling lamp gives a clean, warm light above and below providing complete lighting with no glare. Made using special resin, it comes in three highly-fashionable finishes: white, black and red.

[www.vibia.es](http://www.vibia.es)



## flip chair Boris Novachi Bojic

Possibly styled on the kitten heel shoe, this ingenious chair really does flip! Not by itself of course – you have to do it yourself its versatility means it can be used as a chair or chaise lounge. It looks so stylish and comfortable, you can almost imagine the inside lined with a soft cushion so it could triple as a cat nook. We prefer it as a flipping chair though!

<http://novachi.blogspot.com>

SHOP  
PING 172



## funghi lamp Jaime Hayon

Try thinking of it as a funky lamp – then try again. Using nature as its inspiration, this design is less toadstool and more modern new school in both form and finish. Sleek, shiny and definitely kitsch, its Madrid designer Jaime Hayon has added a touch of magic to this porcelain mushroom. Grows in white, black, blue and sandy grey.

[www.metalarte.com](http://www.metalarte.com)



## coral David Trubridge

Made from hoop pine plywood, this New Zealand inspired design comes as a simple white ceramic fixture and white wiring in a kit set and plastic clips supplied ready for installation. Available in small, large and custom sizes.

[www.essenze.co.nz](http://www.essenze.co.nz)



## grid chair PP Møbler

What Danes don't know about wood isn't worth knowing as they transform a solid plank of oak into the symbol of a geometric infant archetype chair, its side elevations tied together by a wooden grid resembling the human body. Machine-made, cubistic clarity transformed by the craftsman into a monument to the body.

[www.pp.dk](http://www.pp.dk)



## soft rock King & Miranda

Like a goddess with full breasts, the Soft Rock lamp extends its sensual pleasure and power: the perfect light to create environments, to inspire places. As a large totem, it protects entrances, walkways or transit zones. Its light source is directed upwards and its alluring, ductile texture maintains its vocation as an inlight brand. Lamp with screen in elastic weave texture, available in white, beige, grey or red.

[www.hillandknowlton.com](http://www.hillandknowlton.com)



## mobile cocktail bar Alpina

Immobile bars are tempting enough so this mobile version is just too good to be true. With ice maker, 11 bottle holders, five fruit cups and cocktail tray, and equipped with four pivoting wheels with breaks, it's easy to manoeuvre across indoor and outdoor surfaces. Make a big splash among your pool party guests!

[www.living-with-style.com](http://www.living-with-style.com)



## iuta Antonio Citterio

Swivel on these! The version chair, small armchair and stool are presented in a metallic mesh shell and edge profiles. Set in die-cast aluminium with metallic tubular base, upholstered seat and back, wheels and height adjustment, with or without armrests.

[www.bebitalia.com](http://www.bebitalia.com)



## big apple Henriette W. Leth

Looking like a slightly dented rubber ball, "It's not about how it looks - but how it makes you feel" says the supremely innovative designer of this seat of thin, pre-compressed boards woven together to create a structure strong enough to bear a human's weight. The woven boards were then subjected to pressure to create an indentation that a person can sit on, resulting in a light and airy sculpture with a truly distinctive shape.

[www.madetindenmark.um.dk](http://www.madetindenmark.um.dk)



## orange Magis

"In the dog house" is no longer such a terrible place to be and this durable dog house is one your 'best friend' will be proud to enter. Made from polyethylene with a stainless steel rod underframe and brass plate attached bearing the Latin slogan: "Amicus Fidelis Protectio Fortis" - "Faithful friend strong protector." Comes complete with step stool so Fido/Fida can hop into his/her house with ease.

[www.2modern.com](http://www.2modern.com)



## ohm Isu

Oh my! This sensual two-tiered chaise longue is designed to complement modern open plan living and inspired breakout areas. An engineered tubular frame supports the design's elegant cantilevered profile. With possibilities for both elevated and secluded seating for two or more users, Ohm offers a unique seating configuration. Woven elasticated webbing and graded foams offer comfort that defies its slender profile.

[www.isu-uk.com](http://www.isu-uk.com)

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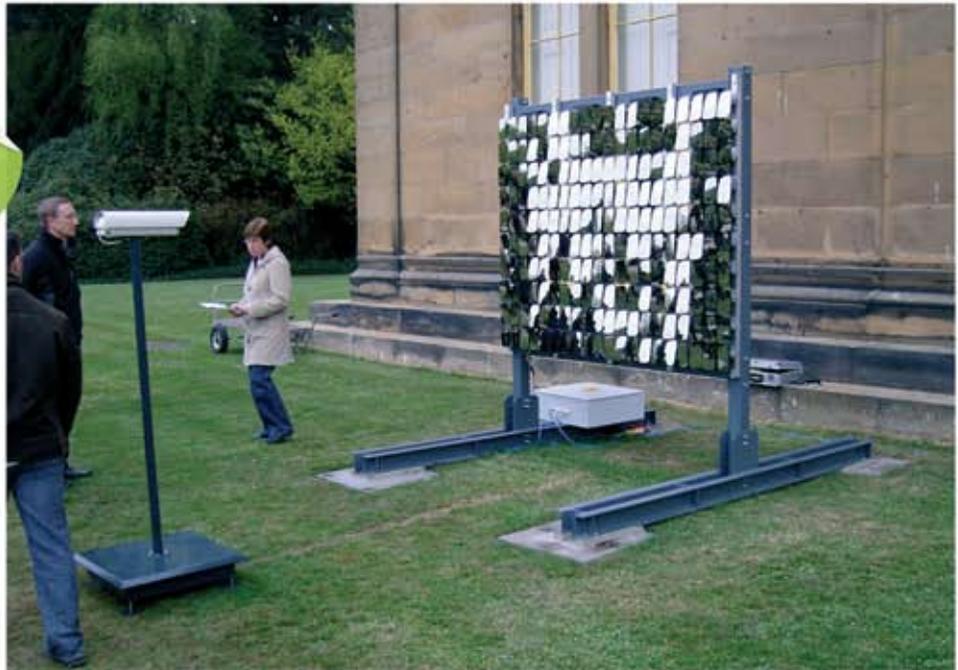
Photos courtesy of Alexandre Duret

ACCORDING TO FAMOUS ARGENTINEAN WRITER, JORGE LUIS BORGES, "ALEPH IS A POINT IN SPACE THAT CONTAINS ALL OTHER POINTS. ANYONE WHO GAZES INTO IT CAN SEE EVERYTHING IN THE UNIVERSE FROM EVERY ANGLE SIMULTANEOUSLY, WITHOUT DISTORTION, OVERLAPPING OR CONFUSION."



## HERE'S LOOKING AT YOU, ALEPH

Using powerful car side-view mirrors as its guiding light, this intriguing, visually arresting art installation takes Borges' literal reference as its name and was created for the purpose of "spatial analysis" – an experimental public display controlled by a network of micro-controllers using the spaces, people and objects it faces as a "palette" to display messages from hidden viewpoints. The vertical structure reveals an animated pixel-like graphic that reflects its surrounding environment with the pixel-like results captured by a series of cameras.



Here's an overview of how it works: looking at a small mirror reflects a fraction of the space around it; a mirror façade reflects most things around it containing dark or bright, red or green segments. But through a matrix of small mirrors which can automatically adjust their tilt according to the site they're facing, it creates a display that uses the ever-changing flux of the place to show images from certain points in space, building up images and other visual information.

The installation produces its content directly in response to the presence, position and behaviour of onlookers so it's interactive in every possible sense of the word. Apparently, side-view mirrors from reclaimed Citroën ZX cars are used for the installation as they have a sufficient angle to reach the artists' goal for automatic tilt and they're built to be more robust and weatherproof than other car models' mirrors. So now you know.

# TESLA'S WIRELESS REMOTE CONTROL LEADS THE WAY FOR HOME AUTOMATION

WHEN CROATIAN GENIUS NIKOLA TESLA FIRST DEMONSTRATED HIS NEW FANGLED TELEOPERATED BOAT AT AN 1898 ELECTRICAL EXHIBITION IN NEW YORK, MANY CONSIDERED HIS TO BE THE FIRST ROBOT IN THE MODERN SENSE AND THE WORLD'S FIRST RADIO-CONTROLLED OBJECT. AIRING HIS SYSTEM FOR WIRELESS ENERGY TRANSMISSION TO AN AWE-FILLED PUBLIC, EVERYONE EXPECTED SURPRISES FROM TESLA BUT FEW WERE PREPARED FOR THE SIGHT OF A SMALL, ODD-LOOKING, IRON-HULLED RADIO-CONTROLLED BOAT HURTLING ACROSS AN INDOOR POND (WHICH TESLA HAD SPECIALLY BUILT FOR THE DISPLAY), EQUIPPED WITH WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS "A BORROWED MIND." AS OFTEN HAPPENED WITH HIS INVENTIONS, MANY OF THOSE PRESENT WERE UNSURE HOW TO REACT – WHETHER TO LAUGH OR TAKE FLIGHT.

He cleverly devised a means of putting the audience at ease though, encouraging onlookers to ask questions of the boat. When asked, "What is the cube root of 64?" lights on the boat flashed four times. In an era when only a handful of people knew what radio waves were, many thought Tesla was controlling the small ship with his mind. He was actually sending signals to the mechanism using a small box with control levers on the side – the first device anywhere for wireless remote control which he called the "teleautomaton", responding to radio signals and powered with an internal battery.

Ostracised and regarded as a mad scientist by critics, revered as the Master of Lightning by supporters, we hear little of what was the world's most famous technician at the turn of the century. Light years ahead of his time in both his interest and knowledge of wireless technology

(his 'Art of Telautomatics'), Tesla wrote, "When first shown...it created a sensation such as no other invention of mine has ever produced." (And as you'll read in our Motors section, our feature on Tesla's Roadster Electric Car shows just far ahead of the game this guy really was)

Over 100 years later, the excitement surrounding wireless remote control devices is livelier than ever. Domotics and 'smart home' automation are driving technology forward ever faster, with Bluetooth-enabled devices the leading industrial specification for wireless personal area networks (PANs), providing a way to seamlessly connect and exchange information between mobile phones, laptops and PCs (mouse, modems, headsets), hand held devices including PDAs, printers, digital cameras and video game consoles over a secure, short-range radio frequency.

The very latest Bluetooth devices – BlueControl and BlueLock – provide a universal communication interface over Bluetooth, allowing you to turn up to four gadgets on and off from a Windows PC, Pocket PC and certain high-end mobiles. Transmitters enable automated power control, lighting control, switch and access controls with flashing LED indicators signalling correct connections between all linked devices. As life keeps getting a whole lot easier, we can thank Tesla for tinkering away with his madcap lab experiments and giving us all a helping hand at home.

TECH  
NOLOGY



# WHAT'S IN STORE + + + +



## Two fingers to Vilcus!

When we were kids, we were told NEVER to stick our fingers (or anything else) in electric sockets or it'd kill us. Now, this adapter for fingers has been especially designed for people who get a kick out of direct contact with AC power supply. These far from strange people normally use U-shaped fragments of bare wire, paper clips or even metal forks to feed their habit, but these gimmicks are unreliable, short-lived and tend to cause a short circuit. Enter the Vilcus dactyloadapter (adapter for fingers). "The holes are spacious enough even for large

phalanges and are set apart far enough for the comfort of the user. Copper plates are located above and below in the holes" so it's a dead cert you'll feel the charge. And, check this, "Vilcus doesn't consume power by itself so it can be left plugged into the power outlet until the next session." Electrifying stuff of course, but completely untrue as this handy little tool is a must for avid travellers who'll appreciate the plugs for European and American sockets which form part of the standard package. There's also a power strip version for inserting twelve 7/16 CEE europlugs, all 25 sockets backlit with LEDs to make it easier to find a free socket under a desk.



[www.artlebedev.com](http://www.artlebedev.com)



## The Mercedes-Benz folding bicycle

With its unique, patented folding mechanism, this innovative bike belongs to Mercedes-Benz' exclusive collection for the most exacting clients, offering them the perfect companion for city, excursions, pleasure boat, holidays or commuting. With just two simple movements, it folds around the central articulation to its minimum size of 800 x 800 x 200mm, perfect for packing in the boot of your car while maximising on comfort and security.

[www.daimlerchrysler.com](http://www.daimlerchrysler.com)



Mercedes-Benz



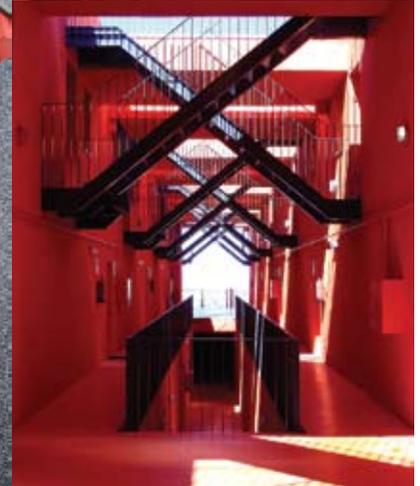
## Furniture for all reasons

Two of the most important names in industrial design, DuPont's materials brand Corian® is used in an extensive range of commercial and residential furniture and special applications. Its solid surface lacks pores, is stain resistant, easy to clean, long lasting, renewable, repairable and even recyclable. Available in some 100 colours, Corian® can take virtually any conceivable form of design while scratches are easily repaired without diminishing its beauty or colour uniformity.

[www.corian.com.es](http://www.corian.com.es)



## MVRDV ARCHITECTS



On the lookout from Madrid's Mirador. Domestic architecture towards a new city environment and its surrounding territories.

You'd hardly think so to look at it but this is one of the most innovative buildings in Spain – awarded several international prizes and shown in numerous exhibitions abroad.

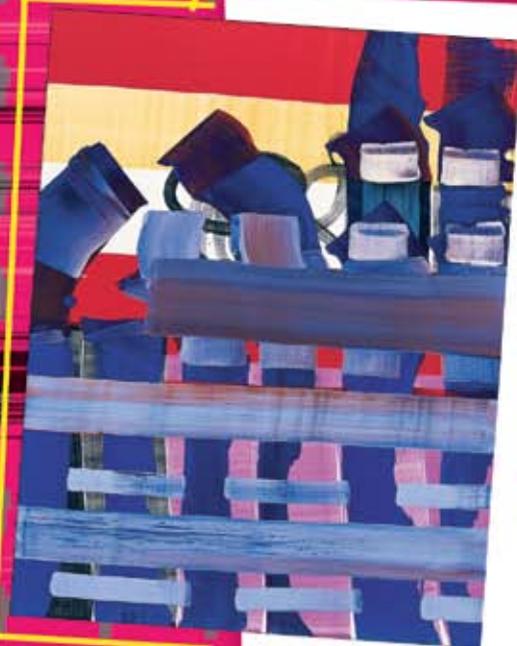
Dutch architects MVRDV collaborated with Spanish architect Blanca Lleó on this unusual housing complex in the centre of Sanchinarro, a residential suburb on the north east edge of Madrid. Surrounded by highways, this is certainly not the most attractive domestic architecture project we've seen. Even the residents disagree about whether the building is a masterpiece: some think the architects have thought only about the external appearance, not about the building's users.

Developed as a reference point for the city extension and region at large, The Mirador is a counterpoint against the massive uniformity of the surrounding blocks. The 22-storey building acts as a frame for the distant landscape with an impressive large lookout 40 metres above the ground serving as a residents' and neighbours' meeting area, playground, community garden and space through which they can contemplate the skyline. And because it is one of the highest buildings in the area, it affords long views from the lookout gap towards the Guadarrama Mountains.

The building's façade is colour coded for different uses – red for corridors, for example, and the complex contains a wide variety of compact housing types. In contrast to the serial and rationalist repetition of the standard family unit, the housing units are grouped in small 'buildings'. These 'blocks', stacked and glued together, make up a new towering 'superblock' providing the neighbourhood with an unusual urban capacity.

# What's happening at the CAC MÁLAGA

Both showing at CAC Málaga until 31 December 2007 | [www.cacmalaga.org](http://www.cacmalaga.org)



## JUAN USLÉ

*Switch on / Switch off*

Leading Spanish artist Juan Usle presents his peculiar vision of reality in an exhibition of 65 works titled *Switch on / Switch off*. The paintings presented can be divided into two broad groups: first, a series of large black works titled *Soñé que revelabas* (I Dreamed that You Revealed); second, a series of smaller, more colourful paintings.

Internationally renown, Usle's prolific work is described by CAC Málaga Director Fernando Francés as subtle and elegant, "Proof of this is the artist's interest in saturation and transparency". Usle uses dark colours to give his work depth, generating light, transparent, even physical colours. For the most part, the *Soñé que revelabas* paintings are composed of dark horizontal strips between which there is usually a clear line or strip.

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The artist does not associate black with the end; on the contrary, for him black symbolises a loss of memory and the possibility of returning or starting over from the beginning. Through his painting, Usle seeks to free himself from the burden or memory, association, nostalgia and myth. Though darker tones predominate, he does not eschew clear, light colours, using them strategically so they become crucial details in his works.

"What these pictures have in common, apart from the predominance of black, is the style of brushstroke. This is a short, striated brushstroke, a kind of luminous point", according to art critic John Yau.



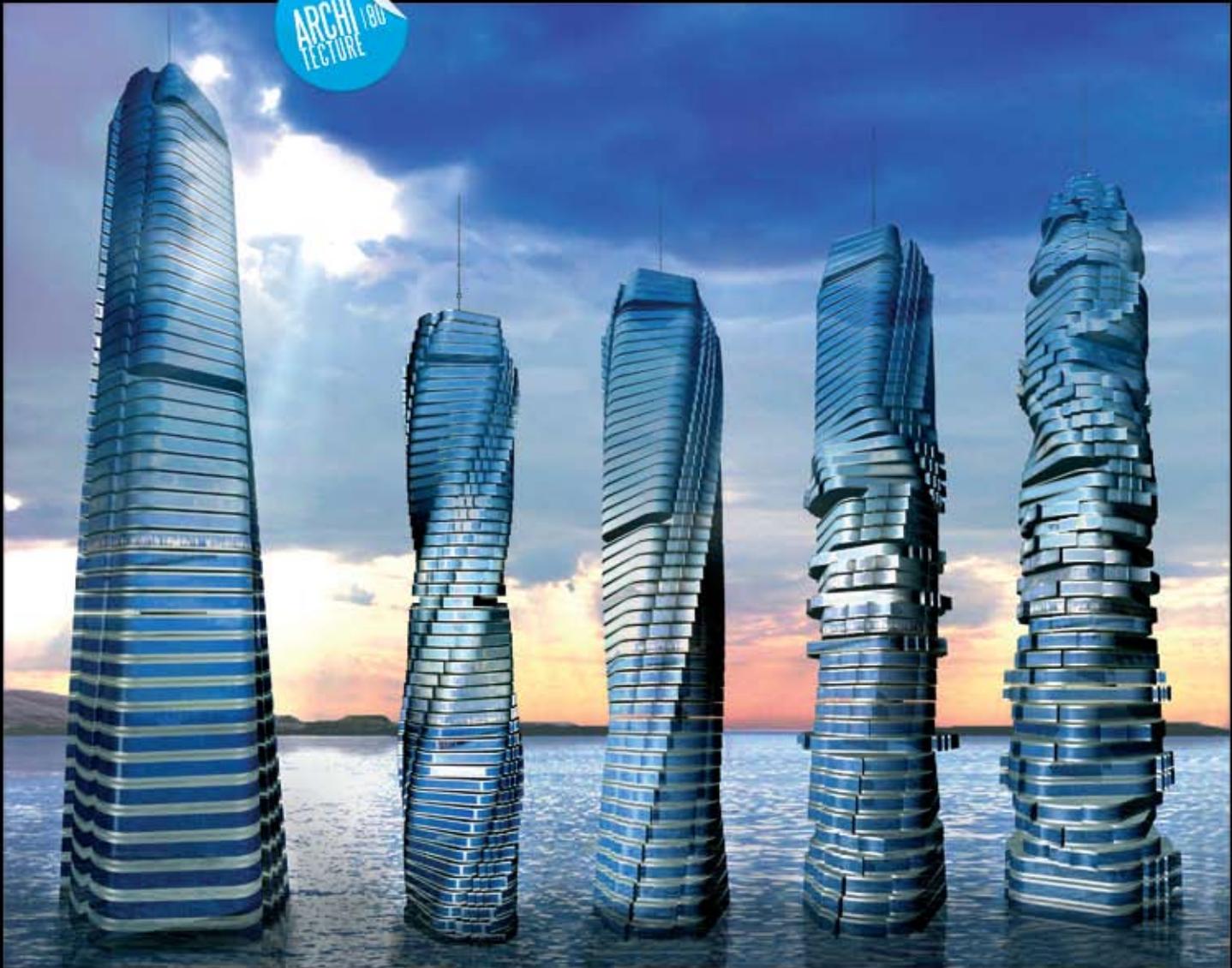
## NARA + GRAF

*Tower of Málaga*

As a painter, illustrator and sculptor, Yoshitomo Nara is one of the most influential contemporary artists in Japan. Emerging from the 90s Pop movement, his work is clearly influenced by manga, graffiti and punk rock. His creations reflect a different view from the idyllic vision of childhood that adults generally hold. Behind the apparent innocence, optimism and vulnerability of his characters lurk disenchantment and even impotence. In this CAC Málaga show in association with Berlin's Galerie Zink München, Nara teams up with Graf – a creative unit designing spaces, furniture, art products, food and objects with the aim of improving life-styles.

Presenting their first exhibition in Spain, Nara's installation was produced especially for the Centre and consists of a series of structures with

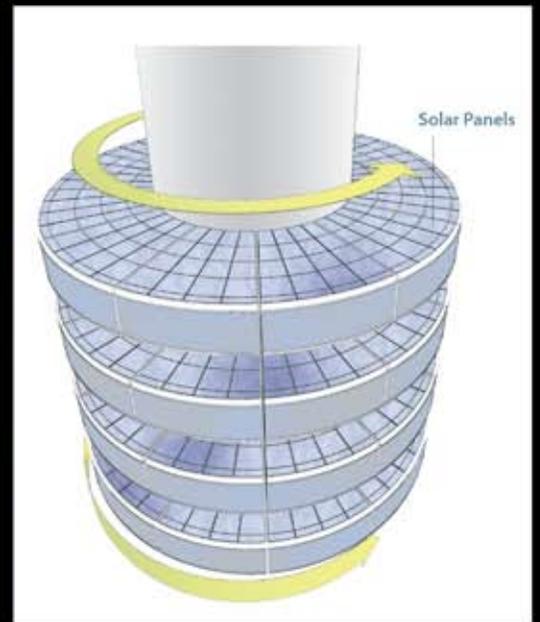
a tower made from recycled wood. At its base will be an area with materials into which you can see a room modelled on Nara's studio, featuring elements related to the artist's daily work (pencils, paper, figures, objects, etc.) as well as his drawings and paintings. A video showing the latest joint projects by Nara + Graf in different cities across the world will complete the exhibition.



# REVOLUTIONISING CONSTRUCTION: DYNAMIC ARCHITECTURE'S ROTATING TOWERS

Photos: Courtesy of Dynamic Architecture

DOES THE IDEA OF LIVING IN A ROTATING TOWER SEND YOU DIZZY? DON'T DESPAIR! DYNAMIC ARCHITECTURE PRESENTS AN INNOVATIVE PERSPECTIVE ON OUR DAILY LIVES: "ARCHITECTURE THAT ROTATES 360° FOR A WIDER VISION OF THE WORLD, OF NATURE, OF THE FUTURE, OF LIFE." \_\_\_\_\_ DAVID FISHER, THE ITALIAN-BASED ARCHITECT & TOWN PLANNER BEHIND DYNAMIC ARCHITECTURE, DEFINES DYNAMIC BUILDINGS AS: "ONES THAT CAN ADJUST THEMSELVES TO THE NEEDS OF THEIR INHABITANTS." THIS NEW APPROACH IS BASED ON MOTION DYNAMICS – CHALLENGING TRADITIONAL ARCHITECTURE HEAD-ON WHICH HAS, UNTIL NOW, BEEN BASED ON GRAVITY. \_\_\_\_\_ THESE BUILDINGS BOAST A NEW, 4TH DIMENSION: TIME. BUILDINGS THAT FOLLOW THE SUN AND MOVE TO THE WIND WITH NATURE ITSELF PRODUCING THEIR ENERGY SUPPLY. BUILDINGS USING THE LATEST TECHNOLOGIES FOR MORE EFFICIENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY IMPLEMENTATION, BRINGING A NEW APPROACH AND FLEXIBILITY TO THE CONSTRUCTION PROCESS. \_\_\_\_\_ WITH THEIR ULTRA-MODERN DESIGN, UNIQUE LUXURY FINISHING, GROUNDBREAKING SAFETY FEATURES AND ELECTRONIC CONTROL SYSTEMS, THE HOME OF THE FUTURE IS PRACTICALLY ON OUR DOORSTEP.



**Dynamic Dubai does it again: the world's first Rotating Environmental Tower**

Dubai's Rotating Tower will be the first industrial skyscraper constructed using Dynamic Architecture. 90% of the building will be prefabricated and assembled on a central core, the only part that will be built with traditional reinforced concrete poured on-site.

Because the Tower will be constantly changing its shape, it will generate electric energy for itself as well as for other buildings. 48 wind turbines fitted between each rotating floor, together with solar panels positioned on its roof, will produce energy from wind and sunlight using four turbines to power the 200 planned apartments.

**Devil in the detail – how it works...**

The Rotating Tower will be constructed in two main phases. The central core will take just six months to build, using slip forms that allow the erection of one floor every two days. This structural solution features a massive single concrete core to increase the building's seismic resistance compared to a traditional skyscraper.

Two months after works start, the first residential units will reach the site complete with plumbing, electric and air-conditioning systems. The units will be "hooked" to the core over the course of one floor each week, allowing the 60-storey building to be built saving around 30% construction time of a similar skyscraper. Once attached to the load-bearing structure, these pre-assembled units make

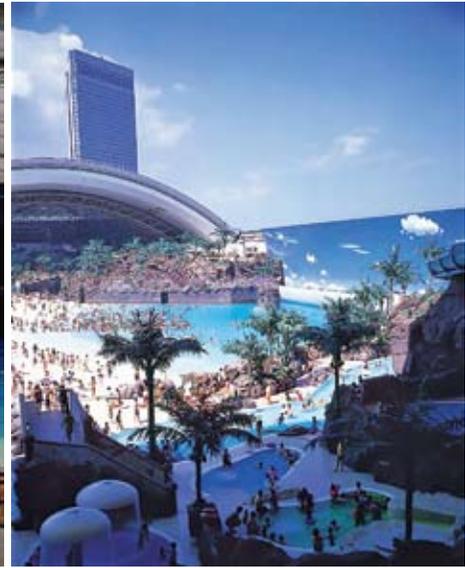
up a complete finished floor comprising steel, aluminium and carbon fibre.

Compared to the 2,000+ workers needed on similar sites, Dubai's Rotating Tower will employ only 90 people, while the production plant assembling the units requires only 700, all working in simpler, safer and better environmental conditions. This industrial assembly process will produce a high quality finish, faster construction time and cost savings impossible to achieve on a construction site. Furthermore, with completion taking just 18 months instead of the normal 30, this visionary, head-spinning structure is designed for better living even before it's finished. So whoever said, "Stop the world – I want to get off" clearly had their head screwed on.

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Photos courtesy of Alexandre Duret



# OCEAN DOME JAPAN

Certified by the Guinness Book of Records as the world's largest indoor waterpark, we splash around Japan's Phoenix Seagaia Resort in Miyayaki, just for fun, of course!

Opened in 1993, Ocean Dome accommodates 10,000 people and welcomed its 10 millionth customer last year. Spanning an impressive 300 metres long, 100 metres wide with a height of 38 metres, the Dome boasts a cunning device: an automatic retractable roof allowing sunny skies to beam in for large chunks of the year, while off-season visitors experience the same blissful warmth and scenery when looking up to the closed roof, lapping up the painted blue ceiling complete with fluffy white clouds. This cosy ambience is helped by the controlled air temperature inside – kept at 30°C all year round and the permanently turquoise blue water temperature at a steady 28°C.

The life-like beach of crushed marble pebbles forms a blanket of pure white sand yet there's no danger of sunburn or mosquito bites. There is, however, a volcano erupting every hour on the hour, sending simulated smoke and fake flames into the otherwise perfect sky and transforming the ocean into a sea of waves. Every hour the high-tech machinery creates perfect surf conditions as visitors pay to ride the waves with body boards. And with professional surfers performing their own shows several times a day, as well as many other gimmicks and entertainments, Ocean Dome could easily be mistaken for Vegas on Water.

LATEST 184



## Sonic boom alarm wake up now!!!

This evil piece of technology goes off at an ear-splitting 113 decibels and gives you up to a minute and a half to get out of bed before you start losing some of your hearing – if you don't wake up before the minute and a half, you must be deaf already. Or dead. There's also a vibrating version to place under the mattress.

[www.sonicalert.com](http://www.sonicalert.com)



## Second brain second life

Using brain-computer interface technology (BCI), Japanese researchers have developed a system that lets users walk a Second Life avatar through the streets of the online virtual world, relying solely on the power of thought. A headpiece is equipped with electrodes and monitor controlling arm and leg movements, while a brain scanning machine (EEG) reads and graphs the data and relays it to the BCI. One day it will help people with serious physical impairments communicate and do business in Second Life.

[www.gizmodo.com](http://www.gizmodo.com)



## USB Flash Player in a card

Slimmer and cheaper than the iPod and measuring just 85.5 x 54 x 4.5mm, this USB Flash Card Player comes with 2GB internal memory, built-in rechargeable battery and supports MP3 and WMA file playback and data storage capabilities.

<http://usb.brandocom.hk>



## Energy Orb see red or green

We waste so much electricity because we can't see it. With the Orb, we can see how much we're consuming and what it's costing. Visualising grid load and the price of electricity at a given moment, the light pulses red when electricity costs are high and glows green when costs are lower, so we can adjust our consumption accordingly. Energy is visible!

[www.ambientdevices.com](http://www.ambientdevices.com)



## Robot assisted walking!

Honda is using some of the technologies from its ASIMO robot in a device designed to aid people with walking problems. The introduction of intelligent, real-time, flexible-walking technology allows ASIMO to walk continuously while changing directions and gives the robot even greater stability in response to sudden movements.

<http://world.honda.com/ASIMO>

## Zilopop sucker



This innovative lollipop helps remove bad odours from your mouth – garlic, fish, cheese, cigarettes, wine – and everything else we consume that leads to bad breath. It has a pointed end made from high-grade stainless steel with a special ability to neutralize odours as soon as it comes into contact with moisture. Simply suck on it like a lolly and after a few moments, the bad smells will be gone.

[www.random-good-stuff.com](http://www.random-good-stuff.com)



## High-tech kitchen gear liquid food

At a cost of \$3,000 (€2,100), this gadget is ideal for chefs obsessed with their art. The Heidolph VV Micro Evaporator acts as a small distillery by extracting flavoured juices from nearly any food. Simply put the food in the glass evaporation flask which heats the ingredients up until a "vacuum pump reduces the air pressure in the flask, which drops the boiling point of the water inside to as low as 112°F." The vapour from the food rises into a condenser where it's left to cool and collected as a liquid in another flask without losing any flavour, or without compromising any colour or texture.

[www.brinkmann.com](http://www.brinkmann.com)



## Phone X HTC Touch Dual

A leader in smart technology, this 3.5G video camera phone comes as either a 12 or 20-button key keypad depending on your country and provider. The virtual keypad can be downloaded at HTC official website and it has new photo slideshows using on-screen controls – zoom and rotate photo using one finger.

[www.europe.htc.com](http://www.europe.htc.com)



## arcitec electric shaver

The new Philips Norelco arcitec razor combines two revolutionary technologies for a perfectly close shave, its Triple Track shaving heads providing 50% more shaving surface and its Flex & Pivot Action ensuring optimum skin contact in curved areas. When big brands like Philips name their most innovative global product in acknowledgment of architecture's increasingly important role, we know we're in the right business.

[www.philips.com](http://www.philips.com)

## Swarovski USB bling it on!

Phillips and Swarovski have teamed up to bling us tech goodies with their 'Active Crystals' collection featuring 1 GB flashy USB memory drives studded with Swarovski. The collection includes four different designs: Heart Ware, Heart Beat, Lock In and Lock Out. Heart Ware and Heart Beat are worn as pendants and Lock In and Lock Out attach to a keychain. The sparkling collection also includes four pairs of noise-cancelling headphones. Portable computing just got glamorous.

[www.bornrich.org](http://www.bornrich.org)



## Eye scanner yes it's me!

Boasting voice activation (it shouts commands like "Stand up straight!") while identifying a user in just 0.3 seconds, this new eye scanner can be modified to handle more than 10,000 user records and is tipped to retail for approximately \$2,500 (€1,750) when released in the US next year. The simple authentication process fires a laser into the eye (up to 20" away) while the user aligns the eye with the camera by directly focusing on a green light. Luckily it doesn't leave you blind but big corporations will be lining up to buy them to keep an ever closer eye on us all...

[www.panasonic.com](http://www.panasonic.com)

# MUSIC

FOR ALL EARS  
new releases

MUSIC 186



## Underworld

### Oblivion With Bells

Underworld is back after a five year absence working on other projects including film scores. This, their eighth album, showcases a more refined approach - very refined in fact as the simmering sounds never quite hits the boil. With the opening tracks being the most ambitious, you have to wait until the very last trancey bit of psychedelic to hear something more than unformed melodies and unstrung ideas.



## BEIRUT

### The Flying Club Cup

Twice as good as their debut album - and that was good - we'll go so far as to say it's much, much better. A vivid imagination and intuitive songwriting embrace *The Flying Club Cup* as one of the best albums of 2007. The kind of album you can keep coming back to long after you're dead and buried!



## Iron & Wine

### The Shepherd's Dog

Like quicksand, this album is subtle, surprising and utterly absorbing. It's also playful and an absolute joy to listen to. More definitive than ever, the rhythm and percussion complement lead singer Beam's voice - creating a lulling, almost eerie tone that occasionally recalls John Lennon's early solo work.



## Me'Shell Ndegocello

### The World Has Made Me The Man Of My Dreams

With its irony, sincerity, seeming contradiction and elliptical paradox, this is the most expansive, complex record released by this provocative artist so far. Dazzlingly delicate, even in its duller moments fail to depart from the serious verve that's kept Ndegocello relevant and refreshing for years.



## Jens Lekman

### Night Falls Over Kortedala

Witty, pretty, silly and wise - and filled with instantly memorable melodies, thrilling moments of surprise in the arrangements and laugh-out-loud lyrics.



## Radiohead

### In Rainbows

Their strongest collection of songs for a decade, venturing into new emotional territories and producing their gentlest, prettiest set yet. It seems that, liberated from their self-imposed pressure to innovate, they sound user-friendly for the first time in ages and it's made a huge impact on Rolling Stone magazine: "All of it rocks; none of it sounds like any other band on earth; it delivers an emotional punch that proves all other rock stars owe us an apology."

## THE PLANETS

### LOUDEST SPEAKERS



The Planets omni dispersion loudspeakers project sound in a perfect 360° pattern, ensuring everyone in the room gets an earful. The technology begins with the omni spheres sized and positioned to perfectly mate with the Planets' specialised drivers. The tweeter combined with the sphere are capable of creating a sonic image much larger than any forward-firing tweeter. Designed to compliment the tweeter and omni dispersion, the 5.9" woofer's high efficiency and low distortion offers excellent mid-range frequency and shocking bass for their size. Even the cabinets are finely tuned and use an accurate double-ported design on the bottom of the speaker. Available in various groovy colours, Planets are priced at \$1,295 (€908) per pair. [www.urbanfidelity.com](http://www.urbanfidelity.com)

## ARCHITECTS PLAY

### NEW TUNE



Architects have many differing talents and this just goes to show truly dynamic they can be. This exhibition centre in Huinan city, Anhui Province, China is built in the shape of a giant grand piano and violin. The piano forms the main part of the building while on its side leans a transparent violin containing the entrance and staircase. It's currently being used to display information about the new section of the city to help attract interest in the area. It's impossible to see how they can fail - it's beautiful.



# COOL Websites & Digital Art

You can send us your cool links to: [rbouza@d-earle.com](mailto:rbouza@d-earle.com)

- 1 | [HTTP://HIDEFHIGH.COM](http://HIDEFHIGH.COM)  
High definition TV with parrots showing how great the colours are. Great.
- 2 | [HTTP://WWW.HARRYTHEDANCINGHAIR.COM](http://WWW.HARRYTHEDANCINGHAIR.COM)  
Move your keyboard keys to move Harry the Hair through a maze of pipes.
- 3 | [HTTP://WWW.LECOURAGE-STELLAARTOIS.COM](http://WWW.LECOURAGE-STELLAARTOIS.COM)  
Learn about the courage to succeed in brewing a barrel of beer to perfection.
- 4 | [HTTP://WWW.MILKMATTERS.CO.UK](http://WWW.MILKMATTERS.CO.UK)  
Simple educational site promoting the benefits of milk.
- 5 | [HTTP://WWW.ABC-LAND.CO.JP](http://WWW.ABC-LAND.CO.JP)  
Japanese animation for kids
- 6 | [HTTP://WWW.AIRTIGHTINTERACTIVE.COM](http://WWW.AIRTIGHTINTERACTIVE.COM)  
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Multi-talented Lebanese-born Armenian-American poet.
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Fight For Kisses. Sharp site from Wilkinson Sword.
- 10 | [HTTP://WWW.THEOVENREINVENTED.COM](http://WWW.THEOVENREINVENTED.COM)  
Learn how TurboChef has reinvented the oven, cooking foods up to 15 times faster.

1 | 2



3 | 4



5 | 6



7 | 8



9 | 10



11 |



## ၅၀၀ ကျော် နေ့စဉ် နှိမ်နင်းရမည့် ကျန်းမာရေး အန္တရာယ်

How many more times do you need to be told? STOP SMOKING NOW. This extremely well designed site is probably the best we've reviewed so far. Its 3D interface is set out just like a genuinely sterile, space-age white laboratory, which only adds to its scientific authenticity, complete with lab assistants waving around test-tubes of odd coloured bubbling chemicals. We were transfixed by what's going on outside the window across the faint London skyline. Intriguing, clever and entertaining. Whether you'll throw that pack of fags away after viewing is entirely another matter...

<http://www.quitdoingit.com>



We don't hold grudges! Though narrowly pipped at the post in the final design competition for this Chinese cultural project, that doesn't mean we don't appreciate other architects' dynamic modern designs – quite the opposite as our fact-filled architecture features prove.



Diseño Earle Project

# CONGRATULATIONS TO COOP HIMMELB(L)AU'S WINNING DESIGN FOR THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART & PLANNING EXHIBITION, SHENZHEN, CHINA

One of our favourite European design teams, Austrian-Polish duo Wolf D Prix and Helmut Swiczinsky developed their proposal based on the functional requirements of future museum complexes while integrating innovative solutions for a modern information centre, optimising environmental building systems and construction concepts.

Their building is integrated with the established master plan: the structure's various pieces optimally positioned according to their function, meaning and requirements, creating a refined museum experience resulting in various public and semi-public areas.

## Urban design concept

The form of the building is a result of a vertical extrusion and rotation from the rectangular ground floor through to the roof level. A new entry

orientation is achieved through this rotation to the axial centre of the cultural zone and to the main circulatory flows. The resulting rotation generates a dynamic building in the form of an active wave. By using black anodized metal and black glass, the active wave is frozen into an urban monolith.

A large bridge connects the building to the Youth Activity Hall, sealing off the east wing and respecting and simplifying the building's original geometry.

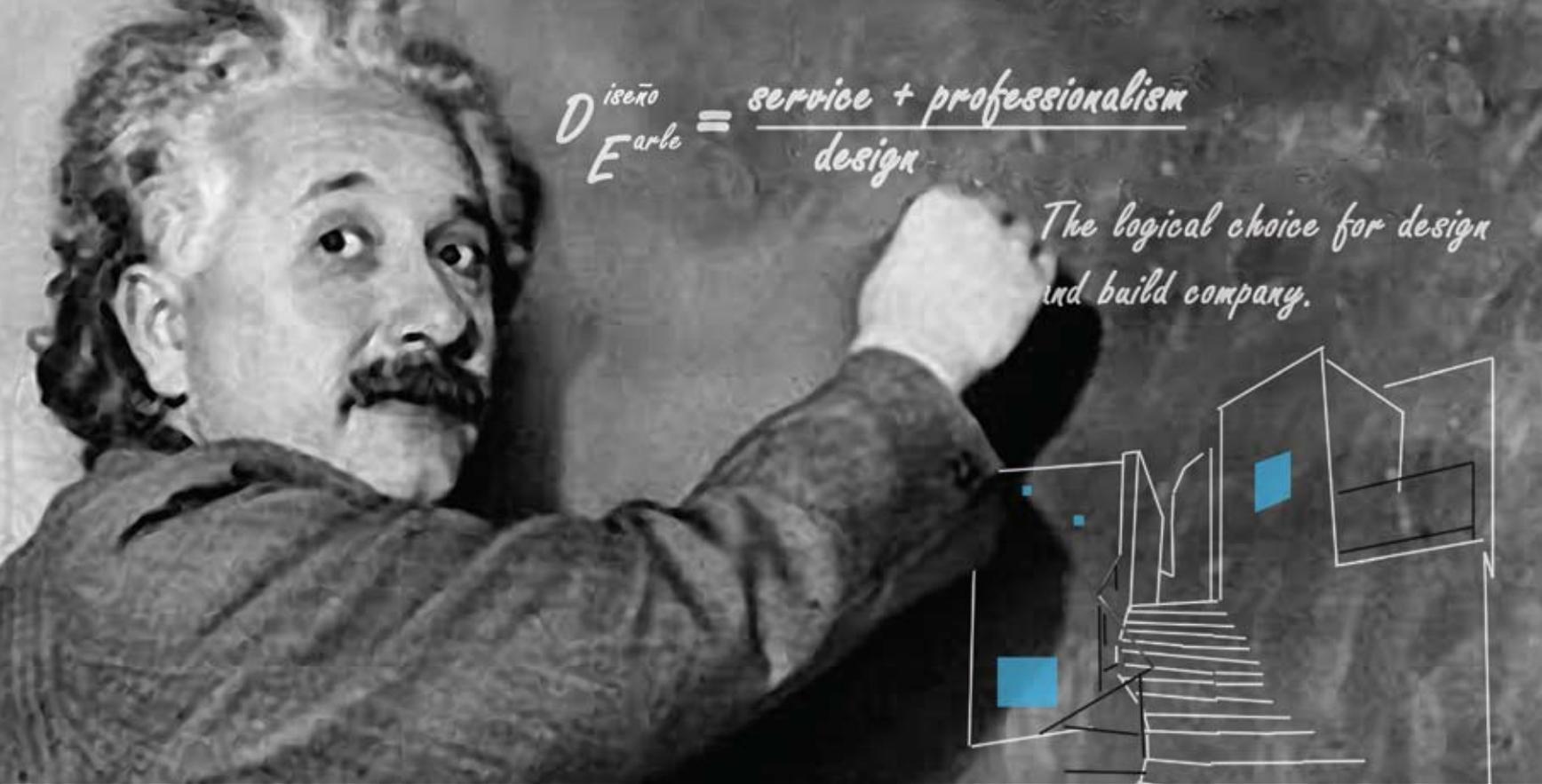
## Building and circulation

Through the main entrance the visitor enters the light filled Entry Hall – a generous urban multi-functional plaza featuring cafés, bars, bookstores, museum shops, a sculpture garden and museum event spaces. This generous public level serves as a key turning point and orientation centre where

multiple entries and exits are possible. The underside of the museum, above the entry hall, contains the Shared Spaces while the central lobby's double cone vertically penetrates the entire building, bringing natural light into all levels.

Both exhibition levels consist of generous floor space and allow for flexible and multifunctional usage. The upper level houses the offices, adjacent Green Zones and mechanical spaces. The remaining volume of this roof structure serves as a filter for daylight, louvers, a rain retention and solar energy system, while the overview of the roof grid from the existing adjacent skyscrapers resembles an animated checker board.

Construction is due to start later this year.



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# BOOKS & CINEMA

## Cinema

### EL ORFANATO

Starring Belén Rueda  
Directed by Juan Antonio Bayona

Spain's candidate film for the Oscars as Best Foreign Language Movie, 'El Orfanato' attracted 1 million viewers into Spanish cinemas in the four days of opening at the beginning of October. It tells the story of Laura who returns to the house where she was raised and decides to transform it into an orphanage. Soon, her son, Simón, makes an invisible friend and goes missing, tension mounting as Laura fights to find her son.

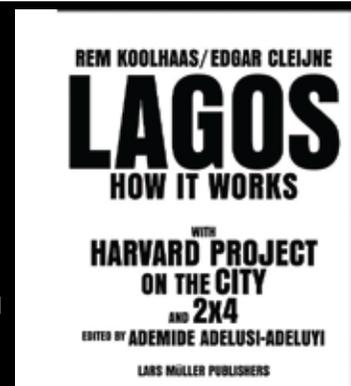


## Books

### LAGOS: HOW IT WORKS

Author: Rem Koolhaas  
Publisher: Lars Müller Publishers

Lagos, Nigeria is the symbol of West African urbanism, contradicting almost every defining feature of the "modern" city, yet it's a city that works. Koolhaas' essays, illustrations, maps, diagrams, interviews and anecdotes follow the country's development from a small-scale settlement on the shores of the Gulf of Guinea in 1800 into one of the largest megacities in the world today.



### INTERNATIONAL DESIGN YEARBOOK 2007

Author: Patricia Urquiola  
Publisher: Abbeville Press

The 21st edition of the leading international showcase of domestic design, guest editor Patricia Urquiola surveys the best furniture, lighting, tableware, textile and product designs of the last two years. Her eclectic selection ranges from futuristic kitchen products to glowing chandeliers to wallpaper ripe with political imagery. Designers featured in the book include Ron Arad, Tord Boontje, Andrea Branzi, Tom Dixon, Zaha Hadid, Ross Lovegrove, Ingo Maurer, Jasper Morrison, Gaetano Pesce, Karim Rashid, Richard Sapper, Philippe Starck and Marcel Wanders.

## Film Fest

### NOTODOFILMFEST.COM

5th Edition Internet Film Festival sponsored by Jamieson Distilled Irish Whiskey Boggle-eyed browsers are invited to view the website [www.notodofilmfest.com](http://www.notodofilmfest.com) then download or send the link for their favourite film shorts to a friend, or read other viewers' reviews. The main event centres on five film award categories:

**Grand Jury Prize for BEST FILM** went to 'Atracciones' (Attractions) by Oriol Puig Playà – synopsis: A couple walks through an amusement park...

**Jury Prize for BEST FICTIONAL FILM** was shared. Firstly to 'Suerte' (Luck) by David Barrocal – synopsis: A kid. A mother. A bar. The value of a coin. Secondly to 'Tía, no te saltes el eje' (Aunt, do not jump the axis) by Kike Narcea – synopsis: Vane and Lore are two movie lovers who enjoy the Seventh Art in between stuffing boxes of pizza!

**Jury Prize for BEST DOCUMENTARY FILM** was 'Fajas y corsés' (Girdles & Corsets) by Víctor Moreno Rodríguez – synopsis: Girdles and corsets are intimate tokens.

**Jury Prize for BEST ANIMATED FILM** was shared. Firstly to 'La adolescencia' (The adolescence) by Edu Crespo – synopsis: That's it then, adolescence. Secondly to 'Lágrimas demasiado tarde' (Tears too late) by Pablo Polledri – synopsis: A school classroom is the setting for a history of weapons, violence and stupidity.

**Jury Prize for THE BEST TRIPLE DISTALLATION FILM** went to 'El origen de la familia' (The Origin of the Family) by Francisco Arasanz y Ángel Pazos Betanco – synopsis: During the Spanish Civil War, two republican soldiers in a trench dream of the day they would return home.

Text: John Cumming



# THE modern art of boozing in THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

Recently, this intrepid reporter set sail for the British Virgin Islands, a breathtaking archipelago on the eastern end of the Caribbean Sea. My primary mission: to get stinking drunk. (Mission accomplished, by the way.) My secondary purpose, which was actually a by-product of my primary goal, was to discover for myself the finest bars in the chain. This goal may or may not have been reached, but I must say I did give it one hell of an effort.

I set up Base Camp on the tiny isle of Jost Van Dyke, which is situated just to the west of the main island, which is called Tortola. With only a couple hundred permanent residents, JVD could very well be mistaken for Gilligan's Island, with one notable distinction: there are bars everywhere. Apparently, everyone who lives on the island is employed as a bartender or waitress, which would explain why there are no other stores or shops of any kind. Thankfully, a few of these bars also serve food, which explains why I did not starve to death while I was there.

The first thing one must do when he or she arrives in the BVI is to pick up a handy booklet, entitled *The Drinking Man's Guide to the BVI*. This literary jewel, authored by the inebriated duo Juswon Moore and Lilibet Tiddely(get it?), lists the names and locations of seemingly every watering hole in the chain and provides a brief description of each. An innovative idea of the authors was to include free drink coupons at the back for every bar listed. Rather, this idea would have been innovative if the bars I visited had accepted the coupons.

One feature that is common to many of the bars in the BVI is that they are located on the beach. This idea, while not innovative, is nevertheless a good one, just as long as you don't start walking off in the wrong direction when you leave and drown yourself.

Of course, one cannot drink in the BVI without partaking of the national beverage, which is a delicious concoction made of rum, pineapple juice, cream of coconut, orange juice, and grated nutmeg. The drink is called a Painkiller but should be renamed a Paincauser due to the headache that you wake up with after downing a few.

Without further ado, here is a sampling of the bars I visited while in the BVI:

**Foxy's:** This is the largest and most popular establishment in JVD. The place is typically jammed with tourists, and the cover band that performs there is clearly a big fan of Van Morrison. Unfortunately, one of the main reasons I came to the BVI was to avoid the music of Van Morrison, and so I left Foxy's as quickly as possible.

**Foxy's Taboo:** This is Foxy's sister establishment, and is the only bar located in the northeast corner of JVD. Since I stayed in the northeast corner of JVD, it doesn't take a genius to understand why Foxy's Taboo was my most frequent drinking destination. It is also the destination of choice for many of the idle rich that sail around the Virgin Islands during the winter months. The food and drinks are tops, and Lewis the bartender makes one of the best margaritas I have ever tasted. A word of warning: Lewis definitely operates on island time, so be prepared to ask for your drink a few times before it appears.

**Corsair's:** Owned by a transplanted American biker named Vinny the Blade, Corsair's is located next to Foxy's in Great Harbor, which, as the name implies, is the largest harbor in JVD. Since Corsair's was the only bar that accepted my drink coupon, I figured I would give it a plug.

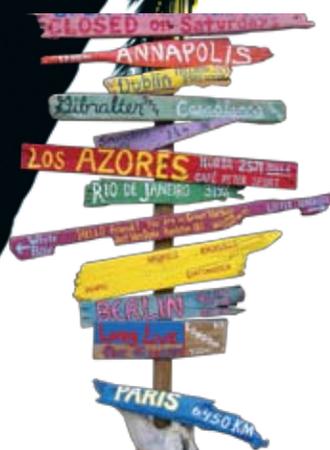
**Ivan's Local Flavor Stress Free Bar:** A short distance to the west of Great Harbor is White Bay, which is where Ivan's is located. Not surprisingly, Ivan's is owned by Ivan, an affable gentleman who also owns the campground next door. A great feature of Ivan's, and one that is employed by many bars in the BVI, is the use of the honor system, whereby patrons serve themselves and keep track of their own bar bill. Whether the use of this system is inspired by one's trust in one's fellow man or simply laziness is up for debate. Another interesting factoid about Ivan's is that it is frequented by Keith Richards, a ringing endorsement for a bar if I ever heard one.

**The Soggy Dollar:** A beachfront bar with hammocks. What more do I have to say?

**Pusser's Landing:** Conveniently located in Tortola's busy West End, Pusser's is a great place to have a Painkiller while waiting for your boat to be refueled.

**Top of the Baths:** Top of the Baths is located on Virgin Gorda, an island on the east end of the chain whose most striking feature is the presence of huge volcanic boulders that litter its shoreline. Unfortunately, one must travel over, under, and through these boulders in order to reach Top of the Baths. Consequently, I was so exhausted by the time I reached Top of the Baths that I really don't remember much about it.

There you have it: a listing of some of the best bars in the BVI, or at least the ones that I remember. So, if your travels ever take you to the beautiful British Virgin Islands, and regardless of whether you get there in a million dollar sailboat or a dinghy, please remember to support the local proprietors of alcoholic beverages (responsibly, of course). Enjoy!



# Testing times for the Tesla Roadster



## Roadster



Until now electric cars have conjured up images of plastic shoe-clad environmentalist owners with a penchant for knitting their own clothing, since it took a single-minded devotion to Mother Nature to put up with the fuggy impracticality of electric transport. It was as if driving an electric car was penance for driving any car at all. Tesla Motors is changing the perception of electric vehicles with its stylish Roadster which has faster acceleration than a Porsche 911 and, by extension, most other cars on the road. Finally here is an electric car you don't need to be embarrassed about valet parking at a smart restaurant.





The company has enlisted the help of fabled British sports car manufacturer, Lotus Cars, to produce an attractive, light weight and great handling sports car, based on the body of the Lotus Elise. The power is supplied by an electric motor producing 248 horsepower (185 KW), more than Lotus' own petrol engine Elise. This results in a 0-60 mph (97 Km/h) dash of 4 seconds, which puts it in elite company of some seriously fast cars, with a top speed of 125 mph (200 Km/h).

The beauty of electric motors, unlike petrol engines, is that maximum torque is always available regardless of revs. For the non-mechanically minded that means that when you press the accelerator you will experience an instant response. In contrast, petrol engines deliver peak torque in a relatively narrow rev range, hence the need to change gears frequently to ensure optimum acceleration. Fail to do that and find yourself in the wrong gear when you try to accelerate, nothing much happens – a phenomenon often observed when traveling in minicabs which are invariably driven in too high a gear at all times.

Historically, the Achilles heel of electric vehicles has been the range, since previous lead acid battery technology severely limited the distance

one could travel before needing to recharge. The Tesla Roadster uses modern lithium ion batteries, the same as those which power laptops and other portable electronic devices. However, it requires a custom designed pack consisting of 7,000 of them, so don't think for a moment you're going to be able to carry a spare battery around in your trouser pocket, unless of course you're inclined to do that anyway, although a rugby sock has less sharp edges and looks more realistic.

The battery pack in the Roadster gives a range of around 245 miles (394 Km), which no other production electric car has ever come close to achieving. This effectively means you're constrained to destinations of half that distance assuming you want to get home before recharging. The batteries take about 2 – 3.5 hours to recharge, depending how far you've driven, but similar to a mobile phone, once you get into the habit of charging it up at night it isn't something you'd think twice about. Tesla Motors does offer an optional mobile charging unit if you need to charge the car and don't have access to your home charging unit.

According to Tesla Motors the cost to run the Roadster is a frugal 2 cents per mile, assuming you're recharging it during off peak hours at night,

which equates to 135 miles per gallon. Furthermore, since it's 100% electric the car produces zero emissions, although the electricity generating companies which produce the power to charge the batteries can't make the same claim of their coal and oil burning power plants.

All of this guilt free fun comes at a high price, since the Tesla Roadster costs around \$100,000, or roughly double the sticker of the petrol engined Lotus Elise in the US, and 50 grand still buys a lot of petrol – about 17,000 gallons at current US prices – accompanied by a lifetime supply of give-away petrol station tat. Although most prospective Roadster owners will be wealthy purchasers with a conscience, or celebrities wishing to earn column inches by making a statement about the environment, Tesla Motors intends to use economies of scale to produce more affordable 4 door saloons aimed at the mainstream market in the near future.

Given ever rising fuel costs, ongoing concerns over the volatility of many leading oil producing nations, and an increased public awareness of the affects of harmful exhaust emissions, Tesla Motors' timing is perfect in offering the only green alternative to the traditional petrol engined sports car.



## Enertia Electric **Motorcycle**

Cheap, cheerful commute in Brammo electric bike

The Enertia Electric Motorcycle does 0-30 in 3.8 seconds and a top speed of 50mph, making this a great bike for commuting. Its 40-50 mile range at 25 miles-per-hour covers most home-to-work distances and once at work you can charge it using a standard electrical outlet - if you're lucky enough to have a boss who shares your green tendencies. The carbon-fibre framed bike utilises six lithium phosphate batteries which recharge in three hours, plus a transmission-free chain-drive electric motor.

Launched at July's 'LiveEarth' concert in New York which itself aimed "to spur awareness and a global movement to solve the climate crisis", the Enertia motorcycle is from Brammo Motorsports, the Oregon US-based outfit best known for bringing the Ariel Atom sports car to the States. Claiming that "Enertia is Momentum for Change", Brammo offer Green Facts as to how it manages over four times the energy efficiency of most popular hybrids and over twice the efficiency of an all-electric car.

Prices start at €8,460 (plus €215 for shipping) or €10,580 for the limited edition "Carbon" model. Early shipping starts beginning next year with full production ramping up in the summer. Already in the pipeline are a scaled down version for campus cruising and a two-up version for carrying a passenger.

Despite reducing a commuter's carbon footprint by 92%, fundamentalist environmentalists are claiming that 3 hours to recharge the batteries, a 45 mile range and the (equivalent of \$15,000) price tag mean the Enertia "is not cutting edge technology." Typical. Will these people ever be happy?

[www.enertiabike.com](http://www.enertiabike.com)

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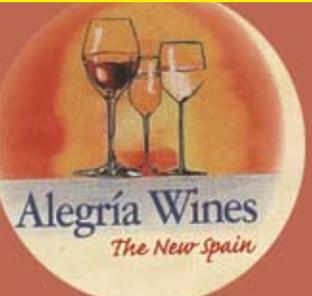
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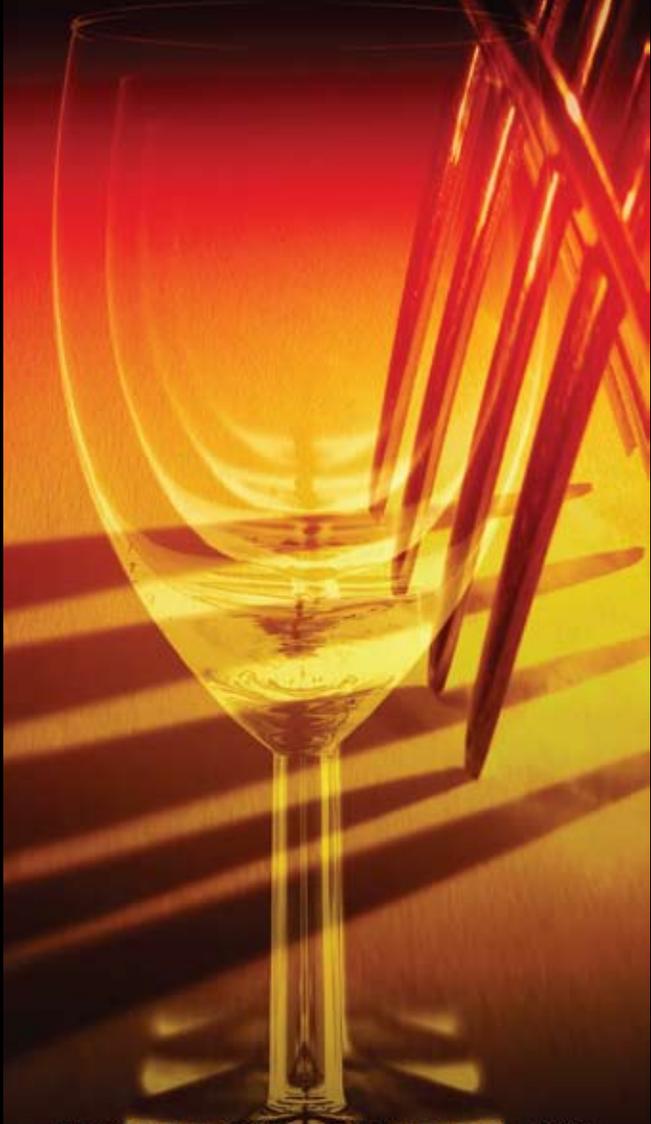
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# {PREVIEW OF NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE}

AS YOU'D EXPECT FROM MODERN DESIGN MAGAZINE, WE'LL CONTINUE TO BRING YOU FASCINATING FEATURES, ARTICLES, PROFILES, INTERVIEWS, INNOVATIONS, NEWS AND EVENTS INCLUDING:

## ART

Digital artist **Alberto Emiliano**  
(background picture)

Photographer **Rodolphe Simeon** [1]

## ARCHITECTURE

The Top 10 green skyscrapers [2]

The wind-shaped pavilion [3]

China's Suzhou Museum [4]

## PEOPLE & PLACES

The semi-virtual 'Cyberhelvetia.ch' swimming baths [5]

The Phaeton VW factory plant, Dresden [6]

AND LOTS, LOTS MORE!

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### Corrections

Apologies to our readers for the minor errors in Issue 4. We'll try not to do it again.

Pg 20 should have included Architect: Sven Rottger

Pg 23 should have read: Sydney-based Brian Walker...

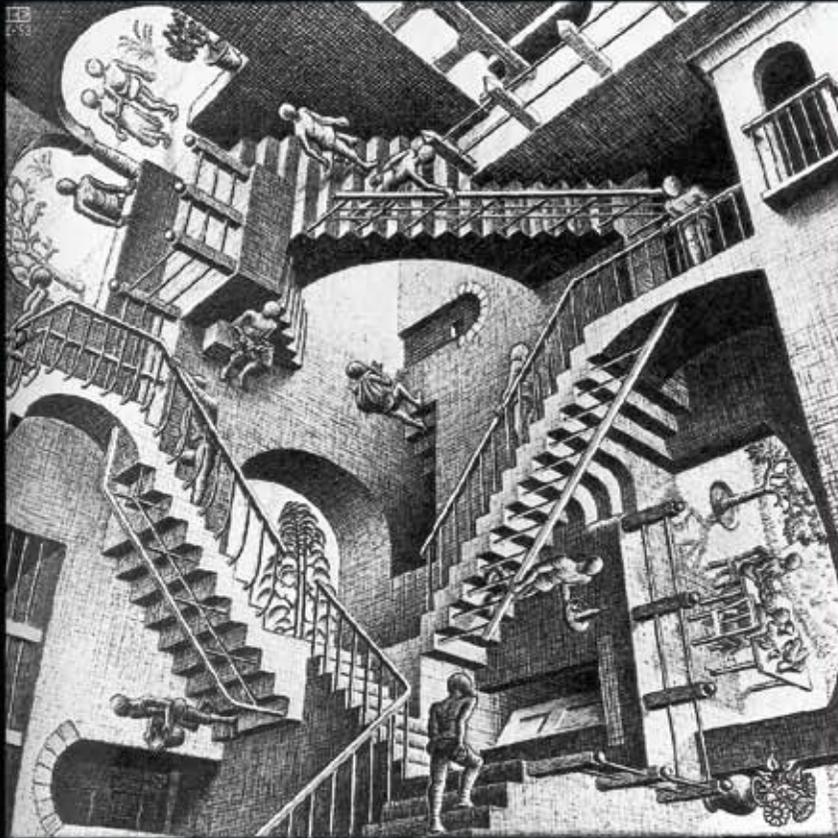
Pg 57 should have read: And they were right.

Pg 70 should have read: ...your life can go on and on...

Pg 83 should have read: ...magic mushrooms to ensure certain types of guests enjoy a very good trip;

Others are splattered with huge lettering...





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it is because we do not dare that they are difficult."  
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