Looking for a new twist in your career?

Let Monster work for you!

Find the job that works for you.
A job that values your creativity, your style and your talent.

Simply go to Monster.es and post your resume!
And let Monster work for you.

Check our more than 500,000 online offers worldwide on:
Marketing, PR, Advertising, Sales, Real Estate and many more.

Struggling to find talented candidates?

Look no more!

In Monster.es, the number one online recruitment site, you can access the largest resume database worldwide, post openings and hire candidates from around the world.

Plan your recruitments with Monster: visit http://reclutamiento.monster.es or call 900 96 89 65

Monster network:
THE READERS’ VOICE

Readers opinions regarding our magazine and/or previous article.

MODERN DESIGN is in architecture and art. If you think you could be part of MODERN DESIGN or you know someone who would please let us know. We want our magazine to be interactive. We want to share ideas with you.In 2014, MALaga probably will be the European City of Culture. It’s not over until we think to 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 contents, this is the place to express yourself.

Please visit our website:
www.axtae.com and email us at: magazine.axtae.com

Editorial
MODERN DESIGN EDITOR
Michael Arico
readmid@axtae.com

MAGAZINE DIRECTOR
Lori Gallardo
lgallardo@axtae.com

SALES
Suman Blakes
sblakes@axtae.com

ART, DESIGN & PHOTOGRAPHY
Roberto Garcia Braun
design@axtae.com

FEATURES WRITER
Mark Cocker
markc@axtae.com

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
Natalie Maldonado
nmalta@axtae.com

MARKETING DIRECTOR
Andrea Bauder
market@axtae.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Miltie Johnson, Chris Deve, Gary Heerd, Victor Proietti

FASHION ADVISOR
Antonio Zorrilla-Pacei

ADMINISTRATIVE CHEF
Amelia Santiago
asantiago@axtae.com

HUMAN RESOURCES
Tewanda Williams
tewanda@axtae.com

DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS REVOLUTION
cavila@axtae.com

Editors at large: Emilio del Rio, Jesus Gayoso

Editorial letter by Michael Arico, Modern Design Editor

Carbon footprints

We live in an age of consumerism and ecological destruction. Each day we waste more energy and destroy more of the environment, driving our 50s, flying around the world, pumping out more pollution, filling the rainforests and upping more, more water. There are very hard habits to break. It is laughable to expect the emerging world to be the first to change their ways, after decades of watching the richest countries make their money by burning this earth. At some point, people will realize that we must begin to change our ways before it is too late.

While there is a lot of press about green matters, the consumer reality is something different altogether. Habits and attitudes are one of the hardest things to change. It reminds me of the NAMBY culture in the US. Everyone is in favor of new hospitals and other infrastructural improvements, but as long as it’s not my back yard. 

What a designer to do? Our work contributes greatly to the problem of pollution. Buildings leave one of the largest carbon footprints out there. White clients aren’t yet pushing for green solutions; it is our responsibility to offer sustainable alternatives. I was recently presenting a building in the Middle East that had enormous energy-saving technology built into the design, but before I could even present the idea, the client interrogated with “how much?” If we are going to move forward, we must be prepared to evangelize green design solutions. In Modern Design, we will try to designate a few pages each month to projects that are doing something about our environmental problem. Just look at the “green” slider category on the front page of the article. In response to the environmental abuse, we have more architects, designers, and clients than ever thinking of ways to protect the environment. It is up to us, as designers, to convince our clients to go green. It shows there is hope and we are beginning to change, but we still have a very long way to go ...

Here at El Faro we are beginning work on a zero-carbon footprint building on the Costa del Sol. Zero energy, zero water, zero carbon and zero emissions; this is what we are shooting for in the design of this building. We hope it will be 100% more efficient than similar-size homes in the area and will be constructed with 40-50% less water than the traditional one. Green features of this house include a readingphotovoltaic system, passive cooling through the use of a solar chimney, grey water collection system for irrigation, LED lighting, the use of native plants for landscaping and the use of low VOC paints. This project poses great challenges but will bring great rewards, and we can’t wait to get started. 

Enjoy the beautiful spring weather!  

8 Innovation news alerts

ARCHITECTURE
18 Man on a mission: William Bruder
28 Full-bloom: Diseño Earl’s Desert Flower
30 Living on the edge: Nanyang Technological University
31 New build order; Hamburg Science Centre
54 Home is where the heart is; Alan-Yoo Family House
68 Taxing matter: Wolter Boas Complex
90 Sky-pods; Jason Mello’s Facility At Sea

ART
12 Going Dutch; Atelier van Lieshout
14 Something fishy; Benedetto Bufalino
32 Scenes of a graphic nature; Till Nowaks
34 Showing off; Galizie Wilma Tolksdorff
59 Exhibit A; CAC Málaga
80 Little people; Minimiam
89 Think again

BOOKS & CINEMA
78 The latest releases
81 "GREAT MINDS" COMPETITION RESULTS

CONSTRUCTION
16 French fancy: Pascorreille Simone de Beavoir
50 Worship me: Daniel Libeskind

CULTURE
56 Agenda; World architecture & art events
60 Green piece; our third part on global warming

DESIGN
38 Turning Japanese; Tatsunji Yeshioka
48 Our shopping selection
Global warming means we will have to face global changes now. Global awareness is an attitude we need to adopt in our everyday lives. I would like to give a special thank to Greenpeace for their unconditional fight in saving our planet, an initiative that is an example to follow and finally, for their kind contribution to this issue. We have always been concerned about the environment. Modern architecture, design, and technology are key factors for the future of our planet. Through eco-friendly building, renewable energy and pollution control, we are becoming greener. More importantly, education will encourage smarter thinking for a cleaner future. We are living in a crazy world. Everything goes so fast that we don’t have time to reflect what is going on. We need to take a breath and think for a moment about what is happening to the world and to ourselves. Is this the life we dream about? Are we happy with the situation we have created for ourselves? Are we going in the right direction? Is this the future we want for our children? Modern Design aims to be an intelligent magazine for intelligent people. Modern Design has created a name for itself since its creation thanks to quality, content originally, a very strict advertising-to-editorial ratio, and exclusive cover features points along the coast that, from Mikogo to Gibraltar. As a result, subscribers from across the world praise that Modern Design is more than a free magazine – it is a reliable that we are offering you, the best readers. A couple of weekends ago, I saw a few pages of Modern Design for sale in the Fuengirola flea market Fuengirola isn’t it?

In the prepared image, the text is divided into sections which include categories like Fashion, Gastroonomy, Interior Design, Motors, Music, Online, People & Places, Technology, and The Latest. Each section contains a list of topics or highlights. For example, under Gastroonomy, there’s a mention of “Cold cuisine: Raw foodism explained.” Under Interior Design, there’s a note about “Pull yourself together: Kräutli’s Magnetic Curtains.” Additionally, there’s a mention of a magazine named “Modern Design” which seems to focus on design and innovation, with a tagline about being environmentally responsible. The layout suggests a focus on both lifestyle and sustainable practices. There’s also a mention of contact information for Modern Design Magazine, and the website www.d-earle.com is visible in the footer.
A similar concept to Noah’s Ark, but for seeds instead of animals, the Svalbard International Seed Vault is currently being built on a remote island near the North Pole. Scheduled to open later this year - but not for shoppers, we imagine - the doomsday-style vault will house seeds from over 1000 varieties of food crops. Just in case global warming wipes them all out, while it’s certainly a good idea, we can’t help thinking that it wouldn’t be a bad thing if we’d never have to taste brussel sprouts again! The brainchild of the Norwegian government, who are forking out a reported £2.5-million for the project, the vault is strangely stylish with steel doors, concrete walls, palm trees and boardwalks. High fences and concrete walls. While we wouldn’t seek comfort in it as an asteroid was about to hit earth, we’d sure be thankful for it if we survived.

**Futureproof**

London City Surfing?

California’s got Surf City, Sydney’s got Bondi Beach. Now London’s next to catch the crest of a wave with the world’s first outdoor artificial surfing machine to help relieve pressure on England’s Cornwall coast - the most popular UK destination for extreme watersports. The aim is to attract the growing ranks of urban surfers to taste the quintessential California surf lifestyle in the unlikely surroundings of a disused dock on the River Thames in east London. From 2011, the outdoor surfing pool, designed by Barber and Osu Architect, will feature six-foot swells using cleaned river water to rival the Atlantic breakers of Devon and Cornwall. And Coutts Architects, will feature six-foot swells using cleaned river water to rival the Atlantic breakers of Devon and Cornwall. Featuring palm trees, boardwalks, rentable fire-pits and Aussie-style barbecues for post-surf relaxation. The wave pool will be surrounded by shops, cafes and restaurants, and the beach will be available for corporate entertainment hire. So surf London!

**UltraBattery Hybrid Storage Cell**

Worry about the battery life of electric cars no longer. The new low-maintenance UltraBattery developed in Australia is a high-performance hybrid storage cell that runs for 100,000 miles without the need for recharging or replacement. Combining a super capacitor with a hybrid storage cell that runs for 100,000 miles without the need for recharging or replacement. The innovative battery is also being tested for use in wind and solar applications.

**Violin-playing Robot**

Toyota has unveiled a five-foot tall, white violin robot with 17 joints in both its hands and arms. Performing to the tune Pomp and Circumstance, it involves a soft grip on strings which is tough work for mechanical fingers. This development followed their demonstration of how a robot’s fingers are dexterous enough to play a trumpet. This is just one of Toyota Mobility Robots they’re developing in their quest to deliver robots that offer utility for everyday life. Like playing the violin, which we all do every day!

**Design Art**

Some people are just so fickle. Take top auctioneer Alexander Payne, for instance. Having coined the term ‘design art’ for an exhibition in 1999, he now let the world know that he’s sick of it. In fact, he’s stopped using it. Completely. Director of design at upscale auction house Phillips de Pury, Payne hurled: “We don’t call our auctions ‘design art’ anymore... we were getting tired of it being used incorrectly.” Instead, items under the hammer will now be classified as either design or art - not in between. When Payne decides to get down off his high-horse, perhaps he can stop whittering on and get back to work.

**Big Brother watches you PEE!...WHAT??**

Make sure you have your mobile phone on you when you need to use roadside toilets in Finland. To deter vandalism and arson, the Finnish Road Administration is deploying a system which advises users to open roadside toilet doors only by sending an SMS message saying “OPEN” to the number given on the door. The call is directed to a modem which then sounds a buzzer and advises users to open roadside toilet doors only by sending an SMS message saying “OPEN” to the number given on the door. The phone companies to take the peeing out of desperate road users.
Eternal respect to budding UK architect

Dreaming of becoming an architect before his brutal racist murder 15 years ago on the streets of Deptford, South London, the Stephen Lawrence Centre officially opened on 7th February 2008 commemorating the 19 year old’s short life. In building the Centre, the Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust has created “a place for community learning and social research that will inspire and motivate young people to pursue successful careers in architecture and associated professions involving urban design and urban renewal.” Funded by the Millennium Commission and Arts Council England, London Development Agency, Berkeley Homes plc, Thames water and the St. James Group, the Centre aims to bring tangible, life-changing benefits to vulnerable communities. It was officially opened by Stephen’s long-suffering mother Doreen (Director of the Trust and awarded an OBE from The Queen), together with London’s Mayor and Prince Charles – the latter paying tribute to Stephen saying: “Our lives are shaped by the towns and cities we inhabit and by the beauty or the ugliness of our surroundings. From time to time, this powerful truth so touches a young man, or a young woman, that they decide they must become an architect’. With support also coming from Prime Minister Gordon Brown and the Conservative, Liberal Democrat and Green Party leaders, the team at Modern Design wish the Centre’s ‘Youth, Creativity and Urban Design’ curriculum every success in spreading the positive word about all architectural forms to new and younger audiences. Though well-known to the Police, Stephen’s five alleged killers have never been convicted due to ‘legal technicalities’.

www.stephenlawrence.org.uk

Eco-mad designer Fritz Haeg is at it again, this year trying to save the planet one species at a time. As part of his agenda to prevent Armageddon, the green giant has recently launched an eight-site project that provides dwellings for homeless animals in neighbourhoods that would otherwise be devoid of nature. Set to be introduced into urban environments, such as car parks, shopping centres and museums, the manmade homes will encourage homeless species to resettled, with each built in conjunction with a zoologist. You can always count on Haeg to do something crazy; just last year he was asking people in Los Angeles to turn their front lawns into vegetable patches to change how suburbanites relate to their surroundings. Perhaps what’s even crazier, though, is that they did it!

www.fritzhaeg.com

 PAD is a rehoming shelter for abandoned dogs and cats. Since we opened our shelter in December 1998 we have found loving homes for more than 6000 dogs, cats, puppies and kittens. Our placement rate is exceptional and in 2007 alone we rehomed well over 1000 animals. So the next time you worry that all your efforts may not be making a difference, you only have to remember the 6000 lives that have ALREADY been saved. TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

You can help by becoming a member (just €35/year), adopt or foster a cat or dog, make a donation, dog walk, groom and clean the cats, help at our fund raising events, collect bric-a-brac, display a collecting tin, or find new members.

The shelter is open 365 days of the year from 11am to 2pm and Monday-Friday (working days) from 4pm to 7pm.

Tel: 952 48 60 84 | PAD, Apartado 170, Mijas 29650 | website: www.padcatsanddogs.org | e-mail info@padcatsanddogs.org

Donations accepted through Bankinter, Ramón y Cajal 9, Fuengirola 29660, A/C n° 0128 0796 13 0102677405
Whether it’s mysterious containers, mobile homes, office units, bathroom fittings or quirky furnishings, Atelier’s concepts are always miles ahead of the curve. Their signature, however, has to be the large-scale sculptures they manufacture, such as the Sensory Deprivation Skull, made from reinforced fibreglass. With a hidden container built into the skull, the piece often causes opposite reactions from those who sit inside, some experiencing feelings of isolation, others feeling strangely serene. Other works include the Bad Little Table and the Bad Club Chair — though they’re anything but — and the suggestively-named Prick Lamp! Our favourite Atelier design, however, has to be the ultra-kitsch soundproof Music Room at the Lloyd Hotel in Amsterdam. Despite the colour-palette looking a little like something EasyJet would come up with, the bright-orange room is an explosion of creativity, with a fibreglass stairway that leads up to a mezzanine where a bed for eight stretches from wall to wall (no doubt the type of bed favoured by eternal playboy Hugh Hefner!). Even crazier, perhaps, is the bathroom, which is a pine-panelled pod that’s separated from the rest of the room and positioned halfway up the entrance hall! If you can’t go on a mammoth tour of the Netherlands this year, fear not — there’s a collection of Atelier Van Lieshout’s work all in one place at London’s Carpenters Workshop. www.ateliervanlieshout.com

Based in a riverside warehouse in Rotterdam, Atelier van Lieshout produce the type of avant-garde designs you’d expect to see behind glass casing at a museum of modern art somewhere. Founded by Joep van Lieshout in 1995 — although the ever-humble Joep credits everything to Atelier, a French term for ‘studio’ or ‘workshop’, believing that the collaborative nature of design is important — the firm operates in the realms of contemporary art, design and architecture.
Swimming with the fishes

As part of the December 2007 Lyon Light Festival in the South of France, French artist Benedetto Bufalino turned an old telephone box into a working aquarium! In the era of mobile phones, these iconic boxes have been left largely deserted, prompting the artist to use it for something other than for making long-distance telephone calls in. Filled with exotic-coloured fish, the box—appropriately titled ‘Urban Escape’—invites onlookers to dive right in and escape. Turquoise lighting, supplied by designer Benoit Deseille, adds to the eye-catching display. For more information: www.benedetto.new.fr

Text: Nick Clarke  Photos: Courtesy of Benedetto Bufalino
Oh la la! We could probably think of other ways to describe it, but The Independent got it so right when they said that the Passerelle Simone de Beauvoir bridge, opened to the public last July, looked like a discarded brasserie.

Stretching across the widest part of the River Seine in a subdued quarter of eastern Paris, the footbridge was designed by Paris-based Austrian architect Dietmar Feichtinger and is a tribute to the famous French writer and philosopher after which it is named – though quite how the iconic feminist would feel about being walked over by so many men’s feet, we don’t know.

With more river-bridges than in any other city, you wouldn’t think Paris would need another, but when its design is as revolutionary as this one it only adds to its portfolio. Feichtinger explained: “I did not want a suspension bridge, which would have been the obvious thing because there is no tradition of suspension bridges in Paris. I wanted to pay tribute to the arches of the classic Parisian bridge but also to do something which would break new ground.” And that is does. Sitting majestically alongside the spectacular masonry masterpieces of the 17th-century, a bridge that changes colour several times a day and an exact replica of one in England, the city’s 37th is indeed a worthy addition.

Stretching 885-foot from either side of the riverbank – the longest in Paris - the bridge comprises three separate ‘ribbons’ that undulate in and out of one another, mirroring the fluid form of the very water it arches over. Following the two opposing curves of a revolutionary truss form – which rise and descend asymmetrically from the quayside – the two plaits are made from steel strands that prop each other up. Pedestrians can choose their path accordingly, using the upper level to reach the plaza of the François Mitterand, the French National Library and the Bercy gardens, and the lower level for access to the François Mitterand and Bercy quays. Lying across the shimmering Seine like the voluptuous body of a woman, the bridge encourages aimless wondering, pondering and insight. Hopefully, those coming to the bridge to end it all will at least think twice before jumping.

At first glance the footbridge has no obvious form of support, seemingly suspended in the air like a glamorous magician’s assistant on invisible wires. It is, in fact, held in place by reinforced concrete foundations that are anchored in the riverbank’s underlying limestone. Naturally, these foundations are equipped with devices that measure stress over time to cater for eventual replacement. Fortunately, Feichtinger learnt from the well-publicised error of London’s Millennium Bridge - which was temporarily closed shortly after opening due to large crowds causing it to sway - and incorporated shock-absorbers into the structure from the beginning. Now the only thing swaying on the bridge will be those who’ve had one too many glasses of Pétrus with lunch at The Ritz.

Despite its popularity – often listed as one of the most romantic places to take a stroll in the city - the De Beauvoir bridge has been criticised for being too wide. At its widest, it stretches to 12 metres. Inspired by the bridges of Medieval times, many of which had houses and shops built onto them, Feichtinger wanted his work to become a public space, which is why there is a sheltered place on the lower level that can be used for fairs, exhibitions or simply for those wanting to take cover from unexpected Parisian showers. Of course, it wouldn’t be Paris if young lovers didn’t use one of its darkened nooks for a little, er, nookie as well. “The footbridge is more than a crossing-point, it is a new Parisian focal point,” Feichtinger said.

Rooted in femininity, the design is like the plait of a maiden’s hair, or the muscles of an outstretched arm, both images that De Beauvoir would approve of, no doubt. Feichtinger said of his masterpiece: “The naming of the bridge after Simone de Beauvoir is very appropriate. She was a great writer and the bridge leads to a library. She was a very modern thinker and the bridge is very modern. She was a woman and the bridge is very feminine.” Clearly, Feichtinger is a better architect than he is a wordsmith, but his meaning isn’t lost. Elegant, strong, creative and enduring, the Passerelle Simone de Beauvoir is indeed a refreshing sight in the City of Light.
Having won a host of awards, including the Chrysler Design Award and the Academy Award in Architecture, Bruder’s portfolio opens up a world of genius. Out of his impressive 450 commissions, it’s hard to pick a few that represent the sheer scope of his talents. Sky Arc House, however, is one of the most incredibly inspired residences we’ve ever seen. Built in Marin County, the home is embedded into its surroundings and follows the gentle curves of the Northern California hills in a neat, half-moon crescent shape. This maximizes the scenery, with views out over Mount Tamalpais to the south and Mount Diablo and Richmond Bridge to the east, as well as ensuring the contours of the woodsy environs are traced. The colour of Monet-painted, watercolour grey, the home is craftily camouflaged by its surrounding trees and sky. Indeed, a new homeowner may have trouble finding it in the thick of night! A conglomeration of light and shadow, of interior and exterior, and private and public spaces, Sky Arc House is the type of showy mansion you could imagine architecture-mad Brad Pitt and his brood moving into.

Having been in the building biz for more than 40 years, William Bruder knows a thing or two about bricks and mortar. Surprisingly, Bruder is a self-trained architect, having walked out of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee with nothing more than a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in sculpture. Not there’s anything wrong with that, but you would have expected a man responsible for erecting safe, secure buildings to have some knowledge of 90-degree angles, wouldn’t you? Luckily, his creations aren’t Picasso-inspired, whimsical works with no grounding in sound design principles. Half-sculptor and half-craftsman, Bruder supplemented his art education with studies in structural engineering, philosophy, art history and urban planning, followed shortly after by a full apprenticeship under America-based architects Gunnar Birkerts and Paolo Soleri. Once he was fully registered as an architect, there was no stopping him. Having opened his own studio in 1974, Will Bruder + Partners Ltd., Bruder has become renowned worldwide for his creative use of materials and light, capable of turning the ordinary into the extraordinary with a stroke of his pen.

“...a practice that challenges the expected, seeks work that contributes quality to our world and the life of the community and the individual, and stimulates intellectual discourse, sensual awareness and reverence for place.”
With sweeping cantilevered wood decking, lawn terraces, floor-to-ceiling windows, skylights, perforated metal railings and translucent fiberglass awnings, it really is the stuff of Hollywood dreams. Unsurprisingly, perhaps, the house was built for a successful young couple, the husband a musician, the wife a graphic designer. With two young children in tow, they wanted a cutting-edge home that would reflect their careers whilst still offering safe interior and exterior play areas for their offspring and frequent guests. Together with architect Ben Nesbeitt, that's exactly what Bruder built them. Spanning 4,600-square-foot, in addition to a 1,000-square-foot recording studio linked with an underground passage, the house consists of open living spaces that flow seamlessly into one another, creating a visual connection between rooms. Lighting is an integral part of the home, from the Californian sunset-hue used in the garage to the twinkling star-like spots that puncture the deck canopy. Perfect for aesthetes, Sky Arc House is evidence that fabulous form can be fantastically functional.

Another of Bruder's projects, Loloma 5 Live/Work, is erected in the Old Town of Scottsdale, Arizona, a contradictory place where offices are set in the same streets as homes. Taking its cue from the nature of its environment, Loloma 5 combines work and play in a single, Wild West-inspired development. Built from sandblasted concrete block, standing seam zinc, corrugated steel, fiberglass and LUMA site panels, the building is folded so that the apartments have patios that are aligned with views out over Camelback Mountain. With a desert-inspired colour palette, Loloma 5 strikes the perfect balance between the town's frontier past and its modernist future. Inside, every unit features a home or commercial office space and two bedrooms, all furnished to the highest standard with maple cabinets, stainless steel appliances, finished concrete, linoleum and commercial carpeted floors. It's eco-friendly, too, as the development is one of the first downtown properties to be built under the City of Scottsdale's Green Building Program. With drives made from stabilised decomposed granite and a living ocotillo fence along the north side, Bruder is certainly doing his bit for sustainable living.

Then there's the Byrne Residence, a modern oasis 80-kilometres north of Phoenix. Completed in 1999, Bruder says of his organic masterpiece: “The sculptural design concept of this residence is one of creating a metaphorical series of abstract canyon walls of concrete masonry, emerging like geological gestures from the home’s natural desert site”. Er, OK. In layman’s terms, the man-of-too-many-long-words means that he wanted to build a house that looked like it was part of the natural scenery, with angled surfaces that mirror the sandstone surfaces in the area. Spreading across a two-hectare lot, the home’s materials are coloured purple, bronze, pewter and grey, complimenting the rustic surroundings and changing with the sunlight. Structurally, it’s asymmetrical, with a main entry hall, living room and gallery spaces that are exposed to the tapered alignments of the ‘canyon walls’. With outdoor living and courtyards a prominent feature, the Byrne Residence enables its inhabitants to feel like they are living in a landscape.
they’re camping beneath the desert stars – without the fear of coyotes eating them alive.

It’s not only residential projects Bruder is involved with, either. If the truth be known, he’s a bit of culture vulture at heart. In 1999 he took it upon himself to transform an existing multiplex theatre into the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, with 14,000-square-foot of gallery space. With a shimmering screened sculpture courtyard by glass artist James Carpenter and the curving metal that frames the entrance, rays of fluorescent coloured light are sent shooting out across the pavement.

With high-tech mechanical systems and flexible lighting in place, what was once old and tired is now new and exciting, with art-buffs from across the world flocking through its shiny glass doors.

While most of us remember libraries as boring grey blocks we were forced into as kids, Bruder has done his best to turn our preconceptions upside down. Enter the Phoenix Central Library, which has become an architectural landmark in the smouldering desert-state skyline. Capable of holding over one million books in its 280,000-square-foot frame, the library houses the largest reading room in North America on its palatial fifth floor. Striking features throughout the library include the ‘crystal canyon’ triple-lift shaft, grand staircase and a floor-plan that enables easy access to all reading collections. What’s more, the star-architect has gone all-out with innovative computer cabling, furniture design and lighting, meaning this is one of the coolest places to study Edgar Allan Poe.
Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, Scottsdale, Arizona 1999 (SMoCA): Glass sculpture known as the ‘Scrim Wall’ by James Carpenter Design Associates, has better curves than Jennifer Lopez. From the street, the wall acts as a prominent marker for the museum entry and is a physical and visual barrier between the new outdoor sculpture garden and the adjacent street.

SMoCA: The ‘Scrim Wall’, lit by the intense Arizona sun during the day and artificial lights at night, is a monumental curtain of translucent glass panels showcasing the ever-changing effects of sunlight, reflections, and shadows onto the building. It’s constructed with fifty-six laminated translucent glass panels, each approximately 4’ x 7’, that are hung from a curving steel structure 21’ high and 65’ long.
in the world. Bruder hasn’t forgotten about the environment here, either, with thermal walls and a mechanical system that’s cut energy usage to one-third of the projected amount. Costing $28,000,000 to build – the equivalent of $98 per square-foot – Phoenix Central Library has become a community favourite since its inauguration in 1995.

So what does the future hold for Phoenix’s prodigal son? First on the list is a project with the powerful Bidwell family, set to be the first skyscraper in Glendale. Dubbed cbd101, the 40-storey marvel will offer over 900 apartments, offices and retail units, and hopes to attract high-end buyers. Like a boy at Christmas, Bruder said: “Skylines provide instant recognition of great places. Phoenix is waiting for its skyline of identity.” Currently, Bruder is moving forward with the third phase of Taxi, a housing development in downtown Denver named after the on-site radio tower that once transmitted to local taxis, as well as the Henkel headquarters and R&D facility in Scottsdale. With so much work on his plate, we’re surprised Bruder has much of a life. Then again, architecture is his life, and it’s clearly paying off.

www.willbruder.com
THE DESERT FLOWER

Jebel Ali in Dubai is one of three artificial peninsulas in the shape of palms. These peninsulas are so big that the third one alone, when complete, will house 1.3 million people. The islands are created by building a solid base of massive stone in the Arabian Gulf water. Sand is then blown over it with massive equipment, developing the shape of the palms, creating miles of sandy coastline from a small amount of actual water frontage.

In this strange desert environment, Costa del Sol-based Diseño Earle have designed three residential units that are inspired by the fast-growing desert flower. Like a hardy plant blooming after the occasional winter rain, these buildings present themselves in full bloom at the edge of the Arabian Gulf. These luxury units will provide great views of the water and out towards the ever-changing skyline of Dubai.

The external double skin was designed to act as a veil, shielding the building from the direct rays of the sun, reducing the building cooling load by 45%. This veil also acts as a solar chimney, which works as a hot air exhaust system. The sun hits the veil, warming the air behind it. The air rises to create movement and cool air is drawn from below the building where it is cooled by water. This ventilation method draws the hot air out of individual units, reducing the amount of power used in the building and helping to preserve our environment.

Smart glass systems have been integrated into the design as a response to the need for better cooling systems. At certain times of the day, during excessive direct sunlight, the glass will become opaque, creating three distinct building colours and taking the desert flower concept to another level. The soft hues of these desert flowers will soon light up the Palm Jebel Ali skyline.
RAISING THE ROOF

We might have gone to classes more often if they were held in architectural masterpieces like this! Home to the School of Art, Design and Media at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, the verdant green-roofed facility, designed by CPG Consultants, is the stuff of environmental dreams. Blending architecture with landscaping, the organic shape of the building is completely at one with nature and reflects the creativity that goes on inside. Originally designated as a green lung, the wooded area that surrounds the building is incorporated into its design and encouraged to colonise across its roofs. Serving as an informal gathering space on which students can lounge, study or indulge in heavy petting – scaled via a series of sidesteps along the edge - the curving green slopes also insulate the building, harvest rainwater for irrigation and cool the surrounding air. If you fancied a round of sporadic golf between lectures, no doubt that would be possible, too. Featuring a sleek glass curtain wall as its façade, which provides natural light into the classrooms, the building is made from off-form concrete and encloses a shaded atrium courtyard where visitors’ curiosity in life sciences and technologies will be established as a potent symbol of Hamburg’s economic strength, the building combines all the liquid assets of an international trading city as its commercial and retail facilities, science theatre, offices, laboratories, conference and retail facilities, restaurants and exhibition spaces, and will become a science hub for the next generation of scientists to study and share knowledge, linked to other Hamburg institutes as the profile while creating a place for the construction in its flexible approach to programming and functions. Visitors will start their scientific journey at the “base station” just beneath the top of the building before descending through exhibit halls and terraces allowing panoramic views of downtown Hamburg and Magdeburg harbour. Some 8500m² of the building will lie underground, largely taken up by the aquarium's zoological tour from Hamburg to the Red Sea. Construction will begin during the second half of 2009 once the skeleton of the underground railway track servicing the Science Centre has been completed. Not only does the building’s eye-catching design encourage new structural forms for a new interpretation of Science Centres throughout the world, it aims to be a leader in adapting sustainable environmental technologies within its construction. A l e s s o n i n m o d e r n d e s i g n f r o m re m Koo l hA As and the Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA)

The new Science Centre will be established as an interdisciplinary meeting place for HafenCity Hamburg, an innovative space for art, culture and science.

Text: Nick Clarke Photos: Gary Ting

The waterside location of HafenCity in Hamburg, Germany is the setting for a new centre of scientific study and education. Located at the entrance to Magdeburg harbour, the building’s close proximity to huge container and cruise ships marks the connection between the harbour and the city. The 23,000m² (250,000² feet) complex will host an aquarium, science theatre, offices, laboratories, conference and retail facilities, restaurants and exhibition spaces, and will become a science hub strengthening the city’s educational profile while creating a place for the next generation of scientists to study and share knowledge, linked to other Hamburg institutes as the generating force for innovation.

Koolhaas’ sensational high-tech style and OMA’s overt ‘O’ shaped design are making waves in architectural circles. Constructed of 10 modular blocks connected to form a ring, the building allows for maximum flexibility for exhibitions and mirrors the process-oriented nature of networking between scientific fields. Resembling the historic character of this one-time maritime power of Northern Germany’s commercial and cultural centre, Europe’s largest port and “gateway to the world”, it’s a visual representation of the modern city’s leadership as a catalyst for scientific and technological development. Some 8500m² of the building will lie underground, largely taken up by the aquarium’s zoological tour from Hamburg to the Red Sea. Construction will begin during the second half of 2009 once the skeleton of the underground railway track servicing the Science Centre has been completed. Not only does the building’s eye-catching design encourage new structural forms for a new interpretation of Science Centres throughout the world, it aims to be a leader in adapting sustainable environmental technologies within its construction. A l e s s o n i n m o d e r n d e s i g n f r o m re m Koo l hA As and the Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA)

The new Science Centre will be established as an interdisciplinary meeting place for HafenCity Hamburg, an innovative space for art, culture and science.

Text: Chris Dove Images: Courtesy of the Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA)
Digital Revolution

In an effort to show uptight, snooty critics that digital creations should be seen as real art, we take a look at the work of new-media artist Till Nowaks. Creating short movies and stunning images, his computer-based masterpieces prove that he’s as deserving as any painter or sculptor.

While most people hate vegetables, new-media artist Till Nowaks cannot get enough of them. With more than a little nod to the biomechanical creations of HR Giger and the vegetable portraits of Giuseppe Arcimboldo, ‘Salad’, one of his most striking creations, is the stuff of most kids’ nightmares. Using animation and moviemaking as his main medium, German-born Nowaks works to create images that are abstract in their concept but frighteningly realistic in their delivery.

Putting Nowaks on the map was Delivery, the short animated film he made while studying media design at the University of Fachhochschule Mainz. Screened at more than 150 international film festivals, and winning more than 30 awards around the globe in the process, Delivery depicts the future as a bleak industrial wasteland. Amidst this wasteland, an old man finds what could be the last flower on earth. Then, out of nowhere, he receives a mysterious package that contains a power to change his environment forever. Told in very much the same style as a David Fincher thriller, and borrowing stylistic elements from movies like The 5th Element, Delivery has become one of the most talked-about short films of recent years. Ultimately, Delivery proved that animation can be a powerful tool used in social commentary and flung open the doors for other media artists looking to make an impression.

Salad was created in 2006, and takes its cue from the Alien horror franchise starring Sigourney Weaver. Made in 3D Studio Max, the creature is constructed from twelve digital vegetables, including aubergines, broccoli stalks, cabbages and chilies. Nowaks says that the modeling and texturing of the actual vegetables was the easy part; the hard bit was finding the right positions and orientations to build a monster with them. Looking as real as the alien featured in the movies – if not more – it brings fantasy to life using real-life, everyday objects. Still, it doesn’t make us like peppers anymore.

Another of Nowak’s iconic works, ‘Satellites’, is architecturally fascinating. Using a colour photo of a council-style tower black – which he extended in Photoshop to make taller – Nowaks covered the top of the building with hundreds upon hundreds of satellite dishes. Strangely enough, the artist says that he always considered satellite dishes to be beautiful! We’re not sure how many people would agree with him, but he’s certainly done something eye-catching with them here.

These days Nowaks works as a freelance artist at his own studio, after founding media agency framebox. Just as talented as the fine artists he is inspired by, we couldn’t be more pleased that Nowaks and his digital masterpieces have been given the recognition they so rightfully deserve. Nowak says of the passion that drives him: “I am fascinated by the magic of building film worlds and composing evocative images to bring an idea or feeling directly into the brains or hearts of the audience”.

More info: www.framebox.de
1) Dish up: If you can’t get Channel 5 here, we don’t know where you can.
2) Strike a pose: Till Nowak, the brains behind the beauty.
3) Buzz off: ‘Bumblebees’ was Nowak’s entry for cgtalk.com’s Strange Behaviour competition.
In the beginner’s mind there are many possibilities, but in the expert’s mind there are few. Shunryu Suzuki

Anyone who has done an apprenticeship under industry powerhouses Issey Miyake and Shiro Kuramata is going to have some flair for design, but Tokujin Yoshioka has exceeded all expectations to be become a creative force in his own right. The 40-year-old Japanese designer – who is usually referred to by his first name only – now has his own studio and a portfolio that’s fit-to-bursting with innovative, awe-inspiring ideas. Having put his razor-sharp pen to paper and designed everything from interiors to mobile phones, it’s no wonder he was named Designer of the Year at 2007’s Design Miami and Best Furniture Designer by Wallpaper* magazine in 2008 - he even has four pieces of furniture in the permanent collection at New York’s Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), for crying out loud! But it isn’t accolades that drive him to be the best - it’s his passion for aesthetics. Most recently, the designer has worked on a show-stopping idea for Swarovski’s flagship store in Ginza, Tokyo - a template that will be copied in the crystal-maker’s 750 shops across the globe, no less. With a client-list that reads like someone who’s truly made it, we can’t wait to see what the rest of 2008 will bring from this shining talent. www.tokujin.com
Spongy matter: The Honey-pop chair is made from a material called elastomer and goes through a similar cooking process to the one bakers use!

Exhibit A: Tokujin showcases at the Salone de Mobile 2006 with this wonderful curtain-style installation. Photo by Nacasa & Partners Inc.

Fibre architecture: Light as a feather, stiff as a board! Making structures from lightweight material is the way forward, says Tokujin.

Let it rain down: The outline of this bench disappears when wet, much like glass when it’s placed in water. Produced in a special platinum mould, you wouldn’t find this in a park! Photos by Nacasa & Partners Inc.
1] Shadow dancer: You wouldn’t be able to do anything private inside the Light transmissible block - with every shadow and silhouette picked up on, it would leave nothing to the imagination!

2] Sitting pretty: Highly reflective, the Rainbow Chair sends out a glorious spectrum of light from a polished prism back. But let’s face it, you’d have to have one hell of a straight spine to sit comfortably in it! Photos by Nacasa & Partners Inc.

3] Metamorphosis: The Kimono Chair for Vitra goes from flat-pack to 3-D in one remarkable transformation. Influenced by the interchangeable forms in Manga cartoons, this chair breaks all notions of convention.
Conceived by professors Ben van Berkel, Sanford Kwinter, Johan Bettum and Luis Etchegorry, the installation, called ‘Fifteen Pieces for a Soundscape’, is the stunning conclusion of the work undertaken by the Städelschule Architectural Class over the past six months. An investigation into 20th-century music, the exhibition features fourteen objects that hang precariously from the ceiling, represented as a cohesive whole in an avant-garde soundscape. Set against the experimental recordings of Glenn Gould, Karlheinz Stockhausen and Brian Eno – think Cher in her synthesizer heyday – the installation attempts to explore the architectural relationship between music and matter, time and space. In fact, it’s similar to the revolutionary Philips Pavilion Poème Electronique by Le Corbusier, although on a lesser scale. And if that doesn’t blow your mind, then you’re cleverer than us! Despite its apparent pretentiousness, the exhibit does look pretty impressive from these glorious coloured photos. And, supported by UNStudio, one of our all-time favourite architecture firms, it has to be good! With a photo tableau backdrop that acts as the fifteenth piece to the installation, this will challenge even the most open-minded gallery-goer – and not in a bad way!

For more information: www.wilmatolksdorf.de

We love quirky installations here at Modern Design, and we could hardly contain ourselves when we found out about the architectural one taking place at the Galerie Wilma Tolksdorf in Frankfurt am Main, Germany.
Modern Design

While the more conservative amongst us like our curtains straight-down with no frills – except, perhaps, for a little traditional lace or Medieval-style velvet – the more daring may like something a little more off-the-wall, no pun intended. Enter eccentric Swiss designer Florian Kräutli, whose inspired magnetic curtains are causing something of a commotion in the world of interior design. Able to shape to any form, his curtains are embedded with hundreds of evenly-dispersed magnets into a grid of folds that allow for easy manipulation to make pretty much any silhouette you want. Sure to provoke conversation at even the most awkward of dinner parties, the curtains hang like beautiful pieces of art to block out the sun or frame that fantastic view you’ve just paid through the roof for. Sure, you’ll miss out on the sound of your old drapes billowing in the breeze and getting tangled up in those little pully-cords you love so much, but with curtains that look like something straight out of the Tate Modern, will you care?

www.kraeutli.com

ARCADE Large 3-seat sofa in leather / Designed by Sacha Lakic

MARBELLA
C.C. TORRE REAL, CTRA CADEZ MÁLAGA, TEL. 952 777 818

Collections, news, stores

www.roche-bobois.es

Expressing your interior world
State of mind

Plug this baby in, sit down and get ready for the trip of your life!

Text: Nick Clarke  Photos: Courtesy of Beta Tank

We don’t quite know what to think of this, but it’s certainly something different!

Despite looking like the type of thing you’d plug yourself down on in a musty old classroom – somewhat interactively, we hasten to add – this computer number is actually packed with super-advanced, Marine-tech technology. Crafted by London-based Peter Marigold and Beta Tank, the Chair Imagery

that are extended to
right, this
looking
revolutionise
visual forever.
Design and the
exhibition at the
MoMA in New York until
12th May, the four-legged
marvel harnesses a technique developed by
Dr Paul Bach-y-Rita in the late 60s whereby
moving imagery is perceived in the mind
rather than the eyes. Nevertheless, the
Blind Chair is the first tangible example of
this technique, made from polyethylene
and fitted with an electronic unit that relays
video imagery as physical, pixelated
information onto the back of the sitter. All you
have to do to benefit from this technology is
to sit back, close your eyes and enjoy the
moving images floating around your mind.
Definitely pushes the envelope, but we’re not 100 per cent sure if it’s in the right
direction. After all, the only chair we’ve ever
heard of that plugs into the wall is the kind
usually reserved for mass murderers.

For more information:
www.petermarigold.com
FOUR LEGS BETTER THAN TWO
Kurantini

Locking for something unique? Rushed wide open windows—only two in peck, or round? The Happy Chair for designer Giorgio Cini is an up to huric. Produced by Randas, the chair is made with transparent plexiglass and is to be used outdoor for due to its resistance to rain and water-open rain.

www.kurantini.it

PIECE TOGETHER
Vibia

Icons from the mind of Argentinean designer Diego Arruabarrena, the Puff Lamp from Vibia is like a gene of two halves. Well, three parts actually. You get the pale. Breezing through three separate sections that are made from one interconnecting unit, the lamp hangs beautifully from three feet cables. With a generously bunched fabric, the lamp sees a high-quality opaque glass diffuser to achieve its glowing, hard-line light. Who knows? A clever composition becomes even more so. The piece is designed to look like a piece in a store and is a piece to be seen in a store.

www.vibia.com

HANGING ABOUT
GAEiform

Sitting comfort is a huge issue in recent years. The GAEiform is the result of this issue. The GAEiform is designed to be comfortable and stylish. The seat is made of a high-quality eco-friendly material. The GAEiform is designed to be a unique, yet functional piece of furniture.

www.gaeiform.com

DON'T DROP THE SOAP
DesignNoDoubt

We all know how annoying it is to be handed a bar of soap in a smaller, colder room. But why does it have to be this way? The Innovative Soap Knob: Designed so that you can get your money's worth, you simply put the soap into the soap dish and give it a good rubbing to see that you've used your money well. This new design will be the only one to use to prevent soap from being thrown down the drain.

www.designnodoubt.com

MIRROR, MIRROR
Marali Cramona

Designed by Marali Cramona, the Mirror, Mirror is unique in its design. This mirror is made from mirrors produced by the company and then assembled into a single unit. The result is a mirror that is both functional and aesthetically pleasing. The mirror is designed to be hung on the wall and can be used to create interesting reflections.

www.maralichramona.com

BLOWN AWAY
Mizuno

Modern's hand-blown glass is always something beautiful to behold. But we're particularly fond of those hand-blown vases. Handcrafted in Italy, and available in green and white, they look perfect with some expensive whiskies sitting out on the top.

www.modern.it

SMOKE IN STYLE
Alessandro Luchian

We don't usually sit back and let things just happen, but if you want严肃 or at least do it in a stylish way. Marl us present Modern's B-Lin, an innovative new assembly designed by Alessandro Luchian. Characterized by a saucer-shaped glass body, the B-Lin is a beautiful, yet practical design. This saucer-shaped glass body is perfect for serving small dishes or as a unique, elegant candle holder. The saucer-shaped glass body is also perfect for serving small dishes or as a unique, elegant candle holder.

www.modern.it

EASY CHAIR
De Sede

As much of a statement piece as a leather armchair, the De Sede has a unique and functional design. Yes, you could sit on it with a cup of coffee and some meeting papers, but you could also sit in it with a glass of wine and aspire to be a little more. Either way, it's a piece to be seen in your own way, with the upward-imported legs and the seat cushion.

www.desede.ch

SILVER LINING
Christo&E

Crushed designer Richard Hutten has recently finished a fruitly design for a new French brand. Christo&E's "Alu&Alu" is a unique, yet functional design. The design is made up of metal and silver, and is perfect for a leisurely home or for a home with a modern aesthetic.

www.christo-e.com

GLASSED
Guan Design

We love when designers take a familiar item and turn it into something special. "Glassed" is a series of glass objects designed by Guan Design. The glassed objects are crafted with a unique technique that is perfect for a modern home. The objects are made of glass, and the glass is then painted with a metallic finish. The result is a unique, yet functional design. The glassed objects are perfect for a modern home.

www.guandesign.com
Don’t worry, aliens haven’t invaded just yet - this other-worldly creation is just the Daniel Libeskind-designed extension at San Francisco’s Contemporary Jewish Museum. Set to open on 8th June, the 63,000-square-foot building will be a glorious shrine to Jewish life in the heart of the cultural district. We, for one, can’t wait to get through its doors and worship at the altar of modern design.

Never one to shy away from controversy, Libeskind is often criticised for putting his own ever-inflating celebrity status before architectural logic or reason: his proposed design for the new World Trade Centre featured a sheared top that would shoot sunlight down onto the charred foundations of the former towers every 11th September, while his design for Hyundai’s headquarters came in the shape of a giant wheel. By the looks of his latest work, costing an eye-watering $47.5 million, his tradition for off-the-wall thinking continues. Quite honestly, we wouldn’t have it any other way.

Built onto the back of the iconic 1907 Jesse Street Power Substation – itself an historical city landmark and shining example of early twentieth-century neoclassicism – Libeskind’s extension is inspired by the Hebrew phrase, ‘L’chaime’, which means ‘To Life’. Building on this concept, quite literally, Libeskind thought it would be fitting to use symbolic Hebrew letters: ‘chet’, ‘yud’ and the ‘’yod’ to form the building’s actual shape. While you can only really appreciate this clever form of integrated typography from an aerial view, it will give visitors the sense that they’re physically part of the Jewish experience. After all, what better way to soak up another’s culture than to be at the tangible core of its language?

On the outside, Libeskind created a stunning façade clad with vibrant blue steel panels that clash beautifully against the surroundings of downtown San Francisco. Nevertheless, Libeskind’s got away with it, though Lord knows how it was ever approved by the stern-faced Architectural Resources Group who’ve been hired to maintain the building’s historical integrity. The panelled façade will also be the first of its kind to feature a unique cross-hatching finish, which will soften the blinding glare of sunlight that will zig-zag across its surface. Changing colour depending on the time of day, the viewer’s position and the weather, the building’s front will be a dynamic, ‘living’ surface that’s never the same shade twice.

What’s more, Libeskind’s design doesn’t do away with the building’s history. In fact, it does quite the opposite. Adapting his design to the existing structure, rather than the other way around, the star-architect has made damn sure that the extension preserves its character-defining features.
Most notably, the design incorporates the exposed red brick on the southern side, as well as a number of original trusses and daylights designed by Willis Polk back in 1907. Showcasing these in contemporary new spaces, Libeskind ensures that his creation is carefully positioned between the old and the new, the traditional and the modern. Incredibly, Libeskind’s extension will make the century-old building accessible to the public for the first time, throwing open its doors and inviting them in with open arms.

Inside, visitors will be greeted with a 2,500-square-foot lobby, framed along one side by the ‘PaRDeS’ wall, an architectural installation that incorporates a Hebrew acronym. Deeper into the museum, visitors will find three gallery spaces, an education centre and an auditorium, which is installed with the very latest audio visual equipment. Offering visitors a fresh perspective on Jewish culture, history, art and ideology, there’ll be space for exhibitions, live music, film screenings, lectures and discussions. Connie Wolf, director at the museum, said: “We look forward to opening our doors and to welcoming visitors in June. Our inaugural programs and exhibitions and our beautiful new home, designed, with such passion by Daniel Libeskind, will draw together people, art, and ideas to engage with Jewish culture in new and exciting ways.” Working to revitalise Jewish identity, the extension is just what San Francisco, and the rest of the world, needs.

www.daniel-libeskind.com,
www.jmsf.org
While it may look suspiciously like Lego – minus the primary colours, of course – there’s something strangely alluring about the Alan-Voo Family House. Perhaps it’s the clean aesthetic, the open spaces or the clever use of light?

Designed by California-based Neil M. Denari Architects, the funky LA pad was built as an extension on an existing bungalow and was required to reflect the creativity of the family who live there. The couple – a movie exec and an illustrator – were inspired after seeing Denari’s LA Eyeworks store on Beverly Boulevard. They got in touch and commissioned the master architect to create something just as wonderful for a modest budget of $700,000. Featuring an open-plan living room encased by glass, a master bedroom separated from a bathroom with a glass partition and a dining room that flows directly into the living room, the Alan-Voo Family House looks deceptively small from the outside. In fact, the pastel-coloured structure adds 1,050-square-metres of new space in an otherwise neglected backyard. With a pale grey terrazzo floor, Caesarstone quartz countertops, white walls, Miele kitchen appliances and sleek Poliform cabinets in silver and grey, the kitchen would inspire even the lamest of cooks to be creative. Meanwhile, the boxy living area features a poured concrete floor and exposed structural steel, proving that commercial architecture can be integrated into residential spaces. Stark and minimalist, the extension even prompted the family to flog their non-essential items on eBay! Denari said: “I’ve never seen people so relieved to be spared from distractions”. The only thing we’re not so sure about is where it attaches to the 1940s bungalow seven feet below street-level, with a seam that looks just a little too obvious for our liking. Nevertheless, we certainly wouldn’t mind coming home to this at night!
The Costa del Sol has more of a thriving art scene than many of us realise – just look at the CAC Málaga, for instance! A hub of cultural goings-on, the city’s very own museum of contemporary art is where the bohemian crowd gather on the weekends to discuss art, architecture and design. In fact, it’s where the Modern Design team spends most of their Saturday afternoons, intelligently pondering over all that’s creative in the world. The marvellous museum has recently introduced a series of new works into its permanent collection, too, meaning there’s more inspiration here than our brains can handle!

New works now on show at the museum include Richard Serra’s Port Hood VII, Pedro Reyes’s Estudio Para Bicicletas II, Helmut Dorner’s 31 12 30 6., Anselm Kiefer’s Sefer Hechaloth y Himmel aut Erden, Iván Pérez’s Wankhour-antiar Cannon, Richard Long’s Thunder, Tranquility, Helena Almeida’s Negro Agudo and Matías Sánchez’s Gabinete de Críos. Out of these, two were donated at the last Feria Internacional de Art Contemporáneo, three are from private collections, two are bought from the gallery of Málaga-based Javier Marín and the rest were donated to CAC’s director, Fernando Francés, during the Feria de Arco de Madrid. Sure to help with Málaga’s bid to become the European Capital of Culture in 2016, the new collection is certainly worth a gander. We recommend you stop what you’re doing this instant and get down there. Like, now.

www.cacmalaga.org
If you’ve ever seen The Day After Tomorrow, then you’ll already have a rough idea as to what scientists fear global warming is doing to our planet. Following on from last month’s feature, we take a look at the very real effects of a very real problem, and we’re not talking special effects here.

Text: Nick Clarke

Toss a can into the sea - who cares, right? After all, one measly can isn’t going to contribute to our impending doom, is it? Well, quite frankly, yes it is. What we don’t see when we toss that can into the sea are the millions of others piled up beneath the water’s surface. Clearly, others had the same carefree attitude when they tossed theirs in. Everything we do – big or small – has an effect on our earth. Every action has a subsequent reaction, like a domino effect. What we do today can considerably alter what we do tomorrow. Because of the mistakes of our past – tearing down trees, dumping toxic waste into the sea and bleeding the earth’s natural resources dry – we are now paying the ultimate price. Quite simply, global warming is costing us our earth. Unfortunately, we only have one to live on – unless an astronaut has found another hospitable planet for us to ruin since going to press - so we are the only ones who can save us from ourselves. If you think that global warming is a hysteria-driven national panic, you’re right, it is - and for good reason.

Just in case you’ve been living under a rock for the past couple of years, we’ve rounded up some of the most devastating effects global warming has had – and will have – on this sphere-shaped mass we call home. Read them and weep, earthlings.
Deforestation At one time rainforests covered 14% of the earth’s surfaceno bad, considering that 70% of it is covered by water. Sadly, only 6% of this 14% remains. Hacking them down to manufacture products such as paper and timber, and to make room for our ever-expanding cities, it’s no wonder experts have estimated that the last remaining rainforests could be consumed in less than 40 years. Unfortunately, short-sighted governments, logging companies and land owners can only see dollar signs painted on tree-trunks. What they don’t realise is that nearly half the world’s species of plants, animals and microorganisms live in the world’s rainforests, with over 137 species lost every day due to deforestation – that equates to 50,000 species a year. Rainforests don’t only support animal life either, they extend human life. Nearly 25% of Western pharmaceuticals derive from the rainforests, not to mention those that have yet to be discovered. In fact, only 1% of tropical trees and plants have been tested by scientists. Who knows, the cure for cancer could have been destroyed the moment a thick-skulled lumberjack tore into the bark of a non-existent tree. With the world’s pollution getting thicker by the day, we need the rainforests to preserve our air: oxygen during photosynthesis, plant life could very well be our saviour. If felling rainforests continues, we will almost certainly see the loss of biodiversity, a disruption in the weather and the demise of forest-based societies. To save the rainforests we must create a market that calls for sustainable rainforest products, with a demand for medicinal plants, fruits, nuts, oils, rubber and chocolate that’s greater than the demand for timber and land. Supplier must understand that there is more long-term profit to be gained by using the rainforests in this way, and agreements as to how funds should be raised to replant deforested areas.

Extreme weather If global warming continues, extreme weather will be another major concern. The earth is warming up due to greenhouse gases - made up of water vapour, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, methane and nitrous oxide - that trap the sun’s heat like a blanket and effectively give it a fever. Because of the excessive moisture in the atmosphere, storms are getting more frequent and even more ferocious. Dr Orrin Thompson of Ohio State University says: “Energy in the system – the heat on the earth’s climate system – increases, then you’re going to have more water vapour. More water vapour leads to more storms.” Large hurricanes, maybe even snowstorms, too? Hurricane dissipation is directly affected by temperature, says Thompson, with hurricanes reaching categories 4 or 5 having risen 20% in the 1970s and 35% in the 1990s. One can only imagine what the report for 2000 will bring. It’s not just storms we’ve got to watch out for, either; wildfires, droughts and floods will all be caused by the hotter, drier conditions. One of the greatest concerns, however, is the melting of the ice caps. According to the boffins in white coats, over 13,000 square-kilometres of ice has been lost in the past 30 years, contributing to rising sea levels worldwide. Greenland’s ice caps are melting so fast, in fact, that it’s causing earthquakes and drowning polar bears. It’s not yet known whether the melting ice is part of a natural cycle – we haven’t been around for millions of years to establish that – or whether it’s a direct effect of global warming, but it’s enough to give campaigners the heebie-jeebies, nevertheless. The National Geographic Channel’s recent documentary, Six Degrees Could Change The World, shows with horrifyingly real special effects how what would happen as the world’s temperature creeps up by six degrees, at one degree the Australian rainforests would be lost, at three degrees New York would be underwater, and at six degrees mankind would be no more. Extreme, perhaps, but so is the weather forecast we’re facing.

Depletion of natural resources Half a century we didn’t see any renewable energy resources, such as solar, wind and water power. Back then we dug for fossil fuels and drained the earth of everything useful. How long did we work to be able to keep it up? We’ve had warnings for years, telling us that we’re using up non-renewable resources and creating gaping holes in the ozone layer in the process. According to a report, the US places the most pressure on the environment, with staggering carbon dioxide emissions and over-consumption, and the UK isn’t far behind. A spokesman for the World Wildlife Fund said: “If all peoples consumed natural resources at the same rate as the average US and UK citizen we would require at least two extra planets like earth! Frighteningly, human consumption has more than doubled in the last 30 years and is still going strong, accelerating by 1.5% a year. With more than a third of the natural world destroyed by humans over the past three decades – yes, that’s thirty years – it’s time to take responsibility, and quickly. The price of sustainable energy resources needs to come down so that it can be put into action by everyone, not just the flash few for whom it can afford.

Species endangerment If you thought Noah’s Ark was a far-fetched, think again. with so many ecosystems at threat from global warming, it won’t be long before we’re forced to gather up as many animals and plants as we can and preserve them in some kind of modern-day ark. In fact, humanity has done just that with the construction of the ‘Seabird Global Seed Vault’, located on a remote island in the North Pole. With climate change in mind, the vault is built above the predicted level that would be reached by melting ice sheets in Greenland and the North and South poles. With no full-time staff and over two million varieties of seeds stored inside, the ‘doomsday-style vault aims to avert world famine and preserve millions of years’ worth of crop biodiversity. With their habitats plundered by man – forests felled, rivers polluted or dammed, land used for agriculture or building and soil and vegetation destroyed through mining or agriculture – it’s only a matter of time before a similar vault is built for animals. Species migration and habitat preservation will help, although some brain-boxes argue that we shouldn’t save endangered species as it will disrupt evolution.

All across the World, in every kind of environment and region known to man, increasingly dangerous weather patterns and devastating storms are abruptly putting an end to the long-running debate over whether or not climate change is real. Not only is it real, it’s here, and its effects are giving rise to a frighteningly new global phenomenon: the man-made natural disaster...

- Barack Obama
But we’ve already disrupted evolution through global warming, poaching and the like, and now it’s essential we restore the balance.

Defenders of the earth
Our world is out of kilter; as we’ve highlighted in last month’s feature on renewable energy resources, it’s not all doom and gloom. While eco-warriors may have sensitised us with thoughts of an Armageddon-style meltdown in which we all perish and drown, we may have the power to change our impending doom if we act now – all it takes is a little motivation and a lot of education. And going green doesn’t mean you have to turn into a placarded, argyle-sweater-wearing geek, either. In fact, eco has never been so hip; global warming had its first red-carpet moment with Al Gore’s insightful documentary, An Inconvenient Truth, while celebrities to have jumped on the hybrid bandwagon include megastars such as Sharon Stone, Leonardo DiCaprio, Charlize Theron, Tom Hanks and Salma Hayek. Still, many of us don’t know where to start when it comes to easing the strain of global warming – the problem, it seems, is just too big. But we’ve already disrupted evolution through global warming, poaching and the like, and now it’s essential we restore the balance.

1. Cycle of life
- We’ve been nagged to recycle so many times it seems like a mundane, ineffective thing to do. Nevertheless, recycling materials that aren’t biodegradable, such as glass, aluminium and plastic, ensures that they’re not buried in a pit anywhere, they’re the easiest ways ordinary folk like you can help save the planet.

2. Waste not, want not
- Turning lights and electrical appliances off when you’re not using them won’t only conserve energy but will also reduce those hefty bills that are wrangled through your letterbox every month. Make sure everything’s on stand-by, as even the LCD clock on your VCR can zap energy. It’s not all about electronics; either, turn the tap off when you’re having a shower or washing up until you’re actually ready to rinse.

3. Keep your cool
- Heating and cooling your home accounts for 40% of your total annual energy usage – for those who aren’t good with numbers, that’s nearly half. Simply by turning your heater down two degrees in the winter and your air-conditioning up two degrees in the summer you can save significant energy over time. Also make sure that your heating or air-conditioning isn’t on when you’re out or asleep; you can buy a programmable digital thermostat to make this easier. Adding insulation to your walls and attic will also help.

4. Turn-down service
- By simply wrapping your water heater with an insulation blanket you can save a whopping 1,000 pounds of carbon dioxide a year. Make sure the heater’s not set above 120 degrees, either, and buy low-flow showerheads to save on wasted hot water. While a luke-warm shower may not be as relaxing as a piping hot one, you’ll save a further 150 pounds of carbon dioxide a year.

5. Smart cars
- Commuting has become an essential part of our everyday lives, and usually it’s done in the earth-destroying hunk of metal we call a car. Try to walk, cycle or use public transport whenever you can; not only will you be conserving energy, but you’ll be getting fitter and saving money. If you must hurtle down the motorway in a four-wheeler, invest in an eco-friendly hybrid – they’re not as hideous as they used to be, just look at the Loremo petrol mileage. For every gallon of petrol you save, you keep 20 pounds of carbon dioxide out of the earth’s atmosphere.

6. Let there be light
- When it’s practical, replace your usual light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) for glorious, guilt-free light. They’re more expensive, of course, but you’ll recoup the cost as they last 10 times longer than your usual incandescent ones, use two-thirds less energy and give off 70% less heat. Naturally, you could use candles, but they’re a little medieval for our modern needs.

7. Out with the old, in with the new
- When you’re next doing out your lit for mass consumption, be sure to stock up on energy-efficient products. Buy recycled paper products, such as paper towels and toilet rolls, as they take between 20 and 90% less energy to make than conventional paper. With all your purchases, remember that the less packaging the better, as they’re less non-biodegradable waste to get rid of.

8. High flyer
- Reduce the amount of flights you take each year; those who take to the sky often can dramatically reduce emissions by cutting two or more trips. Jet-setters who feel guilty hopping from one part of the globe to another at the drop of a hat can also buy carbon offsets in exchange for the emissions they spend. www.carbon-clear.com

9. The survey says
- Get a home energy audit to highlight the areas of your home that are losing energy. This simple survey will cut about 30% off your energy bills and reduce your emissions by 1,000 pounds of carbon dioxide a year.

10. Flower power – OK, planting a tree may seem like the kind of thing a flower-power hippy at Glastonbury would do, but it works a treat. The perfect thing to counteract deforestation, planting more trees and plants will help restore the natural atmospheric exchange cycle here on earth. A single tree will absorb around one tonne of carbon dioxide at Glastonbury would do, but it works a treat. The perfect thing to counteract deforestation, planting more trees and plants will help restore the natural atmospheric exchange cycle here on earth. A single tree will absorb around one tonne of carbon dioxide at

Eco warriors
Following the examples that you, as individuals, set for them, large companies are now working towards a greener future. Armed with the resources necessary to make an impact on the carbon footprint that’s crushing us, these groups are working tirelessly to stop the damage being done to our earth. Greenpeace is one of the better known groups, with its mission to protect the environment and to change the ignorant attitudes and behaviours that got us in this mess in the first place. Another group going the extra mile is Global Cool, which aims to reverse the effects of global warming in the next ten years by calling on one billion people to reduce their carbon emissions by one tonne per year for the next decade. Taking a fresh, funky approach to a rather bleak subject

Spencer Tunick’s work shows how fragile we are in the face of nature, but also how fragile nature is in the face of man. Without a revolution in the way we use and produce energy by 2080 most glaciers in Switzerland will be gone. - Martin Lloyd, Communications Manager, Greenpeace International.
matter, Global Cool hopes to appeal to the younger generation – those who may actually be alive when the ice caps melt and the ozone layer has more holes in it than a spaghetti strainer. Tony Blair said of the movement: "I think this is just a wonderful initiative that I hope will inspire people the world over. Individuals can help by doing something themselves, but also by being part of a movement like Global Cool". British singer Katie Tunstall is also a fan, if not such an articulate one: "Stop completely twatting your planet, because we haven't got anywhere else to livem".

A force to be reckoned with, Global Cool isn't the only one crusading for change. The ripple is expanding and entire countries are now coming up with ideas. Take Belgium, for instance. One of the cleanest countries in the world, the International Polar Foundation there has taken it upon themselves to create the world's first emission-free research centre in Antarctica. Although it suffers at the hands of global warming like the rest of the world, Antarctica is one of the least-affected continents on the map. With minimum human impact due to its inhospitable environment, the expanse of snow, ice and water that sits at the top of the world was chosen by the small European country as the location to build the $16.3-million Princess Elisabeth Antarctica. Built with eco-friendly materials, the revolutionary station operates entirely on renewable energy, powered by eight turbines and 380-square-metres of solar panels. Erected near the Utsteinen nunatak a few kilometres from the Sør Rondane Mountains, the station looks like something you'd see in a Siberia-based James Bond movie, its main body like an octagonal spaceship. Inside, up to 20 scientists will study climatology, glaciology and microbiology. Acting as a benchmark for global sustainability, the Princess Elisabeth is truly a beacon of light in a darkened world.

In light of global warming, architecture and design have really stepped up to the plate. With hundreds of eco-friendly buildings going up around the world, we can expect to see architecture that is sensitive to its surroundings and design that is adaptive to the future. While it was once seen as a form of art that benefited only stylish, showy homeowners, architecture and design are now key forces against the threat. According to architect Edward Mazria of Architecture 2030, buildings are responsible for half of all greenhouse emissions. He calls for all buildings to be carbon-neutral by 2030 by making them from sustainable materials, powering them on something other than fossil fuels and positioning them to make the best possible use of natural lighting, passive heating and cooling concepts. He isn't the only one looking ahead; Dutch architect Koen Olthuis from Waterstudio is developing projects that could be particularly helpful to water-plagued areas like that of Katrina-destroyed New Orleans. Watervilla De Hoef in the Netherlands (Photo courtesy of Waterstudio.NL): Watervillas are just one type of project for this firm, which focuses entirely on building in and on water. Some of their other projects include a floating mosque and boulevard. The type of expertise that Koen Olthuis from Waterstudio is developing could be particularly helpful to water-plagued areas like that of Katrina-destroyed New Orleans. 2 | Princess Elisabeth Antarctica, Research Station (Photo courtesy of International Polar Foundation): Construction on the Princess Elisabeth Antarctica Research Station is underway - the station is being touted as the first zero-emission research centre which will operate entirely on renewable energies and is being built with eco-friendly construction materials.

Ultimately, it is only by educating ourselves and taking action that we can truly make a difference. Global leaders must show concern for the environment by designating more funds to the development of new forms of energy. Only then will we be able to climb out of this black hole we've dug for ourselves.
Tax offices aren’t renowned for their revolutionary design. When describing tax offices the words ‘dreary’, ‘grey’ and ‘bland’ spring to mind. However, all that is set to change as the Netherlands unveils its contemporary Walter Bos complex.

First class function and fusion
Walter Bos complex

Originally built in the 1960s and consisting of four separate office towers – each surrounded by drab parking bays and even less inspiring temporary buildings – the Netherlands Central Tax Office in Apeldoorn certainly didn’t warrant any special treatment. However, all that changed with the undertaking of a €60-million challenge to transform the complex and add collective services for staff, including restaurants, conference rooms, a sports centre and parking facilities. In order to house the 3,500 members of staff, the experts at Neutelings Riedijk Architects hatched a plan to include an additional two office towers and unite the six towers with a long plinth building. Careful not to lose the open character of the site, the architects designed the plinth building – home to the central facilities and the promenade link between the towers – as a sunken structure covered with an expanse of water. The reflecting pool proves that function doesn’t come at the cost of forward-thinking as it not only creates an elegant natural base but rather craftily cools the building while acting as a barrier to protect the high-security grounds from intruders. The stainless steel-clad cones, each introducing compelling site lines and diagonals, are the only architectural elements to be seen from street level. Each cone is decorated with dragon motifs, courtesy of Dutch artist Rob Birza, and displays a smooth steel finish. The inside of the underground façade is made up of fully prefabricated panel, with a continuous stone facing, which is then juxtaposed with a soft colourful finishing. Similarly, the cones are decorated with warm wood panelling and zenithal lighting which create an inviting space. Since completion in June 2007, the Walter Bos complex has gained something of a cult following, and its creators at Neutelings Riedijk Architects have been bestowed with numerous architectural accolades. Here’s hoping that other European cities follow suit and make dreary government buildings a thing of the past.

For more information visit: www.neutelings-riedijk.com
Some Like It Raw

While some like it hot, some like it raw – and we’re not talking about harry-potterKindOf raw. We’re talking food so raw you wouldn’t know if it was still alive unless you made damn sure it wasn’t by slicing it with your steak-knife Jack the Ripper-style.

Text: Nick Clarke

While the thought of choosing dishes from raw cheese and yoghurt. The closer a foodstuff is to its natural state, the better. The lifestyle doesn’t only affect what you can put in your mouth, either – with such limited choices, eating out can be a socially awkward affair. Fortunately, restaurants have opened that cater to this new way of eating.

New York’s Quintessence sits in the heart of East Village and promises that ‘everything served is 100 per cent organic, vegan and raw’. And just in case anyone had mistaken the restaurant for a grill and were about to get up and go to TGI Fridays, there’s a persuasive blurb written on the menu to lure them back: “There is much evidence that those who eat only raw food live free of illness and disease, their minds become sharp, and negative emotions disappear.” Dishes here include the Ceasar Salad, the Mushroom Ravioli and the Pineapple Plum Tart. There’s green-stuff galore, of course, but it doesn’t take a genius to concoct a raw food lover. It’s all about purified water, fresh milk, freshly-squeezed juices and smoothies. Followers also enjoy a variety of cold-or sun-heated teas – depending on how hardy they are – with such limited choices, eating out can be a socially awkward affair. Fortunately, restaurants have opened that cater to this new way of eating.

New York’s Quintessence sits in the heart of East Village and promises that ‘everything served is 100 per cent organic, vegan and raw’. And just in case anyone had mistaken the restaurant for a grill and were about to get up and go to TGI Fridays, there’s a persuasive blurb written on the menu to lure them back: “There is much evidence that those who eat only raw food live free of illness and disease, their minds become sharp, and negative emotions disappear.” Dishes here include the Ceasar Salad, the Mushroom Ravioli and the Pineapple Plum Tart. There’s green-stuff galore, of course, but it doesn’t take a genius to concoct a raw food lover. It’s all about purified water, fresh milk, freshly-squeezed juices and smoothies. Followers also enjoy a variety of cold-or sun-heated teas – depending on how hardy they are – with such limited choices, eating out can be a socially awkward affair. Fortunately, restaurants have opened that cater to this new way of eating.

New York’s Quintessence sits in the heart of East Village and promises that ‘everything served is 100 per cent organic, vegan and raw’. And just in case anyone had mistaken the restaurant for a grill and were about to get up and go to TGI Fridays, there’s a persuasive blurb written on the menu to lure them back: “There is much evidence that those who eat only raw food live free of illness and disease, their minds become sharp, and negative emotions disappear.” Dishes here include the Ceasar Salad, the Mushroom Ravioli and the Pineapple Plum Tart. There’s green-stuff galore, of course, but it doesn’t take a genius to concoct a raw food lover. It’s all about purified water, fresh milk, freshly-squeezed juices and smoothies. Followers also enjoy a variety of cold-or sun-heated teas – depending on how hardy they are – with such limited choices, eating out can be a socially awkward affair. Fortunately, restaurants have opened that cater to this new way of eating.
g's foyer design makes the most of the hotel's waterside location with extensive use of glass offering panoramic views across Lough Atalia. Glass allows the play of light on the Lough to reflect onto Dixon's mirror balls, giving outside observers a tantalising glimpse of the glamour within. Featuring 101 deluxe rooms including three individually designed suites, the quality of their design and décor secure g’s reputation for cutting-edge chic while Treacy's attention to detail is evident everywhere – from the use of colour and exquisite materials to his choice of original artworks by David Downton, the world's leading fashion illustrator who's uniquely captured the g's theatrical haute couture.

The iconic photo of Jean Patchett, a 1950 Vogue front cover taken by Irving Penn takes pride of place in one of three expansive lounge areas on the hotel's ground floor and is entirely in keeping with the hotel's mission to represent the epitome of old-fashioned glamour, Treacy himself saying: “Walking into the g is a ‘movie star’ experience. It is like walking into a film set. Guests experience the hotel in quite individual ways, depending on their own response to it. It is eclectic and seeks to surprise. It is all this and more but, above all, it is glamorous.”

If proof were needed that the g’s glamour delves deeper than mere aesthetics, the hotel’s ESPA offers a holistic oasis of calm for guests in a beautifully blended Japanese-inspired meditative space contrasting an air of tranquillity in contrast to the glaring glamour of the rest of the hotel. The spa’s rich colours and natural materials including stone, wood and linen to reflect the surrounding Galway landscape and create a welcoming 5-star environment for pure indulgence; the wet area and heat experience feature a vitality pool, heated tepidariums, rock sauna, steam room, lifestyle showers boasting ½ metre diameter heads offering a tropical mist effect, and an ice fountain. With four beauty suites and eight treatment rooms, ESPA could easily be an acronym for Extra Special Pampering Available! Meanwhile, a magnificent feature stairwell rises over the black polished tranquility pool set around a bed of white Galway pebbles up to relaxation rooms with views onto a specially created Japanese Zen garden, leaving you with nothing else to do but take a deep breath in…breathe out…and relax…'

For details about room rates, function suites and reservations visit: www.theghotel.ie
www.monogramhotels.ie

Invoking Marlene Dietrich’s famous words “Glamour is what I sell. It’s my stock in trade”, Treacy couldn’t have put it better himself in describing the effect he aimed for in the g. And because glamour literally is his stock in trade, he’s drawn on the talents of some of the leading names in the worlds of design and fashion to realise his vision, like close collaborator Tom Dixon – an avant-garde designer if ever there was one. The g is adorned with a dramatic light installation comprising 300+ of Dixon’s famous mirror balls illuminating the double-height central foyer, complementing the hotel’s striking modern architecture by Douglas Wallace Architects and Interior Designers.

Text: Chris Dove  Images: Courtesy of Monogram Hotels.
A multi-cultural team whose dynamic approach to service challenges pre-conceptions. Guaranteed.

A reputation built on fast, integrated service, innovative design and superior build. Guaranteed.

Financial penalties to give peace of mind that our service works harder than anyone else’s. Guaranteed.

Ecologically responsible architecture does not have to cost more. It just has to be more intelligent.
Moon Walk

Those who aren’t light on their feet often feel exercises on a treadmill a challenging task but not anymore! Having received the green light from the FDA, After-Gu anti-gravity G-Raiser treadmill is just what the doctor ordered — quite literally. Perfect for injured patients, the ability and the elusively above, the contraption features a NASA-designed air pressure measurement system that reduces body weight by up to 80%, enabling runners to work out without that annoying downward pull we call gravity.

www.moonwalk.com

Water Retention

Designed by Berk Ucal, the Faucet Buddy is a sleek chrome gadget you connect to your existing sink fixtures. As of yet there are no plans to produce it, but we can dream. With a LED display that tells you the temperature of the water and how much you’re using — probably too much! — the gadget conserves the precious stuff and reduces hefty water bills. Eco-friendly and economical, what more could you ask for?

www.fauctbuddy.com

Sound Asleep

It’s good enough for porkies, then it’s certainly good enough for us. We’re talking about Baxbow, but not the cherub kind found in rainforests. Inspired by its cylindrical shape, the Bamboo stereo by Sontrak is features minnow speakers, laser etched with powerful subwoofer and a good old-fashioned CD player and radio. But that’s not all: the hot pink and black design is also WiFi-enabled with an integrated LED display screen, MP3 file-in and remote desktop functionality meaning the perfect all-in one at home music pumps. What’s more, you can detach the speakers and sleep with them, enabling you to feel the soothing vibrations and pulses emitted by the sound.

www.soundasleep.com

In Safe Hands

If anyone were to ask you your banking details getting into the wrong hands, don’t worry! A collaboration between Swiss firm ATNake’s and Siemens, a new form of credit card is being developed that will ensure removing thieves can’t get their grubby little mitts on your hard-earned cash. A metalic gothic than your average bank card, it will use fingerprint recognition, an LED display and a couple of radiation sensors to make sure that only you will be able to use it.

www.insafehands.com

Chain Reaction

Designed to replace the rusty old chains on a standard bicycle, recent design-graduate James Thmas has come up with a pneumatic system that will revolutionize cycling forever. Simply hop onto the saddle, start pedaling and surrounding air will be sent shooting up through the chain stay to turn the wheels! Likewise when you’re going downhill at full speed like a man/woman possessed, compressed air inset in the main chamber of the frame will act as a break through pneumatic braking system. With the frame made through a delicate process of super-fusion, and wheels that are lightweight and air-tight this old-fashioned mode of transportation has never looked cooler.

www.chainreaction.com

No Missed Calls

For those of us who can’t live to see One Missed Call Ticking up our enable for fear of what we’ve missed out on, the BlueTooth Vectioning Bluetooth-Wristband will prove something of a lifesaver. Perfect to use when walking in the midst of a similarly sized, packed BlueTooth handbags around your wrist and gently vibrates when you’ve an incoming call. Simple, but invaluable in today’s increasingly distracting world.

www.nomissedcall.com

Social Circle

While some people think that the Information Ring is the beginning of the end for healthy human interaction, forward-thinking folks everywhere can hardly contain their excitement. Made by Hideko Minami, the Information Ring transfers owner information — such as their name, photo and contact details — with these tiny shapely bands, resized by hand, heat, the ring slots into a silver card that acts as a database for the information gathered. Grafting, the ring is then used to send through the data to make social networking that much easier. Genius!

www.socialcircle.com

Wind Of Change

You’re in the midst of nowhere and your BlackBerry runs out of juice. What do you do? Normally, cry but with the Hitronics portable power device you could have it up and running again in no time, too! Camouflaged with braid and solar power, the pocket-sized, universal device can be used to charge pretty much all your 5 volt toys, as long as there’s a bright wind to power the cell fan blades. However, if there’s no wind at all you could always connect the mini solar panel and have the sun work its magic. Either way, you’ll never be in short supply of energy again.

www.windofchange.com
**ARTHOUSE**

Author: Joseph Giovanni

**THE DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY BOOK, VOL. 2**

Author: Scott Kelby

**MUSIC-MAESTRO**

Text & Images: Víctor Péntazk – Illusion Home Cinema, Andreas Man – Loan Ibérica

---

Hav you ever plugged your iPod into a set of speakers only to be disappointed by the quality of the sound? Yup, we’ve all been there! Thankfully, our prayers have been answered with an emerging sound-quality that brings sweeter music to our ears.

**VISUAL THINKING: FOR DESIGN**

Author: Colin Ware

**ON BROADWAY**

Starring: Joey McIntyre & Eliza Dushku

**SCI-FI-LONDON FILM FESTIVAL**

30 April / 4 May 2008-02-25

Set to attract the world’s biggest geeks to the British capital – no doubt aided in their quest by the London International Festival of Science Fiction and Fantastc Film, to give it its full title, is the font of all creative activity. As a work of art, the house is a prism of creativity in which the clients gave Boston’s Schwartz/Silver Architects free reign to develop a compelling architectural idea. Providing a detailed record of the conception, design, construction and final form of a highly individualistic house, Giovanni’s includes contributions from designers such as Office dA featured last month in our Architecture section.

---

Clearly, the sound isn’t going to be as crisp with a non-master quality copy. Compressed formats such as MP3 have an even lower resolution because they are created to work within a limited memory capacity and to address slow Internet download speeds. But compressed music files don’t make for any listening – in fact, they can be muffled, crackly and plain distorted. Unfortunately, the music industry believed that only five per cent of the population would hear the difference in sound-quality and supplied only compressed versions. They mistakenly took most of us for deaf, because the poor sound-quality has produced a phenomenon called ‘listening fatigue’, whereby altered music becomes difficult to listen to and irritating to the ear. Nevertheless, the MP3 was a wonderful invention by the German Fraunhofer Institute, who, unfortunately, did not profit from the technology. Not only has it format broadened the range of music available, but it has given small bands and unsigned singer-songwriters a chance to have their music heard. In fact, many of them have launched their entire careers on MP3s, no longer having to depend on being picked up by a major record label. But we are no longer living in an age of limited memory capacity and slow download speeds. The technology to enhance the quality of music at home is available, and it is called DS (digital streaming). This form of technology allows you to store your CD collection on a network-attached storage device, download studio-master or CD-quality to it, and listen to a higher-quality sound throughout your home via a wired network. What’s more, it can all be done from a portable device, a small webpad, a tablet PC or your home computer. You may be satisfied with your current CD or MP3 player, but music lovers owe it to themselves to listen to DS. Once you hear it, you’ll never want to hear anything else. We’re at the beginning of a revolution in music technology. More record companies than ever are making DS recordings available for download, as they know it’s what all consumers will be demanding in the future. One website that offers DS downloads has even published an insightful set of download statistics, with 59 per cent of buyers opting for DS downloads. This is the future of music listening.

---

The sound you’re going to be as crisp with a non-master quality copy. Compressed formats such as MP3 have an even lower resolution because they are created to work within a limited memory capacity and to address slow Internet download speeds. But compressed music files don’t make for any listening – in fact, they can be muffled, crackly and plain distorted! Unfortunately, the music industry believed that only five per cent of the population would hear the difference in sound-quality and supplied only compressed versions. They mistakenly took most of us for deaf, because the poor sound-quality has produced a phenomenon called ‘listening fatigue’, whereby altered music becomes difficult to listen to and irritating to the ear. Nevertheless, the MP3 was a wonderful invention by the German Fraunhofer Institute, who, unfortunately, did not profit from the technology. Not only has it format broadened the range of music available, but it has given small bands and unsigned singer-songwriters a chance to have their music heard. In fact, many of them have launched their entire careers on MP3s, no longer having to depend on being picked up by a major record label. But we are no longer living in an age of limited memory capacity and slow download speeds. The technology to enhance the quality of music at home is available, and it is called DS (digital streaming). This form of technology allows you to store your CD collection on a network-attached storage device, download studio-master or CD-quality to it, and listen to a higher-quality sound throughout your home via a wired network. What’s more, it can all be done from a portable device, a small webpad, a tablet PC or your home computer. You may be satisfied with your current CD or MP3 player, but music lovers owe it to themselves to listen to DS. Once you hear it, you’ll never want to hear anything else. We’re at the beginning of a revolution in music technology. More record companies than ever are making DS recordings available for download, as they know it’s what all consumers will be demanding in the future. One website that offers DS downloads has even published an insightful set of download statistics, with 59 per cent of buyers opting for DS downloads. This is the future of music listening.

---

Music Giants www.musicgiants.com

Linn Records www.linnrecords.com

Where to find studio master downloads:

Line Records www.line Records.com

Naim www.naim.com

Genesis www.genesisUK.com

The High Fines Downloader Center www.highfinesdownloadcenter.net

and many more to come.
FOR MUSIC LOVERS, THERE'S NOTHING QUITE AS FRUSTRATING AS NOT BEING ABLE TO LISTEN TO YOUR FAVOURITE RADIO STATION. WITTY DJS, GUEST PRESENTERS AND EXCLUSIVE FIRST LISTENINGS OFTEN PROVIDE THE SOUNDTRACK TO OUR LIVES AS WE GET READY FOR WORK OR DRIVE ONE OF THOSE FEROCIOUS, LATE-NIGHT DRIVES. FORTUNATELY, THERE'S A WAY YOU CAN LISTEN TO YOUR FAVOURITE STATION AS AND WHEN YOU WANT, EVEN IF YOU'RE NOWHERE NEAR A RADIO KNOB! THESE DAYS, MOST STATIONS HAVE INTERACTIVE WEBSITES AND STREAM LIVE, MEANING DIE-HARD FANS LIKE YOU NEVER MISS A BEAT.

1. www.apple.com/itunes

Those who don't want to download music illegally and end up in a cell for the rest of their lives will have already downloaded the Apple iTunes application. But for those who haven't, we insist that you do it now. When it's installed, simply click on the radio button and browse the dozens of musical genres listed before your very eyes. Select your favourite – anything from heavy metal to cheesy pop – and all radio stations that play your preferred genre will appear. Double-click one, sit back and enjoy.

2. www.capitalone.co.uk

Usually the first place new songs are premiered, London-based Capital One is arguably one of the world's greatest radio stations. With all genres of music represented – "if it's good then we broadcast it" – world-famous DJs at the helm, no adverts and more live music than you can shake a stick at, we tend to agree. The website allows fans to listen live or to programmes you may have missed (available for seven days after broadcast), read up-to-the-minute celebrity news and post in its forums. The best bit, however, has to be the webcam feature, which lets you spy on whichever studio you want. Go on, email Chris Moyles and tell him to stop picking his nose, we dare you.


Radio Nova is one of the most popular stations in France, but that's not to say it's commercial. In fact, its playlist is as underground as it gets, giving the opportunity for new talent to be heard. The website follows the same avant-garde philosophy, with a background that changes every day, the latest on music, art and culture, a drop where you can splash your hard-earned Euros on Nova-branded items, such as compilation CDs, DVDs, t-shirts and books, an opinion-packed forum, pre-recorded podcasts and, of course, the option of listening live. While the site is entirely in French, its organic design means it's easy to navigate for foreigners with an ounce of common sense. If you do struggle, however, we recommend you brush up on your French for this music mecca alone.

4. www.accuradio.com

Designed to showcase the medium of Internet radio, AccuRadio is a multi-channel, website-only station for adults with 'sophisticated' music tastes. Finally, a Marilyn Manson-and-Slipknot-free zone, praise the Lord! With over one million unique listeners every month, the website is simple to explore with the genres listed across the top – including classical, oldies, country and Latin – and a well-stocked music library. Features-wise, that's about it, keeping things clean, crisp and minimal. After all, who wants to be trawling through dozens of applications when all you want is a decent tune to hum along to? The highlight of the site must be the 'Textures' section, which offers music that's ideal for easy, at-work listening. Who knows, it might be enough of a distraction to stop you using Facebook all day long!

5. www.last.fm

Pooling users' uploaded tunes to help build one of the world's largest music platforms, Last.fm is brimming with artists, tracks and albums. Featuring searchable stations, music videos, fan groups, and an entire listener community, you're sure to find something that tickles your fancy. What separates this website from the rest is that when you listen to a song it is sent to Last.fm and added to your music profile. This enables users to peruse other user's tastes and for moderators to recommend music accordingly. Once you've happily bopping away to your favourite artist you can share the joy with your friends by embedding the song into your very own website, blog or social-networking profile. Though if you have a secret liking for Dolly Parton, we suggest you keep it to yourself.
Let's Take it Back

It’s me and it’s there a steady stream of new music that sounds like it has been released in the year of its original creation. Blues, big-band, for-wank and the electronic rock are all creeping their way into today’s chart, transporting them from their original heyday to the present day.

Modern Design

Radio

Felix da Houscat

If you heard this on your radio you’d think it was released in the 80s. The Design project from Felix da Houscat is all about synth and moody vocals mixed with a happy, uplifting beat. Thanking producer’s Krispy Kreme and simple it doesn’t sound too busy.

Sensational Sounds

Snoop Dogg

There seems to be a little nod to the Nineties in this particular hip hop song. The ‘Longshot’ from the Doggystyle ‘Ego Tripping’ album, has a stout, stoic number with smooth beats and muscular odd-pop vocals, which is more than a mention for the Dogg, Fascinating. Its usual flow gets a little something come on the end.

Music for all ears

Millie Johnson can be heard on Global FM 96.3. Monday - Friday 11:00 - 2:00pm and Sunday nights 6pm - 9pm.

Flashlight Lights

Kanye West feat. Drake

This latest single to hit from Kanye’s Graduation album has a heavy baseline that propels it through the noisy, grungy, bass. This pop melody is subtly laid back, with Drake delivering the chorus, An easy-to-follow track that’s sure to get you (or partying)

The Rocket Festival, Andalucia!

It’s been a long time coming but finally, the opportunity to indulge in a unique three-day extravaganza of music and art in Andalucia has arrived. The year the third edition of The Rocket Festival welcomes a plethora of music for music’s sake. Include DJs, a kid’s circus area, extreme sports and graffiti artists. A sprawling land spanned by Spanish and international artists including Australian down under stars, Pendum, the flamenco fusion of Los Delfinarios and stamping sounds from breakbeat brother, Colombe, if you miss the history of the three editions of this Rocket Festival, then now’s the chance to catch up on the celebration of cultural unity and an explosive connection of art, music and dance as we welcome in the summer with a truly inspirational celebration of Harike.

A bucking for something unique, spectacular and exhilarating to do this summer, then mark the calendar for 19th, 20th and 21st May. Don’t let popular demand. The year’s Rocket Festival takes place amidst the dramatic rocky landscape of Sierra de Grazalema, with breathtaking views from Mount Alofa and across the Guadalhorce. Almodova National Park.

Space themed bars and venues, fire dancers, a kids’ space, a natural living area, classroom escape rooms and in outdoor Circus Stage that feature tightrope walkers and humanist antics, as well as film and art installations, create an awe-inspiring three-day extravaganza of fun for all the family.

Annual music fest. Music Project Elkorro and Stanton Warner kept the crowds having a good time. The year’s Rock the Festival was a who plan on sending a surge of energy through the festival with cutting-edge video projections, psychodelics and even interactive beats. Meanwhile a sound system pioneers innerFader will supply quite possibly the best audio quality you can expect to hear at a festival of this scale. With optimum levels of creativity in design. Spreading across 15 acres of forest land, the skyline will be transformed into a surreal landscape of towering snake sculptures, created from industrial materials by renowned hot mix acrobats, Arik, (Natural Rocks). With the myriad of sound systems, artists and performers scattered throughout the site, this year’s event is stage for the stage to showcase the creative energy that promises to quench the thirst of adventurers, culture-vultures and spirited festival aficionados alike. For ticket information and an appetite for unlimited fun, please visit www.rocketfestival.com.
Diesel: Futuristic Fashion

We take a behind the scenes look at Diesel’s revolutionary 3D fashion show and reveal the key pieces for your spring/summer wardrobe.

Text: Carly Hand | Photos: Courtesy of Diesel
Diesel is well-known for pushing the boundaries of ready-to-wear fashion. Following on from last year’s controversial Global Warming Ready advertising campaign – which featured images of Paris, Venice and London post global warming (the image for Paris shows the Eiffel Tower surrounded by a tropical sunset with a man walking a lizard) - spring 2008 sees the launch of Diesel’s Live Fast collection.

Cleverly aimed at Diesel’s key demographic of 18–35-year-olds, the Live Fast collection features an assortment of jumpsuits, fluorescent trench coats and lace-up trainers, perfect for keeping ahead in today’s fast-paced society. While we don’t recommend that you change your baby’s nappy while sprinting in 4-inch heels, apply your make-up while jogging through the streets of LA or undertake your daily prayers while on a running-machine, as seen in the Live Fast adverts, we certainly recommend that you add some of Diesel’s daring and vibrant designs to your springtime shopping list.

Guests at June 2007’s Pitti Immagine Uomo fair in Florence, Italy, were among the lucky few to get a glimpse of Diesel’s revolutionary 3D preview collection. Designed by video-architects Claas Dyrholm and Peter Simonsen (www.stono.com), Diesel’s Liquid Space spring/summer 08 preview show catapulted its audience into a futuristic world of bioluminescence, gant mechanic cephalopods and futuristic aquanauts.

The show opened with an explosion of electronic music – including heartfelt songs by The Knife – and an assortment of ocean-inspired holograms. Numerous sea creatures, including turtles and jellyfish, appeared to swim along the catwalk before disappearing into the audience. Both present and projected models were used in the show – at one point a shoal of fish grouped together to form the outline of a model – to establish the difference between real and projected imagery. Robotic creatures and heart-thumping tunes helped create an atmosphere of excitement and awe among the fashion elite. As guests gasped at the posed projections, models dressed in sleeveless and hooded ensembles followed the instructions to ‘Live Fast!’ and proceeded to parade down the catwalk at lightning pace.

As the parade of sea creatures finally dried up and the electronic soundtrack came to a close, Diesel designer Renzo Rosso strode onto the runway and appeared to trap the holograms in two perfume bottles before showering guests with his new Fuel for Life fragrance as he made his way off the catwalk. The standing ovation that followed proved the show’s success and cemented Diesel’s reputation as a forward-thinking fashion powerhouse. Careful not to let the revolutionary show overshadow the equally awe-inspiring collection, Rosso later held a full showcase during New York fashion week.

While Diesel’s full spring/summer showcase – held on 8th September in New York – didn’t include bold bioluminescence models, unlike the preview showcase, the collection continued to stir tongues with its exciting mix of fluorescent tones and elegant tailoring.

With an emphasis on all things ‘squeaky-clean’, Diesel’s full showcase was an uplifting array of bright whites, candy yellows and fluorescent pinks. Kicking off to the thumping tunes of Come Around by Timbaland and MLK as well as an upbeat mix of Justin Timberlake’s LoveStoned, Diesel’s showcase was pop culture at its very best. The pop-art stage design, colourful creations and wholesome celebrity spectators – including clean-as-a-white-shirt Ashton Kutcher, the poster boy for the MTV generation – only helped to promote Rosso’s wide-oro portfolio.

White was the colour of choice, bright candy colours continued to filter their way through the showcase with turquoise, bright yellow, rose and fluorescent pink creating a striking and very contrast. Dungarees, trench coats and jumpsuits helped create a masculine edge while an assortment of cargos, boxes and clever reworking added a feminine touch to each design. With regards to accessories, Italian-born Rosso – who was named 2005’s Man of the Year by German GQ - took inspiration from Capri summertime and presented a selection of rather large circular and square wooden bangles, oversized leather holdalls and floppy sun hats.

In keeping with Rosso’s squeaky-clean theme, an assortment of toned and tanned male models made their way up and down the catwalk, providing a nice escape from the dark-eyed waifs who made up other shows. Dressed in an assortment of denim creations – including a daring denim shirt and shorts combo, and a rather amusing dungaree alternative - the wholesome models could easily have walked off the pages of a 1950s catalogue. While the focus was once again on bright whites, splashes of pink, silver and even black were thrown in to juxtapose the lighter tones. Sleeveless vests, lace-up ankle trainers, graffiti-style pants, oversized man-bags, sophisticated skinny jeans and slick suit jackets made up the remainder of the collection.

After thirty years in the business, Diesel continues to push the boundaries of fashion and art. By using revolutionary 3D effects and creating some of the industry’s most attainable designs, Diesel continues to be a revolutionary fashion brand that continues to exceed expectations.

Whether you are an avid Diesel fan or are only just stumbling upon this quirky fashion icon, there is no denying that Diesel is now a major player both on and off the high-street. By being the first design house to use both present and projected holograms in a show, Diesel has awoken the fashion industry to its continued popularity and uncovered a possible new fashion phenomenon – whereby real life models are replaced by holograms – in the process. Now that’s what we call revolutionary!

For your nearest stockist go to www.diesel.com
big waves in the art world – just Google it, you’ll see what we mean! We catch up with the husband-and-wife team to talk about photography, food and why size does matter. www.minimiam.com

MD: Is there a connection between your work and real life?
P: Apart from that, I remember at my grandmother’s house there was a small Japanese flower pot that contained two small figurines; a frog and a lizard. I am very kind to my little people so I don’t have that problem!

MD: How tall are you?
P: I am 106.8-figurines tall and Akiko is 97.8-figurines (one figurine is about 1.8 cm).

MD: Would you accept the challenge to make the figurines?
P: No, a German manufacturer that makes figurines (one figurine is about 1.8 cm).

MD: Do you make the figurines?
P: No, a German manufacturer that makes figurines for train sets produces them for us - our fingers are too thick to position them so many times!

MD: Akiko, you are Japanese. Pierre, you are French. Where did you meet? Which language do you use to communicate?
P: We always use the flash on our cameras, often with the initial idea and the last shot, sometimes more than a year. It is often the case that the details aren’t clear enough in our heads. The positioning of the little people can take a long time, too, as the food is not good support – we often have to replace the food as we’ve positioned them so many times!

MD: How tall are you?
P: 106.8-figurines tall and Akiko is 97.8-figurines (one figurine is about 1.8 cm).

MD: Is there anything you would like to say with your work; talk us through the lighting, the cameras, the preparation and the composition.
P: ‘Lolita’ , because the image is simple and the composition is amazing – I am always fascinated by stories where there is a difference in scale between the characters and their environment. Naturally, Gulliver’s Travels was one of my favourites! When I was younger I would draw hundreds of miniature characters on one piece of A4 paper. MD: What’s the main message in your work? P: Although we don’t really like to say that it has a main message, there are subversive themes of war, consumerism and the lack of place of man in the universe. MD: What is your favourite set of photos? P: ‘Lolita’, because the image is simple, and the photos are full of subversive meanings. But I love the ‘Paintscapes’ series, which is a direct reference to The X-files – I have a passion for science-fiction. MD: ‘Lolita’ impressed me because it was the first I made, and in it is so beautiful to see people skating in a kitchen! MD: How tall are you? P: I am 106.8-figurines tall and Akiko is 97.8-figurines (one figurine is about 1.8 cm).

MD: How tall are you?
P: 106.8-figurines tall and Akiko is 97.8-figurines (one figurine is about 1.8 cm).

MD: Would you accept the challenge to make the figurines?
P: No, a German manufacturer that makes figurines for train sets produces them for us - our fingers are too thick to position them so many times!

MD: How tall are you?
P: 106.8-figurines tall and Akiko is 97.8-figurines (one figurine is about 1.8 cm).

Last Month’s Think
The 50th anniversary of the Peace Symbol

50 years-old this year, 2008 is a benchmark for the internationally recognised Peace Symbol. Representing peace, freedom, love and unity, the symbol is best known as the emblem of the anti-war and counterculture movements of the 60s and 70s. What many may not know is that the symbol was first designed by pacifist Gerald Holtom, the symbol is made up of a circle that comprises a ‘C’ and ‘D’, the first letters of the words ‘campaign for Nuclear Disarmament’ – known then as ‘Ban the Bomb’. Designed by pacifist Gerald Holtom, the symbol is made up of a circle that comprises a ‘C’ and ‘D’, and an ‘N’ that is denoted by two flags in an upside-down ‘V’. Holtom said of the symbol: “I was in despair. Deep despair. I drew myself. The representative of individual despair, with palms outstretched in the manner of Goya peasants before the firing squad. There seem to be crosse-sites here, as the pastiche to which Holtom is referring actually feature peasants having their hands upwards in surrender. What he was probably referring to was Goya’s Museums of War series, created during the same period and depicting peasants with downward arms. Because of his desire to make the symbol a universal one Holtom’s design was used by many as a symbol of the peace movement. Holtom’s design was used by many as a symbol of the peace movement. Holtom’s design was used by many as a symbol of the peace movement.

The 50th anniversary of the Peace Symbol

50 years-old this year, 2008 is a benchmark for the internationally recognised Peace Symbol. Representing peace, freedom, love and unity, the symbol is best known as the emblem of the anti-war and counterculture movements of the 60s and 70s. What many may not know is that the symbol was first designed by pacifist Gerald Holtom, the symbol is made up of a circle that comprises a ‘C’ and ‘D’, and an ‘N’ that is denoted by two flags in an upside-down ‘V’. Holtom said of the symbol: “I was in despair. Deep despair. I drew myself. The representative of individual despair, with palms outstretched in the manner of Goya peasants before the firing squad. There seem to be crosse-sites here, as the pastiche to which Holtom is referring actually feature peasants having their hands upwards in surrender. What he was probably referring to was Goya’s Museums of War series, created during the same period and depicting peasants with downward arms. Because of his desire to make the symbol a universal one Holtom’s design was used by many as a symbol of the peace movement. Holtom’s design was used by many as a symbol of the peace movement.
When it comes to hunting down groundbreaking architecture, we shouldn’t overlook design graduates. Locked away for hours in their darkened dorms, and undoubtedly inspired by illegal substances and heavy metal, they’re bound to come up with something outrageous. Enter Jason Mellard of the University of Texas, who’s found himself something of a design superstar since this striking concept was traced back to him.

Briefed to design an aquatic research centre, Mellard’s Facility at Sea is inspired by offshore oil rigs, the work of Santiago Calatrava and the iconic buildings of the Star Wars movies, most notably the Cloud City of Bespin from The Empire Strikes Back. Unlike Lucas’s celluloid imaging, however, Mellard’s masterpiece is grounded in rock-solid design principles, meaning it’s entirely possible for it to cross over from fantasy into reality – and with looks this good, we sincerely hope it does!

Conceived by Mellard as a temporary station for scientists studying offshore marine-life, the facility brings the cutting-edge future of design ever-closer. Comprising laboratories, classrooms, offices, holding tanks, observation decks, docking platforms, communal living areas, a medical room and sleeping quarters, the facility has every aspect of living and working covered. Structurally, the facility takes its cue from the form of a tree, with a central trunk supporting the main body. Inside the main trunk is the ‘wiring’, as to speak, with a waste-removal system, energy-storage facility and a central control room all bundled together. Stemming from the main trunk are three disks, including two research spheres and one habitation pod, each with enough room for 1,000 people. Incorporating the principles of ‘mimicry’ – whereby architecture imitates nature - the three main structures operate like a clam, opening and shutting according to the tempestuous weather at sea. Moving up and down the central trunk, the structures can also be submerged below sea-level to protect the facility from harsh winds, rough waters and thunderstorms. Even more incredible is that certain portions can be detached and used as independent vessels – now that we’d like to see!

One of the best bits of Mellard’s innovative design has to be the facility’s self-sufficiency. Making the best use of the earth’s natural resources to power the high-wattage research centre, the structure harnesses the wind through a rotating pinwheel, stores solar rays via built-in PV cells, converts waves into power and uses the trunk itself to attract lightning to strategically-placed storage batteries. Completely sustainable, the facility is proof that you can create jaw-dropping architecture without destroying the planet in the process.

Unfortunately, Mellard has estimated that the facility would cost somewhere between $500 million to one billion to construct, meaning the project isn’t likely to get off the page for quite a while. Then again, if one of our readers has pockets deep enough and a fanatical love of Obi-Wan Kenobi...
When you think of an eco-friendly motor, you don’t think of a sporty little number that’ll have the girls ripping off their clothes and practically throwing themselves on the bonnet. No, leave that kind of animal magnetism to the Bugatti Veyron or the Bentley Continental. Any car but a save-the-planet-toting, Green Peace-promoting, ugly-as-hell hunk of metal they call ‘energy-efficient’.

Nick Clarke
Photos: Courtesy of Loremo

Harsh words, maybe, but all of them true. Up until now, the engineers of this emerging breed have concentrated so much on their inner-workings that they have completely ignored their aesthetics. They say looks don’t count, but they clearly do! If they didn’t, a lot more of these energy-efficient cars would have left gleaming showroom floors by now. As it is, drivers are still taking to the roads in their pollution-pumping, Armageddon-mobiles, simply because the alternatives are too damn ugly. After all, nobody wants to ruin their style credentials by turning up in something that’s going to scare small children away. Enter the Loremo LS, a glorious example of substance and style.

With the move away from ugly radiator grilles and complex systems of drag-reducing devices, the Loremo LS is small, lightweight and fabulously crafted. Now all the newly-formed company need is a factory to produce it in – no kidding! Looks-wise, it’s a showstopper, with a clever linear cell structure, revolutionary aerodynamics and bodywork so sexy it’ll make you come over all peculiar. In fact, this is one energy-efficient motor you’d be proud to park in your driveway, rather than stash it somewhere your macho, SUV-driving neighbour can’t see it. - like the bottom of a lake, for instance. The nose, which sits low to the road, is particularly innovative. With no ugly radiator grilles attached, it’s left wide-open to reveal the smooth underside, great if you want to get on your hands and knees to have a nosey. Getting in is also a unique experience, with the driver tipping the whole hood forward, including the entire windshield and steering wheel. Reminiscent of the De Lorean DMC-12 in Back To The Future, it’s indeed a thrilling moment for gadget fiends and proves much harder for crooks to carjack you as you’re fumbling about with your keys. The only thing we’re not so sure about is the boot – probably because there isn’t one. Instead, the makers thought it would be much more useful to cram in two seats that face away from the driver (passengers enter through a vertically-opening tailgate), which is brilliant if you never go shopping for food or have a particular dislike of travel. But for the majority of us, it’s just damn annoying. Instead, the elongated front stretches softly into the overly-extended rear, with no load-bearing function whatsoever. It may look sleeker this way, but it’s entirely unpractical. Are we supposed to balance our bags and suitcases precariously on our knees? In the car’s defence, the makers do say that there is ample room for baggage on the back seats when you have no passengers, so we may forgive them this one small hiccup – after all, the rest of it is so bloody brilliant.

Not-So-Mean Machine
Cleaning up the streets, the Loremo LS will leave petrol-guzzling, gas-pumping motor manufacturers shaking in their boots. It’s time for a change on the roads, and this silver siren fits the bill perfectly.
According to Loremo, reducing the vehicle’s weight minimises fuel consumption, which is why their LS weighs a mere 450kg with very little air-resistance. Confident that it boasts the lowest emissions of any car ever made, churning out only 50 grammes of carbon dioxide per kilometre, it runs on a two-cylinder turbo-diesel engine that’s able to go from 0 to 60 in ten seconds – not bad for a car that doesn’t bleed the earth’s resources dry. With a top speed of 100mph (161km/h) it’s not the fastest thing to hit the tarmac, admittedly, but with grace, agility and all-important sustainability, it’s not the end of the world. After all, slow and steady wins the race – the fast ‘n’ furious just get pulled over. Yung the economy of a compact car with the look and feel of an ultra-futuristic sportscar, the Loremo LS will hit showrooms sometime in 2009. Expected to be priced at just under 11,000 euros, we’re likely to see it on cobbled European streets in the latter quarter of 2009 or early in 2010. There’s also a three-cylinder GT variation for just under 15,000 euros, with hybrid and electric models planned for the future. Leading car manufacturers towards a greener, less-smoggy future, we’re relieved that earth may not be doomed just quite yet. For more info visit www.loremo.com
Modern Design

Starck Naked

You can say many things about Philippe Starck, but one thing you can’t say is that the eclectic Frenchman’s afraid to branch out and experiment. Having designed the Aprilia 6.5 Motò, a chic motorcycle made for style-conscious townies, his surname has recently unveiled his new motorbike prototype, created in collaboration with renowned French bike brand Voxan. Named the Café Racer Super Naked, this sexy two-wheeler weighs in at 180kg and features a 1200cc engine that’s capable of producing a whopping 140hp.

Minimalist in its design, the bike features look-at-me racing wheels, an ultra-high handlebar and a tiny seat that anyone could struggle to squeeze onto, let alone a side-saddling girlfriend! Made for silly drivers, this baby was born to fly solo. Unsurprisingly, this isn’t Starck’s first foray into automotive design; back in 1996 he designed the Aprilia 6.5 Motò, a chic motorcycle made for style-conscious townies. The Café Racer Super Naked is the complete opposite, destined to be tearing up the tarmac down Route 66.

www.philippestarck.com

You can never forgive yourself if you missed an issue of Modern Design. Subscribe now so that you’ve got every angle covered. Give it as a gift to a loved one or treat yourself.

Don’t neglect your passion for art and architecture. *FREE 1 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION* shipping and handling charges:

Spain 36 euros

EU and non EU 72 euros

USA 84 euros

*6 month subscription also available at half these rates

Modern Design Magazine, Calle Churruca 2, 29640 Fuengirola, Málaga, Spain

or email to magazine@d-earle.com for bank transfer details.
Promote your business with Modern Design for 100 euros. For more information call 951 26 00 41 or email: ad@d-earle.com

Directory

Esprit Design
C/ Aguila 2, Urb Colina Blanca, Mijas Costa. (behind Muebles Benitez on the outskirts of Fuengirola)
Tel. 34 952 466 189
www.esprit-designs.com
info@esprit-designs.com

Illusion Home Cinema
C/ Álamo 17, Sector 2, Levantamiento-Quinta del Río, Calle de la Sierpe, 29660, Mijas
Tel. 626 978 978
info@illusioncinema.com

EnergiSpain.com
Renewable Energy Consultant
Tel: 962 73 0054, Mob: 670 419 109
jason@energiSpain.com
Arq. Sra Teje Monforte
S/N, Av. de la Estrella, 29660, Mijas
www.energiSpain.com
Energy that doesn’t cost the earth

JUAN DIEGO GIL CONTRERAS
C/ San Roque,15-7, Eléptica, Málaga, Spain
E-MAIL: jumdiego@comunicaigo.es
Tel: 644 784 814, Fax: 952 247 799

EnergiaSpain.com

And lots more!
Modern Design Magazine is making a name for itself already. Start receiving yours now with our £30.00 (1 year subscription), and check us out at www.d-earle.com

Last Issue Corrections
APOLOGIES TO OUR READERS FOR THE MAJOR ERRORS IN ISSUE 8
Pg 91, 91 article had sentence should read ‘We can hardly wait to see who crosses the line first on 16th March at Albert Park in Melbourne, Australia’
Pg 90, Music for all: The music for Maritime Topley Bird album was originally for the Fischerpoone latern album “The best revenge” Sony:Mille.”
MODERN DESIGN
ARCHITECTURE & ART

The contest is over and the results are in
(See page 81 to see if you are one of the finalists!)

www.d-earle.com