

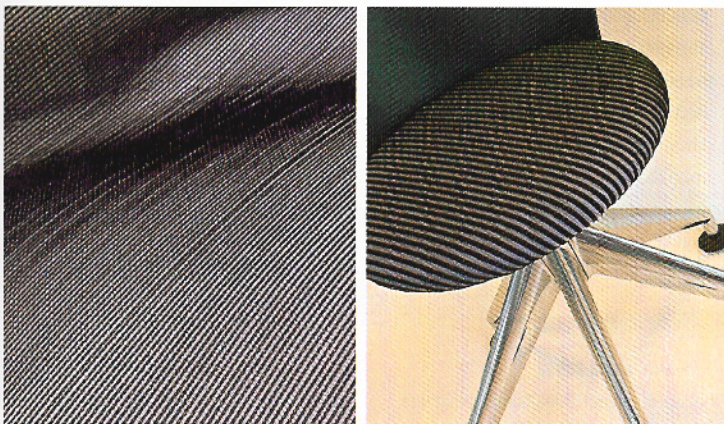
ARCHITECTURAL RECORD

CHICAGO

New Architecture
Sparks Revival
and Spurs Debate

Commentary by
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and Stanley Tigerman

Product Briefs

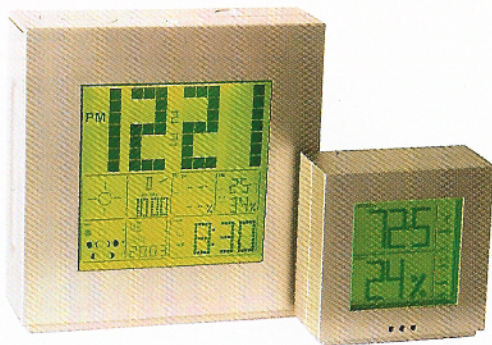


▲ Upholstery with lungs

In collaboration with Dutch designer Ferdinand Visser, Designtex has launched an unusual collection of breathable fabrics that feature the proprietary Airco System that allows for air circulation and ventilation between pressure points. The first two designs of these structured fabric systems are In Space (right) and Drizzle (left). In Space features a crisp, chenille-like strip that floats on clear supportive threads above a contrasting color background. Drizzle's thinner rib style was a result of experimenting with the In Space fabric structure. Designtex, New York City. www.dtex.com **CIRCLE 216**

► It was a dark, stormy night ...

Need to know if you should bring an umbrella? Why turn on The Weather Channel when you can check Philippe Starck's new Time/Weather station, developed with Oregon Scientific. The four mod-



els in the collection may include a radio-controlled clock with an LED backlit readout of barometric pressure, moon phases, date, indoor and outdoor temperature, or humidity. An image of the current time and alarm status can be projected onto the ceiling of a dark room. MoMA Design Store, New York City. www.oregonscientific.co.uk **CIRCLE 218**

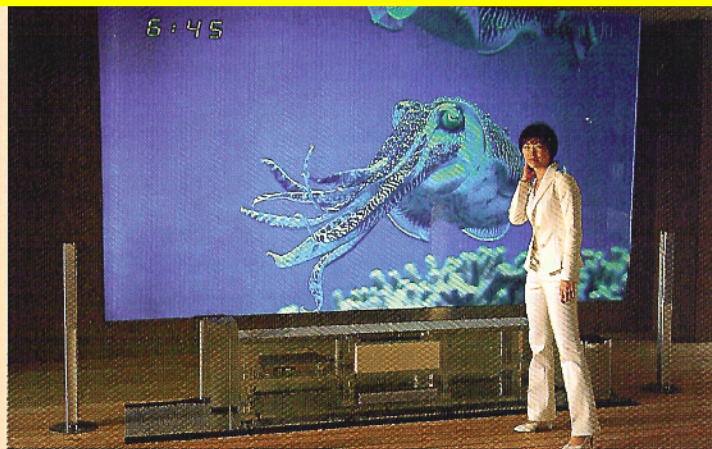


▲ Bonfire night revisited

Landscape artist and sculptor Elena Colombo has developed a line of outdoor gas "firebowl" features for clients includ-

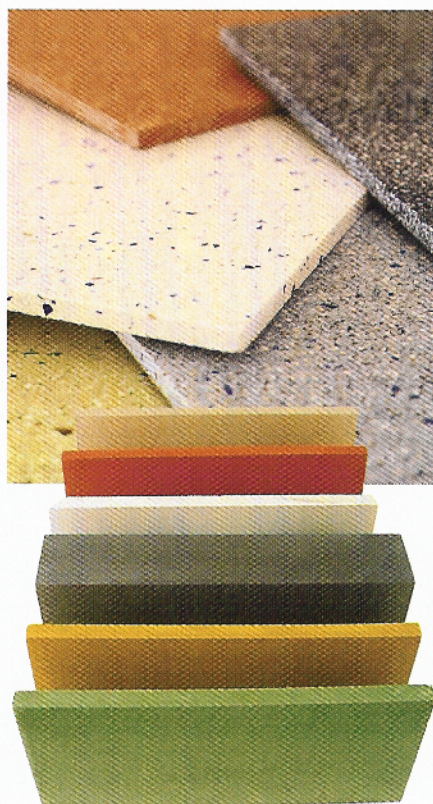
ing hotelier André Balazs, who commissioned firebowls for two hotels and his private residence. The firebowl is a 4' to 15' diameter sculpture fabricated in steel, bronze, copper, stone, or colored powder

coat and fitted with a 300,000-BTU burner connected to propane or natural gas. Colombo Construction, New York City. www.firefeatures.com **CIRCLE 219**



Product of the Month Nippura Blue Ocean

If you've ever felt like you were watching a movie when looking at the exotic world on the other side of an aquarium tank, imagine looking at a flat-screen simulation of an aquarium and having the opposite feeling. The aquarium experts at Nippura have mastered such an illusion with the Blue Ocean rear-projection screen. Providing a 3D portrayal of digital video and graphics, and asymmetrical projection for viewing from both sides simultaneously, the Blue Ocean screen is finely cast in a high-grade acrylic between two ultra-clear, optical cell-cast-acrylic panels. Because the actual image plane is not on the surface like typical screens, it is practically impossible to scratch or damage. With standard sizes measuring 72", 84", and 100" in length (at a 16:9 ratio), and cinema models as big as 340' possible (at a 21:9 ratio), the system offers the largest seamless sizes in the world. Ocean Blue can be used in full outdoor weather conditions, as well as large-scale pool/aquarium applications, and it can be custom ordered for curved or all-encompassing hemispherical simulation screens. U.S. Nippura, Charlotte, N.C. www.usnippura.com **CIRCLE 217**



◀ Cement-based, ecofriendly materials

Coverings Etc. offers Eco-Cem and Eco-Terr, two ecofriendly product lines that can help earn LEED points for projects. Eco-Cem (bottom) is made from 20 percent wood pulp and 80 percent cement. It comes in six colors, in sizes measuring 4' x 10' or 4' x 8', and ranges in thickness from 1/2" to 1 1/2". Eco-Cem is for flooring, countertops, or wall surfacing for industrial, commercial, and residential use. Eco-Terr slabs and tiles (top) can be color customized and contain 80 percent materials using stone chips sourced from quarries near the manufacturing plants, recycled glass, and a natural cement binder. Coverings Etc., Miami, Fla. www.coveringsetc.com **CIRCLE 220**