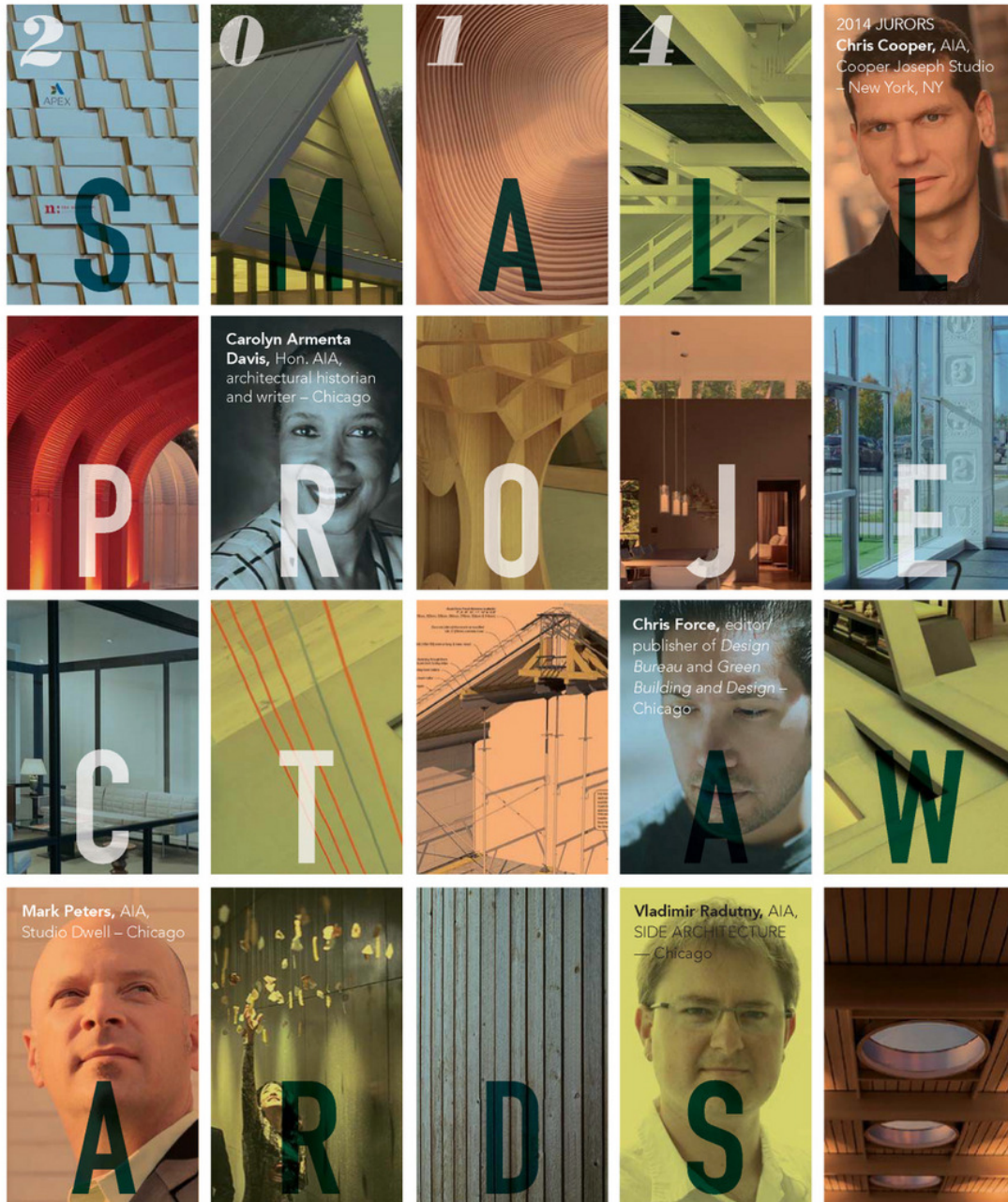






SMALL PROJECT AWARDS 2014

The Wave

LOCATION / Chicago
ARCHITECT OF RECORD /
 dSPACE Studio **CLIENT** / Lakeview
 Chamber of Commerce
CONTRACTOR / n/a

The Wave is three-dimensional art that is simultaneously a bench, chaise lounge, picnic table, laptop station and playground. Part of the City of Chicago's "Make Way for People" initiative, wherein parking spots are taken over as "People Spots" for pedestrians, the structure invites social interaction from passersby with its undulating form. Nine aluminum planters with cable rail infill evoke a park-like setting and enclose the area from street traffic. Made from 316 unique "fins," cut from 4-by-8-foot sheets of marine-grade mahogany plywood, the object is fastened together by stainless steel rods with concealed bolts. "It is refreshing to see something so expressive with the space," a juror said. "It's good design which animates the heart of the city," another juror added.

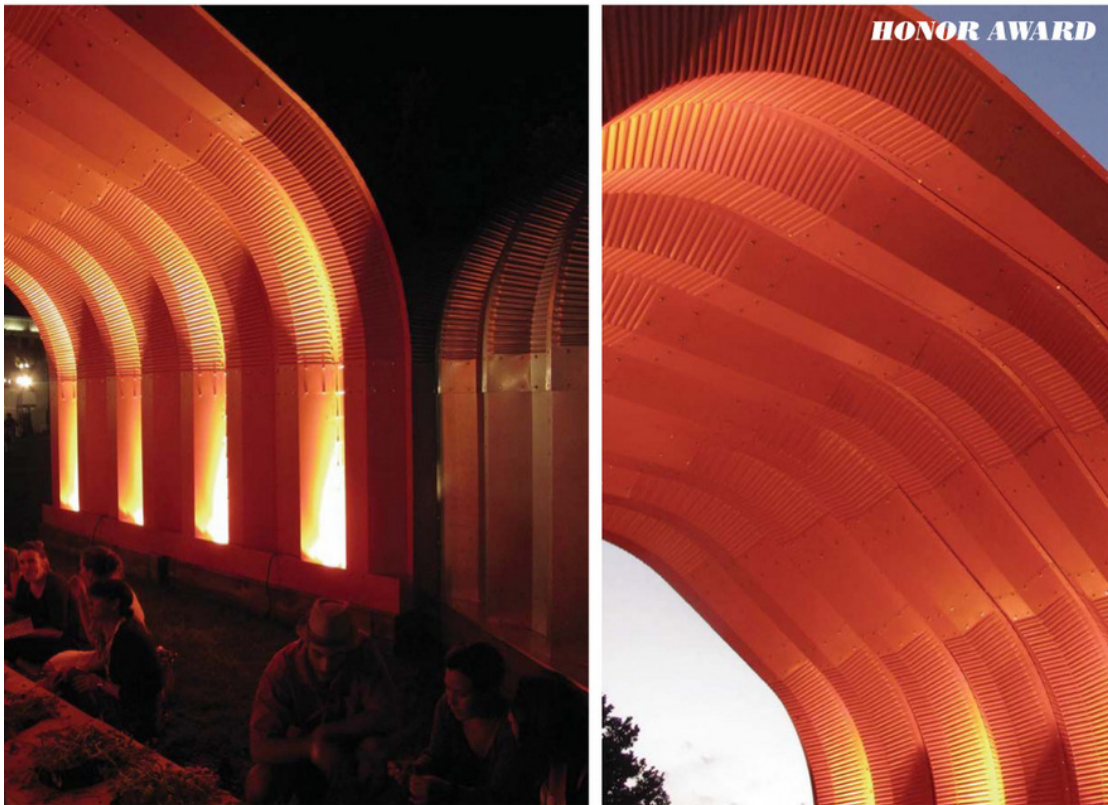


HONOR AWARD



Photos by Evan Thomas / Studio Thomas

SMALL PROJECT AWARDS 2014



Two Barns

LOCATION / Denver, Colo. **ARCHITECT OF RECORD** / Paul Preissner Architects **CLIENT** / Biennial of the Americas **CONTRACTOR** / Powalski and Associates

A temporary structure that served as a stage for the Music for Animals festival—part of the 2013 Biennial of the Americas—these two “barns” existed for just six hours. The two barns played host to a performance by Nick Cave, an opera for dogs and an art installation of edible plants by artist Viviane Le Courtois. The odd orientation of the pop-up structures created eight architectural spaces in all, revealing a depth and understanding of “light, space and composition and how it all works together,” a juror said. The \$12,500 structure was composed of only two elements—simple Galvalume-coated prefabricated steel panels and distinctive “pink kimono” paint for the interiors. “Exceptional use of off-the-shelf products,” a juror said, before adding, “and, wow, what a cool space to see Nick Cave.”

SMALL PROJECT AWARDS 2014



Ping Tom Park Boathouse

LOCATION / Chicago
ARCHITECT OF RECORD /
 Johnson & Lee Architects and
 Planners **CLIENT** / Chicago Park
 District **CONTRACTOR** / F.H.
 Paschen, S.N. Nielsen

This Chinatown riverside project is the first boathouse in Mayor Rahm Emanuel's plan to promote recreation on the Chicago River. Distinct components of the facility include a storage shed for kayaks and canoes; a comfort station and vending area; a porte-cochère resting ground; and a landscape path from the boathouse to the river. "Wonderfully sited and reflects the city's desire to engage the river," a juror said. Each part of the design employs a color and detailing all its own: The deep red steel storage shed enclosed with decorative screens and rolling shutters doors; the black masonry of the comfort station; the white steel canopy of the porte-cochère. The colors are intended to complement one another yet signal the functionality of each part on its own. "Everything is relational and in dialogue with each other, including the river," a juror said.



HONOR AWARD

Photos by Ballogg Photography

SMALL PROJECT AWARDS 2014

Harbert Cottage

LOCATION / Harbert, Mich. **ARCHITECT OF RECORD** / Searl Lamaster Howe Architects **CLIENT** / Withheld **CONTRACTOR** / Estkowski Construction

This project was an opportunity to reengineer and reinvigorate a classic American ranch house. The 1974 home was showing signs of its age with the roof caving in and a slowly-sinking slab. Its renovation was shaped by principles of simplicity, ease, durability and environmental responsiveness to the site. The architects designed a rehabilitation that revealed the building's construction, crafting a new roof formed using basic mass-produced trusses, and adding clerestories to flood the interior with light. "This is just an excellent use of prefab materials," a juror said. "The place explodes with light," added another. Coupled with generous overhangs, the detailing of the roof minimizes the need for air conditioning and a new geothermal system further minimizes energy consumption.



HONOR AWARD



Photos by Tony Solari

SMALL PROJECT AWARDS 2014

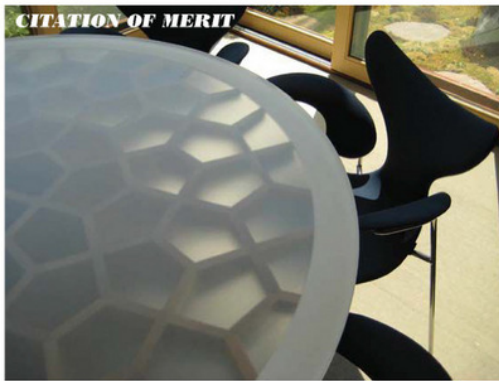


Photos by Evan Thomas, Studio Thomas

Atrium House

LOCATION / Chicago **ARCHITECT OF RECORD** / dSPACE Studio
CLIENT / Eric & Nicolette Nijensohn
CONTRACTOR / Z-Builders Inc.

This decidedly quirky design by Chicago architect Marcel Freides had not been updated since its completion in 1978. In crafting a complete overhaul of the interior, the architects took their lead from the home's literal centerpiece, an atrium that had acted as little more than an enclosed lightwell. By hanging a sleek new staircase within the atrium space, enlarging the glass opening at its top and removing some walls to open it into the surrounding rooms, they "made it more of a focal point," a judge said. "It's a great space and it suffuses the home with natural light, which is always a problem in these urban environments." Formerly somewhat barren, the atrium's ground level became a lively family space, surrounded by a rock garden in a custom blackened steel planter and with its staircase morphing into banquettes. The detailing, one juror said, "is not about demonstrating detail but about bringing things together very simply."



Photos by Michello Litvin Photography

Cell Table

LOCATION / Chicago **ARCHITECT OF RECORD** / Dirk Denison Architects
CLIENT / Withheld **CONTRACTOR** / n/a

The cell patterns and structures found in coral reefs provided the model for this table, designed for the dining space in a client's home. Because of the complexity of the design, the base was fabricated as extruded "tubes" of quartered ash. Then a five-axis computer-controlled router followed the dictates of a 3-D digital model to machine the tubes into their ultimate forms. "There's a lot of discipline that went into that," one juror said. "Because of the way they carved into the sides of the honeycomb, they ultimately get a very sinuous profile." The jurors also noted that the visible wood grain reinforces the cellular imagery. "It's very organic, but made precisely," a juror said.

SMALL PROJECT AWARDS 2014

The Club For Modern Fashions

LOCATION / Chicago **ARCHITECT OF RECORD** / Vinci Hamp Architects **CLIENT** / The Arts Club of Chicago **CONTRACTOR** / n/a

A temporary Miesian pavilion inserted within the Arts Club of Chicago in 2013 was a hit with jurors, one of whom dubbed it "an expressive vitrine." Conceived as a container for an exhibit on modernist style called "Two Clubs at the Arts Club of Chicago," the 12-by-16-foot demountable wood and glass structure stood near an authentic Mies structure, the club's staircase, and looked like an isolated bay in one of his buildings. Stocked with modernist furniture, the box helped visitors appreciate the fashions being shown in their vintage context, as if in a stylish living room of the day. The pavilion framed the exhibit expertly by blending with its subject, jurors agreed. In addition, one juror applauded the fact that the pavilion was elevated on a recessed, unseen base "to reinforce the lightness of the Miesian box."



Photo by Bill Zeman



Photo by VISA



Photo by Hugo Gallanes

Grace

LOCATION / Chicago **ARCHITECT OF RECORD** / Lawton Stanley Architects **CLIENT** / Grace Restaurant **CONTRACTOR** / SAP Design

This restaurant interior distinguished itself by the restraint that guided selections of color and materials. "There was a command of the palette throughout the restaurant," one juror noted. "This kind of follow-through creates an excellent atmosphere for dining." The cuisine at the West Loop restaurant focuses on an honest expression of each ingredient's natural flavor. The architects attempted to reflect that authenticity by using materials in a minimally finished state—brown ash, honed stone, un-dyed wool and leather, oil-rubbed bronze, and patinated steel. "It's a demonstration of high design mirroring the personality of the work that's being done in the space," a juror said. The jury singled out the integration of columns into the furnishings for special attention.



Photo by Anthony Talbot

SMALL PROJECT AWARDS 2014

Little You

LOCATION / Chicago **ARCHITECT OF RECORD** / Bureau of Architecture and Design **CLIENT** / Little You Inc. **CONTRACTOR** / LG Development + Construction

For a street corner site on Chicago's Southwest Side, the architects created an inviting and sunny home for an organization that provides speech, occupational and developmental therapy services for children. Their budget was modest—\$154 per square foot—but their results impressive. The entrance, where the facade peels back, has a tactile sense that comes from its board-formed concrete construction that children will want to touch, as do the oversized toy blocks that make up a corner column. Once inside, children and their parents find “transparency and light, a place that children will enjoy being in,” a juror said. Resilient, kid-proof spaces with clean, modern lines and splashes of color that don't go crazy gave Little You “a grown-up presence on a budget,” as one juror put it.

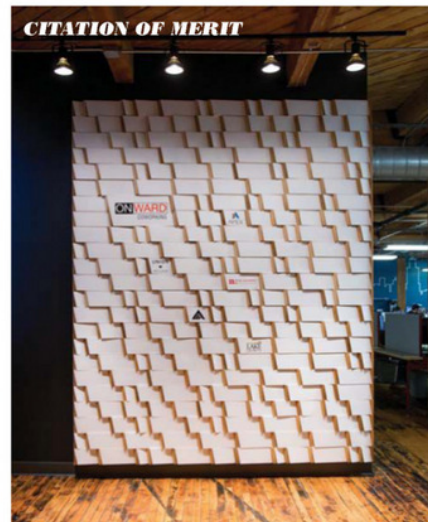


Photos by Michael McAtee

Onward Reception Wall

LOCATION / Chicago **ARCHITECT OF RECORD** / Longo Park Design Workshop **CLIENT** / Onward Coworking **CONTRACTOR** / n/a

Jurors were smitten with the designers' “clever use of exceptionally inexpensive materials” in this wall designed to have the names of participating firms in a coworking space inserted and removed cheaply. Coworking, a contemporary version of shared office space, can be a transitory setup for small enterprises. As they come and go by Onward Coworking, their logos can be traded into and out of the reception area's main wall on interchangeable laser cut from typical mat board. Designed by the architects when they were tenants at Onward Coworking and completed for \$2,500, the wall “sets the right tone,” a juror said. “These don't read as cardboard elements, but they're low-cost and appropriate for an environment that changes frequently.”



Photos by Shelby Kroger of Shelby Kroger Photography

SMALL PROJECT AWARDS 2014

Woodland Dune Home

LOCATION / Bridgman, Mich. **ARCHITECT OF RECORD** / Kuklinski + Rappe Architects **CLIENT** / Withheld **CONTRACTOR** / Olson Brothers Construction

This weekend home built on a steep, forested dune drew the jurors in with the architects' skillful use of what one called "off-the-shelf products" such as windows and doors in a design that "pulls together coherently without the [expense] of everything being made custom." It was completed for \$245/square feet, and the design also minimized cost of another kind: the cost to the site. To reduce disturbance of the fragile site, the design has three overlapping pavilions that all cantilever from a retaining wall that runs along the uphill side of the house. Sustainable strategies include siting that maximizes sun exposure in winter, preservation of deciduous trees on the site for shade in summer, recycled metal siding and a thermally modified domestic wood rainscreen. "There's a high level of respect for the environment," a juror said, "and it must be a very nice place to spend the weekend."



Photos by Steve Hill, Heidi Blessing

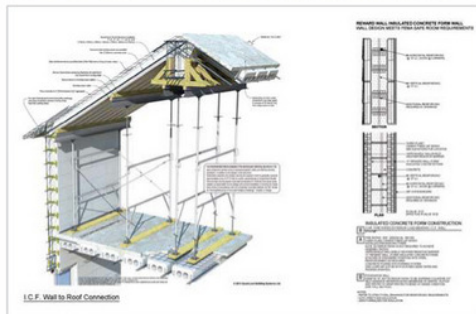


Photo © Wrap Architecture

Safe House

LOCATION / Joplin, Mo. **ARCHITECT OF RECORD** / Wrap Architecture **CLIENT** / AIA Designing Recovery Competition 2013 **CONTRACTOR** / n/a

The challenge of designing a house that can withstand disastrous storms—and in particular, high winds—meant providing a form that can maintain a continuous structural load path from the roof to the foundation. The architects determined that building with insulated concrete forms could do that and at the same time cut the end users' energy bills in half. The design includes a pattern-printed concrete roof, roll-down shutters and fixed stainless steel screens that are rated to wind force of 175 mph. There is also a safe room for secure shelter during a storm event. "It's a solid plan to combat some of the forces of nature," a juror said. "It can take any challenges." Although unbuilt as yet, the design, jurors agreed, is "an ambitious effort on a small budget."



Graphic Courtesy of Quad-Lox Building Systems Ltd., Drawing © Wrap Architecture

Barnsworth Exhibition Center

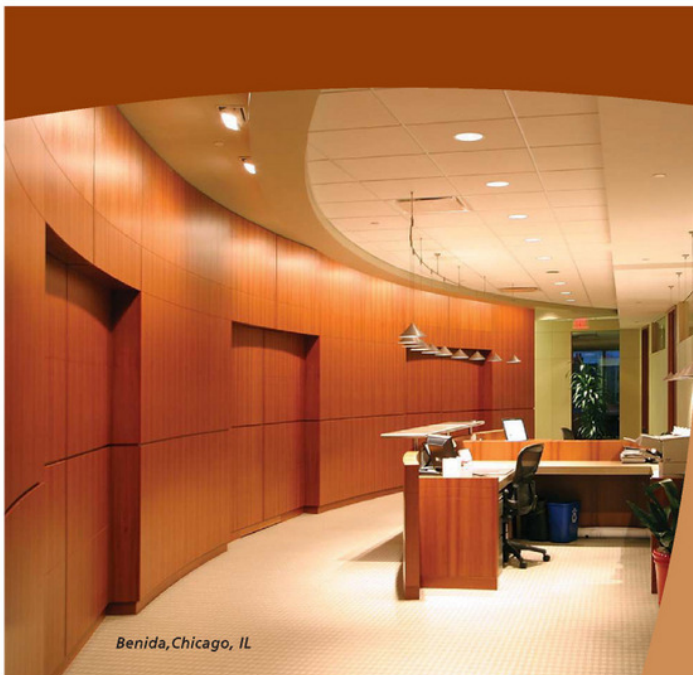


SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Photos by Dave Park, Hedrich Blessing

LOCATION / Plano, Ill. **ARCHITECT OF RECORD** / Students of IIT College of Architecture **CLIENT** / Farnsworth House **CONTRACTOR** / n/a

Fourth- and fifth-year architecture students at the Illinois Institute of Technology collaborated to design and build an exhibition and event space for the grounds of the iconic Farnsworth House. Meant to evoke the vernacular architecture in the rural area around the landmark, it is a contemporary take on a round barn, its walls solid to maximize exhibit space inside. Its cap is a lantern-like projection that brings in abundant natural light. The students' zeal for the project extended to such things as collecting lumber scraps from the project to make a handsome end-grain floor. The jurors were charmed by many aspects of the project and the thoughtful use of resources.



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