

I.D.

51st Annual Design Review

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mOcean

When the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art Contemporary Extension program needed a one-night-only installation for an event geared at young museum members, local firm IwamotoScott Architecture responded with a quick-to-assemble chandelier of inflatable packaging sleeves, paper clips, and fiber optic monofilament. Using technology common in the gaming and animation industries, the architects translated the movements of a person wearing a motion-capture shirt to points of light projected inside the inflated plastic sleeves. Eight feet tall and 10x20 feet in plan, the installation required a staging ground for its initial assembly. Lisa Iwamoto and Craig Scott used a lobby at the California College of the Arts, where the piece functioned as a temporary social space that students could walk through and interact with. At the museum, it hung from a 40-foot ceiling and functioned as an ornamental light source. “I like how they integrated the technology,” Dochantschi said. “They mapped three-dimensional movement into two-dimensional movement.”



Honorable
Mention

Voices

One of the main exhibitions at Forum Barcelona 2004—an international cultural expo that attracted more than 3 million visitors from around the world—“Voices” was charged with presenting two contradictory views: that diversity must be preserved and that communication among cultures is essential. Ralph Appelbaum Associates, with creative direction by Mona Kim Projects, created a dramatic multimedia installation that augmented language with human gestures, expressions, and sounds. The central feature, a hovering nimbus of screens projecting images at varying sizes, enveloped visitors. Mahar praised the sensitive integration of graphic panels and LEDs, while Dochantschi applauded the floor plan. “It’s very structured, and then it seems to open up,” he said. “I like the different scales of screens; some are very dense, some seem to repeat. We can only imagine that it must have been a pretty amazing experience to be in this environment.”

