

METROPOLIS

Spa Culture Gets Clinical
New Economy/New Workspace
Goldberger Reviews Guastavino's

ARCHITECTURE < CULTURE > DESIGN

July 2000

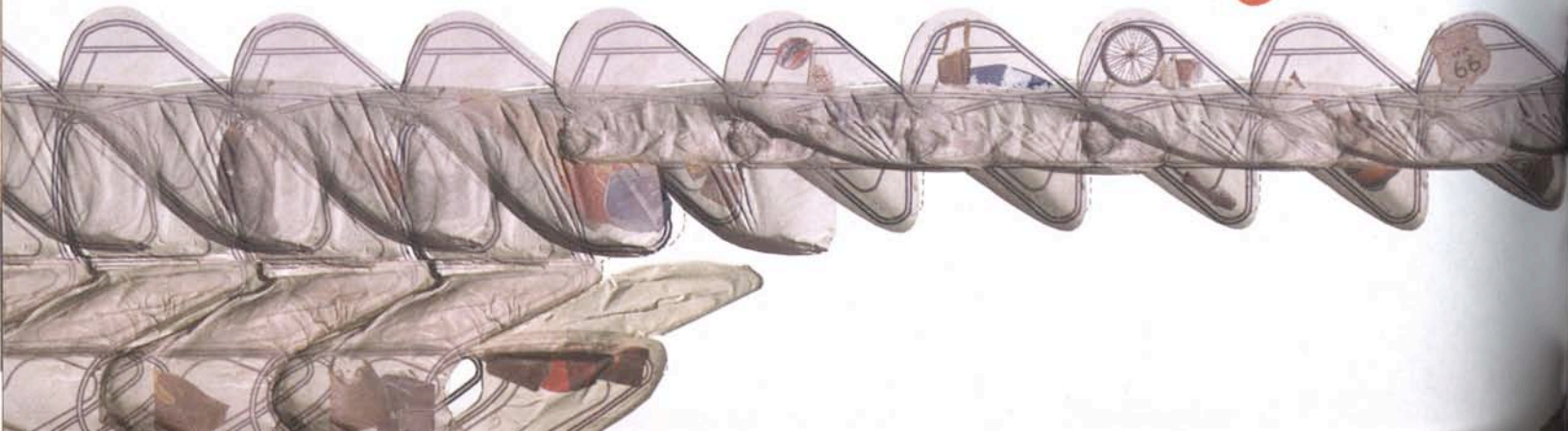
Inside the Fishbowl

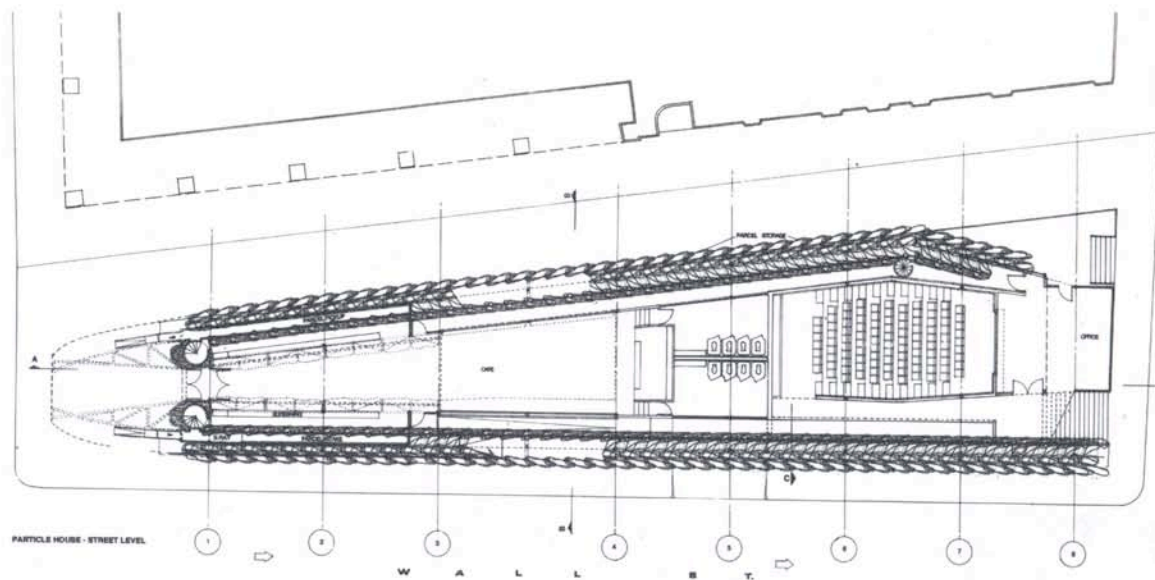
Tucker Viemeister
joins the digital age.
Can the world's last
industrial designer
make Razorfish swim?



Winners of this year's Young Architects competition
stake a claim on the future of their profession.

Tomorrow's Designers Today





Cultural critics often attempt to identify the young talents who will shape the future of a given field, but few predict as accurately as the Architectural League of New York's annual Young Architects competition. Begun in 1981, the competition has an impressive track record: Early honorees who have gone on to greatness include Ross Anderson, Tom Hanrahan & Victoria Meyers, Steven Holl, Billie Tsien, Mark Robbins, and Sulan Kolatan & Bill McDonald. More recent winners include Douglas Garofalo, Gisue Hariri & Mojgan Hariri, and Rick Joy.

As part of this year's competition, entrants—who must be ten years or less out of undergraduate or graduate school—were asked to analyze how their work responds to an altered natural environment or “second nature.” Mostly unrealized, the winning projects—described on the following pages—range from the theoretical to the eminently buildable. “It is truly the spectrum of how young practices survive and get going,” says Anne Rieselbach, the league's program director. “It provides a very accurate picture of the first stages of architectural practice.”



**JEREMY EDMISTON AND
DOUGLAS GAUTHIER
SHELTER ISLAND HOUSE**

**UNBUILT DESIGN FOR A SINGLE-FAMILY HOUSE,
SHELTER ISLAND, NEW YORK**

FIRM/CITY: SYSTEMarchitects, New York, NY

EDUCATION: *Edmiston:* Bachelor of Architecture, University of Technology, Sydney, Australia; Master of Architecture, Columbia University
Gauthier: Bachelor of Architecture and Art History, University of Notre Dame; Master of Architecture, Columbia University

SITE CHARACTERISTICS: The site faces south to Long Island Sound, rising 20 feet above the water with a forested strip of land between the house and the beach. Zoning allows for the roof to peak at 35 feet above existing ground level.

CLIENT: Unrealized design for a painter/writer couple with a grown family
PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION: Originally, the architects were asked to design an outdoor summer studio under canvas. After one summer, the clients decided they wanted a permanent structure with intimate work environments and spaces suitable for family gatherings. The 4,000-square-foot plan includes writing and painting studios in addition to living space.

COMMENTS: The architects constructed a ten-foot slope on the flat site so that Long Island Sound would be visible from the house over the forested property in between. The structure itself becomes a means for altering the elements to increase the inhabitant's experience of them: The metal roof accentuates the sound of rain running down the back of the house and, like a visor, allows for a view into the sun, which highlights the edges of the leaves and land. Wind is channeled through apertures (large in front, small at the back of the house), so that it speeds up as it passes through the living spaces. "We are trying to treat nature as if it were just another artificial system that we deal with in construction," Edmiston says.

