





Magazine

SPECIAL



producer, the lab, the studio







Entertainment

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Left (top):

Li Naihan's portable bar comes complete with a built-in sink, wine cooler, electric water outlet, lighting unit, and a waste water collecting tank.

Left (center):

When closed the little bar-on-wheels shrinks down to a handy crate of easily transportable dimensions (104 x 71 x

Left (bottom): The bed includes

The bed includes two built-in power outlets, two reading lamps, and foldable breakfast tables.

mobile units complete with an oven, burners, pot racks, and a kitchen island - the whole shebang. The ingenuity and thoroughness of Li's system - take the TV built into the bed's footboard, and the sleek DJ system and disco lights in the media center recently earned her a coveted Designs of the Year award from the Design Museum London. Meanwhile, she was commissioned to modify her kitchen units for an exhibition at this year's Salone Internazionale del Mobile in Milan

A colorful dresser with a penchant for lady's hats, Li grew up in Beijing but got her architecture degree at the Bartlett in London. On returning to the Chinese capital eight years ago, she briefly worked for Ai Weiwei, Like many of China's "post-80s" generation. she has energy to spare: she's currently co-founding a design incubator, running BAO Atelier (a kind of cultural think tank) with curator Beatrice Leanza, and moving her Crates furniture to market. Li modestly attributes her successes to "blind faith." But where her loft and the imminent roar of China's bulldozers are concerned, this lady comes prepared.



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Decause of its proximity to the Alps, Munch is sometimes jokingly described as Italy's northenr-most city, And architecturally this is not so far from the truth, since the Bawarian capital's rulers were long enamored with artistic developments from across the mountains. This summer the city will add yet another Italianate design reference to its collection: REPLIKA, a temporary art install.

> 1,000-PLUS YARDS OF FABRIC THAT WILL GLOW LONG INTO THE NIGHT.

lation in the 17th-century Hofgarten that will recreate the famous curtains of Venice's Piazza San Marco. There'il be a contemporary twist to these drapes, however, since the 1,000-plus yards of heavy polyester contain phosphorescent elements, making the fabric glow long into the night. Ursula Schulz-Dornburg's photographs of Piazza San Marco in Venice were an inspiration for the REPLIKA project.

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A digital rendering of the Munich
Hofgarten with the installation in place.
© Gerhardt Kellermann

REPLIKA is a collaboration between fashion designer Ayzit Bostan and product designer Gerhardt Kellermann, who both live in Munich. "The Hofgarten is my favorite place in the city and I've always wanted to do something there. The idea was to make a simple proposal that would nonetheless have a strong transformative power," says Bostan, whose clever work effortlessly moves between fashion and art contexts. Selected from over 240 proposals and awarded with a €150,000 stipend, REPLIKA will be on view between July and October 2012.

www.ayzitbostan.com www.gerhardtkellermann.com The Chapel of Silence in Helsinki by K2S Architects will open its doors to the public on May 31, 2012.

n the Netherlands, one of Europe's most secular countries, popular culture is slowly encroaching on religious architecture, filling abandoned churches with everything from bookstores to luxury condos. But in Finland. where nearly 80 percent of the population professes allegiance to the state Lutheran church, it's the other way around. The new Kamppi Chapel of Silence in Helsinki, for example, was jointly commissioned by the church and the city, and has been deliberately sited downtown, between a hotel and a shopping center. "The idea is to bring the church to the people," explains Mikko Summanen, countringinal of local architecture firm K2S. One of the star attractions in Helsinki's 2012 World Design Capital program, the chapel was inspired by Finland's traditional wooden churches, whose simple linear geometries have been morphed into something resembling the hull of a wooden ocean liner. Not immediately supgestive of a religious building, this form was as much about the interior as the exterior: "When you're in the chapel, you don't see the outside world, you're separated from the hectic surroundings," says Summanen, who worked with local woodworkers and shipbuilders on the structure's nanotech-waxed cladding and CNCmilled interior. "Natural light filters down indirectly from the top of the building, creating a dimness that encourages contemplation." Whether that entails pious reflection, or deciding which dress to buy next is, they hope, beside the point,

www.k2s.fi www.wdchelsinki2012.fi