

Big Ideas  Small Buildings

shelters for meditation

Kielder Belvedere
Northumberland, England
Softroom

'Shroud for Bathing'
New Orleans, USA
Eskew+

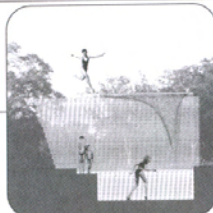
Tea Houses
Made to Order
Shigeru Uchida

Sauna Pavilion
Massachusetts, USA
Artifact Design + Construction

Studio Pavilion
Palm Beach, Australia
DawsonBrown Architecture

'GucklHupf' Mobile Lookout
Mondsee, Austria
Hans Peter Wörndl

'Point Lookout' Observation Tower
Portable
Richard Horden



objects in the landscape

Park Lodges
Hoge Veluwe Park, The Netherlands
MVRDV

Community Mailbox Enclosure
Cranbrook, USA
Dan Hoffman



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Architecture Park
Copenhagen, Denmark
Various Architects



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School Bus Stop
Idaho, USA
Michael Culpepper and Greg Tew



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Maryhill Nature Overlook
Washington, USA
Allied Works Architects



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Storytelling Pavilion
Cranbrook, USA
Dan Hoffman



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'Black Maria' and 'Gisant/Transi'
Mobile Pavilions
Hiroshi Nakao



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'Hairy House'
Northumberland, England
Thomas Heatherwick



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furnishing the city

Gateway Structure
Miami Beach, USA
Wood and Zapata



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Train Station and Bicycle Shed
Fukui Prefecture, Japan
Shuhei Endo Architect Institute



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Electricity Masts
Rotterdam, The Netherlands
West 8



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Public Lavatories and Flower Kiosk
London, England
CZWG



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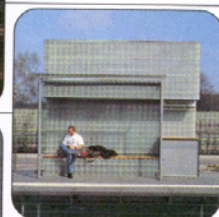
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Newspaper Kiosk
Frankfurt, Germany
Jörg Joppien



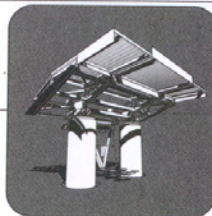
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Despang Architekten



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Public Lavatories
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Shuhei Endo Architect Institute



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'Icos' Treetop Observation Structure
Portable
Gilles Ebersolt



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Kaufmann g6 Architektur



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'Ski Haus' Alpine Station
Portable
Richard Horden



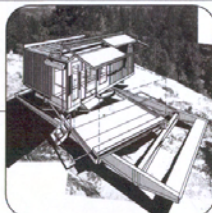
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'La Ballule' Inflatable Sphere
Portable
Gilles Ebersolt



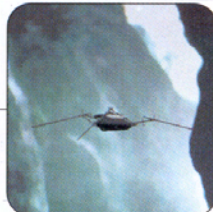
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'Silva Spider' and 'Fisch Haus'
Portable
Richard Horden



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'Rotation Pneu' Shelter
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'Maison-Valise' Housing Unit
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station mastery

Metro Stops

Hanover, Germany

Despang Architekten

'Urban space is not always treated very kindly,' says Martin Despang, who, with his father's firm, won a competition to design thirteen tram platforms and waiting facilities for a new urban rail line serving the EXPO 2000 in Hanover. Yet these graceful steel-framed structures are as kind on the eye as on the traveller, protecting waiting passengers from the road traffic and providing chunky, generous seating. In a 'holistic approach' to the functional, technical and economic parameters, Despang created a

system of vertical rectangular blocks that could be covered in a range of materials, and to which could be added the structure's individual 'attire'. In his effort to strike a 'dialogue with the surrounding urban space', Despang conceived different claddings and finishings in response to each facility's immediate surroundings.

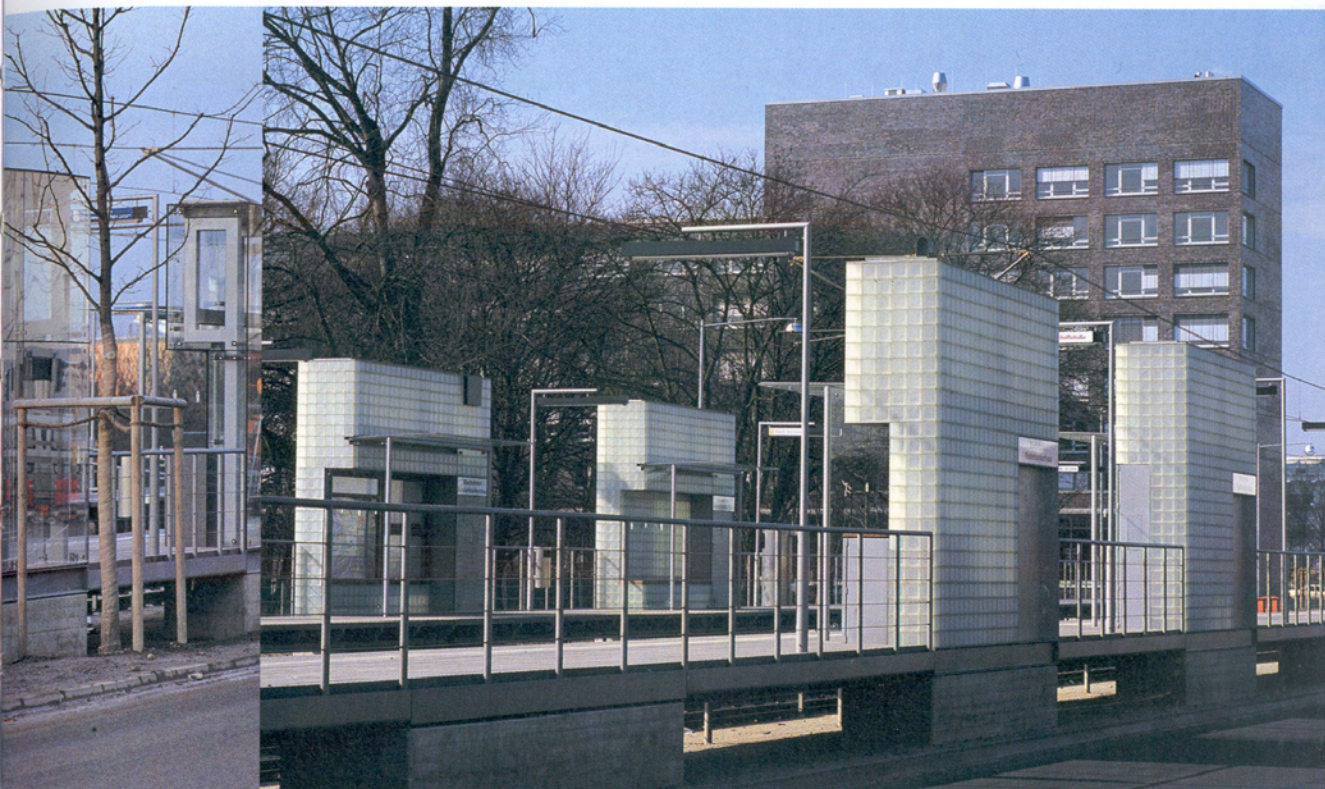
At the Haltestelle and Freundallee stops, for example, where brick is the neighbourhood's prevailing building material, the structures are given dry-pressed brick

facings; at the Presshaus stop, basalt slabs with glass inlays and panels inscribed with fragments of Kurt Schwitters's 1922 artwork *Z A (Elementar)* pay homage to the artist's stint at a nearby publisher. Other 'waiting blocks' feature prepatinated copper (with the ensuing oxidization reflecting the natural evolution of nearby allotments), satin-finished glass blocks, larch strips and stainless-steel mesh and even the now-ubiquitous precast concrete.

To combat the unkind treatment such facilities must endure, Despang was proactive and preventive: all built-in elements, such as information windows, are fitted flush; finishes were treated with lab-tested coatings to protect against weather and graffiti; and the construction makes use of smooth, non-adhesive surfaces to defy would-be vandals. To the waiting passenger, however, the shelters Despang describes as 'urban punctuation' present bold exclamation points of pleasant surprise.







[previous pages] The Kronsberg stop features stone cladding reminiscent of the old village nearby. The glass cladding of the Krügerskamp stop is occasionally filled with 'a mist-like vapour' as part of an art installation. At the Bult stop satin-finished glass blocks were used.

[opposite] Unique detailing gives each block individual character.

[below] The six variations used at each stop incorporate elements for display, seating and standing.

The repeated blocks made use of modular efficiency, while site-specific detailing at each stop conveys the luxury of unique design.



diagrams showing variable elements



