

# WonderfulVinyl



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PVC in architecture  
and design



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# CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH PLANTS AND EACH OTHER



**Building gardens and growing plants to bring people closer to each other and nature: this is the philosophy of Garden to Connect, a project that started at a small-scale size in Aarhus, Denmark, in 2015, and has now widely expanded.**

The core is to make urban spaces more sustainable, inclusive, and beautiful by reusing PVC pipe waste for urban gardens.

While traditional urban gardens are built from resource-intensive materials like steel, cement or terracotta, Garden to Connect

saves resources and mitigates CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by giving PVC pipes a second life. In fact, by reusing discarded products, the production of new plant containers is avoided, helping to mitigate climate change and conserve natural resources. Moreover, these plant containers are light and durable, and can be placed anywhere: on rooftops, in courtyards, parks or public spaces. Being waterproof makes them the perfect container for growing plants, and their versatility makes them not only useful, but also beautiful and colourful objects.



In 2022, the project was chosen to be part of the New European Bauhaus Festival, flagship event of the European Commission aiming to bring together talents and ideas from all over Europe to contribute to the accomplishment of the European Green Deal objectives.



Recently, Garden to Connect has also expanded to Rwanda, a place with a long tradition for urban agriculture. The rapid urbanisation and many ongoing water infrastructure projects in the country result in installation waste that can potentially be reused for urban farming. Together with two local NGOs, Garden to Connect is currently developing a pilot project that turns waste into plant containers, available for all.

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# UCPA SPORT STATION GRAND REIMS

## TECHNICAL INFO

PVC  
Membrane

## ARCHITECTS

Marc Mimram,  
Paris, France  
[mimram.com](http://mimram.com)

## LOCATION

Reims,  
France







The UCPA Sports Station Grand Reims is part of the urban development of the requalification of the railway banks. The new area had to be open to the city while preserving the privacy of water sports. Marc Mimram Architects wanted to give a generous reading of the sports complex, open, visible, and welcoming.



Between urbanity and vegetation, this space preserves the necessarily private nature of the aquatic practice, without limiting the pleasures of light and water.

The aquatic complex project covers an area of 11,450 m<sup>2</sup> and consists of a swimming pool with 4 indoor pools, and an Olympic-size pool that can accommodate 1500 spectators.

The project is developed on two main architectural principles. First, longitudinally, it is structured around the hall between the ice rink, squash rooms, padel courts, and the clubhouse facing the square, to give life to the avenue Jules Caesar and to give views of the equipment. The terraced gardens, open onto the city, are linked on northern side with the outdoor ice rink.

Secondly, transversely, the roof conveys natural light on the Olympic pool. The unity of the



roof-facade, the structure that composes the complex, and the formal freedom that emerges from it, compose the link between urban installation and the pleasure of sports.

The roof of the pool is made of a white PVC membrane, a material capable of taking the undulations of its geometry and ensuring perfect sealing.

#### **PICTURE CREDITS**

Erieta Attali



# EMMA SUNSCREEN



## TECHNICAL INFO

PVC  
Fabric

## DESIGNER

Monica Armani,  
Trento, Italy  
[monica-armani.com](http://monica-armani.com)

## PRODUCER

Varaschin,  
Italy  
[varaschin.com](http://varaschin.com)

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Elegant, handy and practical, Emma sunshade designed by Italian designer Monica Armani and produced by Varaschin, is a sunshade with an essential shape, designed to be easily moved and oriented in any direction.

The micro-perforated PVC fabric allows to filter the sun's rays, letting the air pass.



A complement that easily matches all the Varaschin collections giving a touch of style to the outdoor living area, both in the residential and contract environment.

Suitable for marine areas, the structure has a weatherproof and sunlight resistant structure.

**PICTURE CREDITS**

Varaschin





# PRADO CONCORDE

## TECHNICAL INFO

PVC Profile  
& Window  
Frames

### ARCHITECTS

Valode and Pistre  
Architectes, Paris, France  
[v-p.com](http://v-p.com)

### LOCATION

Castelnau-le-Lez,  
France







Castelnau-le-Lez, a town near Montpellier in the south of France, enjoys a very mild Mediterranean climate. The new district of Prado Concorde, on the banks of the river Lez at the entrance of the town, combines residential developments with schools and shops in a large block arranged around a garden in the form of a valley.



The architectural design of the housing units makes maximum use of exterior extensions to allow residents to make the most of the fine weather.

An extra "room" provides each flat with its own additional living space, completed with a tree providing shade for 'al fresco' dining.

To achieve this, the project uses an innovative concept: a series of large balconies whose triangular shape and variable cross-section

make it possible to support their weight on consoles at their thickest point, where the built-in tree containers are. These prefabricated high-performance concrete elements are staggered from one floor to the next to provide the airflow necessary for the trees to grow. The façade is completed with PVC windows and profiles which guarantee excellent thermal and acoustic insulation to the building.





The advantages of these balconies go beyond their practical use; the play between their offsets and inversions and the combination of triangular prisms floating one above the other bring movement and lightness to the façade like a flight of birds.

**PICTURE  
CREDITS**

Philippe Chancel



# SONIC LIGHT BUBBLE



## TECHNICAL INFO

Inflatable  
PVC

## DESIGNERS

Eness, Melbourne,  
Australia  
[eness.com](http://eness.com)

## LOCATION

Mori Art Museum,  
Tokyo, Japan

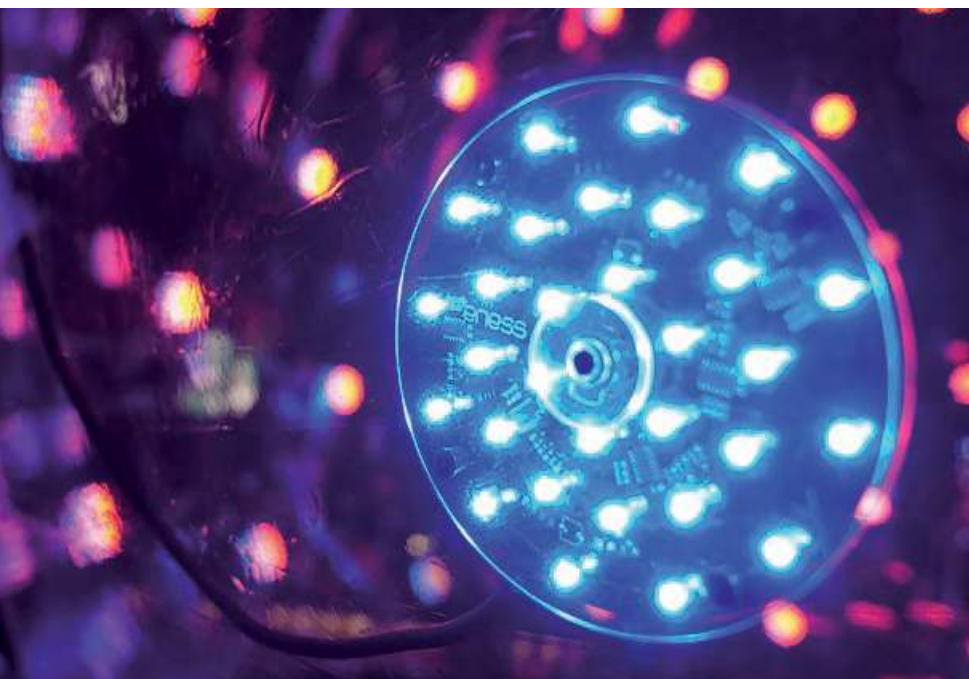
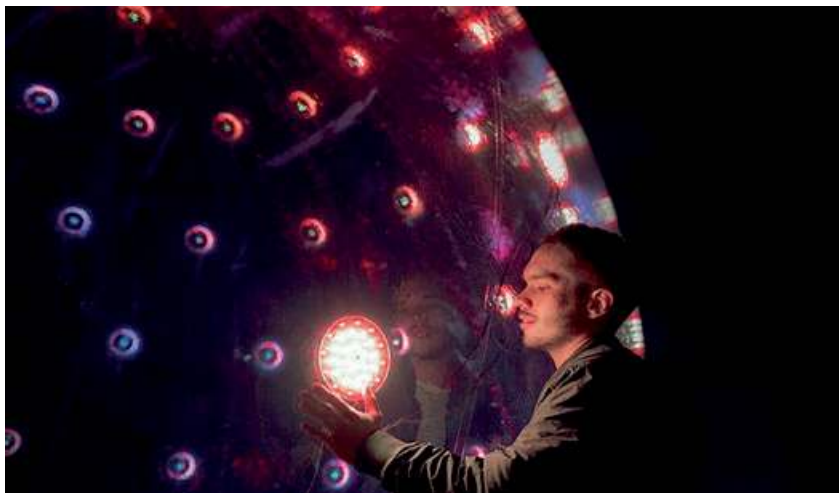


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Melbourne-based interactive studio Eness has been recently invited by Mori Art Museum to exhibit Sonic Light Bubble at one of Tokyo's most prominent art festivals.

Eness presented Sonic Light Bubble, a six-metre-wide living and breathing bubble installation, which pulsates with light and sound when approached and touched.

This giant, synthetic organism attempts to humanize lighting-based public art, attracting passers-by to engage and interact with its beauty.



The Sonic Light Bubble visual experience changes continuously. Each LED disk opens a range of colours and visual possibilities. Each disk acts as a volumetric video screen, providing mesmerizing 360-degree visual delights. The PVC bubble generates its own visual patterns and colours to a soundtrack specifically produced to complete the Sonic Light Bubble experience. Visuals also react to peoples' proximity - as people approach the PVC bubble, the visual experience intensifies. The result is hypnotic, ever changing and organic from day to night.

#### PICTURE CREDITS

Eness



# PIAZZA FABER



## TECHNICAL INFO

PVC Coated  
Fabric

## ARCHITECTS

Alvisi Kirimoto Architects,  
Roma, Italy  
[alvisikirimoto.it](http://alvisikirimoto.it)

## LOCATION

Tempio Pausania,  
Sardinia, Italy



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A unique installation in the main square of Italian smalltown Tempio Pausania was designed by Rome-based Alvisi Kirimoto Architects. It is dedicated to Italian singer-songwriter Fabrizio De André and it shows a series of coloured sails fluctuating in the sky. The light and ever-changing installation is designed by Alvisi Kirimoto + Partners together with the Italian master architect Renzo Piano, who conceived the early idea.

Starting from Renzo Piano's idea to 'capture the rays of light and its colours', "we moved the action up high, above the piazza, thus forcing passers-by to look beyond the roofs, to deal with the gray buildings and the colour of the sky, to transcend the angular margins of the area," says architect Massimo Alvisi.



Narrow roads lead to the 375 square-metre piazza. The installation consists in a series of cables and sails. When open, the sails are triangular in shape and have varied dimensions; when closed, they disappear leaving space to a series of "coloured pencils" suspended between the buildings.

The sails are 12 PVC coated fabric triangles of different dimensions. The smallest one measures 1,60 x 1,20 x 1,30 (2,06 square meters), the largest one measures 5,90 x 4,50 x 3,20 (15,60 square meters).

**PICTURE CREDITS**

Luigi Filetici



# SUMMER SHORES INSTAL- LATIONS



## TECHNICAL INFO

PVC  
Membrane

## ARCHITECTS

Vous Architecture & Design,  
Nantes, France  
[collectifvous.fr](http://collectifvous.fr)

## LOCATION

Fontenay-le-Comte,  
France





The Summer Shores initiative aims to create «three unusual stations», a temporary installation made of three surprising street furniture alongside the banks of the Vendée River, in Fontenay-le-Comte, France. What does it mean to be «stationary» in public space? Can it lead us to look at our surroundings with a different eye, share a moment with strangers? VOUS's answer comes in three different projects: the XL Oasis, the Net Pier, and the Supertable.



#### PICTURE CREDITS

Collectif vous



The XL Oasis spreads over the Place des Marroniers, a previously mineral space overlooking the river, that has been covered with lush grass and tree ferns. Amongst this pocket jungle, four giant deckchairs arise, reaching 4.5m high. Made of galvanised steel, they are covered with colourful PVC fabrics that can host up to 6 people each for a nap, chitchat, or as a bench to admire the river, the house of local painter Jean Chevolleau, or the new pedestrian bridge that bears his name.

The Net Pier, downstream the Vendée, takes advantage of the slope toward the river and arrays 7 nets at various angles, perfect for chilling. Bouncy, colourful, and with great views over the town and its church, the Net Pier is flagged by inclined poles that echo the local fishermen's rods, that bear vivid fabrics, dangling in the wind like the fishes in the river below.



# MAIDAN TENT



## TECHNICAL INFO

PVC  
Membrane

## DESIGNERS

Bonaventura Visconti di  
Modrone and Leo Bettini  
Oberkalmsteiner,  
Milano, Italy

## LOCATION

Athens,  
Greece  
[maidantent.org](http://maidantent.org)



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In an effort to help the plight of refugees around the world fleeing war and persecution, two young architects embarked on a project designed to improve the mental health of refugees in camps. Directed by Bonaventura Visconti di Modrone and Leo Bettini Oberkalmsteiner, and with the support of the United Nations International Organization for Migration, the Maidan Tent allows refugees to benefit from the indoor public space, a community area to counteract psychological trauma induced by war, persecution and forced migration.

During the visits, the team reflected on their conversations with the refugees. They recognised a psychological "migration trauma" within the community, the result of dangerous trips on makeshift or unsafe rafts across the Mediterranean Sea.

In refugee camps, an extensive distribution of tents and containers, and the lack of common areas, can lead to alienation and disorientation. The design team therefore believes that the organised and public common area that Maidan Tent offers allows the community to play, interact and empathize



under an expressive, protected and mobile structure. The word 'Maidan' is derived from the Arabic for 'square', further reflecting the scheme's dedication to social interaction.

The circular shape of the scheme is a conscious attempt to invite people to enter from any direction, where a series of semi-private spaces can allow refugees to establish personal relationships. The Maidan tent is designed to fulfil all the requirements and



to make transportation and installation as easy as possible. The flexibility of the spatial organisation has the quality to host a variety of different activities. All components are standardised to allow easy installation and to ensure long term durability. Furthermore, all the applied materials have been carefully selected to ensure an easy transportability of the structure. Due to its characteristic shape and thermic insulation, the PVC tent resists to all type of weather and climate conditions.

#### **PICTURE CREDITS**

Delfino Sisto Legnani,  
Marco Cappelletti



# Wonderful Vinyl



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