

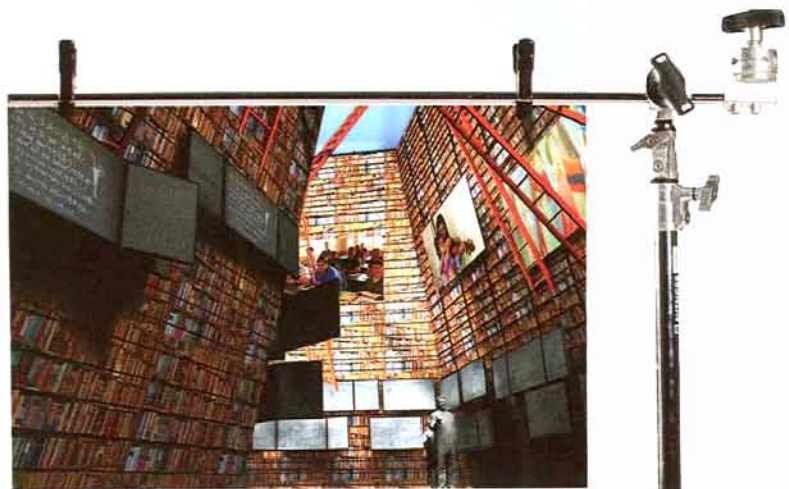




1. LEF FUTURE CENTER

The LEF Future Center is designed to provide an “inspiring environment” for employees of the Dutch Ministry of Transport, Public Works, and Water Management. Or, as Cloepfil said half-jokingly, “It’s about environmental drugs. It’s what we’ve all been dreaming of.” The Amsterdam-based designers Kossman.DeJong figured that no form of strange sensory absorption could be too extreme. There are 360-degree video projections; plump, almost-corpulent furniture; and a Magritte-like installation of objects inside a soaring conservatory. The design’s genius lies in a complete unhooking from standard workplace logic: Nothing in these confines is fixed. Lighting, sound, visualizations, projections, floors, and furniture are all easily moved or changed to help refresh the flow of ideas.

Design Kossman.DeJong (Amsterdam)
Client Dutch Ministry of Transport, Public Works, and Water Management



[1]



2. THE CLOUD

No one had ever seen such a persuasive fake cloud before. The Cloud was created for the 2008 Taiwan Designers' Week in Taipei. The cumuli are 12 transparent balloons, each 3.5 meters in diameter, stayed by a tensile system of precisely aligned nylon ropes. The balloons are loaded with 150,000 liters of helium and wrapped in a gossamer cloth to form the amorphous exterior. Though The Cloud was fake, it helped to predict some real rain by falling right over the ground when the atmosphere changed. “The lack of preciousness is charming,” Cloepfil said. “I love that.”

Design XRANGE (Taipei): Grace Cheung, Royce Y.C. Hong, principals; Masatoshi Tomita, structural designer; Yen-Hao Chen, Wan-Ting Chao, Ying-Ying Tseng, project team members
Client Taiwan Designers' Week 2008

[2]



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