

SURVIVAL December 2010

DOOMSDAY VAULT

The Arctic island with the gene bank that could reboot global agriculture

FRANÇOIS ROCHE

Life, death and radiation with architecture's professional provocateur

WEARABLE HOMES

Mary Mattingly's garment-shelters for post-apocalyptic nomads



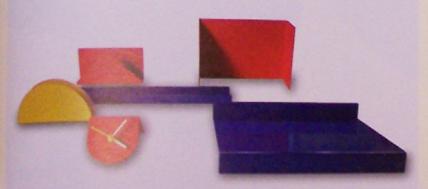


PICK OF THE SHOW Variability 12 emerging designers

Clockwise from right piedras table by Liliana Ovalle; Standard by David Weatherhead; Fabricate by Henny van Nistelrooy







An abandoned office overlooking the Brompton Road was the setting of an exhibition by 12 up-andcoming London designers. Conceived by RCA graduates Henny van Nistelrooy and Liliana Ovalle, Variability reflected the diversity of styles and techniques in contemporary design practice.

The boring blue carpet, glass box offices and filing cabinets of the former office were used to considerable effect as props to the pieces on display. Thomas Wagner's Office Tools, David Weatherhead's Standard Stationery and graphic

designer Julia's Meantime wall clock worked particularly well in the environment, while exhibitors' work created interesting juxtapositions between the unique and the ubiquitous.

Henny van Nistelrooy's
Fabricate pendant lamps made
from a wire frame dressed in
a tight-fitting fabric were an
interesting take on the standard
rice lamp, while Liliana Ovalle's
Piedras table presented some
unexpected humour – her
minimalist side table supported
on a leg bent at an angle is held
in place by a big hand-carved
soapstone boulder so that it
doesn't fall over.