

bauhaus to green haus



Arturo Vittori

Architect, Director, Architecture and Vision, Italy

“From Pyramids to Spacecraft”

Thursday, April 2, 2009, 6:00pm

Morton Auditorium

The Art Institute of Chicago

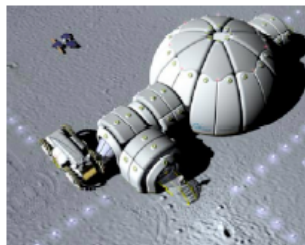
111 S. Michigan Avenue

Admission Free

The "Bauhaus to Green Haus" lecture series brings to Chicago European architects/designers who draw on the Bauhaus tradition and address today's sustainability challenges. The first speaker in the series is Arturo Vittori, the co-founder of Architecture and Vision with Swiss architect, Andreas Vogler. Architecture and Vision specializes in AeroSpace technologies applied to architecture and design and looks to understand and respect the principles of nature while recognizing architecture not as a formal trend, but as an answer to the needs of the society today and through the years to come.



Vittori's recent project AirTree 2008 (pictured left) is an urban sculpture that integrates technology and nature to respond to air pollution in cities. Like a tree, the structure generates an active exchange with the environment by using natural elements - water and moss - to filter particulate matter. While making use of solar energy and wind power, AirTree provides fresh, cool air during the heat of the summer.



Vittori conceived of MoonBase Two 2007 (pictured left) as a long-term base for conducting in situ research and exploring the surrounding environment. It will help in the study of permanent human settlements far from Earth. The station automatically deploys after landing, ready to accommodate four people for six months.



In February 2009 Architecture and Vision's project Fiore del Cielo (pictured left) won the design competition for the next 'Macchina di Santa Rosa' of Viterbo. The 'Macchina di Santa Rosa' is a 30 m high structure dedicated to the city's patron, St. Rose; every year, in September, the Macchina is carried through the narrow streets of the medieval town, stopping at each major square. Every five years a new design is introduced. Participating in the last competition, Architecture and Vision proposed a triple-helix structure, which is winding vertically up around three spheres that represent different stages of St. Rose's life. At each stop rose leaves gently fall down from the top, on the crowd gathered to celebrate the patron.

An exhibition of work by Architecture and Vision is on view at the Italian Cultural Institute, 500 N. Michigan Avenue through April 24. For information see: www.iicchicago.esteri.it/IIC_Chicago