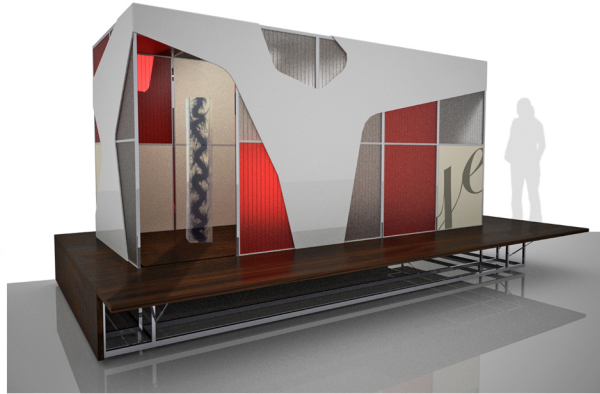


Temporary Outdoor Gallery Space

Written by Raquel Villarreal

2009 architect team winners announced as 2008 winners are on display.

Among the anticipated events to kick off Art Week Austin on Wednesday, April 22, is the conclusion of Temporary Outdoor Gallery Space 2—an open design competition for young architects. The finalists and winners will be unveiled for this year's competition. Meanwhile, last year's winning team of Amy Wynne and Mark Leveno will be busy installing their design, which will leap from the drawing board to real life for the first time at [Art City Austin](#) (April 25-26), the grand finale art festival that concludes Art Week Austin.



Ernesto Martinez, coordinator of Temporary Outdoor Gallery Space (TOGS), explains that the competition was aimed at architects that have been out of school for no more than ten years, to provide them with an opportunity work on their own projects without the pressure of having to belong to a big corporation.

"I've worked for big firms, where you're involved with a big team and the headmaster of the organization is 60 or 70 years old, and I feel like, 'how can we get new blood?'" Martinez says.

Wynne and Leveno won the inaugural TOGS competition out of 269 registrations from at least 20 countries. Their design, "A Little Room," will be seen by about 25,000 art enthusiasts at Art City Austin over the weekend.

"The gallery itself is a tiny mobile museum. It's not meant to be a piece of art on its own, although it is a more expressive in the architecture," Wynne said. "But I would see it more as a museum than an art piece."

The Los Angeles team has visions of starting their own architecture firm one day, and the success of their gallery project is like a stepping stone toward this goal. Wynne says the partnership with Leveno has been fruitful because she's more architecturally pragmatic and he's more creative. And like the synergic pair, Art Alliance Austin (organizers of Art Week Austin, Art City Austin, and TOGS) seeks to explore the way different creative minds and different artistic mediums work and inspire each other. The festival acts as a way to show the city and visitors the artistic side of Austin; for the artists, the festival provides a way to expose their art as well as market and promote themselves.

The TOGS 2 winners will be announced at an Art Talk series kicking off Art Week Austin on Wednesday, April 22 from 6:30-8:30pm at BoConcept at 430 W 2nd St.