

eer

Coqi



L'Anverre is an art collective whose activities explore a wide variety of creative media, ranging from glass sculpture to photography, engraving, painting, and furniture design for the household or public space.

The design brief of the coqi project consists in the realization of a lightweight, humanly transportable, trade show display unit, capable of folding and dismantling into the minimum space, but providing a generous and inviting environment for commercial presentations. As an economically viable product, it aims at making participation in international exhibitions lighter and more flexible, opening these venues up to smaller enterprises, who can undertake the move like backpackers leaving for the mountains.

"Coqi" offers the possibility for a single person to set up the lightweight structure to cover 60 square meters of exhibition floor in as little as two hours.

A fundamental aspect of the whole concept required that the complete self-contained structure should not need additional fixing: a series of nine identical aluminum arches, each made out of three tubular elements, rotate around a central axis. This structure is then covered with a stretchable fireproof textile material. The complete set up operation can be carried out with no additional tools or particular building skills.

The cocoon-like shape of the structure is perfectly balanced, presenting a biomorphic appearance and creating a welcome relief from the generally overwhelming, square environments so characteristic of exhibition grounds and trade show architecture. The unit can be opened more or less to suit the needs of its user. Likewise, it can be drawn down to the ground, closing the unit completely when not in use.

CLIENT:  
L'Anverre, Antwerp, Belgium  
ARCHITECTURE:  
Eer, Overijse, Belgium  
Architects Geert Buelens & Veerle Vanderlinden  
CONSTRUCTION:  
Showtex, Antwerp, Belgium  
FURNITURE:  
De Noordboom, Ronse, Belgium  
LIGHTING:  
L'Anverre, Antwerp, Belgium  
PHOTOGRAPHS:  
Dario Tettamanzi



