



Design Statement - A Path Appears

wHY's Objects Workshop was tasked to create four pavilions for the exhibit *A Path Appears* at the Skirball Cultural Center. Our outside-in approach was led by the mandate that anyone could make these unusual enclosures using local urban waste. The materiality drives the form for each structure, hovering bubble wrap 'clouds,' a theater made of LA's used tires (over 10 million waste tires are generated in LA County alone each year,) a shimmering audio listening station made from 5,000 used CD's and a photo pavilion created from honeycomb-structured newspapers.

Firm Profile

wHY is an ecodisciplinary design practice dedicated to serving the arts, communities, and the environment. Based in Los Angeles and New York City, the 25-person practice was founded by Kulapat Yantrasast in 2004 and is led by four directors.

Organized as four independent yet interconnected workshops — 1) ideas, 2) buildings, 3) grounds and 4) objects — wHY's ecology of disciplines reflects the practice's commitment to collaboration and approaching projects from many different angles in order to deliver holistic, sustainable designs.

wHY Objects - A Workshop Focusing on Exhibition & Object Design

wHY regularly designs and participates in exhibitions, as well as designing furniture for a variety of building and landscape projects. A vision for re-thinking shelter and housing in Los Angeles, titled 'UN/FOLDING WILSHIRE', is currently on view as part of a group exhibition at the A+D Museum. In 2013, wHY curated and designed an exhibition titled, "What's the Matter?," at R & Company Gallery in New York City, investigating the creative unity of ideas and materials through multiple generations of designers from around the world. Other exhibitions designed by wHY include: "To Live and Dine in LA" at the Library Foundation of Los Angeles, "SAMURAI: The Art of Japanese Armor" at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the new Harvard Art Museums' opening exhibition.

Los Angeles

9520 Jefferson Blvd.
Studio C
Culver City, CA 90232
310-839-5106

New York

473 West Broadway
Unit 3
New York, NY 10012
646-682-9280

www.why-site.com

Recent and Ongoing Projects

wHY's diverse body of work includes: Grand Rapids Art Museum, the world's first LEED certified art museum; the Studio Art Hall at Pomona College; galleries and casework at the new Harvard Art Museums and the Art Institute of Chicago; CalArts Student Center & Lounge; Venice Beach House; Kordansky Gallery and L&M Arts Venice Beach; and the recently opened James Perse Headquarters in Los Angeles.

Currently in construction or in design: the restoration and re-design of Jackson Park in Chicago, originally planned by Daniel Burnham and designed by Frederick Olmsted for the 1893 World's Fair; Speed Art Museum and Paristown Cultural District, both in Louisville; Marciano Art Foundation in Los Angeles; Phuket and Chiang Mai Residences in Thailand; the master planning and re-design of Worcester Art Museum in Massachusetts; Los Angeles River Art Bridge; Bibliotheca Alexandria's new Conference Center & Museum in Cairo, Egypt; and residences in the United States.