



Exhibition Press Release – For Immediate Release

GUN ARCHITECTS: Rainforest

A public pavilion installed in Bedford Square, London and an exhibition at the AA Gallery.

Pavilion: 17 May – 19 July 2014, South-west corner of Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3ES

Exhibition: 17 May – 14 June 2014, AA Gallery, 36 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3ES

Private view: Friday 16 May 2014, 6.30pm – 8:30pm

Open to the public: Saturday 17 May to Saturday 14 June 2014 (Exhibition) / Saturday 19 July 2014 (Pavilion)

Opening times:

Pavilion: Open 24 hours a day (Bedford Square)

Exhibition: Monday to Friday 10am – 7pm; Saturday 10am – 3pm (AA Gallery)

Rainforest is a public pavilion by Chilean-German architecture practice GUN Architects, installed in London's Bedford Square during the Summer of 2014. An imposing five metre high micro-climate of minimal tree-like structures with a field of pyramidal fabric 'stalactites' which gently drip water – the pavilion is an oasis in the centre of London. Visitors can sit beneath a canopy of inverted prisms to enjoy a forest-like environment of raindrops, pools and plants.

Rainforest is part of GUN Architects' exploration into natural dynamics in the diverse Chilean climate – making water a protagonist of the architecture, where the production of temporal atmospheres is based on water circulation and accumulation. The practice engages in architectural and urban projects rooted in the environmental and cultural context of Chile, attempting to develop design forms which are consistent with current urban expansion and its associated geographical conditions.

An exhibition in the main AA Gallery accompanies the pavilion and describes the development of *Rainforest* through earlier research by GUN Architects, the pavilion's conceptual evolution and technical engineering. The exhibition also features photographic works by Cristóbal Palma and Helene Binet.

Rainforest will form a major part of the AA's most important event of the year, *Projects Review 2014*, which takes place from 28th June to 19th July and is our annual celebration of the work of the school, attended by 4,000 members of the public, students, AA members, journalists and architects.

The installation will also be part of the 2014 London Festival of Architecture – an annual event that "celebrates the City's role as a global hub of architectural experimentation, thinking, learning and practice." The festival takes place between the 1st and 30th of June.

Notes:

This project is supported by Consejo de la Cultura y las Artes Chile, Architectural Association, British Council in Chile, Interdesign and Reggiani

Architects: GUN Architects

Engineering: AKT II

Fabrication: Joseph Waller Fabrications

Lighting Design: Fernanda Valdes, Angela Croxatto (Contraluz)

Hydrologic System: Camilo Cobo

GUN Architects: Jorge Godoy, Lene Nettelbeck, Loreto Figueroa, Judith Tremblay, Pablo Campos and Rocio Gallardo.

GUN Architects, founded by Jorge Godoy (Chile) and Lene Nettelbeck (Germany), were winners of the 2011 MoMA Young Architects Program International (YAP Constructo) and their associated project *Water Cathedral* was installed in Santiago in 2011. Through the Rainforest project GUN and the AA hope to develop a dialogue between the UK and Chile and provide an opportunity to discuss differences and similarities between the architectural cultures.

About the AA: The Architectural Association School of Architecture was set up in 1847 as a public forum and learned society. Unique, dynamic, independent and international, the AA is much more than the UK's oldest school of architecture – as a vibrant members' organisation, a charity, a gallery, a publisher and an archive the school is at the centre of contemporary architectural culture.

The AA's public programme of exhibitions, lectures, symposia, open workshops, performances and publications seeks to bring together new audiences for architectural ideas and projects. The AA exhibition programme, both at the gallery and through its international touring exhibitions, investigates and promotes architectural practice in all its complex and multi-disciplinary forms.

Images: A selection of press images can be downloaded from:

http://www.aaschool.ac.uk/Downloads/press_releases/press_images/rainforest.zip

For further details please contact: Sebastian Craig, Exhibitions Co-ordinator,
020 7887 4001, sebastian.craig@aaschool.ac.uk



Rainforest, GUN Architects, Bedford Square, 2014. Copyright GUN Architects 2014.

Press Release Ends