

SUCCESSFUL CIVILITE



Urban Buzz: Full Scale + Partners of Toronto took the beehive as a model for the construction of their urban dwelling at this year's Interior Design Show.

Full Scale + Partners
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Each year the Interior Design Show (IDS) invites designers to create and construct a domestic space that addresses a given theme. For the IDS 07 in Toronto, Canada, the theme was Offspring: Inspired by Nature. Full Scale + Partners had the use of a 400-m² booth in which to demonstrate their ideas, as well as a budget of \$30,000 (€22,000) to spend on a design that could be easily built and transported, assembled on site, and dismantled within three days. The structure also needed to be strong enough to withstand thousands of people

walking through it during the four-day show. 'We used MDF to fabricate an entire structure – framework, millwork and walls,' says Jenny Lee of Full scale. 'But this is not where we directed our focus. The important factor was our use of the beehive and its hexagonal cells.' She explains that she and her team wanted to interpret ways of using the beehive structure to create separate rooms within a single space. 'Besides that, we felt we had to create an infinite structure for smart growth in high-density urban areas.' The Toronto firm

took the beehive as an example of successful living in crowded areas and as a solution for reinstating the simplicity of nature in an urban environment. 'Bees construct a honeycomb from top to bottom,' says Lee. 'Ultimately, our structure does the same and is comparable to a family hierarchy: parent to offspring.'

Words: Martijn Goedegebure

Photos: David Whitaker

