

Architecture Culture Design

NEW PRODUCTS: KITCHEN & BATH

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WHAT'S NEXT FOR 3-D PRINTING?

Futuristic Fashion

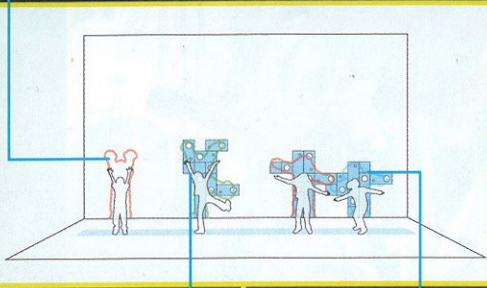
Sci-Fi Food

Breathtaking Buildings

USA \$5.95 | CANADA \$5.95



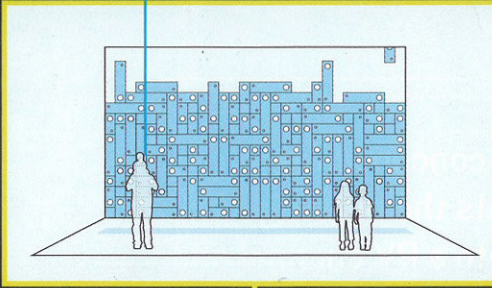
Stand on blue carpet



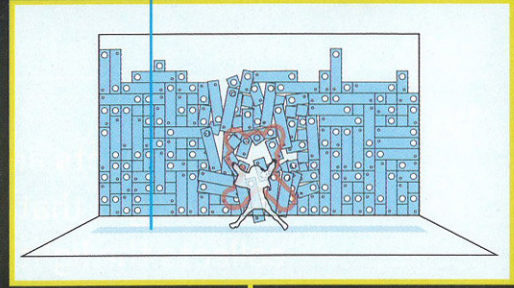
Strike a pose to build a shape

Work together to build new shapes

You've built a wall



Step onto the blue carpet to knock down the wall at any time, or wait for the blocks to fall on their own



The sensors detect human forms, and people's silhouettes appear, allowing the blocks to shift, stack, and topple in response to movement and gestures.

PROJECT: DIGITAL BLOCKS; Washington, D.C.
BY: LAB at Rockwell Group
SUPPLIER: Unity3D, openFrameworks software, and Microsoft

Rockwell Group's hands-on exhibition at the National Building Museum, PLAY WORK BUILD, includes a set of its celebrated Imagination Playground construction toys, along with an interactive installation called DIGITAL BLOCKS. A Unity3D video game engine, openFrameworks software, and two Microsoft Kinect sensors are used in concert to allow museum-goers to manipulate oversized blocks projected onto a large wall. The sensors detect human forms, and people's silhouettes appear, allowing the blocks to shift, stack, and topple in response to movement and gestures. The LAB at Rockwell Group, an interactive design team, worked to balance the technology's sensitivity and reactivity, making the illusion as free-form and immersive as possible. PLAY WORK BUILD will remain on view through November 2014. —DM



Photograph, courtesy Kevin Allen; diagrams, courtesy LAB at Rockwell Group