

ET CETERA

Zero to 60 in four seconds – not bad for an electric car. The Roadster, by San Carlos, California-based Tesla Motors, charges off a home power source in 3.5 hours and gets 400 kilometres of highway driving from each charge. The high-performance machine operates on a two-speed transmission: first gear takes you to 100 kilometres per hour; while second tops out at around 210. Tesla's first customer care centres will open in California in early 2007.



Full of Grass, a work of digital photography by Italian artist Matteo Basile, adorns the lobby of the chic Sixty Hotel in Riccione, Italy. The hotel, created by Sixty founder Wicky Hassan and designed by Studio 63 Architecture + Design, is dedicated to guests under 30 and features 40 eclectic, artist-designed rooms, each outfitted with a webcam for inter-guest communications.



Thonet, the 187-year-old German seating manufacturer that perfected the cantilevered chair, is hitting the slopes this winter with the S-333 sleds. Designed by Holger Lange, the toboggan is constructed of tubular steel and an open-mesh fabric seat. Lange, a project manager at Thonet, originally designed the S-333 as a Christmas present for his daughter.



Nader Tehrani, last year's Ventulett Chair in Architectural Design at Georgia Tech, led a group of students in the creation of a site-specific installation on the exterior of the school's architecture building. Employing some 1,500 sheets of polycarbonate, the stacked structure bends and twists along the building's facade like a column of bubbles blowing in the wind. The installation was completed in August and will remain up for the rest of the academic year.

Asked to remake a couple's apartment in São Paulo, French-Brazilian design quartet Triptyque created a curvy MDF bookcase evoking a high-rise on view from the apartment: the famously wild, libertine and run-down Tremé-Tremé building. The bookcase, now in full production and constructed in five sizes, adapted the name, which comes from the Portuguese word *treme* – to tremble.



New York-based designer Victor Vetterlein crafted the Albert Lamp, part of his Waojoin 2007 collection, to resemble an alien being. The kiln-fired clay "head" houses a hollow "face," where hanging cut glass, polished bronze and pearls reflect the extraterrestrial's glowing consciousness and lucid plans for world domination. The floor lamp stands on brass legs, at about the height of an average earthling.



PHOTOS: TESLA MOTORS; BASILE: GUTTI; HASSAN: PHOTOFEST; HASSAN: HASSAN; HASSAN: PHOTOFEST

DAMSEL. TREVINO

