

castor design

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Castor is Brian Richer and Kei Ng. According to Brian: "Above and beyond plebeian comfort objections, the structural dynamic analysis must utilize and be functionally interwoven with the philosophy of commonality and standardization." Kei agrees and expands on their principals by stating: "In the final rationalization, the massing of major elements presents extremely synergistic challenges to the study of true fecundity in the state-of-the-art, and makes participation in the form the primary consideration".

Castor's work has been described as a cross between Guy Maddin and Larry Clark with a side of Stompin' Tom Connors. They are interested in the middle ground between high design and ribald yokelism. Materials and reuse of materials is also an important part

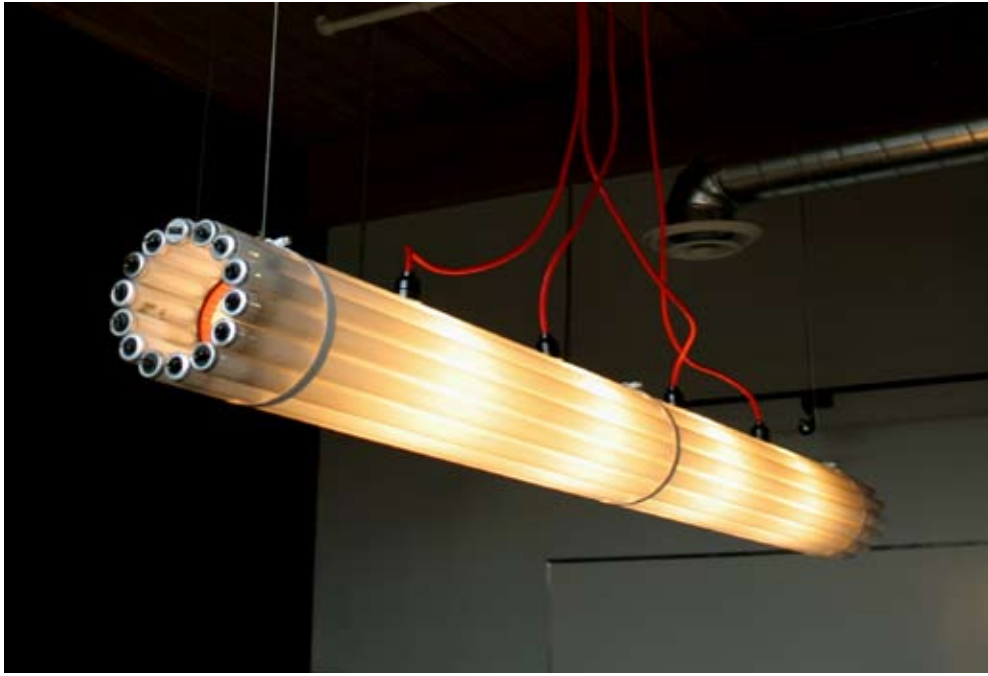
of Castor's aesthetic. Burnt out bulbs to make lighting, a rusty shipping container to make a sauna - this re-contextualization of materials is a primary design consideration for Castor.

Over the past 3 years, Castor has worked on many projects with interior designers and architectural firms, creating custom light installations and furniture. They recently won a large public art commission with Bazis International to create a condominium façade and were selected as feature designers at the 2009 Interior Design Show where they presented a remodeled 1975 Winnebago, and were invited to create a lounge for the 2009 Toronto International Art Fair.



THE SAUNA BOX

This traditional wood-burning sauna is built into a shipping container. The Sauna Box is completely self-contained with solar power and a wood-fired stove. The box comes standard with ipod stereo, guitar hook-up, Castor Stool, magnetic truck light, wool toque and bronze antlers. The Sauna Box can be customized for site-specificity.



THE TUBE LIGHT

Burnt-out fluorescent bulbs lit by incandescent light bulbs. Lengths of 15 inches, 2ft, 3ft, 4ft and 8ft are available. Depending on the model they are capable of hanging horizontally, vertically or standing on end. The used florescents are from architecturally significant buildings whenever possible.



THE INVISIBLE CHANDELIER

A collection of hundreds of burnt out light bulbs lit from within, produced to order in custom sizes.



← THIS IS NOT A F***** DROOG LIGHT LIGHT

Guitar pedals are the inspiration for this light. Rubber 12-volt truck lights plug into a power box using guitar jacks. Lights can be placed anywhere using metal pucks and magnets

THE TANK LIGHT →

Made from re-purposed fire extinguisher tanks, cut to different lengths and painted with a high-gloss finish.



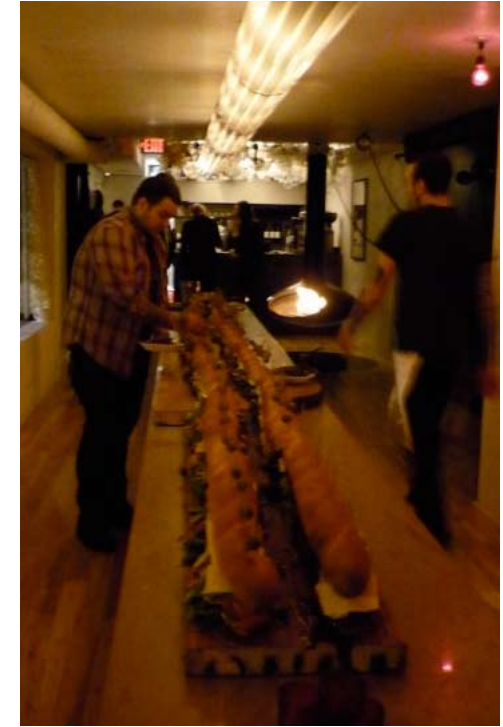
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ODDFELLOWS

A restaurant and bar in Toronto, designed, owned and operated by Castor.



Oddfellows has a communal table which seats 26 people. Each leg of the table is cast in aluminum from found objects, ranging from an old 2x4 with protruding nailsto handcarved baroque legs. The top can be white oak or polished Indiana limestone.



PARTS & LABOUR

Opening in early 2010, Parts & Labour is a restaurant, bar and live music venue in a converted hardware store in Toronto's Parkdale neighbourhood. Designed, owned and operated by Castor.





BETON BRUT, IDS TORONTO, 2008
As one of ten invited Canadian designers featured at the 2008 Interior Design Show, Castor installed a rough cast concrete ice-fishing hut with stained glass windows and a woodstove. The hut was made to showcase the prototype for the Invisible Chandelier.



WINNEBAGO, IDS TORONTO, 2009
As invited designers for the 5x5 section of IDS, Castor gutted and redesigned a 23' Winnebago.



← **NEXT LOUNGE, TIAF 2009**
For the Toronto International Art Fair, Castor made a tent out of bubble wrap that functioned as a place to display art or just to enjoy making a lot of noise.

CRYSTAL BLU CONDOS, TORONTO →
Castor's first major public art commission became the glass & concrete façade of a downtown condo development.

