

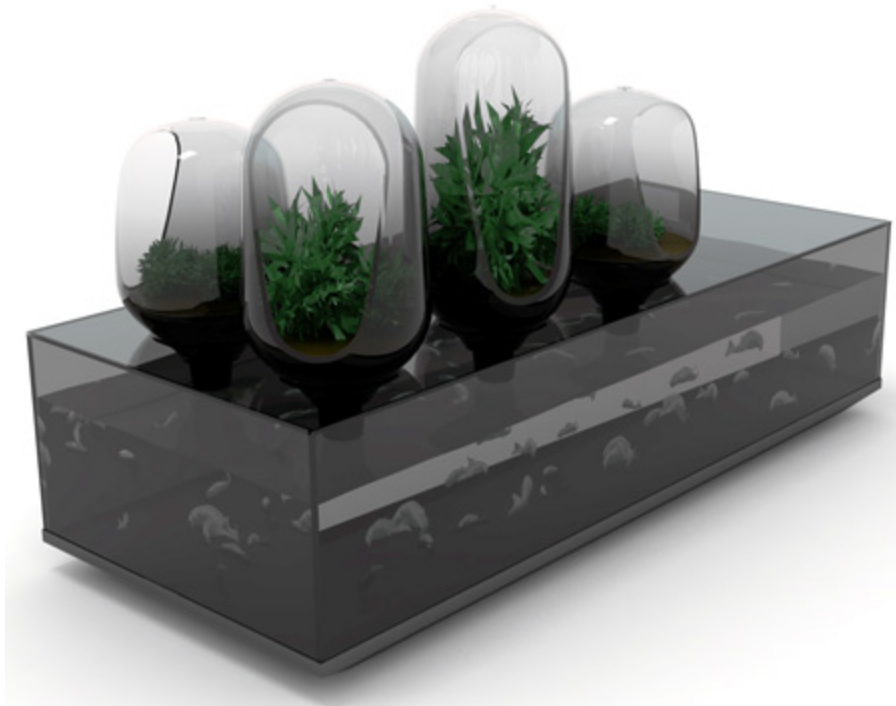
Local River by Mathieu Lehanneur

April 7th, 2008 <http://www.dezeen.com/2008/04/07/local-river-by-mathieu-lehanneur/>



French designer Mathieu Lehanneur has created Local River, a concept for a domestic “refrigerator-aquarium” that breeds freshwater fish for eating and grows vegetables at the same time.





Inspired by the Locavores movement of people who source food grown locally to avoid pollution and ensure freshness, the project would allow people to produce their own food at home. Vegetables growing in floating pots would help purify the water by removing nitrates and other minerals.





The concept will be presented at [Artists Space Gallery](#) in New York from 25 April.

Here's some info from Lehanneur:

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LOCAL RIVER

Mathieu Lehanneur

With

Anthony van den Bossche, spin doctor.

Artists Space Gallery, New York

Curator : Alexandra Midal

25 April to 21 June 2008

Local River, home storage unit for fish and greens

The Locavores appeared in San Francisco in 2005 and define themselves as 'a group of culinary adventurers who eat foods produced in a radius of 100 miles (160 km) around their city'. By doing so they aim to reduce impact on the environment inherent to the transport of foodstuffs, while ensuring their traceability.

Local River anticipates the growing influence of this group (the word 'locavore' made its first appearance in an American dictionary in 2007) by proposing a home storage unit for live freshwater fish combined with a mini vegetable patch. This DIY fish-farm-cum-kitchen-garden

is based on the principle of aquaponics coupled with the exchange and interdependence of two living organisms - plants and fish.

The plants extract nutrients from the nitrate-rich dejecta of the fish. In doing so they act as a natural filter that purifies the water and maintains a vital balance for the eco-system in which the fish live. The same technique is used on large-scale pioneer aquaponics/fish-farms, which raise tilapia (a food fish from the Far East) and lettuce planted in trays floating on the surface of ponds.

Local River responds to everyday needs for fresh food that is 100% traceable. It bets on a return to favour of farm-raised freshwater fish (trout, eel, perch, carp, etc...), given the dwindling supplies of many saltwater species due to over-fishing. It also demonstrates the capacity of fish-farmers to deliver their stock live to a private consumer as a guarantee of optimum freshness - impossible in the case of saltwater fish that has been netted.

Local River aims to replace the decorative 'TV aquarium' by an equally decorative but also functional 'refrigerator-aquarium'. In this scenario, fish and greens cohabit for a short time in a home storage unit before being eaten by their keepers, the end-players in an exchange cycle within a controlled ecosystem.

Materials: glass: blown & thermoformed, water pump, joints.
Dimensions : Large : 64 x 29 x 39 inches, Small : 29 x 18 x 36 inches.

"Local River"

Mathieu Lehanneur

with Anthony van den Bossche, spin doctor

25 April to 21 June 2008

Artists Space

38 Greene Street, 3rd Floor

New York, NY 10013

Phone: 212. 226. 39 70

Tues, Thurs, Fri. 12 - 6 p.m.

Wed. 2 - 8 p.m.

Sat. 12 - 5 p.m.

www.artistspace.org

Mathieu Lehanneur, designer. Graduated from ENSCI-Les Ateliers in 2001; is currently exploring possibilities in nature and technology for their break-thru potential in functions and their capacity to work magic. Made his international debut with a series entitled 'Elements' (VIA Carte blanche 2006) and the 'Bel Air' filtering system for plants (2007), six objects that form a domestic 'Health Angels' kit for rebalancing everyday physiological needs (such as lack of sunlight in winter) and countering aggression factors in urban settings (noise & air pollution).
www.mathieulehanneur.com

Anthony van den Bossche, age 36, independent ideas man and curator. Set up Duende Studio in 2007, for events design and press relations. Moved full-time into design in 2001 after working as a journalist, ideas man and producer in television. Has mounted exhibitions such as "Design@home.se", 'Norway says' and 'Eden ADN, genetic design' (Biennale de Saint-Etienne 2006) that highlight functional and decorative improvement of living organisms. Member of the

purchasing jury of the National Fund for Contemporary Art, decorative arts department, and creator of the world gazette website www.resetdesign.com (2002-07).
www.duendestudio.fr



artists space gallery in new york is currently presenting 'local river' a project by mathieu lahanneur with anthony van den bossche in their architecture and design space. the exhibition began on april 25th and will continue running until june 21st. the project is a new design for storing fish and plants in the home. the project was inspired by the rise in local based food production and aims to be a system for growing fresh water fish and a vegetable garden. the two parts work together to create a mini ecosystem, each relying on the other. the designers imagine the design as a way to have the freshest fish and vegetables possible in an urban environment.

<http://www.artistsspace.org>