



WOOD

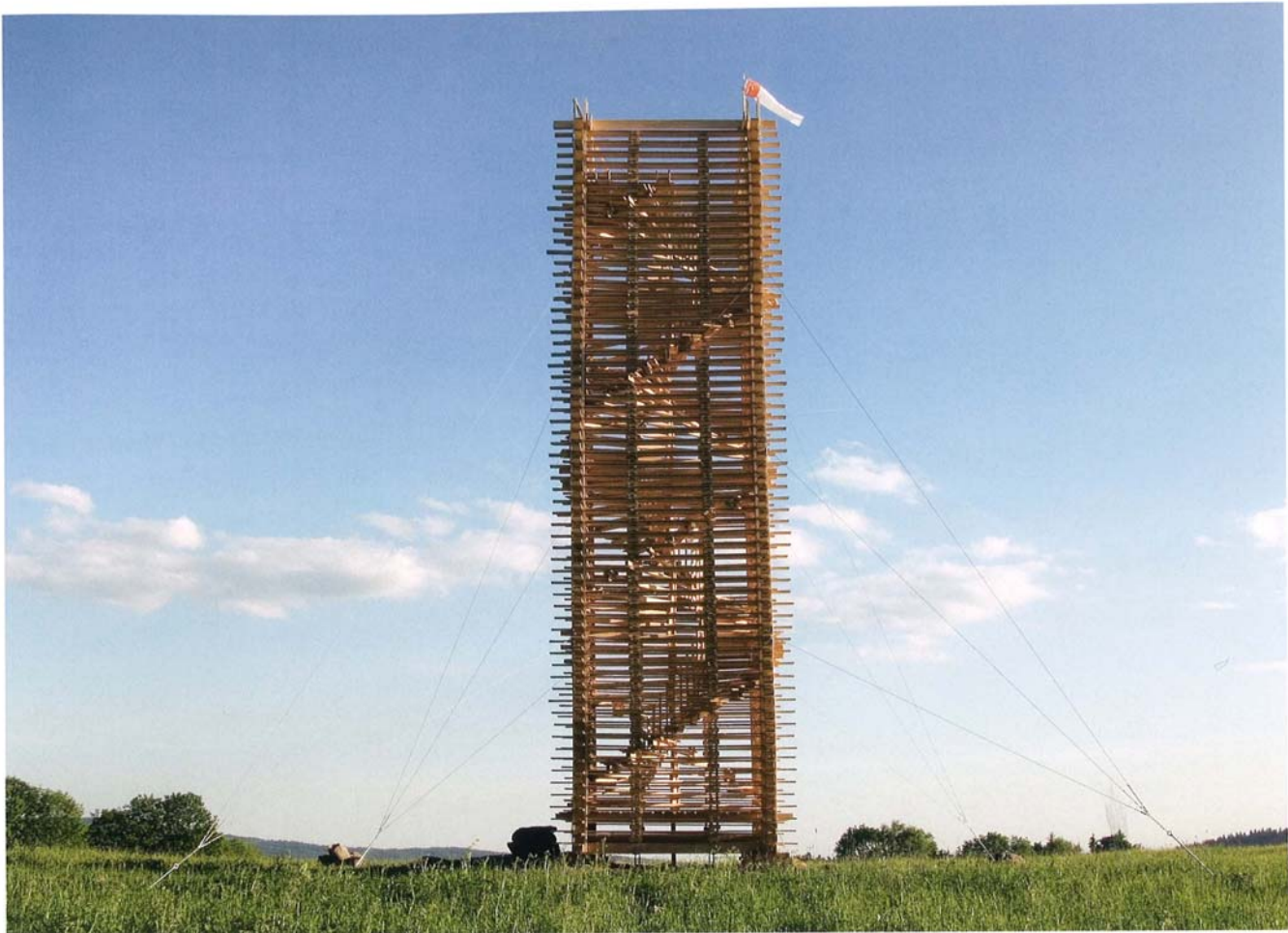
PHAIDON





◀ This expo pavilion is clad in woven wicker panels, the form of which was conceived and prototyped in Spain, then handmade in China, bridging the cultural and manufacturing traditions of both countries. Supported by an externally invisible warped web of steel, the building has the 'dynamic, open, transparent' quality envisaged by architect Benedetta Tagliabue. *Spain Pavilion at Shanghai Expo, Shanghai, China, 2010, Miralles Tagliabue (EMBT)*

There is something of the high-tech – an architectural style invariably rendered with steel – in this screened building, which houses office space and an information centre for visitors. Wooden slats help regulate the abundant natural light. *Písek City Forest Administration, Písek, Czech Republic, 2010, e-MRAK*



◀ Standing on a small hill on the island of Hirvensalo this modest chapel and occasional art gallery is constructed from locally sourced pine and clad in copper. Its slender form is inspired by the Christian fish symbol. Apart from a small skylight by the western entrance, the only source of natural light comes from a strip of glass that runs from floor-to-ceiling – on both sides – at the altar end of the room. This treatment gives the space a theatrical intensity despite its radically simple design. St Henry's Ecumenical Art Chapel, Turku, Finland, 2005, Sanaksenaho Architects

'On a raised piece of land, find a place where rock protrudes from the ground'. So begins an instructional text written by architect Martin Rajniš, who constructed this building on his own land with help from students. The structure encloses a spiral staircase with precision and efficiency, reaching for the sky – or the view – as a pure form of architectural ambition and expression. Scholberg Tower, Lucany nad Nisou, Czech Republic, 2006, e-MRAK