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THE LONDON LOOK

Winsome art installations and sports arenas are transforming London into the most playful Olympics city ever

BY DAVID DICK-AGNEW



→ The Royal Artillery
Barracks' three temporary
structures, by Magma
Architecture, are wrapped
in taut PVC membranes.
Bright mesh-covered apertures bulge in and out of
the walls and roof, providing ventilation. After the
games, the buildings will be
disassembled.



- ↑ The Coca-Cola Beatbox pavilion, by London firm Pernilla & Asif, doubles as a musical instrument. Visitors can play the red and white panels that flank the cylindrical building's spiralling ramp, and can even remix audio clips sampled from Olympic sports to make their own beats.



- ← Inspired by Neil Young's
 "Running Dry" and the Velvet
 Underground's "Run, Run, Run,"
 Monica Bonvicini created an
 installation that rocks. By day,
 the nine-metre-high mirrored glass
 letters reflect the Copper Box
 venue in Olympic Park; by night,
 they're illuminated by LEDs, which
 gives them a mysterious depth.
- ↓ At nearly 115 metres tall,
 ArcelorMittal Orbit, by artists
 Anish Kapoor and Cecil Balmond,
 eclipses Big Ben. Between Olympic
 Stadium and the Aquatics Centre,
 the roller coaster-like structure
 supports two viewing platforms
 that overlook the park and the city



← For those who can't get to the Olympic grounds, the Design Museum's Designed to Win exhib' spotlights gear that has helped past athletes smash records, including this racing bicycle tha debuted at the 1992 Games; and such new icons as this year's Barber Osgerby-designed torch which the museum recently dubb Design of the Year.