

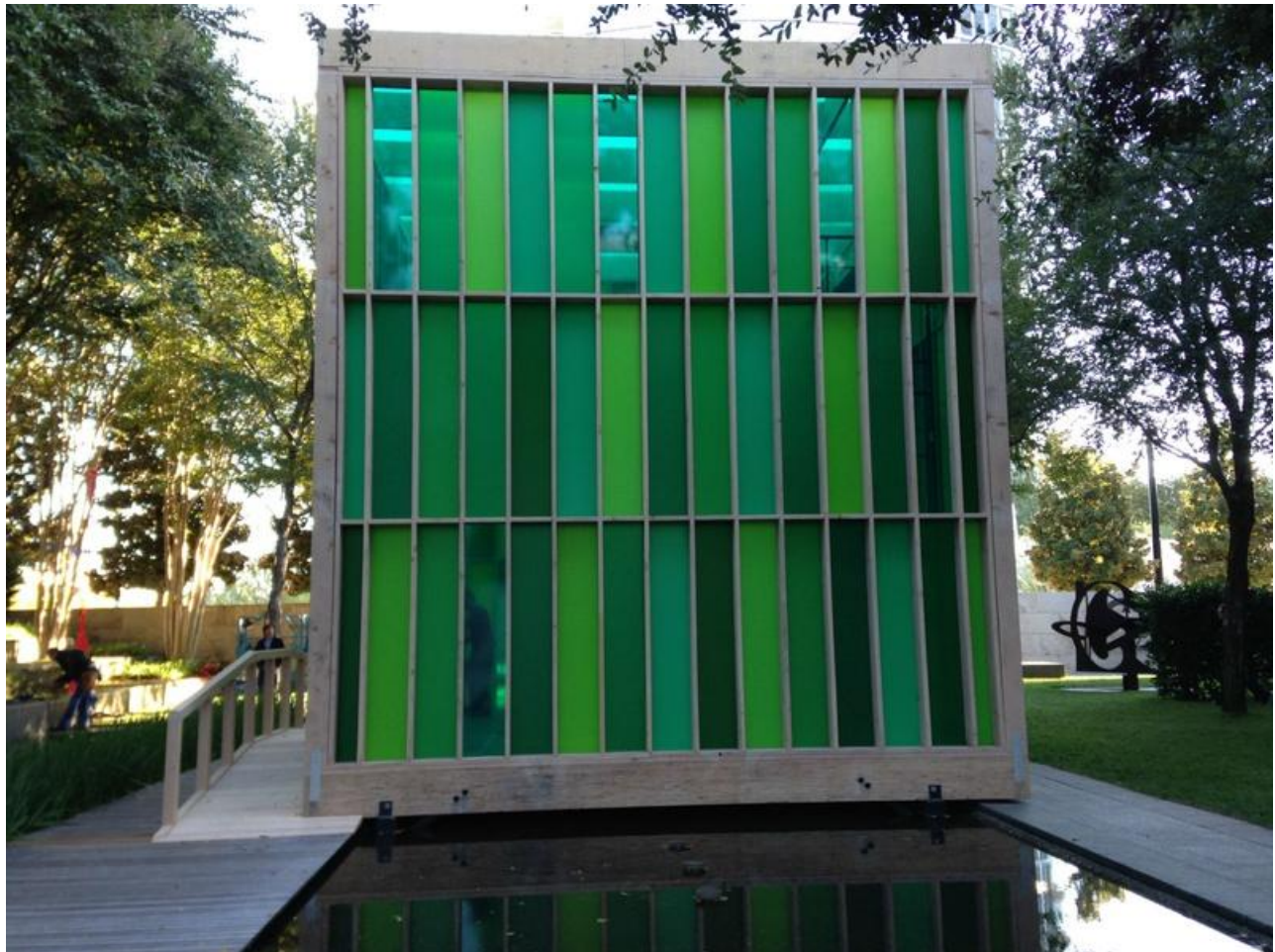
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Architecture & Design News

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Babies Cry and Critics Cheer for Alfredo Jaar's Temporary Pavilion at the Nasher Sculpture Center in Dallas



Jaar's "Music (Everything I know I learned the day my son was born)," installed over an existing water feature in the Nasher's garden

When the **Nasher Sculpture Center** commissioned 10 artists to erect public sculptures across Dallas as part of its 10th anniversary celebrations, the Chilean-born, architect-trained artist **Alfredo Jaar** turned to the city's newborn babies for inspiration. In the museum's garden, Jaar built a makeshift wood-and-glass cube that resonates with the real-time wails of newborn babies from three Dallas hospitals, exploring what it means "to be born, grow and then reflect back on 10 years of life," according to the museum website. Though crying children and existential rumination don't always go hand in hand, Dallas Morning News architecture critic **Mark Lamster** thinks Jaar's "Music (Everything I know I learned the day my son was born)" is an aural and architectural success. "I thought [the sound of a crying newborn] might break the mood, but it only adds to the joy," he explains. The final result, "a luminous new architectural addition" to the city's arts district, has only one downside: It's temporary. Fear not, seekers of inspiration. Though Jaar's pavilion closes on February 1, 2014, the wailing newborns simply morph into whining adults. Those, sadly, never go away.

— *Anna Kats*